Stour Vale Newsletter No.278

Sunday 17th August



*10:00am Parish Communion West Stour

10:00am Family Service Todber

5:00pm approx. Songs of Praise in Celebration of marriage

(following a Cream Tea at 3pm - all welcome)

Please remember all who are ill or bereaved in Sunday's intercessions and in your prayers this week

All who are ill, especially Peter (KM), Nicky (T), Margaret (WS) and Tony (WS); those who are bereaved, especially the family and friends of John Parker (KM), Henrietta Davys (KM), Jean Hoskins (KM), Monica de Sallis (KM), and Margaret Elsworth (WS).

Prayer Walks

Prayer walking is rooted in centuries old Christian spiritual traditions such as "Beating the Bounds" and the practice of Pilgrimage. It offers an opportunity to bless people, places, businesses and animals, intercede for the concerns of villagers, and affirm the life and unity of the community, especially in acknowledging those places which are key to village life. All welcome.

Saturday 30th **August** – 10am Stour Row (meet at the village hall) **Saturday 6**th **September** – 10am Todber (meet at the church)

Other Benefice services/events coming up in August

Every Tuesday – Said Morning Prayer 9:30am West Stour Church
Every Wednesday – Said Holy Communion 10:30am East Stour Church
Monday 18th – Knit and Natter 2:30pm East Stour Village Hall
Tuesday 19th August – Benefice Lunch 12:30pm Lakeside Kitchen Todber
Thursday 28th – Stour Vale Benefice Prayer Group 2pm East Stour Church
Sunday 31st August – Lammas Communion 10:30am and Pet Service 3pm – see below



Breakfast served from 8.45am

Worship 9.00am - 9.30am

Buckhorn Weston Village Hall (SP8 5HF).

Scan the QR code for more information,

Or contact Fiona Hedges: fjhedges1@gmail.com; 01747 838 942



^{*}Please remember that West Stour's services are now at 10:00am







Readings Sunday 17th August Jeremiah 23.23–29 Hebrews 11.29—12.2 9th Sunday after Trinity Psalm 82 Luke 12.49–56

Hebrews 11. 29—12.2 (NIV)

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land; but when the Egyptians tried to do so, they were drowned.

³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell, after the army had marched around them for seven days. ³¹ By faith the prostitute Rahab, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient.

³² And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson and Jephthah, about David and Samuel and the prophets, ³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies. ³⁵ Women received back their dead, raised to life again. There were others who were tortured, refusing to be released so that they might gain an even better resurrection. ³⁶ Some faced jeers and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were put to death by stoning; they were sawed in two; they were killed by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated— ³⁸ the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, living in caves and in holes in the ground.

³⁹ These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised, ⁴⁰ since God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.

12 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, ² fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Luke 12. 49-56 (NIV)

"I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! ⁵⁰ But I have a baptism to undergo, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! ⁵¹ Do you think I came to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but division. ⁵² From now on there will be five in one family divided against each other, three against two and two against three. ⁵³ They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

⁵⁴ He said to the crowd: "When you see a cloud rising in the west, immediately you say, 'It's going to rain,' and it does. ⁵⁵ And when the south wind blows, you say, 'It's going to be hot,' and it is. ⁵⁶ Hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of the earth and the sky. How is it that you don't know how to interpret this present time?

Collect and Post Communion for Sunday 17th August

Collect

Almighty God, who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace; 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.

Post Communion

Holy Father, who gathered us here around the table of your Son to share this meal with the whole household of God: in that new world where you reveal the fullness of your peace, gather people of every race and language to share in the eternal banquet of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayer in the Benefice -Sunday 17th to Saturday 23rd August

Please join us in prayer this week, either by adding the topics to your usual daily prayers or by praying the specific prayers suggested below. If you would like us to pray for something, or someone, then please contact Jill Perry (octavoeditorsvb@gmail.com).

Sunday: Church Events: Services in the Benefice, East Stour Wedding Themed Tea and Service

Creator of the universe, may our praise continually blend with that of all creation, in each of our services today and in our daily lives. We pray for the services throughout the Benefice today, especially Breakfast Church this morning and the East Stour Tea and Songs of Praise this afternoon. May many people come, enjoy the services, sense your presence and worship you. Be glorified in all that we do. Amen.



Monday: The United Kingdom

Sovereign Lord, thank you for our country and the freedom we have within it. We ask for a new and better nation in which people strive not only to gain their rights, but to fulfil their

responsibilities. Give everyone a deeper sense of duty, to You and to one another, so we reflect Your kingdom values not of wealth and power, but of service and faithfulness. Amen.

Tuesday: Our Communities

Faithful Father, we thank you for all the communities we are part of – where we live, where we work, where we volunteer, our hobby, sports, or interest groups, our friends, our church family. May they be a source of support and help when we are in need. May we be salt and light within them, showing others your love and drawing them closer to you. Amen.

Wednesday: All who are ill or bereaved, especially those listed on the first page of the newsletter we have specifically been asked to pray for; families struggling financially.



Merciful God, the creator and preserver of all, we pray for people of every race and in every kind of need, especially the sick, the bereaved, the oppressed and those who are struggling to feed and clothe themselves and their children, to pay their bills or to keep a roof over their head. Meet their needs. Give them joy, hope

and peace. Amen.

Thursday: Making Jesus Known

Holy Lord, we pray that your Church, in every nation and of every denomination, will seek to make Jesus known, through their deeds and their words, that all may flourish and grow, seeking your kingdom, here and now. Amen

Friday: Celebrities and those in the spotlight

Loving Father, we pray for all on whom the media spotlight falls, both those who seek fame and those who have fame thrust upon them by the circumstances of their lives. Give them perspective and keep them humble. May their words and their actions be a force for good in the world, reflecting your values and your will. Amen.



Saturday: Ourselves

Heavenly Father, in Jesus' name we ask for a fresh outpouring of your Holy Spirit. Help us to grow in our experience of your love, forgiveness and healing. Challenge our contentment to stay as we are. Renew our vision of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ, that through our words and the way we live, others may be drawn to his way. Amen.

You can contact Revd Clare on: 01747 838171 Or by email: clare@evzone.co.uk

Please Note: Clare's usual day off is Monday.

This Newsletter

We hope you find this newsletter helpful. If you know of anyone who would like to join the mailing list, tell them to send their name, parish and email address to Jill Perry at octavoeditorsvb@googlemail.com with the subject "Newsletter Mailing List". But, if you do not wish to continue receiving them, please email her with "Unsubscribe" in the subject field.

Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100089949903748 or search for 'The Church of England in the Stour Vale' on Facebook, or follow the link on the Benefice Website.

Newsletter produced on behalf of the Stour Vale Benefice: Buckhorn Weston – East Stour – Fifehead Magdalen Kington Magna – Stour Provost – Todber – West Stour

