

10th July 2020

The Dunster Benefice
Carhampton, Dunster, Timberscombe, Withycombe
with Rodhuish and Wootton Courtenay



Newsletter

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The Church remembers
John Keble on 14th
July.

*New ev'ry morning is the
love
our wak'ning and
uprising prove;
through sleep and
darkness safely brought,
restored to life and pow'r
and thought.*

*New mercies,
each returning day,
hover around us while
we pray;
new perils past, new sins
forgiv'n,
new thoughts of God,
new hopes of heav'n.*

*John Keble (1792-1866)
Based on Lamentations
3:23*

Sunday 12th July (Fifth after Trinity)

Readings

Romans 8:1-11 & Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

If you do not have a Bible to hand you can find
the readings on this website:

<https://www.biblegateway.com/?version=nrsv>

Collect

Almighty God, send down upon your Church
the riches of your Spirit,
and kindle in all who minister the gospel
your countless gifts of grace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Common Worship Collect taken from Common Worship: Services and
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Archbishop of York

Due to coronavirus restrictions the Confirmation
of the Election of Stephen Cottrell as the 98th
Archbishop of York took place in a video
conference service on Thursday 9th July. This,
along with a video introducing Archbishop
Stephen to the Province of York, may be viewed
on the Church of England's website by clicking
[here](#). This Sunday Archbishop Stephen will be
leading worship from York Minster for the
Church of England's weekly online service
which will be broadcast from 9am on the C of
E's website, Facebook page and YouTube
channel. For details from the C of E's website
click [here](#).

Rector's Note

Sunday 12th July

St John the Baptist Carhampton – 9.30am Holy Communion

St Bartholomew's Rodhuish – 9.30am Holy Communion

St George's Dunster – open for private prayer

All Saints Wootton Courtenay – 11am Holy Communion

**Most churches will be open for private prayer on a Sunday or some
other day of the week, please keep an eye on the notice boards.**

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

On the face of it, the parable of the sower is very simple. We have all heard it
lots of times. There are few children in Sunday school who do not draw
picture of people sowing seed and different types of ground. Who is it about?
Are we the sower or the seed? Are we perhaps the ground, stony or well
fertilised or choked by weeds? Why is the farmer scattering expensive seed
all over the place and not just on good soil? Certainly, there is a good
harvest in some areas, but the story takes a long time to get there. The story
is easy to remember, but less easy to understand.

If we take the seeds as representing different types of people, we see that
the only ones to bear fruit are those who listen and understand, then act on
their understanding. The seed cannot help where it falls, it grows according
to the sort of ground where it falls. So we cannot of ourselves understand
and grow without the help of divine understanding. Hearing and doing belong
together. We need to grow according to our nature and with God's help,
flourish. By the end of the story, the sower has almost faded from the picture.
The story becomes the seed and what happened to it.

Caroline