

Stour Vale Newsletter No.279

Sunday 24th August



9:15am Parish Communion Stour Provost
10:30am Morning Worship Buckhorn Weston (CW)
11:00am Parish Communion Kington Magna
6:30pm Evensong Fifehead Magdalen (BCP)

**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 6th 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

Thursday 28th – Stour Vale Benefice Prayer Group 2pm East Stour Church

Sunday 31st August – Lammas Communion 10:30am and Pet Service 3pm – see below

10.30AM
SUN 31ST AUG

LAMMAS SERVICE

**FIFEHEAD MAGDALEN
CHURCH**

Join us to celebrate Lammas, the first fruits of the harvest, by sharing a traditional Lammas loaf at our Communion Service.



**OUTDOOR
PET BLESSING
SERVICE**

St Andrew's Church, Todber
Sunday 31st August
3:00 PM

Bring your beloved pets – large or small –
for a joyful blessing in the beautiful
churchyard of St Andrew's.

All animals welcome, whether they
bark, purr, neigh, chirp or slither!

Family-friendly • Hymns & Prayers
Pet Treats & Water Bowls

Outdoors – please bring a chair or
blanket and dress for the weather

All creatures great and
small welcome!





Readings Sunday 24th August

10th Sunday after Trinity

Isaiah 58.9b –end

Psalms 103.1–8

Hebrews 12.18–end

Luke 13.10–17

Hebrews 12. 18-end (NIV)

You have not come to a mountain that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm; ¹⁹to a trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them, ²⁰because they could not bear what was commanded: “If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned to death.” ²¹The sight was so terrifying that Moses said, “I am trembling with fear.”

²² But you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, ²³to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the Judge of all, to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

²⁵ See to it that you do not refuse him who speaks. If they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, how much less will we, if we turn away from him who warns us from heaven? ²⁶ At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.” ²⁷ The words “once more” indicate the removing of what can be shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain.

²⁸ Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, ²⁹for our “God is a consuming fire.”

Luke 13. 10-17 (NIV)

On a Sabbath Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues, ¹¹and a woman was there who had been crippled by a spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not straighten up at all.

¹² When Jesus saw her, he called her forward and said to her, “Woman, you are set free from your infirmity.” ¹³ Then he put his hands on her, and immediately she straightened up and praised God.

¹⁴ Indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, the synagogue leader said to the people, “There are six days for work. So come and be healed on those days, not on the Sabbath.”

¹⁵ The Lord answered him, “You hypocrites! Doesn’t each of you on the Sabbath untie your ox or donkey from the stall and lead it out to give it water? ¹⁶ Then should not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has kept bound for eighteen long years, be set free on the Sabbath day from what bound her?”

¹⁷ When he said this, all his opponents were humiliated, but the people were delighted with all the wonderful things he was doing.

Collect and Post Communion for Sunday 24th August

Collect

Let your merciful ears, O Lord,
be open to the prayers of your humble servants;
and that they may obtain their petitions
make them to ask such things as shall please you;
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

God of our pilgrimage,
you have willed that the gate of mercy

should stand open for those who trust in you:
look upon us with your favour
that we who follow the path of your will
may never wander from the way of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayer in the Benefice – Sunday 24th to Saturday 30th 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, Rev'd Clare



Almighty God, as we worship you may we grow in grace and strength; know and love you better; and serve you all our days. We pray for all the services happening this week, and the plans for the Lammas and Pet Blessing Services next Sunday. We thank you for Rev'd Clare, and for all her family. Be their shield and strength. Protect, nourish and sustain them through the work of your Holy Spirit. May they find rest and encouragement in your loving care. Amen.

Monday: World Peace. A prayer from Japan:

God our Father, Creator of the World, please help us to love one another. Make nations friendly with other nations; and make all of us love one another like brothers and sisters. Help us to do our part in bringing peace in the world and happiness to all people. Amen.

Tuesday: The Benefice

Faithful Father, please bless all who live or work in our Benefice. Make our villages places of community and fellowship. Make us aware of those in need and give us the will, the wisdom and the resources to help them. We pray for the Prayer Walks, that they will be a blessing to the villages and those who participate. 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; and for all refugees. A prayer from BRF Ministries:.



Life-giving, love-bringing, home-making God, may the shelter of your presence bring hope and healing to all those who have been uprooted and stranded in unfamiliar lands, because of the brokenness of this world, and to all who suffer in body, mind and spirit. Amen.

Thursday: The Persecuted Church in Pakistan. A prayer from Open Doors (www.opendoorsuk.org)

Lord God, we pray for protection around our sisters and brothers in Pakistan – remind them that You are with them in all things and will never leave them (Deuteronomy 31:6). Bring an end to the mob violence and polarisation of the country; open the eyes of Muslims to the value of Christians that they may live and work together in harmony. Strengthen Your church and may their witness shine Your light and love in the darkness. Amen.

Friday: Social Media

O Lord, we pray for all who use social media. For those who post content to be responsible and truthful. For the platforms to be protective of the vulnerable and diligent in removing harmful or hateful content. Guide users to be conscientious in how they engage with the media, what content they read, and what they share. Amen.



Saturday: Ourselves

Heavenly Father, take me as I am, with all my faults and failures, and make me what you want me to be. I give myself to you, that through me you may fulfil your purpose, for me and for your glory. Amen.

Smile Lines – *August is the month of music and arts festivals....*

Sounds

Music festival as parent drops off teenagers...

Daughter: Did you ever hear anything so amazing as that band?

Father: Well, I once heard a collision between a milk float and a little van filled with ducks.

Go on

The critic started to leave in the middle of the second act of the play. "Don't go now," pleaded the producer. "I promise, there's a terrific kick in the next act."

"Fine," was the retort. "Give it to the author."

Music appreciation

The music critic enthused: "Here is Tchaikovsky at his best. Music so beautiful that it has to be heard to be appreciated."

A lot of music is like that.

Drama

"Did the play have an unhappy ending?"

"Oh no – everyone was glad when it was over."

Parish Pump

You can contact Revd Clare on: 01747 838171

Or by email: clare@evzone.co.uk

Please Note: Clare will be on days off on Monday (Bank Holiday) and Tuesday this week.



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

