

Benefice Newsletter

**St Laurence, Upwey - St Nicholas Broadwey - Holy Trinity Bincombe –
St Nicholas Buckland Ripers**

Welcome Week beginning Sunday 10th August

8th Sunday After Trinity

Promises! Promises! some need believing!

Someone once wrote. “God said it; I believe it; that settles it!” For some this might seem over simplistic, yet this is the foundation of faith, certainly of Abram’s (later Abraham) faith.

Today’s reading is at a relatively early stage in Abram’s belief in God who had made himself known to Abram and had called him out of Ur and Har-ran. Already the Lord had promised, “in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” Gen.12:3. A promise that would be fulfilled in Christ and then through Christ’s Church. God had also promised him that his descend-ants would be as numerous as stars. Now God assures him, “I am your shield and your very great reward.” v1 (NIV). Nothing can be more precious, no treasure more valuable than this assurance.

One of the wonderful things about God is that he is patient when we struggle to understand how he will fulfil his promises. Abraham struggled too! He dares to say effectively, ‘that’s great but I’m childless, I have no heir!’ It’s not him doubting God but expressing both a desire and a concern he can’t fathom out, an indication of an honest and deepening relationship with the Lord. God’s response is not to rebuke him for lack of faith but to give the promise of a son and heir bearing both Abraham’s and Sarai’s DNA. With nothing further to go on other than God’s word to him, Abraham “believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.” ‘God said it; I believe it; that settles it!’ Nothing Abram did earned that right standing with God. It was a gift appropriated by believing God’s promise. Here is the very foundation of God’s covenant with us, of which we are reminded every time we come to Communion and the foundation of Paul’s teaching in the New Testament.

How are we counted righteous before God? The same as Abraham. By faith, humbly believing God’s promises and, for us, receiving Jesus Christ’s gift of his unmerited favour of forgiveness and eternal life at the foot of the cross. Then, with confidence, we look forward to the sure fulfilment of his promises, “it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom,” and “the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.” Luke 12: 32 & 40. ‘God said it; I believe it; that settles it!’

Reverend Mike Stear

Readings

Genesis 15. 1-6 Luke 12. 32-40

www.weymouthridgeway.org.uk

Collect

**Lord God, your Son left the riches of heaven and became poor for our sake:
when we prosper save us from pride, when we are needy save us from
despair, that we may trust in you alone; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**



**Osmington Village Hall.
DT3 6FT**

St Osmund's Summer Boiler

Raising funds for the new
church boiler!

Saturday 9th August 12noon - 4pm
Music, Games, Stalls, Cream Teas,
Refreshments and much more.
www.boilerevent.com

**St Andrew's Church Rooms.
Preston. DT3 6BU**

Carrie Martin

3pm Sunday 7th September
An afternoon of acoustic music,
including tea/coffee & homemade cakes.
Tickets £15 from the Team Office

Harvest Supper

6.30pm for 7.00pm Saturday 27th September
Bar, Live Music, Raffle
Raising funds for Christian Aid &
St Andrew's Church.
Tickets £10 from the Team Office

Variety Evening

7pm for 7.30pm Friday 24th October
Variety of Local Acts, Bar, Raffle, FUN!
Tickets £10 from the Team Office

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

**St Nicholas Church, Broadway
Dorchester Rd. DT3 5DN**

5.30pm Saturday 27th September

St. Nicholas Church is hosting its first-ever
Choral Evensong Service,
with Salisbury Cathedral Chamber Choir.
Refreshments. All welcome.

6.30pm for 7pm Saturday October 11th

The Bovington Military Wives Choir Concert

Tickets are £10 (under 16yrs free). There will
be a bar (cash preferable) & free teas/
coffee's/squash.

Please contact Susana Malik in advance
07944 617553 or susanamalik@yahoo.com

**St Laurence Church,
Upwey DT3 5QE**

Midsummer Musicals

Wessex Musical Theatre
7.30pm Friday 15th August
(Doors open 6.45pm)
Tickets £10
www.ticketsource.co.uk/upwey-music
or cash on the door.

**St Francis Church,
Littlemoor DT3 6SJ**

Food Bank

Every Wednesday
10am - 1pm
We also provide local primary school uniforms