

The Dunster Benefice
Carhampton, Dunster, Timberscombe,
Withycombe with Rodhuish, Wootton Courtenay
Newsletter 29th September 2023



In this issue: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Revd Caroline Ralph• Newsletter Changes• Readings & Collect for Sunday 1st October• Services this Week	Revd Caroline Ralph Revd Caroline Ralph would like to thank everyone who made her leaving service and tea such a lovely occasion. She will miss you all!
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NEW NEWSLETTER ARRANGEMENTS

This is the last newsletter from the Dunster Benefice.
As from next week, the six churches will be working in new groupings.
Carhampton, Rodhuish and Withycombe will be joining with Old Cleeve, Leighland and Treborough and will be known as the *Exmoor Coastal Benefice*.
Dunster, Timberscombe and Wootton Courtenay will be joining with Alcombe and will be known as the *Grabbist Hill Benefice*.
There will be separate newsletters for each benefice.
If you would like to continue receiving a newsletter, please email Tracey on dunsterbenefice@gmail.com by 9am on Wednesday 4th October stating whether you would like to receive the *Grabbist Hill*, *Exmoor Coastal*, or both newsletters. Thank you.

Readings & Collect
Sunday 1st October (Seventeenth After Trinity)

Gracious God, you call us to fullness of life: deliver us from unbelief and banish our anxieties with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Philippians 2. 1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Matthew 21. 23-32

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?" But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. 'What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.'

SERVICES THIS WEEK

This Sunday there will be services at
Withycombe (HC, CW) and Wootton Courtenay (HC, BCP) at 9.30am
&
Carhampton (HF) and Dunster (HC, CW) at 11am
&
Timberscombe (HF) at 6pm
Code: HC = Holy Communion CW = Common Worship
BCP= Book of Common Prayer HF=Harvest Festival