



Stour Vale Benefice

Seven Churches, One Body, One Benefice

Newsletter No. 335

Sunday 27th September *Trinity 17*

9:15am Parish Communion Stour Provost
10:30am Morning Worship Buckhorn Weston (CW)
11:00am Parish Communion Kington Magna
6:30pm **Parish Communion** 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 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 Brian Botelle (BW), Nicki Whitmarsh (ES), Mark Hoskins (KM), Christina Symes (KM), Alan Ames (T) and all those who are bereaved.

PLEASE NOTE The September Benefice Lunch has been cancelled

Other Benefice services/events coming up in October

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

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

Sunday 11th October – Baby Loss Service—3:00pm – East Stour.

Monday 19th – Knit and Natter – 2:30pm

Tuesday 27th – Benefice Lunch at Lakeside Kitchen 12:30pm

*Pre-order your food by Tuesday 20th – **please check their new menu** before you order*

Friday 23rd October – Service in the Pub 11am The Ship, West Stour.

Wednesday 28th – 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

Deanery Commissioning Service for LPAs and LWL

We will have the joy of seeing our Pastoral Assistants and another Lay Worship Leader being licenced by Bishop Karen on

Thursday 22nd October at 7pm

At Kington Magna

Please come and support Annie Bounsall, Jan Martin, Marika Osmond, Mary Riall and David Clack on their special day.



Readings Sunday 27th September *Trinity 17*

Ezekiel 18.1–4, 25–end

Psalms 25.1–8

Philippians 2.1–13

Matthew 21.23–32

Psalm 25:1-8 (NIV)

- ¹ In you, Lord my God,
I put my trust.
- ² I trust in you;
do not let me be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- ³ No one who hopes in you
will ever be put to shame,
but shame will come on those
who are treacherous without cause.
- ⁴ Show me your ways, Lord,
teach me your paths.
- ⁵ Guide me in your truth and teach me,
for you are God my Saviour,
and my hope is in you all day long.
- ⁶ Remember, Lord, your great mercy and love,
for they are from of old.
- ⁷ Do not remember the sins of my youth
and my rebellious ways;
according to your love remember me,
for you, Lord, are good.
- ⁸ Good and upright is the Lord;
therefore he instructs sinners in his ways.

Philippians 2.1-13 (NIV)

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, ² then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. ³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

- ⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:
- ⁶ who, being in very nature ^[a] God,
did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;
- ⁷ rather, he made himself nothing
by taking the very nature ^[b] of a servant,
being made in human likeness.
- ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself
by becoming obedient to death –
even death on a cross!
- ⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,
- ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
- ¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

¹² Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed – not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence – continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfil his good purpose.

Matthew 21.23-32 (NIV)

Jesus entered the temple courts, and, while he was teaching, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him. 'By what authority are you doing these things?' they asked. 'And who gave you this authority?'

²⁴ Jesus replied, 'I will also ask you one question. If you answer me, I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁵ John's baptism – where did it come from? Was it from heaven, or of human origin?'

They discussed it among themselves and said, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will ask, "Then why didn't you believe him?"' ²⁶ But if we say, "Of human origin" – we are afraid of the people, for they all hold that John was a prophet.'

²⁷ So they answered Jesus, 'We don't know.'

Then he said, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.'

²⁸ 'What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, "Son, go and work today in the vineyard."

²⁹ "I will not," he answered, but later he changed his mind and went.

³⁰ 'Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, "I will, sir," but he did not go.

³¹ 'Which of the two did what his father wanted?'

'The first,' they answered.

Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him.'

Collect and Post Communion Sunday 27th September

Collect

Almighty God,
you have made us for yourself,
and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you:
pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself,
and so bring us at last to your heavenly city
where we shall see you face to face;
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, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us,
and make us continually to be given to all good works;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayer in the Benefice – Sunday 27th September to Saturday 3rd October

This week we will be using 'popcorn prayers'.

Jesus told us that it's not the length of our prayers that matter to God. Popcorn prayers are only one sentence long, allowing us to pray for lots of specific things in a short space of time, rather than pray longer, generic prayers. This week we will pray 'blessing popcorn', where we ask God to bless each thing, so he is free to act as he sees best, rather than asking him for the specific outcomes we would like.

If you would like us to pray for something, or someone, then please contact Jill Perry (adminsrb@gmail.com).



Sunday: Benefice Events:

Go through the newsletter and pray 'God, please bless.....' naming each event in turn.

Monday: The News Headlines

Watch, read or listen to the news headlines and ask God to bless each situation mentioned. You might also want to ask God to bless things you know are happening in the world that have ceased to make the headlines, but still need praying for.

Tuesday: Those in need

Ask God to bless those of your family, friends and neighbours who you know are struggling due to illness, bereavement, depression, financial difficulties, relationship issues, or anything else. Please remember to include those we have been asked to pray for, as listed on the first page of this newsletter.

Wednesday: Your community

Ask God to bless your neighbours, any events happening in your village, and specific situations impacting your community.



Thursday: Persecuted Church

Ask God to bless people who are being persecuted for their faith, naming specific countries where you are aware of persecution happening. Open Doors provides an annual World Watch List of countries in order of severity of persecution for Christians (<https://www.opendoorsuk.org/persecution/world-watch-list>) which says the five worst countries to be a Christian are: North Korea, Somalia, Yemen, Sudan and Eritrea. There are many more on the list if you have time to pray for those as well!

Friday: Family and Friends

Ask God to bless each member of your family and your friends.



Saturday: Ourselves

Thank God for some specific things that are good in your life and ask him to continue to bless them. Ask him to bless anything that is worrying you. Ask him to bless you, your relationships with others and your faith in him.

You can contact Revd Clare on: 01747 838171

Or by email: vicarsrb@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 octavoeditorsrb@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