

The Dunster Benefice
Carhampton, Dunster, Timberscombe,
Withycombe with Rodhuish, Wootton Courtenay
Newsletter 2nd July 2021



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Sunday 4th July (Fifth After Trinity)

Readings & 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 Prayers for the Church of England © The Archbishops' Council 2000

Thank you Day: Sunday 4th July.
To find out about Thank You Day and how to get involved click [here](#) to go to the Thank You Day website.



2 Corinthians 12.2-10

I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows—was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given to me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.' So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

Mark 6.1-13

He left that place and came to his home town, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, 'Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?' And they took offence at him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Prophets are not without honour, except in their home town, and among their own kin, and in their own house.' And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief. Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, 'Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.' So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

SERVICES THIS WEEK

*This Sunday there will be Holy Communion services at
Carhampton (CW) and Withycombe (CW) at 9.30am and at 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

It was 8.50am on my day off and as wet and windy a day as you could hope to avoid. The phone went. A small voice at the other end asked if I had a cup of tea or a sandwich. I sighed. I explained we did not supply tea and sandwiches, especially so since COVID. I have never given out tea and food – the word spreads very quickly and I have known several colleagues who have been attacked at home or close by. This poor little lad confided that he was homeless and then asked (asked!) if he could take the packet of cheese thins from the basket for the food cupboard. Hating myself, I said of course he could and looked out at the rain beating on the window. He was in St George's and I explained I did not even live in the village.

After the call ended, I mixed up the dogs' bowls with hearty meat and biscuit and scraped some soggy pastry from Sunday lunch leftovers in another bowl for the chickens. And I sighed again. I wish I had remembered to ask if he knew about the Hope Centre.

I don't know what the answer is. Prayer does not seem to help. Jesus said the poor are always with you. That does not seem to help either.

The format for the newsletter is now going to change. It will continue to have the Sunday readings, the collect and any NEWS that you send in and it will come out every week. It may also from time to time have extra bits and pieces about what is going on, but this is my last rector's note in this format. You can of course read the monthly newsletter, now back in printed form. We will also continue with an online form of Friday prayers, more news to follow. Let us pray that COVID 19 or any other disease means that in future we never have another time like the last fifteen months.

Caroline