



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

Sunday 2nd August 2020
Trinity 8 / Proper 13 (Altar colour green)

Readings: Isaiah 55: 1-5, Psalm 145: 15-end, Rom. 9: 1-5, Matt 14: 13-21

Collect: Almighty Lord and everlasting God, we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments; that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Isaiah 55:1-5 (ESV) - The Compassion of the LORD

“Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know, and a nation that did not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, and of the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

COMMENT: This excerpt contains the first two of the five strophes of the poem. The poem has the form of Wisdom’s invitation to a banquet similar to Proverbs 9:5-6. It also can be compared to Matthew 11:28-29. The poet symbolises the gifts of the new covenant by the figure of food and drink which give life to all who partake of them. The message of this excerpt appeals to anyone to place their trust in God. Gracious, merciful acceptance by God for all who seek such a covenant relationship stands out in these magnificently poetic lines. The poet used David as the exemplary figure of one who benefited from Israel’s historic covenant relationship. But the symbols of food and drink are to be interpreted as spiritual blessings as well as, and perhaps rather than, material gifts.

Matthew 14:13-21 (ESV) - Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick. Now when it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” But Jesus said, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” They said to him, “We have only five loaves here and two fish.” And he said, “Bring them here to me.” Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the

disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

COMMENT: As a miracle story – this is difficult to dismiss as it is bedded well into early Christian tradition and is repeated six times over in the four Gospels (which includes the variant of the four thousand – Mark 6:35-44, Mark 8:1-10, Matthew 14:13-21, Matthew 15:32-39, Luke 9:12-17, John 6:1-14). The preceding passage tells of the execution of John the Baptist. Withdrawing from that region in grief, Jesus felt God’s call to offer deep compassion to the multitudes that followed him. The feeding of the five thousand may have been both an expression of his feelings and also a sign to those gathered that he was continuing a Ministry, in which John had shared as our Lord’s forerunner, and that our Lord was the spiritual leader of a new approach to the traditional Jewish understanding of their relationship with God, which John had begun. In all the Gospels, eating and drinking is frequently described in relation to spiritual need. At the traditional site, sacred to Christians to this day, a small chapel shields a beautiful mosaic of the loaves and fishes in the floor beneath a marble communion table. The mosaic is reputed to date from the Byzantine era in the 4th century. Christian faith has hallowed the site with Eucharistic significance.

Post Communion Prayer: Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands that have taken holy things; may the ears which have heard your word be deaf to clamour and dispute; may the tongues which have sung your praise be free from deceit; may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love shine with the light of hope; and may the bodies which have been fed with your body be refreshed with the fullness of your life; glory to you for ever. **Amen**

Blessing: God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Date for your diary

‘Treasures on your Driveway’

**15th August 2020 3-5pm Melcombe Bingham
Driveway table top sale, helping to raise funds
for St Andrew’s Church Melcombe Horsey**

Benefice Prayer list.

Please pray for those who are suffering in mind, body or spirit, through illness &/or hospital treatment, for the grieving, lonely, anxious and confused. For those who have tripped or fallen at home, in the garden or out walking.



Please pray for those who have asked for our intercession: *Ken Lester, Ann Lambert, Geoff Harris, Robin Dibble, June Kellaway, Bernard, & David.*

For those in care homes including: *Roger Gray (Dorchester) and Jane Smith (Warminster).*

Please pray for our couples preparing for Holy Matrimony:

Thomas and Anita – 14th August at Piddlehinton,

Paul and Susan – 21st August at Piddlehinton,

Jake and Lucy – 4th September at Alton Pancras



Requiescat in pace

Rev'd Derek Parry (Dorchester) – former Rector of the Piddle Valley 1974-1992
Funeral is to be held at St George's Church, Dorchester on 4th August at 1pm. Private funeral, with all the seats taken by family due to restrictions on attendance.

All the Valley churches will be open for Personal Prayer at the time of Rev'd Parry's funeral. In addition, Fr. Roger will hold a service of commemoration at 1pm on the 4th August at All Saints Piddletrenthide, as this was his home during his incumbency. All are very welcome to attend.

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

Benefice Notices

Returning to worship update: The wearing of a facemask/covering in church is not compulsory; the likelihood of being unable to maintain personal distance in church is very low. However please feel free to wear one should you wish to.

THE
WEEK
AHEAD

If you wish to read the lesson during a service, this is permit-able from your pew. Please volunteer before the service starts.

At this time there is no participatory singing taking place during the service; the only singing will be by a cantor/s. We will continue to live stream Sunday services and therefore music choices are restricted to pieces that are 'free to use in the public domain' and free from copyright.

Change to Wednesday Rosary: Fr. Roger will say short evening prayer at 6pm on Wednesday throughout August.

Compline: Thursday compline live stream will move to 8pm from 23rd July.

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

Sunday 9.30am Communion Service is uploaded to YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0ru_v3_1MZyzx72ka63g4A

Facebook to access livestream:

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

Sunday 9th August Services – Trinity 9

Readings: 1 Kings 19: 9-18, Psalm 85: 8-13, Rom 10: 5-15, Matt 14: 22-33

9.30am Communion at Piddletrenthide with Fr. Roger

11.00am Communion at Melcombe Horsey with Rev'd Helier

6.00pm Evening Prayer at Piddlehinton with Fr. Roger

All services streamed live to Facebook. 9.30am Service will be uploaded to YouTube.

Rector - Fr. Roger J. Butcher SSC KSJ

The Vicarage, Church Lanes, Piddletrenthide. DT2 7QY. Tel. 01300 348211 / 07502 118210

Email. rector.piddlevalleybenefice@gmail.com



Facebook: @piddlevalley



Website: <https://piddlevalleybenefice.com>