



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

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Trinity 13 / Proper 18 (Altar colour green)

**Readings:** Ezek. 33:7-11, Psalm 119:33-40, Rom. 13:8-end, Matt. 18:15-20.

**Collect:** Almighty God, who called your Church to bear witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself: help us to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be drawn to you; through him who was lifted up on the cross, and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

## **Ezekiel 33:7-11 (ESV)**

“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

### ***Why Will You Die, Israel?***

“And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus have you said: ‘Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we rot away because of them. How then can we live?’ Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

## **Romans 13:8-end (ESV) - Fulfilling the Law Through Love**

Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbour as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light. Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in

orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarrelling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

**Matthew 18:15-20 (ESV) - If Your Brother Sins Against You**

“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

**COMMENT:** How do Christians settle their conflicts? As Jesus prepares his followers to be the people of God - those who are called - the ecclesia - the Church, he instructs them on how to provide discipline with the Church community. Acts 5:1-11 (Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, who lied about their giving to God, and when challenged, died suddenly) is a stark example of the discipline in the early Church. Paul, the great founder of mixed congregations in Gentile cities, also wrote of the principle of excommunication (verses 17-18 cf. 1 Corinthians 5:3-5, 9-13; 2 Corinthians 13:1-3). One may wonder at the severity of the event in Acts 5 but the event pressed upon those early Christians the seriousness of their mission - the failure of which would have robbed us all of the continuing witness of God’s love and the Church would have been stillborn. The comment of Jesus about his presence will have called to mind Exodus 20:24 “In every place where I cause my name to be remembered I will come to you and bless you”. It is this text whereby the creation of Synagogues (The ‘gathered’ or ‘assembly’), following the destruction of the Temple, and the exile for the Jewish Leaders - were justified - the Synagogue was a means of the continued worship of God - even in exile. Wherever Christians are to be found, there is the Church – the worship of God will continue with the guiding presence of the Lord. The text uses the word ‘gathered’ – which in Greek is ‘συνάγω’ – synago’ the root word of synagogue!

**Post Communion:** God our creator, you feed your children with the true manna, the living bread from heaven: let this holy food sustain us through our earthly pilgrimage until we come to that place where hunger and thirst are no more; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Blessing:** The God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus, establish, strengthen and settle you in the faith; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**



## Benefice Prayer list.

Please pray for those who are suffering, through illness &/or hospital treatment, for the grieving, lonely, anxious and confused. *We pray for those who are contemplating change in their lives, returning to work after furlough or a holiday; those that are fearful of employment and financial instability. We pray for our benefice schools of Cheselbourne and Piddle Valley, the staff, governors, pupils and parents; including the many other schools attended by children living in the benefice, for those returning or starting university.*

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

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

### Requiescat in pace

Rita Whelan, formerly from Cheselbourne



Please pray for our couples preparing for Holy Matrimony:  
Jake and Lucy – 4<sup>th</sup> September at Alton Pancras

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

## Benefice Notices

**Foodbank:** Collection boxes are held in each church for Dorchester Foodbank, please bring a tin when you come to church on Sunday. Alternatively, donations can be left at Orchard Cottage - Melcombe Bingham (thank you Richard and Julie) or The Vicarage - Piddletrenthide.

THE  
**WEEK**  
AHEAD

**Returning to worship:** As a benefice we are able to provide a 'Covid Safe Space' for worship and to receive communion. Please do travel to attend a service in one of the 6 benefice churches and follow the safety protocols set out in each church. The pre-covid rota is not manageable at this time, due to the additional time required for officiants to set up for each service, including live streaming equipment. We have 2 communion services and 1 evening prayer service available each Sunday.

The Prime Minister has made the wearing of a facemask/covering in church by the congregation mandatory.

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 or a dedicated choir. As we live stream Sunday services, music choices are therefore restricted to pieces that are 'free to use in the public domain' and free from copyright.

**Live Streaming:** Since March, we have been live streaming via Facebook the weekday offices, Saturday devotions and communion services. We have a large following not just from within the benefice, but also Dorchester, Blandford, Poole, Llanelli, Salisbury, and further afield; including France, Uganda, Columbia, and Belgium! Please do join us for the live streams over the course of the week. Our grateful thanks to Rev'd Helier for his continued support of the streamed services, assisting in offering a variety of weekday offices.

Sunday Services will continue to be live streamed and the 9.30am service will be uploaded to YouTube. All communion services are 'said' using the "Ordinary Time Pandemic Order of Service" available on the benefice website.

Sunday 9.30am Communion Service is uploaded to YouTube:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0ru\\_v3\\_1MZyx72ka63g4A](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0ru_v3_1MZyx72ka63g4A)

Facebook to access livestream:

[https://www.facebook.com/piddlevalley/?eid=ARAxjQNj5mPHQUQD2hKEx\\_uzUyyf17basudX3D22bYJx4HsCh7ByYB8lItrMbHhsARvgwbTqvapn-Glq](https://www.facebook.com/piddlevalley/?eid=ARAxjQNj5mPHQUQD2hKEx_uzUyyf17basudX3D22bYJx4HsCh7ByYB8lItrMbHhsARvgwbTqvapn-Glq)

### **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September Services – Trinity 14/Proper 19**

Readings: Gen. 50: 15-21, Psalm 103: 1-13, Rom. 14: 1-12, Matt. 18: 21-35

9.30am Communion Service at Piddletrenthide with Fr. Roger

11.00am Communion Service at Melcombe Horsey with Fr. Roger

6.00pm Evening Prayer at Piddlehinton with Rev'd Helier (Ginny will set up).

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

Rector - Fr. Roger J. Butcher SSC KSJ

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