



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

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Trinity 17 / Proper 22 (Altar colour green)

**Readings:** Isaiah 5: 1-7, Psalm 80: 9-17, Phil. 3: 4-14, Matt. 21: 33-end

**Collect:** Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself, and so bring us at last to your heavenly city where we shall see you face to face; 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**

## **Isaiah 5:1-7 (ESV) - The Vineyard of the LORD Destroyed**

Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briars and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

## **Philippians 3:4-14 (ESV)**

Though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

## ***Straining Toward the Goal***

Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

### **Matthew 21:33-46 (ESV) - The Parable of the Tenants**

“Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.’ And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons.” Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes’? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.” When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them. And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.

**COMMENT:** Jesus tells a devastatingly obvious parable against the religious authorities who so obstinately opposed him. They fully realised what he was saying and made plans to destroy him as the ultimate threat to their authority. The parable and the pointed accusation which followed would resonate with the members of Matthew’s own community when Jewish Christians were being driven from the synagogues in the 80s. The quotation about a cornerstone being rejected (verse 42) comes from Psalm 118:22-23. There, it did not specifically refer to the Messiah being rejected, but this interpretation appearing in three other New Testament books (Mark 12:10-11, Acts 4:11 and 1 Peter 2:7) shows that it was an early Christian understanding as the Church struggled to understand why Jesus was crucified.

**Post Communion:** Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**The Blessing:** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen**

**Tea and a chat always available just ring the Rector and put a date in the diary. Happy to chat over the garden gate too!**

**Fr. Roger 01300 348211**



## Benefice Prayer list.

Please pray for those who are suffering, through illness &/or hospital treatment, for the grieving, lonely, anxious and confused.

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

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

*Requiescat in pace*

Colin Davies, Piddletrenthide



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

### Date for your Diary

**Piddletrenthide**

**Harvest Scarecrow competition  
& driveway table top sale.**

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

**1-3pm.**

**More details to follow!**



## Foodbank

Thank you for continuing to support the collection of tins and packets for the Dorchester Foodbank. Fr. Roger has been in discussion with the team at the Dorford Centre this week, and an urgent need to as been identified at Weymouth and Portland Food banks; as they are in short supply of many items. (Dorchester and Blandford are coping with the demand at present.) In order to ensure our donations go to the best possible good, we will take the donations to Weymouth and Portland for the next few weeks.

**Harvest Services:** Tins / Packets can be donated to the foodbank and fresh produce to the Lantern Trust Homeless Centre in Weymouth. Fr. Roger and I are happy to make the deliveries.

Ginny



## Benefice Notices

**Foodbank:** Please remember your foodbank donations when you come to church. I have received donations from Alton Pancras this week **thank you**. Collection boxes are in church; 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, **'Venue Check in' with the QR Code or sign in sheet provided.**
- The pre-covid rota is not manageable at this time. There are 2 communion and 1 evening prayer service available each Sunday.
- If you wish to read the lesson during a service, this is permit-able from your pew. Please volunteer before the service starts.
- The only singing will be by a cantor/s or a dedicated choir.
- Music choices are restricted to pieces that are 'free to use in the public domain' and free from copyright.

### Live Streaming:

Sunday Services will continue to be live streamed and the 9.30am service will be uploaded to YouTube. All communion services follow 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\\_1MZyzx72ka63g4A](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0ru_v3_1MZyzx72ka63g4A)

Facebook to access livestream:

[https://www.facebook.com/piddlevalley/?eid=ARAxjQNj5mPHQUQD2hKEx\\_uzUyyf17basudX3D22bYJx4HsCh7ByYB8lltrMbHhsARvgwbTqvapn-Glq](https://www.facebook.com/piddlevalley/?eid=ARAxjQNj5mPHQUQD2hKEx_uzUyyf17basudX3D22bYJx4HsCh7ByYB8lltrMbHhsARvgwbTqvapn-Glq)

### **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2020 Services – Trinity 18/Proper 23**

Readings: Isaiah 25: 1-9, Psalm 23, Phil 4: 1-9, Matt. 22: 1-14

9.30am Communion at Piddletrenthide with Fr. Roger

11.00am Harvest Communion at Melcombe Horsey with Fr. Roger

6.00pm Evening Prayer at Piddlehinton with Rev'd Helier (Ginny setting 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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