



# Stour Vale Benefice

Seven Churches, One Body, One Benefice

## Newsletter No. 304

### Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February – *First Sunday of Lent*

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 Joyce (ES), Richard (ES), David H (KM), Irene (KM), Peter (KM), Nicky (T), Margaret (WS) and Tony (WS); for the family and friends of Jim White (BW), Julia Gould (ES), Syliva Fox (KM), Sarah Best (KM), and all those who are bereaved.

### *Other Benefice services/events coming up in February*

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

**Every Tuesday during Lent** – Morning Prayer West Stour 9:30am

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>** – Benefice Lunch 12:30pm Lakeside Kitchen

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>** – Online Compline for Lent 7:30pm details below

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup>** – Stour Vale Benefice prayer Group 2pm East Stour Church

### **Don't forget our Easter Art Competition for children – closing date 2<sup>nd</sup> March**

Details on the flyer attached to your Newsletter email.

# DRAW NEAR

## Online Compline in Lent

Every Tuesday from 24<sup>th</sup>  
February to 31<sup>st</sup> March.

7.30pm

via the Google Meet link:

<https://meet.google.com/rbv-csqr-xqu>

For more info, or if you would like  
the link emailed to you each  
week, please contact Fiona:

[fjhedges1@gmail.com](mailto:fjhedges1@gmail.com)





## Readings Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

Genesis 2.15–17; 3.1–7  
Romans 5.12–19

*First Sunday of Lent*

Psalm 32  
Matthew 4.1–11



### **Romans 5.12–19 (NIV)**

Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned—

<sup>13</sup>To be sure, sin was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not charged against anyone's account where there is no law. <sup>14</sup>Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who is a pattern of the one to come.

<sup>15</sup>But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! <sup>16</sup>Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. <sup>17</sup>For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!

<sup>18</sup>Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. <sup>19</sup>For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

### **Matthew 4.1–11 (NIV)**

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup>After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. <sup>3</sup>The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread."

<sup>4</sup>Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

<sup>5</sup>Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple.

<sup>6</sup>"If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written:

"He will command his angels concerning you,  
and they will lift you up in their hands,  
so that you will not strike your foot against a stone."

<sup>7</sup>Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

<sup>8</sup>Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. <sup>9</sup>"All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me."

<sup>10</sup>Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'"

<sup>11</sup>Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

## **Collect and Post Communion for Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February**

### **Collect**

Almighty God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness,  
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:  
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit;  
and, as you know our weakness,  
so may we know your power to save;  
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 Prayer**

Lord God,  
you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven;  
by it you nourish our faith,  
increase our hope,  
and strengthen our love:  
teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread,  
and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from out of your mouth;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### ***Prayer in the Benefice – Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> to Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February***

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; Prayer.***



O Lord and God! You are worthy to receive glory and honour and power. Please bless all the worship services in our Benefice today and during the week. We also pray for our Prayer Group, meeting on Friday, and for the prayer life of our Benefice. Inspire everyone from the congregations to pray in line with Your Will and to make a difference in our world. Amen.

#### ***Monday: Ukraine - A prayer from the Church of England***

God of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine today. We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons. We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them. We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions. Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them. We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

#### ***Tuesday: East Stour***

Lord Jesus, please bless all who live or work in East Stour. 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; refugees – A prayer by the Church of England.***



Almighty and merciful God, whose Son became a refugee and had no place to call his own; look with mercy on those who today are fleeing from danger, homeless and hungry. Bless those who work to bring them relief; inspire generosity and compassion in all our hearts; and guide the nations of the world towards that day when all will rejoice in your Kingdom of justice and of peace. Amen.

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

Father, we thank You for the courage and perseverance of Christians in Saudi Arabia. Please grant them Your peace, wisdom and protection as they walk a difficult path. Would You help them to find and connect with other believers for communion and discipleship? We pray that

You will continue to reveal Yourself in dreams and visions to Your children in Saudi Arabia, and that there will be opportunities for the gospel message to spread, despite hostility. Amen.

**Friday: Famers**

Father God, please be the unwavering source of strength and resolve for our farmers. Grant them the resilience to overcome every challenge that threatens their livelihood. Keep them safe from the dangers of their working environment and the mental challenges of loneliness, isolation and despair. Make them prosperous and keep them healthy. Amen.



**Saturday: Ourselves – A Prayer by St Patrick**

Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger, Christ in the hearts of those that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stranger. Amen.

**Stour Vale Benefice**  
**Lent Lunches**

For more details see the news from the villages—  
please check if you need to let the hosts know you  
are planning to attend:

Wednesday 4th March—Todber 12-2:00pm  
*Hosted at Copse House Moorside*

Thursday 5th March—Kington Magna 12-2:00pm  
*Hosted in the village hall*

Wednesday 11th March—West Stour 12:30pm  
*Hosted at The Walled Garden*

Thursday 19th March—Buckhorn Weston 12:30pm  
*Hosted at New Barn House*

Friday 27th March—Stour Provost 12:30pm  
*Hosted in the village hall*

Saturday 28th March—East Stour 12-2pm  
*Hosted in the village hall*



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

**Please Note:** Mondays are Clare's usual day off.



**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.

Follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100089949903748](https://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

