



Stour Vale Benefice

Seven Churches, One Body, One Benefice

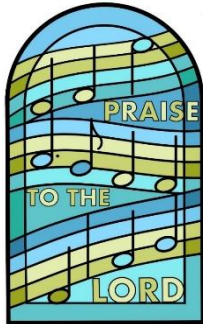
Newsletter No. 326

Sunday 26th July – 8th Sunday of Trinity

- 9:15am Parish Communion Stour Provost
10:30am Morning Worship Buckhorn Weston (CW)
11:00am Parish Communion Kington Magna
6:30pm 'Happy Hour' songs of praise Fifehead Magdalen – see below

**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), Nancy (4yrs old with a connection with KM), Jill (KM), Eoin (SP), Liz (SP), Margaret (WS) and Tony (WS); for the family and friends of Roy Collis (ES) and Doris Parfitt (ES), and all those who are bereaved.



You are warmly invited to
"Happy Hour" – Favourite Hymns of Praise
with Wine and Nibbles for A Summer Evening
Sunday 26th July 6:30pm at Fifehead Magdalen – all welcome
*Please bring a chair as, weather permitting,
this will take place in the churchyard.*

**Don't forget to let your churchwarden or Jill know your favourite hymn by the
2nd August for our Benefice Songs of Praise at West Stour on Sunday 30th August**

Other Benefice services/events coming up in July

Every Wednesday – Said Holy Communion 10:30am East Stour Church
2nd Wednesday of the month will be a Healing Communion service

Tuesday 28th – Benefice Lunch at Lakeside Kitchen Todber 12:30pm
Please place orders by Tuesday 21st July

Friday 31st – Stour Vale Benefice prayer Group 2pm East Stour Church

For others events around the Benefice see Octavo, the website:

<https://stourvalebenefice.org.uk/>

Or Facebook: www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100089949903748



Readings Sunday 26th July

1 Kings 3.5-12
Romans 8.26-end

8th Sunday of Trinity

Psalm 119.129-136
Matthew 13.31-33, 44-52

Psalm 119.129-136 (NIV)

¹²⁹ Your statutes are wonderful;
therefore I obey them.

¹³⁰ The unfolding of your words gives light;
 it gives understanding to the simple.
¹³¹ I open my mouth and pant,
 longing for your commands.
¹³² Turn to me and have mercy on me,
 as you always do to those who love your name.
¹³³ Direct my footsteps according to your word;
 let no sin rule over me.
¹³⁴ Redeem me from human oppression,
 that I may obey your precepts.
¹³⁵ Make your face shine on your servant
 and teach me your decrees.
¹³⁶ Streams of tears flow from my eyes,
 for your law is not obeyed.

Romans 8.26-end (NIV)

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. ²⁷ And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

²⁸ And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who ^[i] have been called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. ³⁰ And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

³¹ What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all – how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³ Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died – more than that, who was raised to life – is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ As it is written:

‘For your sake we face death all day long;
 we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.’

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Matthew 13.31-33, 44-52 (NIV)

He told them another parable: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. ³² Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.’

³³ He told them still another parable: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about thirty kilograms of flour until it worked all through the dough.’

⁴⁴ ‘The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

⁴⁵ ‘Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. ⁴⁶ When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ ‘Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish. ⁴⁸ When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away. ⁴⁹ This is how it will be at the end of

the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ 'Have you understood all these things?' Jesus asked.

'Yes,' they replied.

⁵² He said to them, 'Therefore every teacher of the law who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old.'

Collect and Post Communion Sunday 26th July

Collect

Almighty Lord and everlasting God,
we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies
in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments;
that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever,
we may be preserved in body and soul;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion Prayer

Strengthen for service, Lord,
the hands that have taken holy things;
may the ears which have heard your word
be deaf to clamour and dispute;
may the tongues which have sung your praise be free from deceit;
may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love
shine with the light of hope;
and may the bodies which have been fed with your body
be refreshed with the fullness of your life;
glory to you for ever.

Prayer in the Benefice – Sunday 26th July to Saturday 1st August

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).

Sunday: Church Events: Services in the Benefice, Benefice Lunch, Knit and Natter

Almighty Lord, may the whole Earth rejoice at your majesty! Please bless all the worship services in our Benefice, today and during the week. We pray for the Benefice Lunches and for Knit and Natter, that everyone who attends may enjoy the fellowship, and that our custom may helpfully support our local businesses and village halls.
Amen.



Monday: World Peace.

Come, Lord, into our world of military might and political blindness, to overturn our tired ideas of power and glory, until your wisdom invades our understanding. Bring peace, especially to the Middle East, Ukraine, Russia and Sudan. Protect the innocent. Comfort the injured and the bereaved. Give courage to the fearful. Amen.

Tuesday: Our Communities

Faithful Father, we pray for our communities – those we live in, those we work or volunteer in, those based on our hobbies or interests. Thank you for the joy they give us, and the other community members. Resolve any conflict or discord and make them places of fellowship and support. May our presence in them be both salt and light for 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; those who are discriminated against.



Merciful Lord, we pray for those we know who are suffering or in distress. Bring an end to their anguish. Give them peace and joy. We think especially of those whose lives are blighted because they are the victims of discrimination. Give them courage and bring justice to their situations. Change the hearts and minds of those who reject them so they recognise our common humanity. Amen.

Thursday: Making Jesus Known

Lord Jesus, we pray for the Diocesan Vision of *making Jesus known* through its five strands of: Creative Partnership in Local Mission, Climate Action, Financing the Future Sustainably, Working for Justice and Courageous Christian Leadership. May we seek to play our part in all these areas. May we notice what you are doing in our local communities and find ways to join in. May we encourage others to discover more about you through our words and our actions. Amen.

Friday: The Economy

God of the marketplace, grant to those we elect wisdom and courage, as they seek to balance positive wealth-creation with compassionate social change, within which managers and workers alike are equally valued and blessed. May the health of our nation be measured not by more and more goods produced, but by ever greater concern for the good of all. Amen.

Saturday: Ourselves – A Prayer by M. K. W. Heicher

Disturb me, Lord, when I am too well pleased with myself, when my dreams have come true because I have dreamed too little, when I arrived safely because I sailed too close to the shore... Disturb me, Lord, to dare more boldly, to venture on wider seas where storms will show your mastery; where losing sight of land, I shall find the stars. Amen.



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.

Newsletter produced on behalf of the Stour Vale Benefice
Buckhorn Weston – East Stour – Fifehead Magdalen
Kington Magna – Stour Provost – Todber – West Stour

