

Pews News

23th August 2026

12th after Trinity



Keys of heaven

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
you are always more ready to hear than we to pray
and to give more than either we desire or deserve:
pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy,
forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid
and giving us those good things
which we are not worthy to ask
but through the merits and mediation
of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion

God of all mercy,
in this eucharist you have set aside our sins
and given us your healing:
grant that we who are made whole in Christ
may bring that healing to this broken world,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

12th Sunday after Trinity: Isaiah 51.1-6, Romans 12. 1-8, Matthew 16. 13-20

13th Sunday after Trinity: Jeremiah 15.15-21, Romans 12.9-end, Matthew 16. 21-end

Reflection for the 12th Sunday after Trinity

An “On The Spot” Question!

Rev. Mike Stear

I guess we’ve all been put on the spot by someone asking us a very direct question. No place for prevarication, just a straight answer. It’s the same in today’s Gospel.

Jesus and his disciples are out of Israel, at the bottom of Mount Hermon and near the source of the river Jordan in the beautiful place called Caesarea Philippi. In Old Testament times a site of Baal worship, in Greek times for the worship of Pan, and in Roman times for the worship of Caesar. In this setting the Lord asks the Disciples two questions. ““Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” followed by, “But who do you say that I am?”

The expression or title, Son of man was Jesus’ favourite title for himself. It occurs 82 times in the New Testament, 80 of them spoken by Jesus. It was title with a deliberate ambiguity. People had to think and respond. Was he simply referring to himself as an ordinary guy, as when God spoke to the prophet Ezekiel calling him “son of man”. Alternatively, was the Lord’s use of the title drawn from Daniel’s vision (Daniel 7:13-14) referring to the coming Messiah? “I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.” In the Similitudes of Enoch, a book of inter- testamental times, the title again refers to the Messiah.

So when the Lord used this title people had to decide, “Is he claiming to be the Messiah.” Peter was unequivocal. “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” A few moments later, recorded in the next section of the chapter, Jesus speaks of his forthcoming death and resurrection. Jesus gives the title Son of man new meaning and significance, holding together his divinity and humanity. It also holds together two important Old Testament figures: The Servant of God, (indeed the Suffering Servant of Isaiah 53), and the triumphant, reigning Son of man. It holds together his death and eternal glory. “As the Servant of the Lord he was to suffer for men; as the Son of Man he must in the end be the King of men.” William Barclay. The Lord asks the same question to each of us afresh today. “But who do you say that I am?”

Lord Jesus Christ, thank you that you became man in order to take my sin upon yourself and to triumph over satan, sin and death, and then rise in glory. Gladly, I accept you afresh as my Saviour and surrender to you as my King. Amen

FOR YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Among those in special need: Richard & Christine, Geoff Turnock, Tony Cullington, Joan Moreton, Libby, Mike & Jenny Ford, Lesley, Fr David Harris, Lesley Harris, Edwin; Rupert; Carol, Paul & Linda Buckingham; Jean Howarth; Helen Lange; Christopher; Katharine; Jonathan Davis; Morag & Robert Curtis; Tessa Bullick; Margaret Morrissey; Jill Smith; Ruth Davis; Pam Revell.

To add or remove names from this list, please contact Canon John Wood at any time – phone 01305 268749 or 07800 962672, leaving a message if necessary; or mail johnsamwood@me.com

Among those who have recently died: John Wyatt, Emma O'Donnell, Simon Clarkson

Remember those whose Year's Mind falls this week: Derek Beauchamp, Barbara Morgan

Dorcas MU next meets for prayer, bible study and fellowship on Wednesday 9 September at 4 Bellever Court, Poundbury at 10am Newcomers welcome. Contact Janet 01305 260259

Advance notice that our September **Parish Men's Breakfast** will be on the third Saturday of the month, that is the 19th. Ride and Stride is taking place on the preceding Saturday and I am planning to fundraise by visiting the Dorchester churches in my manual wheelchair, with help from Faith, Libby, Shirley and Jonathan. More details can be found on the St. Peter's page of Pews News.

I'm going to be raising money through September for the Teenage Cancer Trust by joining their sponsored Read a Thon, aiming to re-read as many of the books that impacted me as a teenager as possible! If you can spare a couple of pounds to help teenagers and their families who are facing dark and scary times, please use the link below, thanks,
Emma <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1HkogYew1i/>

Saturday September 12th 11-1.00pm St Mary's Hall. Book talk by Georgia Piggott, Historical Mystery and Food History. Tickets £10 from Jill Minchin/Ellie Stephens at St Mary's or from Teasel and Skylark, Trinity Street bookshop. In aid of St Mary's.

Churches Together are still short of volunteers for Dorset County Show 5th and 6th September especially on Sunday. Details from Peter Jenner at petermjenner@outlook.com or on the Parish Website. We are asking for homemade Cakes and buns for the above as we offer them before and during our Harvest Festival Services at 2pm on both days of the Show. If you are able to bake something it needs to have a list of ingredients with it or willing to buy a cake (which will have ingredients listed)that will be wonderful .Please can you bring it to Church (United Church) on Friday 4th September between 10 -12 noon and hand in to the Church Shop. Thank you . Peter Jenner

Saturday October 17th at St Mary's Church Come & Sing: The Armed Man, a 20th century work by Karl Jenkins. Singers are requested to register in advance at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/come-and-sing-the-armed-man-a-mass-for-peace-tickets-1996099649786?aff=oddttdtcreator>, and attend in good time for a rehearsal starting at 2 pm. It is possible to register on the day, and vocal scores will be provided. We will be accompanied by a 30 piece orchestra and soloists working towards an informal performance at 4.30 pm which is open to all who wish to listen. Registration fees and donations are towards the church's repair. Further information from jpsburn@gmail.com



St Peter's Church

The church is open **daily from 10am - 6pm during the summer.**

Sundays BCP Eucharist at 9am & Common Worship Eucharist 10.30am.

Mid-week - Morning Prayer at **9.15am** on Monday & Thursday

Midweek Eucharist Our Midweek Eucharist is at **10.00 am on Thursday**. This is always followed by refreshments. Please do consider joining us.

Pastoral Visiting - If you would like to receive the Eucharist at home please contact **me by phone or email. Keith**

Storehouse Church Food Larder We are grateful for your donations each week. Please donate items of tinned and packet food, toiletries and sanitary wear. They currently have an excess of dried pasta so this is not needed. Thank you for your generosity.

Following the overwhelming success and feedback, we will be holding refreshments after the Sunday 9am BCP Eucharist, on the following dates:- **23rd August, 6th September, 13th September**



Ride and Stride is taking place on **Saturday 12th September**, in support of Dorset Historic Churches Trust. Kate Forrester and David Elliott (supported by Faith, Libby, Shirley and Jonathan) will be taking part for St Peter's and have set up a JustGiving page. Kate will be on her bicycle and David in his manual wheelchair. If you would like to sponsor Kate and David, the link is: <https://justgiving.com/team/dorchesterstpetersdekfd21> If you would prefer to sponsor them in the traditional manner, there will be sponsor forms at the back of church on Sunday. Half of the money raised by Kate and David is allocated to St. Peter's, and last year we received a wonderful £500.

We also need volunteers to be at St. Peter's on the day to welcome riders/walkers and record their arrival times. If you can help on the day, please can you put your name on the sheet at the back of St. Peter's on Sunday. Alternatively, you can talk to David or Kate. And if you would like to take part on the day, please let Kate or David know.

Summer Music at St Peter's

Stargazing, our recital by the internationally renowned vocal ensemble [Siglo de Oro](#) is now only a couple of weeks away and tickets are selling fast. Secure your seats here for what will be fantastic performance on Friday 4th September at 7pm or visit the Music at St Peter's website www.musicatstpetersdorchester.org. If you need any help booking seats please see David Elliott after any service.



St. Mary's Church

www.facebook.com/St-Marys-Dorchester-672844449522662

Sunday Services

8.00am Said Eucharist (1st Sunday only)

9.45am Sung Eucharist

Gluten Free Communion wafers are available—please ask the Sidesperson

6.00pm Taizé worship (1st Sunday only)

Weekday Services

Monday 7.30pm Bible study at 17a Edward Road (fortnightly)

Next group meeting 24th August after a summer break

Tuesday 9.00am Morning Prayer

Tuesday 9.30am Said Eucharist

Wednesday 5.00pm Contemplative Prayer (20mins of silence)

We resume on September 2nd

Wednesday 6.00pm Said Eucharist (3rd Wednesdays of the month only)

Last Thursday of month 10am – 12 noon Church cleaning **No church cleaning in August**

The Sanctuary Lamp Candle is given by Mark Ison in memory of his father James whose years mind falls on 25th August. Also by Cynthia Fry in thanksgiving for her grandson Gethyn whose birthday is on 26th August. Also by Sandra Kirby in loving memory of her husband Terence Kirby whose years mind falls on 27th August

Thank you to all who came to the Patronal Festival Cream Tea last Sunday, to all who donated scones, jam and money and to all who helped on the day to make it an enjoyable afternoon.

Other events

Ride & Stride, a national event takes place on **Saturday 12 September**, when participants cycle or walk to as many churches as possible, to raise money for the maintenance of much loved churches. As part of the Dorset Historic Churches Trust annual event Di & Colin House will be walking to help raise money so would love sponsorship, please see Di. St Mary's Church will be open with friendly volunteers to welcome the "riders & striders" for refreshments. So volunteer welcomers needed, please add your name to the sign up list in church if you are able to be a welcomer for an hour and a half.

Dorchester Family Support "When you have enough build a longer table not a higher wall". Dorchester Family Support are so very grateful to you, our community for providing the wherewithal in offering healthy food parcels to families in the local area entitled to free school meals. Your financial support allows us to provide this help whilst your prayers sustain all involved in this work and highlights in a practical way the love and commitment we share with each other. **THANK YOU.** Kath Joslin

Saturday September 12th 11-1.00pm St Mary's Hall. **Book talk by Georgia Piggott, Historical Mystery and Food History.** Tickets £10 from Jill Minchin/Ellie Stephens at St Mary's or from Teasel and Skylark, Trinity Street bookshop. In aid of St Mary's.

St George's Church

Sunday Services

8.30am Holy Communion on 1st and 3rd Sunday, in the Edward Chapel.

10.30am Holy Communion followed by refreshment in the church hall. *Dragons Sunday School will be restarting after the Summer holidays.*

Weekday Services

Monday 9.30am Online Morning Prayer via Zoom. You can join from the comfort of your own homes with a mug of tea in hand. Contact Rev Cora for Zoom details.

Wednesday 9.30am Morning Prayer at the back of the church.

Thursday 11.00am Holy Communion, followed by refreshments and fellowship group.

Weekly Activities

Monday 7.15pm Bible Study Group in members' homes. Details from Rev Cora or Rev Gerry.

Wednesday 12.30pm Community Larder and Lunch. All are welcome for company in a warm space, a soup lunch, and food in times of hardship. We welcome donations of store cupboard items. Thank you for your support.

Revd Gerry can be contacted on 01305 608410 or email revgerryburgess@gmail.com.

Notices

John Wyatt's Funeral will be 2pm on Friday 28th August at St George's Church. All are welcome to come and support Veronica and the family.

Dates for your Diary

- **Tuesday 25th August 6pm Open House BBQ at Rev Cora's House (7 Capitol Close, Dorchester).** All are welcome, bring a bottle/pudding, and please let us know any specific dietary requirements in advance.
- **Sunday 30th August 10.30am Back to School Sunday Communion** at St George's Church. All are welcome to this special service to get ready for the new academic year. The service will include new start activities and bring your backpack for a blessing.
- **Saturday 5th & Sunday 6th September Dorset County Show** at the Dorchester Showground, Churches Together in Dorchester Tent. If you are able to make a cake for the tent, please hand it to the United Church Shop on Friday 4th September, between 10am-noon. And if you are going to the show, please come visit us for refreshments, hymns, baby changing or to say hello!
- **Sunday 13th September Dorchester Heritage Open Day** at St George's Church. In the afternoon there will be history tours around the church and refreshments. We are looking for volunteers to welcome people into the church and also help with refreshments. Please sign up on the sheet at the back of the church.
- **Saturday 19th September 10am Craft Group** in the church hall.
- **Saturday 19th September 6.30pm Harvest Barn Dance** in the church hall. All are welcome to a community barn dance to celebrate Harvest together. Bring your dancing shoes or just come to listen to some good music!
- **Sunday 20th September Harvest Sunday Lunch.** After the Harvest Sunday 10.30am Service, there will be an opportunity to celebrate Harvest together with a lunch at The Walnut Grove. All are welcome, but please sign up in advance with the list at the back of the Church.

St Andrews Church

MORNING PRAYER

Every Tuesday at 9.30am - all welcome.

PRIVATE PRAYER & REFLECTION

The church is open every day from 10am to 4pm.

HOME COMMUNION

If you are unable to go to church and would like to receive Holy Communion at home then please contact Revd Cora Yarrien on 262421 or email revd.cora.yarrien@gmail.com Gluten free wafers are available.

August

23rd - 9am Holy Communion

30th - 5th Sunday so no service but all welcome at St George's for 10.30am Holy Communion

No Coffee & Chat in August.

Tuesday 25th August 6pm [Open House BBQ](#) at Rev Cora's House (7 Capitol Close, Dorchester). All are welcome, bring a bottle/pudding, and please let us know any specific dietary requirements in advance.

Churchyard Working Group

Please come along on **Saturday 5th September at 10am** to help with the Autumn gardening work. Refreshments will be provided but please bring your own tools.

Ride & Stride 2026 If you like cycling, horse riding or walking, Dorset Historic Churches Trust's Ride & Stride may be for you. This annual sponsored event encourages people to visit as many local churches as they can in one day (**Saturday 12th September**). Money raised is divided between Dorset Historic Churches Trust and the individual's chosen church. If you would like to take part on behalf of St. Andrew's more details are available from Kaye on 01305 268641 or kaye.kerridge@gmail.com

September Coffee & Chat is on **Saturday 12th September** from 10am to noon. "Riders & Striders" will be passing through during the day for refreshments.

Vicar - Revd Cora Yarrien 01305 262421 revd.cora.yarrien@gmail.com

Secretary - Janet Ranger-Dennis 07752 634773 janet.ranger@yahoo.co.uk



St Simon & St Jude

Winterborne Monkton

Holy Communion is celebrated at **11.15am** on the first Sunday of each month. The church is open every weekend 10am-4pm or by arrangement with Judy Norman 01305 262719

Sunday 6 September at 11.15am Holy Communion

Saturday 12 September Ride and Stride

Sunday 4 October at 11.15am Holy Communion Harvest Festival

Churchwardens Charles and Judy Norman tel 07880 700926

Dorchester Strollers:

Monday 24th August 10.30am Sandringham Bowling Club

Tuesday 25th August 2.15pm Borough Gardens Bandstand



Team Rector & St Peter, High West St:

Revd Keith Magee 07766 645135

Keith.magee@btinternet.com

St George, Fordington Revd Cora Yarrien 01305 262421

revd.cora.yarrien@gmail.com

St Mary, Edward Road Revd Jimmy Holden 01305 266502

revjimmyholden@gmail.com

St Andrew, West Stafford Revd Cora Yarrien 01305 262421

revd.cora.yarrien@gmail.com

Curate: The Reverend Connor Hansford 01305 858832 mob 07482 875719

FrConnor@mail.com Revd Connor's day off is Friday and Thursday is his Study Day.

The Winterbournes & Compton Valence Churches Rev Teresa Stewart Sykes

01305 549242 email revteresa@outlook.com

Parish Office: 01305 250719 dorchesterpcc@gmail.com

open 9-1, Tues, Thur, Fri. Looked after by June Jenkins & Gill Hartnett

The Benefice Website: www.dorchesteranglican.org.uk

QR code



<https://www.dorchesteranglican.org.uk/>

Don't forget that, on the Benefice website, you can find service times, news of the latest concerts and events, and recordings of sermons preached across our churches. <https://www.dorchesteranglican.org.uk/>