



Stour Vale Benefice

Seven Churches, One Body, One Benefice

Newsletter No. 316

Sunday 17th May – 7th Sunday of Easter

8:45am	Breakfast Church Buckhorn Weston Village Hall
10:00am	Morning Prayer Todber (BCP)
10:30am	Parish Communion West Stour
6:00pm	Evensong East Stour (BCP)

**Please remember all who are ill or bereaved in Sunday's intercessions
and in your prayers this week**

All who are ill, especially Angela (BW), Helen (BW), Joyce (ES), Irene (KM), Peter (KM), Eoin (SP), Liz (SP), Margaret (WS) and Tony (WS); for the family and friends of Jack Osborne (BW), Julia Gould (ES), Syliva Fox (KM), Sarah Best (KM), David Hustwayte (KM), Tom Higgins (KM), and all those who are bereaved.

Other Benefice services/events coming up in May

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

2nd Wednesday of the month with be a Healing Communion service

Monday 18th – Knit and Natter 2:30pm East Stour Village Hall

Tuesday 19th – Benefice Lunch 12:30pm Lakeside Kitchen

Friday 29th – Stour Vale Benefice prayer Group 2pm East Stour Church



Readings Sunday 17th May

7th Sunday of Easter

Acts 1.6–14

Psalm 68.1–10, 32–end

1 Peter 4.12–14; 5.6–11

John 17.1–11

1 Peter 4.12–14; 5.6–11 (NIV)

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice in so far as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸ Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters throughout the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

John 17.1–11(NIV)

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴ I glorified you on earth by

finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶ I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸ for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹ I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

Collect and Post Communion Sunday 17th May

Collect

O God the King of glory,
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us
and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God, giver of love and power,
your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world
to preach the gospel of his kingdom:
confirm us in this mission,
and help us to live the good news we proclaim;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayer in the Benefice – Sunday 17th to Saturday 23rd May

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 (adminsrb@gmail.com).

This week we continue to use the ‘Thy Kingdom Come’ (an ecumenical initiative for the ten days between Ascension and Pentecost: www.thykingdomcome.global/thy-kingdom-come-2026) prayer resources. We also use some prayers for Dementia Action Week (18-24 May).

Sunday: The Church - A prayer from Thy Kingdom Come by Hippolytus of Rome, c. 170– 235 AD



Almighty Father, we ask that You send the Holy Spirit as a holy offering to the holy church. As we assemble, give to all the saints the fullness of the Holy Spirit for the confirmation of true faith so that we may praise and glorify You through Your Son, Jesus Christ, through whom glory and honour to the Father and the Son with the Holy Spirit in Your holy church are Yours, now and forever! Amen.

Monday: Those Living with Dementia – A prayer by Fr Timothy Menezes

Pour your grace, O loving God, upon all living with dementia. It is frustrating not to find a word; it is fearful to lose one's memories. Bless them with patience, a loving and supporting family, and days of hope and accomplishment. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Tuesday: Caregivers

God of all mercies, sustain those who care for others. Grant them what they need for the moments ahead. We pray especially for those whose loved ones have dementia. Give them patience as they work through familiar daily scripts and questions asked, answered and asked again. Give them long memories to recall the fullness of their loved one's life beyond these moments of forgetting. Give them grace, patience and compassion. 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 – A Prayer from Thy Kingdom Come by Clement of Rome, 1st Century



We beseech thee, Master, to be our helper and protector. Save the afflicted among us; have mercy on the lowly; raise up the fallen; appear to the needy; heal the ungodly; restore the wanderers of Thy people; feed the hungry; ransom our prisoners; raise up the sick; comfort the faint-hearted. Amen.

Thursday: Seeking God - A prayer from Thy Kingdom Come by St Catherine of Sienna, 1347-80

Eternal God, eternal Trinity, You are a mystery as deep as the sea; the more I search, the more I find, and the more I find the more I search for You. But I can never be satisfied; what I receive will ever leave me desiring more. When You fill my soul, I have an ever-greater hunger, and I grow more famished for Your light. I desire above all to see You, the true light, as You really are. Amen.

Friday: Grace – A 6th century Celtic prayer from Thy Kingdom Come

O Lord, in the name of Jesus Christ Your Son our God, give us that love which can never cease, that will kindle our lamps but not extinguish them, that they may burn in us and enlighten others. Amen.



Saturday: Ourselves – A prayer from Thy Kingdom Come by Thomas Cranmer

Oh Lord our God give us by Your Holy Spirit a willing heart and a ready hand to use all Your gifts to your praise and glory through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Volunteers Day – Friday 5th June

We would love for you to join our Volunteers Day, with resources and seminars to help you in your context, as well as a celebratory lunch.

Join the diocesan team as we resource and celebrate those who volunteer and serve in our churches across the Diocese of Salisbury.



This day is for anyone who volunteers and serves regularly in their church, in an official or unofficial capacity.

You can choose different sessions to support your work and ministry, and there will also be drop-in sessions available for individual, informal conversations. (Giving and Fundraising, Energy Footprint Tool, Parish services, Governance, Thirtyone:Eight and Safeguarding Hubs, Flower Arranging and Anglican Heritage)

There is free parking available at Wilton Park and Ride, The Avenue, SP2 OFG. Do consider giving a lift share to others in your parish or benefice if possible, and if you are getting the train to Salisbury, you can then get a bus to the Wilton Park and Ride, [click here](#).

When and where? Friday 5th June at Emmaus House, The Avenue, Wilton SP2 OFG. The event will begin at 10:00am and end at approximately 4:00pm.

To book and for more information on the sessions, [click here](#).

Or visit the Diocesan Website.

New Benefice Website – <https://stourvalebenefice.org.uk/>

Do have a look and remember it is a resource for everyone in the Benefice, not just for visitors.

There should be a 'redirect' on our old website if you have that in your list of favourites—don't forget to add the new site to your favourites.

New email addresses – Please update your contact lists, thank you.

For Revd Clare please use: vicarsvb@gmail.com

For all Admin related emails for Jill Perry please use: admins vb@gmail.com

Please note:

Jill will continue to use the octavoeditorsvb@googlemail.com address for anything relating to Octavo.

You can contact Revd Clare on: 01747 838171

Or by email: vicarsvb@gmail.com

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

