WALBURY BEACON
BENEFICE

Sunday 25th October 2026

Last Sunday after Trinity

Readings

Leviticus 19.1-2, 15-18

Ritual and Moral Holiness

19The Lord spoke to Moses, saying:
2 Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.
15 You shall not render an unjust judgement; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbour. 16You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbour: I am the Lord.
17 You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbour, or you will incur guilt yourself. 18You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbour as yourself: I am the Lord.

1 Thessalonians 2.1-8

Paul's Ministry in Thessalonica

2You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, 2but though we had already suffered and been shamefully maltreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. 3For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, 4but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. 5As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; .

[6]nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or
from others, [7]though we might have made demands as
apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a
nurse tenderly caring for her own children. [8]So deeply do we
care for you that we are determined to share with you not
only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you
have become very dear to us.

Matthew 22.34-end

The Greatest Commandment

34 When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the
Sadducees, they gathered together, [35]and one of them, a
lawyer, asked him a question to test him. [36]'Teacher, which
commandment in the law is the greatest?' [37]He said to him, '
"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and
with all your soul, and with all your mind." [38]This is the
greatest and first commandment. [39]And a second is like it:
"You shall love your neighbour as yourself." [40]On these two
commandments hang all the law and the prophets.'

The Question about David's Son

41 Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus
asked them this question: [42]'What do you think of the
messiah? Whose son is he?' They said to him, 'The son of
David.' [43]He said to them, 'How is it then that David by the
Spirit calls him Lord, saying, [44] "The Lord said to my Lord,
'Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your
feet' "? [45]If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?'
[46]No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day
did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

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