

The Dunster Benefice
Carhampton, Dunster, Timberscombe,
Withycombe with Rodhuish, Wootton Courtenay
Newsletter 31st December 2021 & 7th January 2022



In this issue:

- New Year Message from the Archbishop of Canterbury
- Covid restrictions
- Collects & Readings 2nd & 9th January
- Services 2nd & 9th January



At the time of writing **The Archbishop of Canterbury's New Year Message** is due to air on New Year's Day as follows:

BBC 1, 1.15pm and BBC 2, 4.25pm

Archbishop Justin reflects on our relationship with the natural world and the impact of climate change from the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

COVID RESTRICTIONS

PLEASE NOTE

This newsletter is being written on 23rd December when face coverings are mandatory in places of worship unless you are exempt.

If any other restrictions have been implemented since 23rd December please follow as directed.

Thank you.

Collect 2nd January (Epiphany)

Creator of the heavens, who led the Magi by a star to worship the Christ-child:
guide and sustain us, that we may find our journey's end in Jesus Christ our
Lord. **Amen.**

Readings for Benefice Service tbc

Collect & Readings 9th January (First of Epiphany)

Heavenly Father, at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son: may we
recognise him as our Lord and know ourselves to be your beloved children;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

Isaiah 43. 1-7

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honoured, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, 'Give them up', and to the south, 'Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.'

Luke 3.15-17, 21-22

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

SERVICE 2ND JANUARY

**This Sunday there will be a Benefice Service (HC, CW),
at Dunster at 11am**

SERVICES 9TH JANUARY

**On Sunday 9th there will be services at
Carhampton (HC, CW) and Rodhuish (HC, CW) at 9.30am and
Dunster (HC, CW), Timberscombe (HC, BCP) and Wootton Courtenay (SoP)
at 11am.**

**Code: HC=Holy Communion MP=Morning Prayer CW=Common Worship
SoP =Songs of Praise**

Rector: Revd Caroline Ralph

Associate Priest: Revd Margaret Jackson

Common Worship Collects taken from Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England

© The Archbishops' Council 2000

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.