

THE PARISHES OF ST MARGARET AND  
ST MARK DUNHAM MASSEY

Trinity 3 Sunday 28th June 2020

## Newsletter and Weekly Prayer Sheet

### **Notes from the parish pump**

Dear Alan

Thank you so much for keeping the weekly prayer sheet going – it must entail a lot of time and effort every week. I enjoy your trips around the village, they must evoke a lot of memories for the older villagers and are of so much interest to us newcomers.

This quote from Alfred Lord Tennyson's poem Morte D'Arthur has been running round my head for many weeks – in fact since 'lock down'

'The old order changeth yielding place to new  
And God fulfils himself in many ways  
Lest one good custom should corrupt the world.....'  
'More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of'

Is this pandemic God's way of telling us that we need to stop this ever increasing greedy rush for wealth, power and transient materialistic items? We have become so very use to our comfortable lifestyle, possibly at the expense of others less fortunate than ourselves both at home and abroad.

Now, as never before we have time to sit down and consider our options. Realistically we can do very little to change nations but we have the power to change ourselves and to be more aware of how our actions can influence others. Start the ball rolling.

This enforced quiet time has enabled us to consider what is really important in our lives and how we can work to keep this perhaps more simple but satisfying way of living.

One of the best ways to get to know ourselves and our needs – not wants- is by the power of prayer and meditation. Now we have time to set up a regular practice so that they can become very much part of our day and slowly but surely can bring about positive change.

These are my thoughts as I enjoy sitting in my garden and I thank God every day for being alive.

Stay safe

***Diana Davidson***

## Readings

Matthew 10, 40-42

Please log onto the church website  
[www.dunhamchurch.com](http://www.dunhamchurch.com)

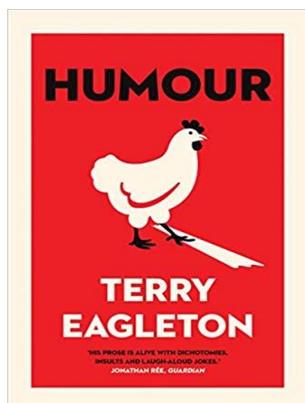
for our short weekly service.  
Click on the News and events box in  
blue, scroll down to click in St Mark's  
service of the week.

## The Collect

Almighty God,  
you have broken the tyranny of sin  
and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts  
whereby we call you Father:  
give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your  
service,  
that we and all creation may be brought  
to the glorious liberty of the children of God;  
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.

## **Book Review**

Written by an acknowledged master of comedy, this study reflects on the nature of humour and the functions it serves. Why do we laugh? What are we to make of the sheer variety of laughter, from braying and cackling to sniggering and chortling? Is humour subversive, or can it defuse dissent? Can we define wit?



Packed with illuminating ideas and a good many excellent jokes, the book critically examines various well-known theories of humour, including the idea that it springs from incongruity and the view that it reflects a mildly sadistic form of superiority to others. Drawing on a wide range of literary and philosophical sources, Terry Eagleton moves from Aristotle and Aquinas to Hobbes, Freud, and Bakhtin, looking in particular at the psychoanalytical mechanisms underlying humour and its social and political evolution over the centuries.



Should you need the help of a Minister  
Reverend Keith Hine can be contacted at :-

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Should you need help or support :-  
Pastoral Care Team

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**Hope to see you soon.**