

The Dunster Benefice
Carhampton, Dunster, Timberscombe,
Withycombe with Rodhuish, Wootton Courtenay
Newsletter 4th June 2021



In this issue:

- St Petrock's Day
- G7 Concert from Truro Cathedral
- Readings & Collect for Sunday 6th June
- Services this Week
- Rector's Note

Sunday 6th June (First After Trinity)
Readings & Collect

God of truth, help us to keep your law of love and to walk in ways of wisdom, that we may find true life in Jesus Christ your Son. Amen.

Common Worship Collect taken from Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England © The Archbishops' Council 2000

2 Corinthians 4.13—5.1

But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—'I believed, and so I spoke'—we also believe, and so we speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Mark 3.20-end

...and the crowd came together again, so that they could not even eat. When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, 'He has gone out of his mind.' And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, 'He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.' And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, 'How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

'Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin'— for they had said, 'He has an unclean spirit.'

Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, 'Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.' And he replied, 'Who are my mother and my brothers?' And looking at those who sat around him, he said, 'Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.'

SERVICES THIS WEEK

This Sunday there will be Holy Communion services at Carhampton (CW) and Withycombe (CW) at 9.30am and Dunster (CW), Timberscombe (BCP) and Wootton Courtenay (CW) at 11am.

Code: CW = Common Worship BCP = Book of Common Prayer

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

Yesterday I had my second vaccination, after a long hot trip to Taunton Racecourse (why didn't I arrange it at Minehead?). I was beginning to feel slightly left behind since everyone else seems to have had their second jab already. It was also a red letter day – there were no recorded fatalities from COVID19 for the first time since March 2020. Of course, this does not mean nobody died from this wretched disease and the figures will be back up today, but - just for one day - it is enough.

Red letter days, the marking of something pleasant or enjoyable, comes from the church marking feast days in red in the liturgical calendar. When holidays from work did not exist, the only respite working people would have was feast days, when they might have to go to church, at least a social outing, but might also enjoy good food and a rest.

When I was a student, I did not have much money and buying something as a treat, or that I really wanted, did actually mean rather more, than when I could buy what I pleased, pretty much. Perhaps not fast cars or season tickets for Covent Garden, but I did not have to watch every penny. That is a great privilege.

Having enough is quite hard, particularly in modern society where there is always more and we are constantly shown other people who have more. Jesus was keen on people knowing that enough is enough and storing up what matters. The psalms, especially Psalm 71, talk about watching people who have plenty and feeling envious, but that in the end, they will find it unsatisfying and that we can leave it to God to sort out. Having enough. Finding God to be enough. Not looking for what is not there, we can concentrate on what is there.

Caroline

Scripture quotations are from New Revised Standard Version Bible: Anglicized Edition, copyright © 1989, 1995 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.