



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

21st March 2021 – Lent 5
(Altar Colour Purple)

Readings: Readings: Jer. 31: 31-34, Psalm 119: 9-16, Heb. 5: 5-10, John 12: 20-33

Collect: Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; 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**

Jeremiah 31:31-34 (ESV) - The New Covenant

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbour and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

COMMENT: Jeremiah’s ministry from about 627 to 580 BC covered one of the most critical periods of Israel’s history, just before the exile in Babylon. He warned of the catastrophe about to befall the nation because they had failed to live as God intended. His words were not entirely without hope. He looked forward to a “new covenant” – a relationship of the heart, not on stone tablets like the Law of Moses. People would do intuitively what God requires of them. No one would need instruction or an intermediary because everyone would “know the Lord.”

John 12:20-33 (ESV) - Some Greeks Seek Jesus

Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. And Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honour him.

The Son of Man Must Be Lifted Up

“Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die.

COMMENT: The Gospel of John is very clever. It sets up questions – and then in the words of Jesus supplies the answer. A simple reading of the text means that the Greeks never got to see Jesus – perhaps they are still waiting there! The answer is that through our Lord’s crucifixion, and Resurrection – and the gift of the Spirit, all mankind (represented by the Greeks) get to see Jesus – it was only by the Cross Jesus enters his Resurrection – and then Pentecost – where through the spirit, all can see Jesus – here is the answer to those Greeks!

Post Communion: Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen**

Blessing: Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him; 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, from illness, recovering from surgery or hospital treatment, for those who are grieving, anxious or lonely.

Please pray for those who have asked our prayer including: Princhie McBride, Richard Drake, Richard Mitchell, Ann Lambert, Gill Howell, Geoff Harris, Reg Hanbury, Hannah Parsons, June Kellaway, Robin Saunders, Anna Thomas.

Please pray for those who have return to face to face education and are adjusting to new routines of testing and distancing.

For all those in care homes, and the staff, including: Roger Gray (Dorchester) and June Smith (Warminster)



Requiescat in pace

Bin Roy

Sarah Everard

This Week’s Assembly presentation ‘Perfect Love’
- you can access it via YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tu0rAm_KOss



Benefice Notices

THE
WEEK
AHEAD



Foodbank: A tin/packet a week, dropped into church while out on your exercise helps supply the Dorchester Foodbank with supplies to feed those in need in the Dorchester and surrounding areas. I delivered donations from Cheselbourne and Piddlehinton this week – thank you.

When attending a service please arrive in good time to ensure you can follow the Covid safety protocols set out in church.

- *Wear a face-covering*
- *Sanitise Hands*
- *Sign in*
- *Find a seat allowing for 2m personal distancing from other households.*
- *Avoid mingling*



Thursday 25th March 2021 – Annunciation of Mary (Altar Colour – purple)

Readings: Isa 7: 10-14, Psalm 40: 5-11, Heb. 10: 4-10, Luke 1: 26-38

9.00am Communion Service at Piddletrenthide

You are welcome to attend the communion service in church

Sunday 28th March 2021 - Lent 6 – Palm Sunday (Altar Colour – purple)

Readings: TBC

9.30am Communion Service at Cheselbourne (RB)

11.00am Communion Service at Alton Pancras (RB)

6.00pm Evening Prayer at Hilton (HE)

Live Streaming

The daily offices will continue to be streamed daily via Facebook

Monday @ 8am Morning Prayer

Tuesday @ 8am Morning Prayer & 8pm Compline

Wednesday @ 8am Morning Prayer & 6pm Evening Prayer

Thursday @ 9am Communion & 8pm Compline

Friday @ 6.00pm Compline

Saturday @ 6.00pm Devotions / Evening Prayer



Clocks change 28th March 2021 – forward 1 hr

Rector - Fr. Roger J. Butcher SSC KSJ

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