

# Stour Vale Newsletter No.285

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October**



9:15am Parish Communion Todber  
10:00am Harvest Festival West Stour  
11:00am Harvest Festival Communion East Stour

**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 20<sup>th</sup>** – Knit and Natter 2:30pm East Stour Village Hall

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup>** – Benefice Lunch 12:30pm Lakeside Kitchen Todber

*Remember to book lunch with Jill or Clare by Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> – thank you*

**Friday 31<sup>st</sup>** – Stour Vale Prayer Group 2pm East Stour Church (Please note change of day.)



## **Harvest Festivals and Lunches/Suppers**

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October**

West Stour Service 10:00am Lunch 12:30pm

East Stour Service 11:00am followed by Lunch

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October**

Fifehead Magdalen Supper 6:30pm

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October**

Fifehead Magdalen Service 6:30pm

## **Readings for Harvest Festivals:**

Deuteronomy 26.1–11

Psalms 100

John 6.25–35

## **Collect for Harvest Festival**

Creator God,  
you made the goodness of the land,  
the riches of the sea  
and the rhythm of the seasons;  
as we thank you for the harvest,  
may we cherish and respect  
this planet and its peoples,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **Baby Loss Service – Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October**

**West Stour 3pm**

*All welcome to this short and simple service at St Mary's Church, as we join with people across the world lighting candles this week in memory of babies who have died at any stage of pregnancy, or during or after birth, recently or long ago and in recognition of their grief.*

## **BABY LOSS MEMORIAL SERVICE**



**SUNDAY 12 OCTOBER 3PM**  
Remembering those who have been part of  
our lives who died too soon  
**WEST STOUR**

## **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> – Confirmation Service with Bishop Karen 5pm at East Stour**

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



## Readings Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October

Habakkuk 1.1–4; 2.1–4

2 Timothy 1.1–14

*16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity*

Psalm 37.1–9

Luke 17.5–10

### **2 Timothy 1.1–14 (NIV)**

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, in keeping with the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

<sup>2</sup> To Timothy, my dear son:

Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

<sup>3</sup> I thank God, whom I serve, as my ancestors did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers. <sup>4</sup> Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. <sup>5</sup> I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also.

<sup>6</sup> For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. <sup>7</sup> For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline. <sup>8</sup> So do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner. Rather, join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God. <sup>9</sup> He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, <sup>10</sup> but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. <sup>11</sup> And of this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher. <sup>12</sup> That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet this is no cause for shame, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until that day.

<sup>13</sup> What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. <sup>14</sup> Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you—guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

### **Luke 17:5-10 (NIV)**

The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!”

<sup>6</sup> He replied, “If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it will obey you.

<sup>7</sup> “Suppose one of you has a servant plowing or looking after the sheep. Will he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, ‘Come along now and sit down to eat’? <sup>8</sup> Won’t he rather say, ‘Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink’? <sup>9</sup> Will he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do? <sup>10</sup> So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.’”

## **Collect and Post Communion for Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October**

### **Collect**

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear  
the prayers of your people who call upon you;  
and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do,  
and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them;  
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**

Almighty God,  
you have taught us through your Son

that love is the fulfilling of the law:  
grant that we may love you with our whole heart  
and our neighbours as ourselves;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### ***Prayer in the Benefice – Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:octavoeditorsvb@gmail.com)).

#### ***Sunday: Benefice Events: Services this Week; Engagement with Families and Children***



O Lord and God! You are worthy to receive glory and honour. Please bless all the services in the Benefice this week, that you may be worshipped and honoured through them. Inspire us to find opportunities to engage with families, and guide our interactions with children and young people, so that they will be drawn into a closer relationship with you. Amen.

#### ***Monday: The Environment***

Faithful Lord, we are sorry for the damage being done to your beautiful world. We pray that you will undo the harm caused by pollution, litter, greed and the squandering of earth's precious resources. Give everyone an appreciation of the value of creation; influence those who can make a difference to do so; and show us how we can play our part. Amen.

#### ***Tuesday: Stour Provost and Stour Row***

Loving Father, please bless all who live or work in Stour Provost and Stour Row. We pray for the families that are moving on to pastures new, that you will guide them and keep them safe and for the new families arriving, that they will find the villages joyful places to live, where they make good friends and find great neighbours. We also pray for the development opportunity at Great House Farm, that it may be used for sympathetic rural development and affordable housing for local people. May our church sit at the heart of the community as a place where you are made known. 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; the lonely, the depressed.***



God our healer, lift the shadow of suffering from all who are ill, bereaved, lonely or depressed. Help them and heal them, Lord. Relieve the things that make life difficult for them and give them courage, joy and self-belief. Amen.

#### ***Thursday: The Persecuted Church in Afghanistan – A prayer from Open Doors*** ([www.opendoorsuk.org](http://www.opendoorsuk.org))

Heavenly Father, Afghanistan is one of those places where it seems like nothing ever gets better. We grieve and mourn with our family there, and ask You to bring them comfort. But we also ask You will bring about miraculous hope and growth – that people will find You, that underground believers will remain supernaturally hidden, that the gospel would spread. We know You can do this, and ask You to do so. In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### ***Friday: World Homelessness Day – A Prayer from Housing Justice*** ([housingjustice.org.uk](http://housingjustice.org.uk))

Merciful Father, we pray today for all who are homeless this day. For those sleeping under bridges, on park benches, in doorways or bus stations outside high street shops and many other inappropriate places. For those who can only find shelter for the night but must wander in the daytime. For lives broken apart because they cannot afford to pay the rent. For those who have no relatives or friends who can take them in. For those who have no place to keep possessions that remind them



who they are. For those who are afraid and hopeless. For those who have been let down and cast out.

For all these people, we pray that you will provide shelter, security and hope. Help us not to fall into complacency and forgetfulness.

Jesus, help us to see your face in the eyes of every person experiencing homelessness who we meet. So that we may be empowered through word and deed, and by your grace, to bring justice and peace to those who are homeless.

**Saturday: Ourselves:** *A prayer by Marquerite Bourgeoys, c.1700*

Lord, I know you created me for a special purpose, to serve you in a unique way. You have given me a gift, and talents, a certain something no-one else has. Help me to be a valuable link in the chain of humanity. Help me to find peace and meaning in what I do, knowing no one else can be me. Amen.

You can contact Revd Clare on: 01747 838171  
Or by email: [clare@evzone.co.uk](mailto:clare@evzone.co.uk)

**Please Note:** Clare's 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](mailto: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

