



Stour Vale Benefice

Seven Churches, One Body, One Benefice

Newsletter No.292

Sunday 23rd November

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); for the family and friends of John Score (KM) and Jeremy Seavers (T), and all those who are bereaved.

Other Benefice services/events coming up in November

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

Friday 28th – Stour Vale Prayer Group 2pm East Stour Church

Stour Vale Benefice
Sunday 30th November
5th Sunday Services

First Sunday of Advent
Benefice Service
10:30am Kington Magna



Patronal Service for St Andrew
3pm Todber

Everyone is welcome to join us for
either of these services.

Request for help from Stower Provost School

At the recent Benefice Vision Day, it was discussed that we find ways to engage more with the school and when Fiona went to take an assembly this week, she discovered they have a very practical need that we may be able to help with.

They are currently experiencing unprecedented staff shortages due to illness, especially among the kitchen staff, and so are looking for people who could give, say, an hour a week, perhaps over lunchtime, to do simple practical things like stack the dishwasher. This could be a really practical way that we can build new relationships with the school and provide a blessing to everyone there. If you can help, please contact Fiona on 01747 838 942 or fjhedges1@gmail.com



Readings Sunday 23rd November *Christ the King*

Jeremiah 23.1–6

Psalm 46

Colossians 1.11–20

Luke 23.33–43

Colossians 1.11–20 (NIV)

being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience,¹² and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you^[a] to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light.¹³ For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves,¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵ The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.¹⁶ For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.¹⁷ He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.¹⁹ For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him,²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

Luke 23.33–43 (NIV)

When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left.³⁴ Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

³⁵ The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is God’s Messiah, the Chosen One.”

³⁶ The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar³⁷ and said, “If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.”

³⁸ There was a written notice above him, which read: this is the king of the jews.

³⁹ One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: “Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!”

⁴⁰ But the other criminal rebuked him. “Don’t you fear God,” he said, “since you are under the same sentence? ⁴¹ We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.”

⁴² Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”

⁴³ Jesus answered him, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

Collect and Post Communion for Sunday 23rd November

Collect

Eternal Father,
whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven
that he might rule over all things as Lord and King:
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit
and in the bond of peace,
and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion

Stir up, O Lord,
the wills of your faithful people;
that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works,
may by you be plenteously rewarded;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayer in the Benefice – Sunday 23rd to Saturday 29th November

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 Services and Events: Christmas Fairs and Coffee Mornings



Glorious Lord, as we worship you today may we put ourselves, our egos and our personal preferences aside to honour and glorify you. We ask you to bless the services happening in the Benefice this week, and all the Christmas Fairs and Coffee Mornings over the next few weeks, that they may provide opportunities for joy, fellowship, compassion and Making Jesus Known. Amen.

Monday: Refugees and Asylum Seekers - A Prayer from Compassion UK
(www.compassionuk.org/blogs/prayers-for-the-world/)

Father God, we bring before you all those who've had to flee their homes due to persecution and conflict. May they find loving communities where they can settle and find healing from trauma. May they come to experience your peace. Loving Heavenly Father, we pray that the people they meet will be kind and compassionate. We lift them to you and ask for your protection over them. Amen.

Tuesday: Fifehead Magdalen

Lord Jesus, please bless all who live or work in Fifehead Magdalen. We pray for the church, that it may stand as a beacon within the village, calling people to faith. Please provide the resources needed to keep it well maintained, and make it a warm and welcoming space that draws people in, to discover more about 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; the homeless.



Merciful Father, comfort and heal those who are sick in body, mind or spirit. We pray especially for everyone who has no place to call home. As the weather worsens give them warm, safe places to live. Ease their worries, meet their needs and guide them to opportunities for a better life. Give them hope and wisdom.

May they know they are loved by you. Amen.

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

Lord, we pray for your guidance for India's government and ask you to convict and empower these elected leaders to protect religious freedom for minorities, including Christians. We pray for peace and healing in this nation. Help new believers endure the pressure and violence they face for their decision to follow Jesus and be ever-present with church leaders who are following your call on their lives to preach the gospel and build Your church. May we always be fervent in our prayers for our Indian brothers and sisters. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Friday: Friends

We thank you, Lord, for the circle of friends you have given us; those we know well, who understand us best and on whom we can always rely. May that circle not be a narrow one. Help us to enlarge it and bring others inside it, so that both they and we may be enriched by our friendship. Amen.



Saturday: Ourselves

Holy Spirit of God, source of knowledge and creator of fellowship, open our minds to recognise the truth and our hearts to welcome it, that in company together we may learn your will and be strengthened to obey it. Teach us the best way of doing the best things, lest we spoil the end by inadvertent means. 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

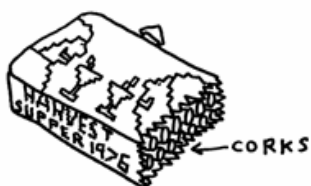
KNEELERS

Q. WHAT IS INSIDE THEM?

A. THE FILLING DEPENDS UPON WHO HAS MADE THE KNEELER. THESE KNEELERS HAVE BEEN CUT OPEN SO THAT YOU CAN SEE WHAT IS INSIDE:



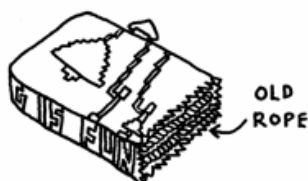
THE SUNDAY SCHOOL



THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE



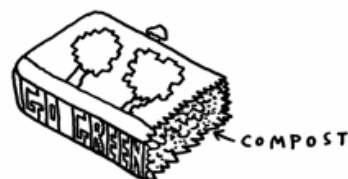
THE VICAR



THE BELLRINGERS



THE P. C. C.



THE 'ENVIRONMENT' SUBCOMMITTEE