

Stour Vale Newsletter No.280

Sunday 31st August



10:30am Benefice Lammas Communion Fifehead Magdalen
3:00pm Outdoor Pet Service Todber

Full details of both services below

**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).

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!



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 September

Every Tuesday – Said Morning Prayer 9:30am West Stour Church

Every Wednesday – Said Holy Communion 10:30am East Stour Church

Monday 15th – Knit and Natter 2:30pm East Stour Village Hall

Tuesday 23rd – Benefice Lunch 12:30pm Udder Farm

Friday 26th – Stour Vale Prayer Group 2pm East Stour Church (Please note change of day.)

Harvest Festivals and Lunches/Suppers



Friday 12th September	Buckhorn Weston Service 7pm followed by Supper
Sunday 21st September	Todber Service 10:30am followed by refreshments
Friday 26th September	Kington Magna Service 6:30pm followed by Supper*
Saturday 27th September	Stour Provost Service 6:30pm followed by Supper
Sunday 5th October	West Stour Service 10:00am Lunch 12:30pm East Stour Service 11:00am followed by Lunch
Saturday 11th October	Fifehead Magdalen Supper 6:30pm
Sunday 12th October	Fifehead Magdalen Service 6:30pm

*Correction for phone number for tickets for Kington Magna Supper – Brenda 01747 838175 or Ann 01747 838690

*Remember to check if you need to book for harvest lunches/suppers
– see Octavo for more information.*



Readings Sunday 31st August

Ecclesiasticus 10.12–18
Hebrews 13.1–8, 15–16

11th Sunday after Trinity

Psalm 112
Luke 14.1, 7–14

Hebrews 13.1–8, 15–16 (NIV)

Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. ² Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.

³ Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.

⁴ Marriage should be honoured by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral. ⁵ Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said,

“Never will I leave you;
never will I forsake you.”

⁶ So we say with confidence,

“The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.
What can mere mortals do to me?”

⁷ Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

¹⁵ Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. ¹⁶ And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Luke 14.1, 7–14 (NIV)

One Sabbath, when Jesus went to eat in the house of a prominent Pharisee, he was being carefully watched.

⁷ When he noticed how the guests picked the places of honour at the table, he told them this parable: ⁸ “When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honour, for a person more distinguished than you may have been invited. ⁹ If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, ‘Give this person your seat.’ Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, ‘Friend, move up to a better place.’ Then you will be honoured in

the presence of all the other guests. ¹¹ For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

¹² Then Jesus said to his host, "When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbours; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴ and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

Collect and Post Communion for Sunday 31st August

Collect

O God, you declare your almighty power
most chiefly in showing mercy and pity:
mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace,
that we, running the way of your commandments,
may receive your gracious promises,
and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure;
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

Lord of all mercy,
we your faithful people have celebrated that one true sacrifice
which takes away our sins and brings pardon and peace:
by our communion
keep us firm on the foundation of the gospel
and preserve us from all sin;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayer in the Benefice – Sunday 31st August to Saturday 6th September

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, especially Lammas and Pet Blessing



Almighty God, we pray for all the services happening this week. Give your people grace to hear and receive your word and to bring forth the fruit of the Spirit. We pray especially for our Lammas Communion and the Pet Blessing Service, that people who don't usually come to church may be inspired to join us, that the weather may be favourable, and that we may all take the opportunity to thank you for the blessing of the harvest and food on our tables, and for the joy our pets give to us. Amen.

Monday: Inequality of Wealth across the World

Forgive us, Lord Jesus, for the way we hoard resources while others struggle to survive. Forgive us for political and economic systems which depend upon the weak getting weaker and the rich possessing the earth. Give wisdom to all in authority, and direct this, and every nation, in the ways of justice and of peace, that men may honour one another, and seek the common good. Amen.

Tuesday: Buckhorn Weston

Good Shepherd, please bless all who live or work in Buckhorn Weston. We thank you for the church building, and for the bells that peal out to remind people of the Christian presence in the village. Thank you for those who come to ring them and for all who work to maintain our sacred space. Please draw others to volunteer to help. 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; those who are lonely, housebound or struggling in any way.



Merciful Lord, comfort and heal all who suffer in body, mind or spirit. We remember especially those we have been asked to pray for, and those we know who are ill, lonely, housebound, bereaved or struggling in any way. Surround them with support and love. Be their hope and their solace. Grant them the joy of being in your presence for eternity. Amen.

Thursday: The world-wide Church

Sovereign Lord, we pray for your Church throughout the world. Guide and govern us by Your Holy Spirit, that all who call themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace and the righteousness of life. Amen.

Friday: Give thanks: A Prayer by Frank Colquhoun

Our Father, we thank you for the gift of life. We thank you also for the faculties which enable us to enjoy it: our eyes to see the wonders of your world, our ears to hear speech and the sound of music, our lips with which to talk and sing, our hands for working and our feet for walking. Make us daily grateful for all your gifts and help us to use them all for your glory. Amen.



Saturday: Ourselves

Lord of light, shine on us; Lord of peace, dwell in us; Lord of might, succour us; Lord of love, enfold us; Lord of wisdom, enlighten us. 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.

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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

