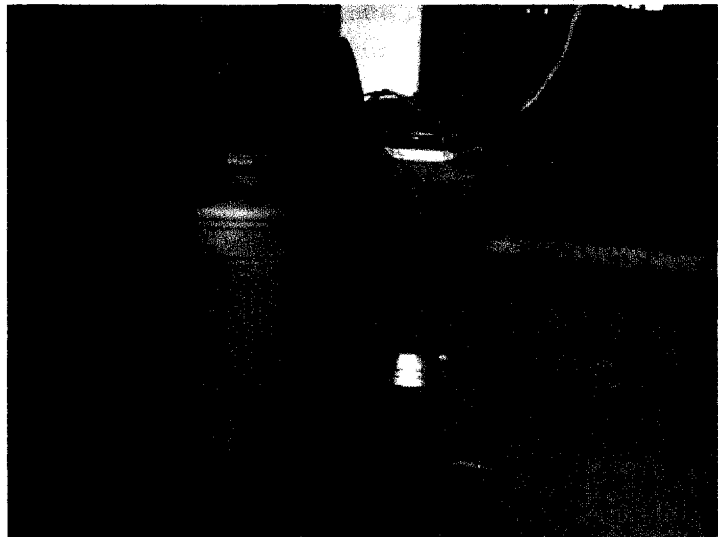


The Okeford Benefice

Child Okeford with Manston



Re-dedication of the Bells
of
St Nicholas Child Okeford

Tuesday 30th October 2018

7.30pm

Please join us for refreshments after the service.

We acknowledge with grateful thanks the support of:

D'Oyly Carte Trust

Salisbury Diocesan Guild of Ringers

Dorset County Association

All Churches Trust

The sponsors of the four "new" bells

*Everyone who has contributed to this project in any way to commemorate
the centenary of the end of WW1*

The "remodelled" ring comprises 4 bells cast in 1934 at the Whitechapel foundry as part of a clock chime for the News of the World building in London: these are now bells 1,2, 5 and 6 of our ring. In 1965 these bells were offered to the Archbishop of Canterbury who gave them to All Saints Murston where they were hung on scaffolding on top of the tower and chimed electrically. The scaffolding was assessed as being in a dangerous condition in 2013 and the bells were taken down and would have been scrapped, but were saved by the Keltek Trust in December 2016 and sold to Child Okeford PCC at cost. Bells 1 and 2 of the old ring were tuned to Simpson standard to become the new 3 and 4.

Welcome

Hymn 33 – Angel-voices ever singing

Introduction

Our help is in the name of the Lord;

who made heaven and earth.

Honour and majesty are before the Lord:

beauty is in his sanctuary.

Blessed be the name of the Lord;

from this time forth and for evermore.

From the rising of the sun to its setting;

the name of the Lord is to be praised.

Praise him with trumpet sound;

praise him with lute and harp!

Praise him with timbrel and dance;

praise him with strings and pipe!

Praise him with sounding bells;

praise him with loud clashing bells!

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord! (after Psalm 150)

Brothers and sisters, we are met here to commit to God the work which these bells, now rehung and to be hallowed in our tower, shall do in the years to come, to ask God's blessing on all who shall ring them, and to ask that all who hear them shall lift up their hearts to God.

Let us thank God for the craftsmen who during the centuries have cast and hung bells in this, and other towers throughout the land; for the ringers who in times past have rung these bells: let us pray also for the ringers throughout this land and overseas, that through their art, we may in faith be one for evermore.

Let us pray that the message of the bells may bring joy to the sad, penitence to sinners, and encouragement to the faithful and all who seek truth. In the song of these bells, may we find peace in our souls.

All turn to face the bell tower.

The churchwarden, passes the rope to the Rector saying:

Rector, we ask you to dedicate these newly restored bells to the glory of God and to further the work of the church in this parish.

The Rector receives the bell rope and says:

In the faith of Jesus Christ, I solemnly hallow and dedicate these newly restored bells to the glory of God, in the name of the Father and of the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

The Rector then hands the bell rope to the Tower Captain saying

Receive these bells as a sacred trust and take care that they be ever used in God's service and for his glory.

The Tower Captain replies:

May these bells ever sound to the glory of God and to summon his people to worship, and may all the ringers, be worthy of the ministry we carry out in the fellowship of God's people in this place, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

The Tower Captain then hands the rope to the Assistant Curate who says:

Accept in mercy, heavenly Father, the restoration of these bells; that with their sound understood in reverence, they may inspire those servants who worship here, and confirm the faith of all who confess that Christ is Lord. Let all, as have ears to hear, be drawn, with souls awakened from devotion to things temporal to the adoration of things eternal. Amen

A bell is sounded.

Hymn 296 – Let all the World

Reading - 1 Chronicles 29: 9 - 17

Then the people rejoiced because these had given willingly, for with single mind they had offered freely to the Lord; King David also rejoiced greatly.

Then David blessed the Lord in the presence of all the assembly; David said: 'Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our ancestor Israel, for ever and

ever. Yours, O Lord, are the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty; for all that is in the heavens and on the earth is yours; yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. Riches and honour come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might; and it is in your hand to make great and to give strength to all. And now, our God, we give thanks to you and praise your glorious name.

'But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to make this freewill-offering? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you. For we are aliens and transients before you, as were all our ancestors; our days on the earth are like a shadow, and there is no hope. O Lord our God, all this abundance that we have provided for building you a house for your holy name comes from your hand and is all your own. I know, my God, that you search the heart, and take pleasure in uprightness; in the uprightness of my heart I have freely offered all these things, and now I have seen your people, who are present here, offering freely and joyously to you.

Music - Louis Vierne: Carillon De Westminster

Reading 1 Corinthians 12: 4 - 11

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

Talk

Hymn - See them nobly (Tune Hyfrydol)

See them nobly in the steeple,
Let our bells be rung on high.
There fulfil their heavenly mission,
Midway twixt the earth and sky.
As the birds sing early matins
To the God of nature's praise:
These their ring of changing music
To the God of grace shall raise.

And when evening shadows soften
Chancel, cross and tower and aisle;
They shall blend their vesper summons
With the day's departing smile
Christian people hear them sounding
In their toil or in their rest,
Joyful that in one communion
Of the church they too are blest.

Till the days of sheaves in-gathering,
Till the harvest of the earth;
Till the Saints rise in their order,
Glorious them a second birth,
Christ to Thee, the world's salvation,
Father, Spirit, unto Thee
Low we bend in adoration
Ever blessed One in Three.

Prayers

Merciful Lord,
Strengthen all Christian people by your Holy Spirit
that we may live as a royal priesthood and a holy nation
to the praise of Jesus Christ our Saviour.
Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Empower us by the gift of your holy and life giving Spirit
that we may be transformed into the likeness of Christ
from glory to glory.
Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Almighty God, we praise you for those who have ministered in this Church,
for every craftsman's care inscribed upon its furnishings,
and for all who, across the ages, have left us with a legacy of beauty and
richness.
May this place inspire us to seek first your kingdom and your
righteousness.
Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Finally, O God of grace, we pray thee that we may consecrate our lives to
your service;
that when sign, symbol and sound are ended,
and that which is perfect is revealed,
we may leave behind the bustling noises of earth
for the sounding of bells of heaven;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee, O Father, and the Holy
Spirit,
be ascribed all honour and glory, thanksgiving and praise, world without
end. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Hymn 467 – Tell out my Soul
(During which a collection is taken)

Blessing

Be present with us now, good Lord, that those who hear the bells may
speedily answer their call, and seek their place within this church, wherein
your honour dwells;
And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you
now and always.
Amen.