

**The Dunster Benefice**  
**Carhampton, Dunster, Timberscombe,**  
**Withycombe with Rodhuish, Wootton Courtenay**  
**Newsletter**     17th July 2020



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**Sunday 19th July (Sixth after Trinity)**

**Readings & Collect**

Creator God, you made us all in your image:  
may we discern you in all that we see,  
and serve you in all that we do;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

**Romans 8: 12-25**

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father!' it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

**Matthew 13:24-30,36-43**

He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So, when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, "Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?" He answered, "An enemy has done this." The slaves said to him, "Then do you want us to go and gather them?" But he replied, "No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn." '

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, 'Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.' He answered, 'The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

**Rector's Note**

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July**

**St John the Baptist Carhampton – 9.30am Holy Communion**

**St Nicholas Withycombe – 9.30am Holy Communion**

**All Saints Wootton Courtenay – 11am BCP Holy Communion**

**St George's Dunster – open for private 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.**

The raspberries are ripe. I did get one good picking of gooseberries, before the birds took the rest. My chickens are very fond of raspberries. They lurk underneath and make little jumps, or will, with caution, take one from my hand. The crop grows, I know not how, except the bindweed is dreadful.

Our gospel is another parable about sowing wheat for a crop, only this time it is not different types of ground and the seed falling anywhere, but the enemy sneaking in and causing trouble. Perhaps it's like our good intentions. We start out the day trying our best to be cheerful and helpful and make the best of it, then first one thing and another goes wrong or is held up, or the traffic is bad, or someone shouts at us to wear a facemask and the day is spoilt. It's an attitude of mind, but I am not a Pollyanna sort of person able to find the best in everything, sometimes I find considerable comfort in being a grump. I am resolved to try harder and concentrate on the good things, like the fruit in the garden and take comfort from the chickens, living for the moment and thinking of nothing more alarming than whether to take fruit from my hand. I care for them and sometimes they seem to neither know nor care. What a good thing God does not think that about human beings.

*Caroline*

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