

The Dunster Benefice
Carhampton, Dunster, Timberscombe,
Withycombe with Rodhuish, Wootton Courtenay
Newsletter 4th September 2020



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Sunday 6th September (Thirteenth after Trinity)
Readings & Collect

Almighty God, you search us and know us:
may we rely on you in strength
and rest on you in weakness,
now and in all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Common Worship Collect taken from Common Worship:
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Children's Stories If anyone is looking after children you may like to have a look at Wells Cathedral's website where you can watch children's stories being read, all based on Biblical passages. Get ready to do some actions! To view click [here](#).

BBC Radio 4 Sunday Worship, 8.10am, 6th September. The service considers how community has traditionally been fostered by close contact with the saints. Neil MacGregor finds spiritual inspiration in the religious art of the National Gallery. The former Director of the National Gallery and British Museum is accompanied on his walk round the gallery's Sainsbury Wing by the Revd Lucy Winkett.

Romans 13: 8-end

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. 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, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Matthew 18: 15-20

'If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax-collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.'

Services on Sunday 6th September

St John the Baptist Carhampton – 9.30am Holy Communion

St Nicholas Withycombe – 9.30am Holy Communion

St George's Dunster – 11am Morning Prayer

St Petrock Timberscombe – 11am Morning 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.

Rector's Note

Something has changed. The mornings are cooler. There is a heavy, tired look to the leaves, as though they know they will soon fall. In every other year of our lives, the early September days mean the end of the summer holidays, the return of children to school, thoughts of harvest festivals and further off, dark evenings and Christmas lights. Not this year. No holidays, fear of return to school, festivals put off until next year.

But something has changed. We watch the season turn. In Matthews's gospel, Jesus reminds us that where two or three are gathered together, God is in our midst. Creation continues to evolve and to move. The change must be within ourselves. How can we change? How can we increase our discipleship? Church services on a Sunday and the big events of the church year are not in the end defining marks of the Christian life – we need to acknowledge the changes and embrace them. There is nothing to fear. The great anniversary is approaching: God with us.

Caroline
