

THANK YOU - GAZA APPEAL

This appeal was held in response to the desperately serious situation for the people in Gaza, who are still suffering greatly. Since last Oct tens of thousands of innocent women, men and children have been killed or seriously injured. Nearly 2 million people are displaced from their homes and now face hunger and disease. Christian Aid is working with its partners on the ground in very challenging conditions to deliver everyday necessities, such as water, food and basic urgent medical attention. It is so good to know that Gaza has not been forgotten in Bridport, evident from the generous and heartfelt response to this appeal. £977.68 was raised by our six Parish churches and when added to Bridport United Reformed Church's contributionthe grand total was £1251.11

If you missed the appeal, then you can still donate at caid.org.uk/gazacollection or ring 08080 005 005

or scan this QR code:



Thank you all so much!
Jill Henderson,
Local Organiser, Christian Aid

UPCOMING CONFIRMATIONS

Three young Parishioners, **Miriam Digy**, **Josfin Komi** and **Christopher Foote** are getting confirmed at Salisbury Cathedral (west end) Sat **2 Nov** at 6.30pm. Their first communion is at St Swithun's Church on **3 Nov** at 10am. All are welcome. Revds Lorna & Cally

Tasks might involve:

- A. Identify **which services** during Advent & Christmas might benefit from a pop-up choir.
- B. Liaise with organist Tim Linsley to try and work out choir's **practice schedule** then liaise with Di (office) to ensure relevant churches are available and open for practices as applicable.
- C. Put **notices** to appear in pew-sheets & the Dec Bridge.
- D. Issue personal **invites** / encouragement to get the ball rolling and bolster numbers – [including our church children's groups and anyone else who might appreciate being included].

E. **Gather names.**

Contact Revd Cally Burch or Di (office) if interested



Greetings from Bridport's worshipping community

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"They are so needy", have you ever heard that said about someone? Has anyone said it about us? But what is it that we need? Many of us are fortunate to have most of our physical needs met whilst many do not and seasons such as harvest and Creationtide have reminded us of all those things that we do have and which we are able to enjoy. However even when all our physical needs are met do we still feel that something is missing? Sometimes it's not a physical thing that we need but it is a sense of peace that is missing. We see that need for peace right now on a massive scale, in the Ukraine, in Palestine, Lebanon and Israel, in the Sudan. We see that need for peace within our nation where people are denied peace because of injustice caused by racial hatred, broken relationships and worry. When thinking about needs we also have the conflict of what do we actually think of as needs versus what we may want. I find it is interesting that many reports about the social "high flyers", be they from business, sport or entertainment, record the fact that even with so many more "things" than I have (and I do have many!) there is often a desire to want more. However, as the reports often indicate, can their wants ever be fully satisfied.

In the gospel reading today Jesus asks blind Bartimaeus what he wants after Jesus heard him calling out. Is it too needy that Bartimaeus wants his sight restored? I do not think so but I do find it fascinating that Jesus does not leap to the conclusion of what Bartimaeus wants, indeed needs, his sight restored. Jesus does not assume, Jesus asks. Sometimes what might seem our obvious external need will not lead us to an enjoyable and lasting peace. Satisfying a need, satisfying a want may not be the real answer, it may not bring us peace. Jesus tells us, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid". Jesus will meet our needs in ways that we do not expect, and may not want. Jesus' response might put us into a position or situation that we did not expect and which may make things more difficult – in the short term. Our journey through life will present us with various challenges and in turn present us with various needs. In considering those needs I find it helpful to compare them with the things that I already enjoy and also to ask myself whether a new request will lead to the sense of peace which Jesus promises.

Martin Whiting

COLLECT

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: help us so to hear them, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word, we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion

God of all grace,
your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry
with the bread of his life and the word of his kingdom:
renew your people with your heavenly grace,
and in all our weakness
sustain us by your true and living bread;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

TODAY'S READINGS

[Bible Sunday Epistle reading] **2 Tim 3 : 14-17 and 4 : 1 - 5**
But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work. In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favourable or unfavourable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

[Bible Sunday Gospel reading] **John 5 : 36 - 47**
But I have a testimony greater than John's. The works that the Father has given me to complete, the very works that I am doing, testify on my behalf that the Father has sent me. And the Father who sent me has himself testified on my behalf. You have never heard his voice or seen his form, and you do not have his word abiding in you, because you do not believe him whom he has sent. You search the scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that testify on my behalf. Yet you refuse to come to me to have life. I do not accept glory from human beings. But I know that you do not have the love of God in you. I have come in my Father's name, and you do not accept me; if another comes in his own name, you will accept him. How can you believe when you accept glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the one who alone is God? Do not think that I will accuse you before the Father; your accuser is Moses, on whom you have set your hope. If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote about me. But if you do not believe what he wrote, how will you believe what I say?

[Last Sunday after Trinity readings]

Hebrews 7 : 23 – end Furthermore, the former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office; but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues for ever.

Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself. For the law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect for ever.

Mark 10 : 46 - endThe Healing of blind Bartimaeus

They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!' Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, 'Son of David, have mercy on me!' Jesus stood still and said, 'Call him here.' And they called the blind man, saying to him, 'Take heart; get up, he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, 'What do you want me to do for you?' The blind man said to him, 'My teacher, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has made you well.' Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

COMPLINE AT HOME

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

ADVENT BOOK CHOICE 2024

This year we will read Rachel Mann's "Do not be afraid" about waiting in a time of fear. The parish has ordered copies – request / order yours [£10] via Michele Craddock: cwteam@parishofbridport.org or call her Tel: 01308 458725.

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING / Q&A

Wendy Thorogood (our Parish PSO) invites you to "Tea & Chat" on Monday 4 Nov at 3pm in Holy Trinity Church Bothenhampton. An opportunity to meet Wendy and informally chat about safeguarding in our Parish, be updated about aspects of Safer Recruitment, get answers to any questions you may have. These discussions are especially important for those involved with children and/or vulnerable adults in our Parish. **Please RSVP via Michele Craddock:** Email: cwteam@parishofbridport.org 01308 458725 for catering purposes – thanks!

A QUIET DAY

A Quiet Day is being arranged at Othona, Burton Bradstock, on Saturday **12 April 2025**. Details to follow, but please put this date into your diary.

PRAYER TIME

With Revd's Cally Burch & John Rees, **first & third Thurs** of the month, 3.30pm-4.30pm, 7 Nov will be at Holy Trinity Church Bradpole and 21 November will be at St John's Church West Bay.