



Benefice of the Piddle Valley, Hilton & Ansty, Melcombe Horsey and Cheselbourne

Sunday 7th June 2020
Trinity Sunday (altar colour white/gold)

Readings: Isa. 40: 12-17 & 27-end, Psalm 8, 2 Cor 13: 11-end, Matt. 28: 16-20

Collect: Almighty and everlasting God, you have given us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity: keep us steadfast in this faith, that we may evermore be defended from all adversities; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

2 Corinthians 13:11-13 (ESV) - Final Greetings

Finally, brothers, rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

COMMENT: The Corinthians had many fights among themselves and with Paul. He ends this letter, however, with an appeal to them to put “things in order” and live peaceably with one another so that they may truly experience the love and peace of God. From earlier passages in both letters we learn how disordered the life of the Corinthian community had become. Conflicts existed between different factions caused by interpersonal rivalries, spiritual arrogance, a lack of sensitivity toward less experienced members, sexual immorality, and possibly some theological differences. The arrival of some other teachers had exacerbated the situation. The final benediction is still in common use in modern worship services. It goes much farther than Paul’s usual closing benedictions. Normally, he prayed for the grace of the risen Christ to be with his readers. This may be the reason for mentioning grace first. Yet it is through the redeeming work of Christ that the love and purpose of God have been revealed. This certainly is what Paul had experienced and sought to communicate in all his preaching and writing. He also believed and taught that the Spirit was the agent by whom he had been empowered and the faithful were sustained in their new relationship with God and with each other. The word “communion” is often translated as “fellowship.” It actually means participation in and the sharing of the Spirit which is the love of God communicated to us through Jesus Christ. While this benediction may not express a fully developed doctrine of the Trinity, it certainly describes the experience from which that doctrine arose. It also explicitly summarises Paul’s urgent desire for his Corinthians friends and so fittingly concludes the letter.

Matthew 28:16-20 (ESV) - The Great Commission

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

COMMENT: This passage brings the gospel to a fitting conclusion, and the church has used the Trinitarian commission as an effective, ecumenical mission statement ever since. It confirms the tradition shared by Luke and John that Jesus commissioned the disciples to carry on his ministry in the world. The Gospels may not share the exact words that Jesus spoke on the occasion of his final appearance, but all three affirm that tradition. Matthew adds another little detail that may link this pericope with what has gone before. He specifies "the mountain to which Jesus had directed them." This may be an intentional allusion to other mountains where significant events in the ministry of Jesus had occurred, such as the Sermon on the Mount, and the Mount of Transfiguration. He further emphasized the element of faith by stating that "when they saw him, they worshiped him." But adds an additional clause "but some doubted". This is Matthew's noting of doubting Thomas! Just as Thomas was reassured, so too the disciples in Matthew. In the phrase "Jesus came to them" – the word 'came' means in Greek – "drew near" – to come close, an act of reassurance. The command to make disciples by baptising and teaching states the means by which the church used from the beginning and still uses to witness to and continue in its faith relationship with the risen Christ. The promise to be with us "to the end of the age" confirms the gift of the Spirit as his continuing presence, and the promise of his second coming. Thus the church lives in that ambiguous eschatological state of "already" but "not yet." Baptism is the symbol of this state of grace. The teaching is the way in which those who believe continue to grow in grace and mature into a more experienced discipleship until our transition to life beyond death makes it complete.

Short Preface: And now we give you thanks because you have revealed the glory of your eternal fellowship of love with your Son and with the Holy Spirit, three persons equal in majesty, undivided in splendour, yet one God, ever to be worshipped and adored.

Post Communion: Almighty and eternal God, you have revealed yourself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and live and reign in the perfect unity of love: hold us firm in this faith, that we may know you in all your ways and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory, who are three Persons yet one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Blessing: God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love, defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, rest upon you now and forever. **Amen.**



Benefice Prayer list

For those who are suffering in mind, body or spirit, through illness &/or hospital treatment: *Ken Lester, Sara Milne, Ann Lambert, Geoff Harris, Ruth Tutt, Bernard.*
For those in care homes: including *June Kelloway (Blandford) and Roger Gray (Dorchester).*

In your prayers, please will you pray for our friends and neighbours near and far; for the sick, including those suffering from Coronavirus, the grieving, the lonely and the anxious. For all key workers; including our school teachers, support staff, parents and Children at Cheselbourne and Piddle Valley schools, Clergy and Funeral Directors, NHS staff, research participants and community support groups.



Requiescat in pace

Nicola Kellaway (Cheselbourne)

Sarah Gibson (Piddlehinton)

Yasmin (Dorchester)

Eileen Rawlings (Piddlehinton)

Any additions or amendments to the prayer list, please email the Rector.

Benefice Notices

Live Streaming: Please visit our live streamed services, order of services are available on the website home page to download for Communion and Rosary.

NEW ORDER OF SERVICE FOR ORDINARY TIME ON THE HOME PAGE OF THE WEBSITE

Sunday Communion Service are uploaded to YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0ru_v3_1MZyZx72ka63g4A

Facebook to access livestream:

https://www.facebook.com/piddlevalley/?eid=ARAxjQNj5mPHQUQD2hKEx_uzUyyf17basudX3D22bYJx4HsCh7ByYB8lltrMbHhsARvgwbTqvapn-Glq

Alton Pancras non fete day: 'Cultifete' has raised £2500 for Alton Pancras PCC. On what would have been fete day, many houses had tables at the end of the drive selling plants, produce, books and brick – a – brac. Payment via an IOU and then online payment via a crowdfund site has enabled the PCC to continuing fundraising for the yearly running costs of the church. Cultifete will continue online throughout the summer selling produce and plants.

<https://www.facebook.com/cultifete/> or <https://www.cultifete.co.uk/>

Saturday Devotions 6pm. In June we shall do something different – what this space.

Rector - Fr. Roger J. Butcher SSC KSJ

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THE
WEEK
AHEAD