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CHARTERHOUSE,

UBLEY

No. 64

COMPTON MARTIN AND Church Link Sunday 13 June 2021 make, we pray, the door of our Church wide enough to welcome all who need human love, fellowship and a Father's care, but narrow enough to shut out all envy, pride and lack of love.

God, our heavenly Father, Here may the tempted find help,

the sorrowing receive comfort, the careless be awakened to repentance, and the penitent be assured of your mercy, and here may all your children renew their strength and go on their way in hope and joy,

through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. Prayer of Bishop Thomas Ken Please join us for the Sunday Eucharist on 6th June in St Bartholomew's Church, Ubley. Booking, as usual, is via the form on our website, to enable us to comply with Track and Trace regulations. Online worship can be found on our website. Please join us at 10:30am. Please see the notice below about the Ubley Churchyard Working Party on Saturday 19th June. As biodiversity in our churchyards has been a focus of Diocesan news this month, there is also an interview with Dr Peter Brotherton about their significance for climate change. in One.

We look forward to welcoming you soon. Yours in Fellowship, Revd. Simon Lewis Laura Williams

book via this link • 10:30am - Online worship via our website. Please click here to join Wednesday 16th June • 5:00pm - Evensong, sung by the Choir, St Andrew's, Blagdon. **Thursday 17th June** • 12:00pm - Online Church in the Spirit of Iona, via Zoom. Please click here to join. Our churches will also be open for individual prayer at the following times: **Monday 14th June** • 9:30am - 10:30am, St Andrew's, Blagdon **Thursday 17th June** • 10:30am - 11:30am, St Bartholomew's, Ubley St Michael's, Compton Martin, will be open every day from 9:00am -5:00pm Please wear a face covering inside our buildings and observe social distancing. Sunday Reading and Reflection 13 June 2021 - Trinity II Reading: Mark 4.26-34 The Parable of the Growing Seed He also said, 'The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.' The Parable of the Mustard Seed He also said, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.' The Use of Parables With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained

Online Worship - Trinity II 13 June 2021, 10:30am Please join us for Sunday worship for the second Sunday after Trinity, led by Simon on our website. Please click the link at 10:30am to join our Church

Please come armed with gardening tools and gloves All help greatly appreciated Diana Coles

across the face of the earth. Like the angels who visited Abraham, the 'traveller God' sits down at our ordinary tables and spreads them with a hint of heaven. On the right of the icon is the Spirit, whose blue garment is wrapped over with a robe of earthy green, reminding us that the Spirit of creation, who was there in the beginning with God, moves in sky and water, breathes in heaven and earth. All living things owe their freshness to his touch. His head is bowed in acknowledgement of the authority of the Father at the other side of the table, and his fingers point to Him. Behind him you may just be able to glimpse a rocky mountain, for the Spirit leads us by ways we may not be aware of, up the hill of prayer. It may be

In Rublev's representation of the scene, the three gold-winged figures are seated around a white table on which a golden, chalice-like bowl contains

either wine, or perhaps roasted lamb, cooked by Sarah. The composition is a great circle around the table, focusing the attention on the chalice at the

Reading the picture from left to right, we see the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Each has the same face and hairstyle, to remind us that they are

all the same. Each has slightly different clothing, though all of them have

some blue on them, to signify the divinity of the heavens. Each has a staff in his hand as a symbol of divine authority, or perhaps as a reminder that we

are all on a journey and that God enters into our journey, our slow movement

centre, reminding us inescapably of an altar at Communion.

goal of our journey. It is the beginning and end of our lives. Its door is always open for the traveller. But it is also God's dwelling place with us on earth, for Jesus also said, 'Those who love Me will keep My wordand My Father will love them -and we will come to them and make our home with them.' As we look at this picture, our eyes describe a sort of circular movement around the table of hospitality, which is at once the place of Abraham's hospitality to the angels, and God's place of hospitality to us. That ambiguity lies at the heart of the Eucharist. For at the centre of the circle is the Lamb,

who has been killed for us. His body has become a holy meal for us.

Everything in this picture points to this space, this mystery: within it,

everything about God is summed up and expressed, his power, his glory, and

baptism, when we are told that we are conformed to Christ, anointed by the Spirit, and gifted by the Father to live as sons and daughters of God. In Christ our full humanity is immersed within the circular movement of love between the persons of the Trinity. The great Belgian writer Henri Nouwen writes, 'All engagements in this world can bear fruit only when they take place within this divine circle... the house of perfect love.' So come and follow the Spirit up the hill of prayer. Come and share the kindness of the Son, taking your rest beneath his tree of life. Come and journey to God's home, prepared for you by your Father. The table is spread, and the door is open.

making climate change worse. All of that is threatening humanity's future in a really important way. 15 per cent of the emissions causing climate change are by land use change driven by human consumption. We are cutting down the forests that would be soaking up the carbon just as we need them to do that more than ever. In the UK, one of the most deforested nations of the world, we are degrading our peat bogs which are a vital resource to help us

staggering. If we take the entire weight of all mammals combined, from mice to whales, that is one tenth of the biomass of humans alive today. The weight of all wild birds is one third of the weight of our chickens. The scale of which we have captured the world's resources for ourselves is staggering. It is time for us to do something about that. What can we do? Many of the most nature rich places in our towns and cities are our churchyards. There are species in Britain known only in churchyards so we do have a special role to play and can make a difference by protecting and nurturing their biodiversity. We must speak up. If the church doesn't speak about the environment, at a time when children are more conscious than ever

The scale at which humans have captured the earth's resources, is simply

We have been asked to pray for: In the Parish of Blagdon, please pray for Nicky and her family, Britta and her parents Roger and Kathy, for Elizabeth, Nick, Neil and Margaret, Rhianon and the family of Barbara White. In the Parish of Ubley, please pray for Richard and Nigel. In the Parish of Compton Martin, please pray for Ann and Robert, for Mathew, Tom and Harry, Ceinwen and Robert. Please pray for our wedding couples as they prepare for their marriage

Prayer within our Community

here to send us your requests.

Ubley Cares Landline: 463509 speak to Wes Hallam Email: whallam@ubleyparish.co.uk Landline: 462827 speak to Jonathan Longhurst Email: jl1andjl2@sky.com For those who live in Compton Martin: **Coronavirus support in Compton Martin Parish**

Over the past few weeks, we have had several talks and reflections on the Trinity. Included below is an examination of the famous Rublev icon by Canon Pastor Rosalind Paul, which explores our understanding of the Three If you would prefer not to receive electronic communications from us, please unsubscribe here. **Second Sunday after Trinity**

• 10:30am - Sunday Eucharist, St Andrew's, Blagdon. everything in private to his disciples. **A Reflection**

send your Holy Spirit and pour into my heart that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whoever lives is counted dead before you. Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake,

that all my doings without love are nothing worth:

A Prayer for Sunday

Lord, you have taught me

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

This week's recording for the Ring of Bells' radio station will be broadcast on Sunday morning, beginning with the sound of church bells at 10:45am and with the talk beginning at 11:00pm. You can also listen to this week's

The Trinity Excerpt from a sermon given by Canon Rosalind Paul 30th May 2021

chalice. The cross, the tree of death, has been transformed into a tree of life for us through the sacrifice of the Lamb, and this tree gives us shelter and The Father, on our left, seems to wear robes of the kind of fabric that changes with the light, that cannot be described or confined in words, for no one has seen the Father except the Son, but the vision of him fills the universe. He clasps his staff with both hands - he has all authority in heaven and on earth. He is the only one of the three that looks forward, encompassing the other two. Above his head is a houserepresenting his heavenly dwelling place, of which Jesus said, 'In my Father's House are many mansions.' This house is the

things come to fruition. This is the counter-clockwise movement of our lives, in response to the movement of God. God's invitation to join the circle, to join the dance, is given to us at our

associated with climate change will be worse felt by the countries who have

done the least to cause it. That's a Christian issue. We are meant to be

stewards of God's creation and it is patently clear we are failing in that

How are climate change and biodiversity linked?

stewardship. We have an important role to play to support biodiversity, just as

Climate change is threatening species and making the ecosystems we rely

on to become less able to deliver what we need from them and that in turn is

store becoming a carbon source. To restore them is really important. Is our impact on biodiversity already affecting us? For a long time we treated nature as if it was infinite and we now know that is not the case. The UK is one of the most nature depleted nations on the earth and already nature isn't providing us with what we need. Our air isn't as clean

Community Support and Help Details Support is available in all our villages for anyone who is self-isolating:

Email: comptonmartin.cv@gmail.com Landline: 221415 speak to Jean Luckett Mobile: 07968 861118 speak to Jean Luckett Email: peterandjeanluckett@gmail.com Landline: 220102 speak to Rachel Branston For those who live in Blagdon: **Blagdon Community Link**

family. **Sunday Worship** Ringers' Radio Isolation Station recording on our website, by clicking on the image below. Children's Corner Young Church Mag for 13th June is all about parables and the theme of growing. There a wordsearch, colouring and puzzles and it can all be downloaded as a PDF and printed by clicking this link. We so enjoyed ourselves that we aim to meet each month on the 3rd Saturday. Next date June 19th **Ubley Churchyard Working Party** The Aim....to give the churchyard a spring tidy up When....3rd Saturday of the month 9.30-11.30am Who...Anyone if you can spare an hour. **Judith Longhurst** The mystery of who or what God is, vastly exceeds our understanding, but a child's drawing - or maybe an icon - can sometimes take us beyond the words that we don't have. There is a wonderful 15th-century icon of the Trinity by the Russian icon-writer Andrei Rublev, which to me has that childlike and yet immensely sophisticated understanding of the three persons in one being. You can see it in miniature on the front of your orders of service. An icon is not a painting in the sense we normally mean; it's a window into the realm of God, so in a sense icons hover between two worlds, putting into colours and shapes things that cannot be grasped by the intellect, rendering the invisible visible. This particular icon has as its subject the mysterious story in Genesis where Abraham receives three visitors as he camps by the oaks of Mamre. He serves them a meal, and as the conversation progresses he seems to be talking straight to God, as if these 'angels' were in some way a metaphor for the three persons of the Trinity. Abraham offers them the hospitality of foot washing, rest under a shady tree, and a meal, and they in turn offer him the

right. Behind his left shoulder is a tree, representing the oaks of Mamre, under which Abraham had offered shelter to the angels. It is a place of security, a place of peace, a place where we begin to find out the possibilities of who we can be. It is no ordinary tree. It stands above the Son in the picture, and stands above the altar-table where the lamb who has died lies within the security.

dance.

above all his love.

Dr Peter Brotherton, is Lead Director for Climate Change at Natural **England and Environment Officer for Peterborough Diocese.** What has climate change got to do with the Church? Climate change will be hugely impactful for the entire world, but the changes

we do for climate change.

Connect

as it should be, or would be if we had a rich natural environment. Our towns and homes flood more that they should as we no longer have the stable wetland ecosystems that should be preventing that. Our soil is rapidly depleting and blowing away in some parts of the UK as we are not looking after this vitally important natural asset. These things are really starting to

affect us.

For those who live in Ubley

Support during Covid-19 Email: caroblagdon@gmail.com

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Sunday 13th June

Please

Coming soon after the more familiar Parable of the Sower (Mark 4.3-9) the

Gospel author gathers a series of sayings by Jesus who speaks of the

this parable in their Gospels; it is unique to Mark.

Kingdom of Heaven. He uses ideas and images that refer to the ordinary

Those who heard Jesus at first hand would know, in a way familiar for so

seed, sowing, rain and warmth was, and is, a matter of life or death.

things of life, ones familiar to his hearers. Neither Matthew nor Luke includes

many in our world still, but not to us, in a rich nation, that the relation between

There is no reflection in this parable of where the seed fell, on stony ground,

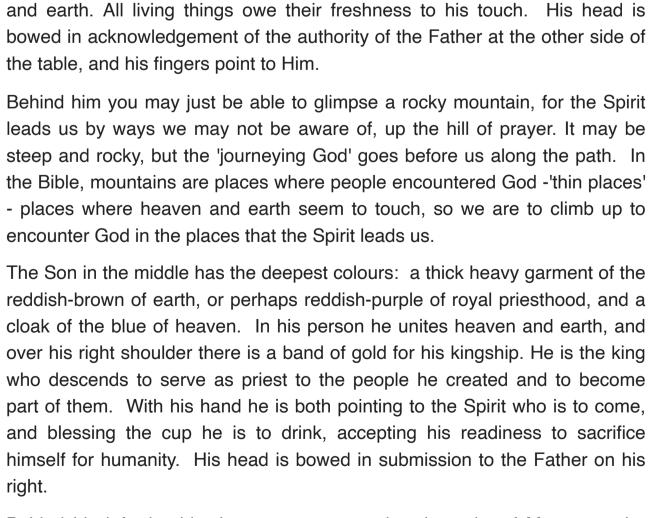
was sown and left. The sower gets on with the routine of ordinary life; sleeps

on poor ground, or on rich soil; no! after cultivation of the ground the seed

at night; has other employment by day; has time for leisure. Meanwhile, hidden from view, fed by water and warmth, silently, and in the dark, in ways the sower knows nothing about the seed sprouts and grows; 'first comes the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear'. For you, Christian, this is a parable about being faithful; trusting in the goodness and graciousness of God; that as you live faithfully, as you are observed to live in the sight of Christ, in your life at home or in work; as you live the Gospel, so the Holy Spirit will work in silence, in secret. The Holy Spirit will do this in ways you and I do not, perhaps, understand. Trust the Holy Spirit to do his work, in your life, and in your dealings with others. Be sure the way you live your faith is a witness to the Gospel. It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High; to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night. [Psalm 92:1-2]

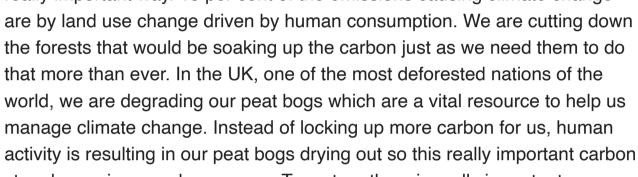


announcement that God would give him and his wife Sarah a son.



And there is also enjoyment. There is a Greek word, perichoresis, which has been used since the 3rd century to describe the life of the Trinity. The word literally means 'dancing around' or 'dancing in a circle'. It's a wonderful depiction of the dance of the Eternal-Three-in-One, each distinct yet encompassing the other, each pouring out grace and love to the other in the And then, if you look, there is an empty space at the bottom of the table. That space is for us, for we are invited to join the group and receive the life of the triune God for ourselves. The movement of life is towards us, flowing around the circle of the Godhead, which we complete with our response to the Spirit who points us to Jesus. And Jesus shows us the Father in whom all





Living the story. Telling the story.

that their future options are disappearing, as a result of environmental changes, we will become irrelevant. Lots of little bits of action will matter. What we do as congregations matters a lot and what we can do as individuals collectively adds up to a lot. Anything we can do to reduce how bad climate change gets has to be a good thing. What gives you hope for the future? I am hoping that people will be hearing a lot more about nature-based solutions to environmental problems in the year ahead. Getting a healthier school space by planting shrubs alongside a school, cooling down cities by

planting more trees. There are many ideas being explored.

ceremonies in our churches this month, and for the family of Ralph who will be baptised in St Michael's, Compton Martin on Saturday 12th June. Lord, we come before you in need of your healing hand. In you all things are possible. Hold our hearts within yours, and renew our minds, bodies, and souls. Amen If you have someone or something that you would like us to pray for, your requests can be passed onto them and included in our prayers. Please click

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