

Welcome

Week beginning Sunday 18th May
5th of Easter 4th after Easter

Dear friends,

We certainly live in a world where things are moving very fast! With Trump on the throne; there are always new developments coming out of the United States which have implications around the world. We live in a world where the decisions made by very few can greatly impact the lives of many. The world, in many ways, certainly feels like a very different place to what it was a few years ago!

In the midst of all this change; our faith can be a great comfort to us. God is unchanging and God's love is always sure. We continue to celebrate the victory of the great Light and Love of God through these great fifty days of Easter. The Paschal Candles burning bright in our churches during this time remind us of this. We revisit this in our Gospel reading as we hear Jesus' words to his disciples on that evening when he was betrayed.

Our reading from Acts, however, gives us both a message of warning and of hope. Peter tells of his vision of the great sheet with all the interesting things in it which were considered unsuitable for the purity of God's chosen ones. The Law of Moses clearly decreed that these things were unclean yet the voice from heaven insists; "Get up, kill and eat." Initially Peter argues with God – "By no means, Lord". The reply comes; "What God has made clean, you shall not call profane." After this Peter plucks up the courage to engage with those with whom it would have not been appropriate to associate. Their manners and customs were different. They did not live according to the Law of Moses, yet, having taken the time to spend time with them; Peter sees God at work in them as he had with the Jewish Christians with which he was used to dealing.

This wonderful story reminds is that God made all people in God's image. In times of change, it is tempting to hang on to what we know and reject that which is different, at times condemning it. We see from the narrative in Acts that this isn't God's way. Peter had the courage to move out of his comfort zone and risk sharing the wonder of God's love with others and he was blessed by the experience. My prayer is that we may have the courage to do likewise.

*With best wishes to you all
Rev Philip Elliott*

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Rev Philip Elliott*

Readings

Acts 11. 1-18 John 13. 31-35

Collect

Risen Christ, your wounds declare your love for the world and the wonder of your risen life: give us compassion and courage to risk ourselves for those we serve, to the glory of God the Father. Amen

St Nicholas Church, DT3 5DN

Ben & Tom Waters Concert **7.30pm doors open at 7pm** **Saturday 31st May**

Ben, a supreme Boogie Woogie piano player
& his son, Tom, a rhythm/blues
& jazz saxophonist.
Tickets £20

Dr Jazz

7pm Saturday 14th June

Four retired doctors play medicine for your ears in their easy jazz style.
Tickets £10

Contact: Susana Malik on 07944617553 or
susanamalik@yahoo.com

St Andrew's Church Rooms. DT3 6BU

Quiz Night

7pm Friday 30th May

£7 per person (light supper provided)
Contact: Carole Anders 01305 833431

Casterbridge Male Voice Choir & Friends

Saturday 21st June - Doors open at 7pm

Songs from the 1940's as we look back to the end of WWII. Licenced bar and nibbles. Flags provided! Tickets £15 from the Team Office.

Carrie Martin

3pm Sunday 7th September

An afternoon of acoustic music,
including tea/coffee & homemade cakes.
Tickets £15 from the Team Office

Please contact 01305 837147
or weymouth.ridgeway.team.office@gmail.com

Church Cleaning day

7th June

St Osmund's Church, Osmington
All volunteers welcome.
Coffee & cake will be provided!

Cream Tea

The kind folk at St. Joseph's RC Church have invited us to a Cream Tea on Tuesday June 10th at 3 pm.
If you would like to attend please let Dawn Hutchinson know by the 4th of June -
01305 834266.

St Aldhelm's Church Centre

An Evening of Musical Memories with 'Castaway' Rev Anni Douglas. **7pm Friday 23rd May**

Please bring your own refreshments
Tickets £5, to book contact
John - 07989930223 or Mike - 07942678730

Thank you!

Alex & John want to thank everyone involved in the very successful Ken Watkins Concert last Sunday at St Andrew's Church Rooms. The concert & refreshments were enjoyed by all and £510 was raised for the Church.

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Susana Malik & St Nicholas Church would like to thank all those who attended the Courtlye Musick Concert which raised £400 (this will be split between St Nicholas & St Laurence Primary School and the Dorset Rural Music School) Thanks also to those who attended the VE Day Afternoon Tea & Concert which raised £600 for SSAFA Dorset.

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