

## Welcome

Week beginning Sunday 9th February  
4th Sunday Before Lent

Dear Friends,

The church has moved through the great festivals of Christmas and Epiphanytide where we celebrated the wonderful mystery of God's great love for us – that greatest love that caused him to choose to come to be with us so he might give himself for us and for our salvation. It is now left to us, the recipients of this glorious gospel to share this good news in what we say and in how we live our lives. How, then do we live this gospel most effectively so that we may truly reflect that hope and love which is the good news of our salvation in a way that it speaks to all people with a voice of compassion and confidence from God's Holy Spirit? This is a question which communities of Christians have grappled with from the earliest of days. How do we, in our own time reflect this gospel with compassion and integrity?

As a group of churches, we will look to one of the pastoral epistles to see what those seeking to support some of these earliest communities have to say. The Letter to Titus seeks to speak with an authority as if it were from the pen of St Paul himself, so strongly does the author wish to have their message heard. After addressing the recipient as one who is blameless; the author lists what they see to be the attributes of a leader in the church. This piece of scripture is sometimes used on the feast day of a saint who was a bishop or holy leader in the church. I hope it is something to which we all, as a royal priesthood of believers can aspire. These are attributes of moderation; humility; a genuine desire to promote what is just and true and the courage to stand up and be counted; to be accountable for what we do and say. The early church was hugely attractive because it was seen to be different. People saw the joy of the love of the gospel in the lives of those early Christians. How much are we reflecting these values in our lives? Let us celebrate where we are and ask God's strength for those areas where we're still getting there.

With best wishes to you all  
*Reverend Philip Elliott*

## Readings

Titus 1. 1-9 Luke 5. 1-11

## Collect

Lord of the hosts of heaven, our salvation and our strength, with out you we are lost: guard us from all that harms or hurts and raise us when we fall; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### Deanery Synod Meeting Invitation

**Tuesday 18th March 7pm for 7.30pm**

**Emmanuel Church, Southill.**

The next Deanery Synod meeting is an open meeting for all to attend. We will be considering Financing the Future Sustainably. The Ven Antony MacRow-Wood, Director of Finance and Asset Management for Salisbury will be joining us to share what this looks like in practice for churches. As usual there will be the opportunity to discuss together the implications of what this means to us.

### Coffee Morning for St Laurence Church

**Tuesday 11th February**

inc. Bring & Buy + Raffle

10-30am - 12noon

64 Elwell Street, Upwey DT3 5QF

Hosted by Dilys Scott



### Charity Concert

**Salvation Army Band, Songsters & Timbrels**  
**3pm (doors open 2.30pm) Saturday 22nd February**

St Nicholas Church Broadway

Tickets £10

For The Blind Association & St Nicholas Repair Fund

*For more details and to book please contact*

*Susana Malik 07944 617553 susanamalik@yahoo.com*

### Indian Evening

**6.45pm Saturday 22nd February**

Osmington Village Hall, Osmington. DT3 6FT

Traditional Indian food & dancing demonstration. Bar

Tickets £20 per person

Bookings/payment by 13th February

In aid of St Osmund's Church

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