

Stour Vale Newsletter No.287

Sunday 19th October



8:45am Breakfast Church Buckhorn Weston Village Hall
10:00am Parish Communion West Stour
10:00am Morning Prayer Todber (BCP)
6:00pm Evensong East Stour (CW)

**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); and for all those who are bereaved.

Other Benefice services/events coming up in October

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

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

Monday 20th – Knit and Natter 2:30pm East Stour Village Hall

Tuesday 28th – Benefice Lunch 12:30pm Lakeside Kitchen Todber

Remember to book lunch with Jill or Clare by Tuesday 21st – thank you

Friday 31st – Stour Vale Prayer Group 2pm East Stour Church

Saturday 18th – Confirmation Service with Bishop Karen 5pm at East Stour

Please come and support the candidates from the Stour Vale Benefice on their special day.

Benefice Vision and Planning Day - Saturday 25th October

Rev'd Clare is extending an invitation to all members of the Benefice to join the PCCs at our 'Vision and Planning' day. It is taking place at the Gillingham Scout Hall, running from 10am to 4pm with a light lunch provided.

The purpose of the Vision and Planning Day is to prayerfully seek God's guidance for the future of the Stour Vale Benefice — discerning together how we can deepen our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and share in God's mission across our communities.

There will be opportunity for you to share thoughts and ideas in the small group discussions.

If you are interested in attending, or would like information contact Clare, and **please book in with Jill Perry by Friday 17th** as there are a limited number of spaces and we need to know how many we are catering for. Thank you.



Stour Vale Benefice
**Light Party
for Halloween**



Thursday 30th October 4pm-5.30pm
East Stour Church, SP8 5LP.

All children welcome, with their adult(s).
Come in fancy dress or as you are.

Pumpkin Fun, Spider Splat,
Games, Crafts, Puzzles.

Hot chocolate and
all the treats, without the tricks!





Stour Vale Bengfiez

Annual Memorial Service

Sunday 2nd November at 4pm

Fifehead Magdalen Church



A Service of Thanksgiving for the lives of those who have passed from our sight, and to treasure before God the memories of all who meant much to us. It will be a quiet service of prayer and recollection. There will be an opportunity to light a candle and the names of those to be remembered will be read out.

If you there is someone whose name you would like to be included, please let your Church Warden or Jill Perry know by **Monday 27th October** thank you.



Readings Sunday 19th October *18th Sunday after Trinity*

Genesis 32.22–31

Psalm 121

2 Timothy 3.14—4.5

Luke 18.1–8

2 Timothy 3.14—4.5 (NIV)

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it,¹⁵ and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,¹⁷ so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

4 In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge:² Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction.³ For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear.⁴ They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.⁵ But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.

Luke 18.1–8 (NIV)

Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.² He said: “In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought.³ And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, ‘Grant me justice against my adversary.’

⁴ “For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, ‘Even though I don’t fear God or care what people think,⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won’t eventually come and attack me!’”

⁶ And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says.⁷ And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off?⁸ I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?”

Collect and Post Communion for Sunday 19th October

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
increase in us your gift of faith
that, forsaking what lies behind
and reaching out to that which is before,
we may run the way of your commandments
and win the crown of everlasting joy;
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

We praise and thank you, O Christ, for this sacred feast:
for here we receive you,
here the memory of your passion is renewed,
here our minds are filled with grace,
and here a pledge of future glory is given,
when we shall feast at that table where you reign
with all your saints for ever.

Prayer in the Benefice – Sunday 19th to Saturday 25th October

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: Benefice Events: Services this week. Those confirmed or baptised yesterday.



All the earth worships you, the Father everlasting. May our praise join will all creation at all our church services today. We thank you for all those baptised or confirmed at the service at East Stour yesterday. As they start this new phase of their life with you may they sense your presence, be guided by your Spirit and be filled with your joy and peace. Amen.

Monday: The peace deal between Israel and Hamas – a prayer from the Methodist Church (www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/resources/prayers)

God of Love, we are thankful for the work that has been done to secure a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas and pray that it may lead to a lasting peace in the region. With grateful hearts we celebrate the release of all those held against their will and pray for their recovery and recuperation as they are reunited with family and friends. We pray that we never see such death and destruction in this region again. May justice reign, justice that establishes peace, promotes hope, frees people from fear, encourages neighbours to love one another and brings an end to the seemingly endless cycle of injustice, violence and death in the region. Amen.

Tuesday: West Stour

Faithful Father, please bless all who live or work in West Stour. We thank you for all who are involved in the church: helping to organise or take part in the services; cleaning, decorating or maintaining the church and the churchyard; raising funds or contributing financially to the costs; showing God's love by caring for others; or in any other way. May they feel appreciated for their efforts and joyful in all they do. 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 struggle financially.



Merciful Father, you are the source of all health and healing, all strength and peace. Pour your healing power onto those who are ill and those who mourn. Bless all those who have insufficient income to meet their needs; all those who worry how to feed their families, pay the rent, or heat their homes; all those who have got into debt beyond their ability to repay. Provide for them and give them peace. Amen.

Thursday: The Diocese of Salisbury

Lord of the Church, we pray for our Diocese: for Bishops Stephen, Andrew and Karen; for all the clergy; for the staff in the Diocesan Offices and for all who worship in the churches. Inspire us with creative ways to fund our activities and our buildings. Provide us with the resources to do your Will in our Benefice, in the Diocese and throughout the Church of England. Bless us all in our efforts to Make Jesus Known. Amen.

Friday: Those serving in the Emergency Services and the Armed Forces

Loving Lord, thank you for those who 'run towards danger' to keep us safe and free. We honour their bravery and their sacrifice. Encourage and protect them. Give them courage and loyalty. Reassure their loved ones. Amen.



Saturday: Ourselves

Lord God, creator of the world, we rejoice that you make all things new. Give us grace to trust you daily for fresh love and inspiration, fresh courage and perseverance. Make us always ready to see the new ways you show us and to follow you in whichever direction you lead. Amen.

To be born is to be chosen.
None of us is accidentally in the world.
We are sent here because there is something special
for each of us to do here that cannot be done by someone else.
One of the wisdoms of living a full life is to try
and sense what it is you were sent her for
and to try and let the hindrances
that block you from that
fall away so that you can claim completely
the life that was so generously
offered to you.

John O'Donohue

You can contact Revd Clare on: 01747 838171

Or by email: clare@evzone.co.uk

Please Note: Clare will be taking Monday and Tuesday as days off 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.

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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