

PARISH NEWS

COME AND SEA – OUTREACH in WEST BAY



Craft FUN Weekend

for accompanied children and adults

...with the *Holy Fools!*

**St John's
Church
West Bay
&
Harbour
Green**



Saturday 10th August Craft activities times:

Morning 10.30am to 12.30pm & Afternoon 1.30pm to 3.30pm

Sunday 11th August 11am Church Service

2pm-4pm Show Time with the *Holy Fools*, handbell ringing
4pm Songs of Praise

HOW YOU CAN HELP WITH 'COME & SEA'

To help with the many sea-themed activities we want to include we would be very grateful for any donations of the following: socks (for puppets), ribbons (20-30cm), a large piece of fishing net, fabric strips (20cm length), wool/yarn (weaving), paints, children's glue, 30cm fabric squares, 5m of calico and plain but coloured cotton fabric. We would still love to hear if you would like to get involved, for however long or short a time over the weekend of 10/11 August. Contact Diana Wright with offers or ideas. 01308 456967

CHURCHES TOGETHER



Any questions, please
Contact CTiBD Secretary
Heather Purse:
heatherpurse@yahoo.co.uk



28th July 2024

9th Sunday after Trinity

PARISH NEWS



Greetings from Bridport's worshipping community

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Years ago, when I was young, I had the most amazing journey that helped me to see first-hand, how Jesus does the unexpected, and how he helps us to see with new eyes, what has always been right in front of our noses. To see God in the things and in the people we so often take for granted.

I was 25, still new to the life of counting myself a Christian, and I took a trip with people from my church to the Holy Land. Our church was an urban priority parish in Salford – Coronation Street territory. It was a poor community, where many led chaotic lives.

It was an unexpected trip in many ways – our Vicar, who didn't do anything the easy way, said we were going to do up an old bus and drive across Europe and over the Mediterranean to Israel. We were 50 northerners in an old coach. We stayed in church halls and even slept outdoors one night on the week-long journey.

We had many mishaps on the way, too many to list, and often the travelling congregation sounded like the children of Israel, moaning about Moses leading them out into the wilderness. I often heard people saying: Why did we follow our mad Vicar on this mad trip? It wasn't how we imagined it would be. We certainly didn't all become model Christians, uncomplaining and full of spiritual assurance.

We had expected to meet Jesus in the Holy Land. We expected to come away changed and made new. But we were still an imperfect band of northerners when we returned home back to Salford a month later.

A few weeks after we got home the Vicar called us all for a get together, to share our photos and our reflections on our pilgrimage. In all the excited chatter and reminiscing we realised the unexpected truth. We left grey old Salford for the Holy Land expecting to find Jesus, and grasped we hadn't needed to travel all that way to find him – because he had been with us before we set off.

He had travelled with us, and we saw him in each other. And he had travelled back with us – and somehow the experience of making that pilgrimage together *had* changed each of us forever.

Jesus keeps showing up in unexpected places, in unexpected ways. Why does it still surprise us?

Canon Deb Smith

COLLECT

Almighty God,
who sent your Holy Spirit
to be the life and light of your Church:
open our hearts to the riches of your grace,
that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit
in love and joy and peace;
through 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.

(or)
Gracious Father,
revive your Church in our day,
and make her holy, strong and faithful,
for your glory's sake
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Post Communion

Holy Father,
who gathered us here around the table of your Son
to share this meal with the whole household of God:
in that new world
where you reveal the fullness of your peace,
gather people of every race and language
to share in the eternal banquet of Jesus Christ our Lord.

TODAY'S READINGS

Ephesians 3 : 14 – end *Prayer for the Readers*
For this reason I bow my knees before the Father,
from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes
its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his
glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in
your inner being with power through his Spirit, and
that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as
you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that
you may have the power to comprehend, with all the
saints, what is the breadth and length and height and
depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses
knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the
fullness of God. Now to him who by the power at work
within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more
than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the
church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever
and ever. Amen.

John 6 : 1 – 21 *Feeding the Five Thousand*
After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of
Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd
kept following him, because they saw the signs that
he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain
and sat down there with his disciples. Now the
Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he
looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him,
Jesus said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread for
these people to eat?' He said this to test him, for he
himself knew what he was going to do. Philip
answered him, 'Six months' wages would not buy
enough bread for each of them to get a little.'

One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother,
said to him, 'There is a boy here who has five barley
loaves and two fish. But what are they among so
many people?' Jesus said, 'Make the people sit
down.' Now there was a great deal of grass in the
place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all.
Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given
thanks, he distributed them to those who were
seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted.

When they were satisfied, he told his disciples,
'Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing
may be lost.' So they gathered them up, and from
the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those
who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets.

When the people saw the sign that he had done,
they began to say, 'This is indeed the prophet who is
to come into the world.' When Jesus realized that
they were about to come and take him by force to
make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain
by himself.

..... *Jesus Walks on the Water*
When evening came, his disciples went down to the
lake, got into a boat, and started across the lake to
Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet
come to them. The lake became rough because a
strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed
about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on
the lake and coming near the boat, and they were
terrified. But he said to them, 'It is I; do not be
afraid.' Then they wanted to take him into the boat,
and immediately the boat reached the land towards
which they were going.

ADDITIONAL READING: **Psalm 14**

Denunciation of Godlessness To the leader. Of David.
Fools say in their hearts, 'There is no God.' They are
corrupt, they do abominable deeds; there is no one
who does good. The Lord looks down from heaven
on humankind to see if there are any who are wise,
who seek after God. They have all gone astray, they
are all alike perverse; there is no one who does
good, no, not one. Have they no knowledge, all the
evildoers who eat up my people as they eat bread,
and do not call upon the Lord?

There they shall be in great terror, for God is with
the company of the righteous. You would confound
the plans of the poor, but the Lord is their refuge. O
that deliverance for Israel would come from Zion!
When the Lord restores the fortunes of his people,
Jacob will rejoice; Israel will be glad.

COMPLINE AT HOME

Tuesdays + Thursdays @ 8pm – request **ZOOM**
link from **nigelg8@gmail.com**