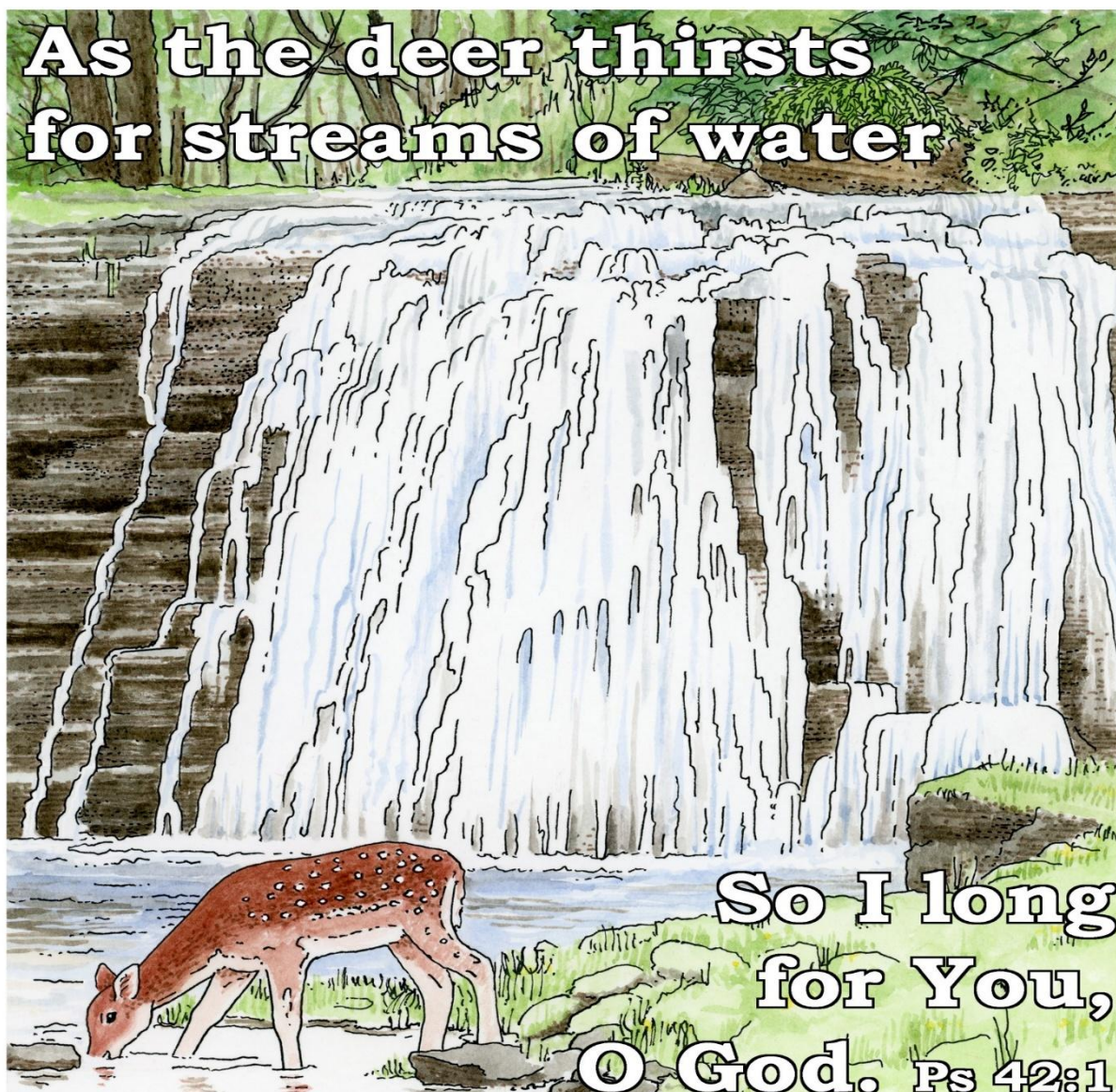


July
2025



WEST MOORS
PARISH MAGAZINE

St Mary's Parish Church of West Moors BH22 0JF

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Magazine contributions for JULY 2025

By or before Sunday 15th June

gillianmaryclarke@hotmail.com

A happy time at the recent MU Coffee Morning



FROM THE VICARAGE

Summer has arrived! At St Mary's we're beginning the service by thinking about all of our vocations. The word *vocation* comes from the Latin *vocare* which means 'to call.' Christians believe that God has called each and every one of us to a special task in our lives, something that will give our lives a deeper meaning. Each and every Christian is called to be a part of a Christian community, usually a church, and to love God and their neighbour. But we can also be called to specific things within our careers and communities.



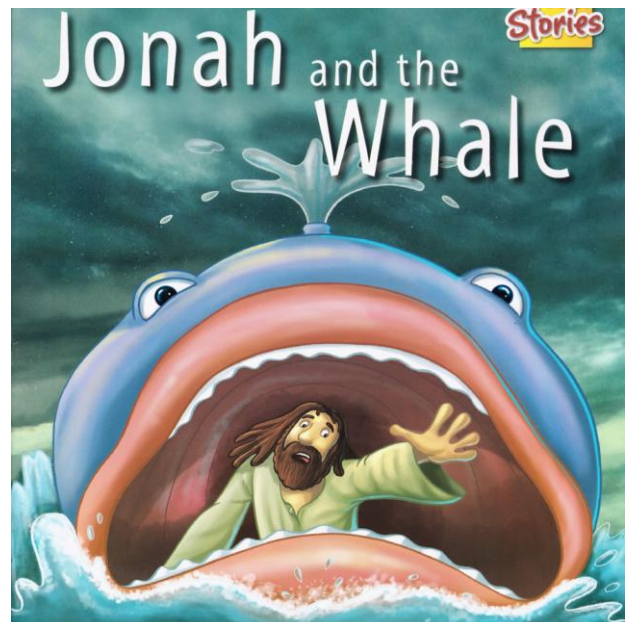
For some, this calling may lead to ordained ministry, teaching, or healthcare. For others, it might be the quiet but powerful witness of raising children in faith, volunteering, or being a faithful presence in the workplace. No vocation is too small to be significant in God's eyes.

This summer, we encourage everyone to spend some time in prayer, asking: "Lord, what are you calling me to do? How can I serve You and others in my daily life?" Whether you're young and just beginning to think about your future, or retired and wondering what God might still have in store, God's call is for every season of life.

In September, St Mary's will host the Deanery LPA training. LPA, short for *Lay Pastoral Assistant*, is an important role within the church – LPAs visit people who are housebound or lonely, sharing Holy Communion with them and offering a listening ear and friendly presence. It's a ministry which can be life-giving for those who visit and those who are visited!

Others in the community have felt called to work with specific groups of people, such as refugees or men who struggle with their mental health – all of these acts of service are ways of showing Jesus' love to those around us. I wonder what Jesus is calling you to do?

In other news, summer brings opportunities to celebrate nature and the wonderful surroundings in West Moors. On **July 7th**, *Messy Church* returns with the theme of '**Animals**' – we will celebrate all the amazing animals found in Bible stories, from Daniel in the Lion's den to Jonah's great fish! Expect crafts, games, food, and fun for the whole family.



Looking ahead to August, we're excited to introduce a new style of church service called '**Fifth Sundays.**' As the name suggests, these services will take place whenever there's a fifth Sunday in the month, and will be a chance to explore new and creative ways to worship God. The first Fifth Sunday, on **August 31st**, at the 10am service we will celebrate the beauty of God's creation, especially the nature in our own churchyard. We'll gather for an outdoor communion, enjoy time in prayer and song, and take part in a very special project – rebuilding the bug hotel into a *bug church*! Everyone is welcome, especially children and families, and you might want to bring a blanket or warm clothes if there's a bit of a breeze! We will have a plan B in case of rain.

As we move through this season of warmth and growth, may our hearts remain open to God's calling, whatever shape it may take. Let's use these sunny days not only to rest and enjoy creation but also to listen closely for His voice.

With love and blessings,
Rev Lizzie

FUND RAISING NEWS

Chris Wilson

HARVEST FAYRE Saturday 27th September

This is a major fund raising event and it's time to be thinking about the stalls and how you could help please:

Calling all jam, marmalade, preserves and pickle makers!

We would like to run a stall with homemade jam, marmalade, chutney and pickles, so please think about making any of these which would be much appreciated

As usual, we would like your help in providing goods for some of our stalls such as Raffle, Tombola, bottle stall, plants and cakes please

PETS' BLESSING SERVICE Saturday 4th October

We are having a pets' blessing service on Fryer Field in the afternoon to be conducted By Rev Lizzie

So, please bring your pet if you can and tell everyone about it as we would like to make this a service for the whole community.

FUTURE DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Christmas Bazaar Saturday 29th November

GOD IN THE SCIENCES

Dr Ruth Bancewicz, based at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge, writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith.

Wonder and Worship: Reflections in a Scottish Rainforest

It can be easier to notice things away from home, when we are relaxed and surrounded by unfamiliar sights in an exotic location. But sometimes the same wonders are there in our own back yard. GK Chesterton was a great advocate of intensive observation, and he invited his readers to take a



fresh look at things that might be taken for granted. The rewards for this mental adjustment are great, and can feed into our worship in new ways.

I first learned to appreciate old growth forests on the West coast of Canada: the centuries-old tangle of logs and underbrush, and thick layers of moss and lichen, that provide rich resources for countless organisms. Several years later, in Scotland, I stumbled over a few acres of birch and hazel, lush with moss and ferns, and humming with insect and bird life. Fallen logs lay everywhere, vegetation grew up the trees, creepers hung down, and sunlight slanted through clearings.

I later discovered that this patch of woodland is one of the few remaining areas of old growth Atlantic rainforest, so I visited one sunny morning when I had more time to linger. The wood is home to 140 species of lichen and 100 of moss, so I found myself looking very closely at tree trunks and boulders. Each lichen is a unique relationship between a fungus and a particular collection of single-celled algae – an example of the collaboration that is so essential to every ecosystem.

Places like this are worth preserving, respecting, and appreciating as much as a work of art or a historic city. I'm so grateful to the community that chose to preserve it, and the Creator who used such intricate and patient processes to create it. As the animals and plants around me did what comes to them naturally, I did what I was made for - thanking God for everything I saw. I found myself praising God alongside all those species of lichen, moss and trees. "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord" (Psalm 150).

There is a growing call to take both our personal devotions and our church services outside from time to time, and there are a growing number of resources to help us do this. As you go through your week, can you find one new way to appreciate your surroundings, and praise God alongside the rest of Creation?

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LETTER FROM BISHOP KAREN

Some of the joys of a bishop's ministry are Confirmation Services; we have had a good number so far this year and many more in the diary. The service is both corporate, as the congregation prays for each candidate, and personal, as each candidate makes promises, is prayed for and is anointed with oil. The words of the anointing remind all of us who have been confirmed that God calls us by name.

This Pentecost we launched across the diocese a simple 'Rule of Life' as part of our discipleship and vocation work. Being called by God means being called to discipleship. Simply put a 'rule of life' is our response to what God has done for us. It takes some the teachings of Christ into our own lives. Therefore, we continue a life of inner transformation through prayer, Bible reading, and regular worship; and we contribute to the transformation

A Simple Rule of Life

Transforming your life

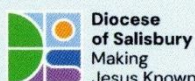
Pray regularly
Read and reflect on the scriptures
Participate in the life of the local church
Enjoy God's gifts with gratitude

Transforming God's world

Give generously to others
Serve and use your gifts
Share the good news of Jesus
Challenge injustice and care for God's creation



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salisbury.anglican.org/missionandministry/vocations/called/called



of the world through generous giving, seeking justice and using our time and talents in the service of God.

This all gives us the opportunity to consider our response to God's love, to the one who calls us. It may be that the Holy Spirit is nudging us to serve in particular ways in the life of the local church, or to live out our Christian life more courageously in the world. Do pick up a postcard from your local church if you have not already been given one and be part of our diocesan vision, not only Making Jesus known but being called so all may flourish and grow.

Bishop Karen



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MU theme for 2025 – “Join US and JOIN IN”.

Meeting on the third Monday of the month at 7:30pm in the Church Hall.

The next meeting is on Monday 16th June at 7pm (please note early start). It is for a walk starting at 9 Avon Rd. Please bring a picnic supper to have on your return.

Most importantly I would like to thank all those that came to the Coffee Morning we held on Saturday June 7th. It was a wet, dismal day outside, but in the Church Hall there was a joyous atmosphere of fellowship, a really lovely occasion, and the upside was that we raised £272 for MU projects.

Our Worldwide President, Kathleen Snow, visited Rome to attend several ecumenical events and the inauguration of Pope Leo XIV, as part of the Anglican delegation. Being part of the delegation reaffirmed her belief that when we stand together in Faith and Purpose we can help bring healing and hope to a fractured world.

‘Today’s world needs the marriage covenant,’ said Pope Leo XIV after asserting that ‘families are the cradle of the future of humanity’. This so reflects the ethos of MU. At the same time the Welsh Provincial President, Sue Rivers, represented the Mothers’ Union at May’s Garden Party at Buckingham Palace, where she had the opportunity to spend time with our Patron, HRH Duchess of Edinburgh.

I hope you all have a memorable summer with family and friends.

Love to you all

Mary Hurdley

Gracious God, we offer heartfelt praise and gratitude

for those who have touched our lives,

for Christ, for family, friends, MU members past and present, clergy and neighbours

. Bless us all with wisdom, strength and compassion.

Guide us to uplift and uphold those around us in prayer and practical assistance.

In your Holy Name, Amen.

‘We are God’s hands and feet across the world,’

says Kathleen Snow, our new Worldwide President.

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THE SIMPLE PLEASURES OF ORDINARY TIME

One great phrase of the Church of England, which is little-known but carries a wealth of rich meaning, is 'ordinary time'. While the seasons of Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Pentecost and Advent all have their fixtures and moments for focus and concentration, the bulk of the summer months is 'ordinary time'! A very evocative phrase – nothing particularly to focus on or to celebrate.

Just because it is 'ordinary', it does not mean it is not important or of no significance to how God wants us to use our lives. For most of us life is lived between high and low points: we look forward to something on the horizon or we are seeking to recover from something. So, it should be no surprise that ordinary time is the longest season in the Church calendar. Abraham Lincoln once said that: "God must love ordinary people because He made so many of them"!

Ordinary people, it seems to me, need 'ordinary time'. Sundays and weekdays in-between, to sense God's presence with us in the day-to-day mundane, and ordinary comings and goings of life. He is there in the heights of resurrection joy and celebration. He is with us in the vulnerability and frailty of human weakness, modelled in the incarnation. He is with us in our efforts to discipline ourselves and be moulded by him (Lent) but He is also with us whenever we are conscious of life just being ordinary.

When our eyes are opened to these things, we will see what an extraordinary God we have!



ORDINARY TIME

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to find God in the ordinary of our lives.

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SURGE IN VISITS TO CHURCH SEARCH WEBSITE

achurchnearyou.com

The number of page visits to the Church of England's church-finder website soared by 55 per cent last year to almost 200 million, as growing numbers of people searched for their local congregation.

Public page views on [AChurchNearYou.Com](https://www.achurchnearyou.com) hit 198.6 million in 2024 – up from 128.1 million in 2023 and up more than three quarters on the previous year.

The figure does not include the 9.7-million-page impressions from the site's army of local editors, who maintain and update parish pages, adding and tagging worship services, events and community action projects such as food banks.

Users shared a total of 11,733 church services and events from AChurchNearYou.Com on social media last year – a 268 per cent increase in a year.

And 18,445 services and events were added to calendars on people's mobile phones and other devices, a 200 per cent increase on the previous year.

The surging use of AChurchNearYou.Com comes after polls suggested growing interest in faith.

The Bible Society's recent report *The Quiet Revival* pointed to evidence of a turnaround in the numbers of young people identifying as Christian, and who say they regularly attend church.

The Church of England's Head of Digital, Amaris Cole, said: "We're delighted that more people than ever are looking for a local church via our church-finder tool, [AChurchNearYou.com](https://www.achurchnearyou.com).

"The staggering increase shows the public are more interested than ever in connecting with one of our communities, whether for a service, an event, a family activity or one of the amazing projects our churches run.

"Our churches regularly report newcomers who have found them through the site, so the rise in page hits is giving our editors confidence in inviting the public in to one of our 16,000 spaces.

"Because everyone is welcome, we've prioritised accessibility by adding tags to help visitors find the service for them – whether there is wheelchair access, gluten-free refreshments, British Sign Language translation or dementia friendly. These can be found by using the tags when searching for churches in your area."





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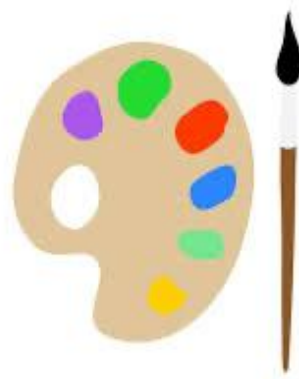
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ART FOR DEMENTIA

A gathering of resources, please!

West Moors Dementia Action Group are in the process of planning a new art group for people with memory challenges which is hoped might be launched in September at the Guide Hall in Ashurst Road. More details when they are available.



I am therefore trying to gather some resources together, ready. If you have any magazines, old calendars, greetings cards, anything with colour pictures of almost anything, scenic, trees, flowers, water, animals, birds, beach huts, boats, planes, etc, things that others can try and copy and paint. Also art books you no longer need that guide the reader through the drawing/copying/painting process. Please pop them in an envelope or bag and hand to Revd Lynne.

No previous experience will be necessary for participants. All equipment will be provided. We aim to offer a calm, relaxing time with everyone doing their own thing, being creative and having fun. Support and assistance will be on hand as needed. And of course refreshments will be provided mid-session.

On the other hand, if you or anyone you know is an artist or has enjoyed dabbling in a bit of painting and are interested in offering to be part of the support team, please have a word with Revd Lynne.

Many thanks.



*Thank you to Veronica Morgan
who recently sold a wheelchair
and donated the money
to church funds.*

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Rosemary Dunning (01202 871616) prm.dunning@outlook.com

Julie Hardman (01202 894881) juliehardman@rocketmail.com

Susan Yates (07759 151201) Susanyates1603@icloud.com

Summer extravaganza at Westival – taking place on Saturday 12th July between 12.00pm and 4pm. As written in last month's magazine we shall be having a small tombola and bring and buy stall for The Children's Society. Prizes gratefully received. Please contact anyone of us on the committee or they can be placed in the box which will be provided in our Church porch. Very many thanks.

A huge thank you for the support given to our cake stall after Church. We raised the terrific amount of £85.50. Many thanks to everyone who kindly made cakes and also those who bought them from our stall!

The annual Wimborne Minster Coffee morning for The Children's Society will take place on Saturday 4th October 10.00am – 12.00 midday, in Church House, Wimborne. Stalls, refreshments, raffle, bring & buy, cakes. You are warmly invited to attend and support this event if you are able.

A message from Andrew Moran, Head of Supporter Experience during National Volunteers week (2nd – 8th June):- ***"Thanks to your commitment, in 2024 our direct support services reached 72,016 children and young people and we worked directly with 5,865 parents and carers in the UK. From all of us: thank you. Thank you for believing in a better future. Thank you for being there. And thank you for being such an important part of this story. We see you. We appreciate you. And we couldn't do it without you. Thank you for your amazing support."***

Loving God, we thank you for your love for each of us.

Thank you that we are each individually and uniquely known by you,
so that even all the hairs on a head are counted.

We pray that all children and young people would know of their incredible worth.

That they are loved and cherished by you.

We pray for the work of The Children's Society
as they show the incredible worth of every child and young person.

Thank you that our worth is not in what we have or do but in who we are, children of God.

Help us build a society where all are valued and cherished, all are known and loved.

May politicians and leaders see every child and young person,
not as numbers on a spreadsheet but unique, beautiful, loved children of God.

With love and God's Blessings

Geraldine Cole/Rosemary Dunning/Julie Hardman/Susan Yates

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR JULY

Sunday 6 July

Isaiah 66.10-14

Gal 6.7-16

Luke 10.1-11,16-20

Hall@4: Made in God's Image

Sunday 13 July

Deuteronomy 30.9-14

Colossians 1.1-14

Luke 10.25-37

Sunday 20 July

Gen 18.1-10a

Col 1.15-28

Luke 10.38-end

Sunday 27 July

Gen 18.20-32

Col 2.6-15

Luke 11.1-13

Sunday 3 August

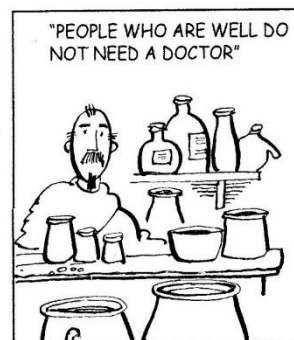
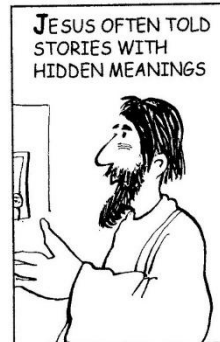
Ecclesiastes 1.2,12-14,
2.18-23

Col 3.1-11

Luke 12.13-21

Hall@4: Transfiguration

The
doctor and
the
ill person



GOD IN THE ARTS

Revd Michael Burgess

‘He gave us eyes to see them’: John Martin’s ‘Manfred on the Jungfrau’

In July we start looking with eager longing to holidays, a chance to get away from it all - to rest and recharge the batteries of life. Holidays are also a time to explore and visit new places. It might be the wild splendour of the Northumberland coast or the serenity of the Italian lakes, the vastness of the Grand Canyon or the magnificence of the Lake District.



This month’s artist had a gift for creating paintings that expressed this epic quality of landscapes. John Martin was born in 1789, and as an artist was drawn to religious and historical scenes on the grand scale. He illustrated the Bible and Milton, and his final works were on the theme of the Last Judgement. These are in the Tate Gallery in London, but for this July we visit the Art Gallery in Birmingham with its amazing collection of over half a million items, including many Pre-Raphaelite treasures. The entrance to this Victorian building is beneath the clock tower known as Old Brum.

The Art Gallery is home to John Martin’s watercolour of 1837, ‘Manfred on the Jungfrau.’ It is a large work, almost 5 feet by 3 feet, capturing the rugged, imposing glory of the Jungfrau. Now a railway takes tourists to the summit in the Bernese Alps in Switzerland. In the 19th century climbers had to navigate glaciers, high passes and steep precipices. John Martin captures the grandeur of all this in his painting of snow and sky, crags and torrents, mountains and pine trees. Against that immensity we see two characters: Manfred, tortured by guilt and about to throw himself off the edge, and the mysterious hunter who leads him to safety.

Byron’s poem ‘Manfred’ inspired the music of Tchaikovsky and Schumann, as it inspired John Martin. They were each attracted by the romanticism of man and nature in the poem. Like Manfred and the hunter in the watercolour, we look at this grace and nobility and feel humble and insignificant. Byron wrote:

‘How beautiful is all this visible world!

How glorious in its action and itself!’

Manfred seeks redemption, but, sadly, finds only the solace of death. As we look at this painting, we see reflections of the landscapes we shall visit on our holidays. Such beauty, such glory, evoke for us those feelings of wonder and awe that inspired John Martin.

Manfred sees life in its true perspective as he gazes on the majestic scenery of the Bernese Alps. Holidays help us to put life into perspective. Away from the pressure of responsibility and duty, we often realise what is essential in our lives and with those around. We behold the majesty and glory of creation; we see this world as the handiwork of God; and we ask ourselves how we might make our way through it and be always alert to its mystery and its beauty.

BANANAS COULD BE LOST TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Bananas are in danger. Almost half of the world's banana-growing regions may be lost to climate change in the next 50 years, a new report has warned.

Bananas are the world's fourth most important food crop globally — but rising temperatures, droughts, and fungal infections are threatening where most of the world's crops grow, in Latin America and the Caribbean.

A recent study by Christian Aid found that 80 per cent of global banana exports come from this region, but that 60 per cent of the land currently used for the crop will be unsuitable, due to climate change, by 2080.

The director of policy and campaigns at Christian Aid, Osai Ojigbo, said: "Bananas are not just the world's favourite fruit, but they are also an essential food for millions of people. We need to wake up to the danger posed by climate change to this vital crop."

UK consumers eat more bananas than any other European country, eating on average about 85 bananas a year each.



FROM THE SIDELINES at ST MARY'S

Louise Collins, Stuart Stebbing

Church Wardens

Debbie Brown, Paul Brealey, Christine Nutland

Assistant Wardens



Loving God, Loving West Moors

June marked a significant milestone as Stuart and I attended the annual Churchwardens' Visitation in person at Wimborne Minster. After recent years of remote attendance due to various circumstances, it was both refreshing and encouraging to gather physically with fellow churchwardens from across the diocese. The event offered not only the formal commissioning and commitment to our responsibilities, but also a strong sense of community and shared purpose. It was particularly special as it was Stuart's first time attending a visitation. The setting of Wimborne Minster, with its rich history and sense of sacred continuity, provided a fitting backdrop to the occasion. The service reminded us of the importance of our role in supporting the ministry, maintaining the fabric of the church, and serving our congregations with care and diligence.

At the beginning of August, we have our church Quinquennial Inspection, a legal requirement. This will involve a professional architect inspecting the church building to assess its condition.

The inspection report covers:

- The state of the fabric (roof, walls, windows, etc.)
- Urgent repairs needed
- Medium and long-term maintenance recommendations

It will ensure the church building is safe, weatherproof and structurally sound, prioritize repair work and complies with church regulations.

On Saturday 14th June, eight church members successfully completed the practical element of the First Aid Course held in the church hall. The theory component will be completed online after writing this report. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who took part, including Revd Lizzie, for their time and commitment.

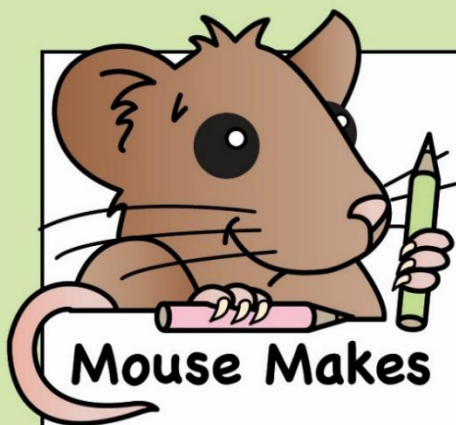
Looking further ahead we have the Harvest Fayre on Saturday 27th September and another Bingo night on Friday 24th October so make a note in your diary and look out for more information nearer the time.

Finally, all the Churchwardens wish you and your families a fun-filled, happy and restful holiday, a safe journey and a great time.

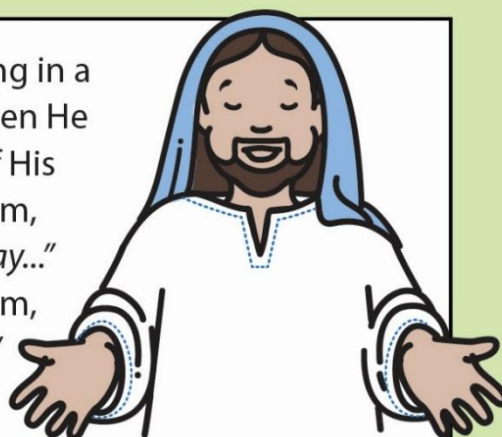
Loving God, Loving West Moors.

Louise





"Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when He had finished, one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray..." And He said to them, "When you pray, say..."



Our _____
in _____,
hallowed be your
_____, your
_____ come,
your _____ be done,
on _____ as it is in
_____.

Give us today our daily
_____.
_____ us our
S _____ as we forgive
those who sin against us.
Lead us not into

_____ but _____
us from _____.

For the kingdom,
the _____ and
the _____ are
yours now and forever.
Amen

D	T	E	O	P	R	G	O	D
F	E	E	B	R	E	A	D	I
O	M	G	T	O	P	P	G	S
R	P	W	R	T	E	O	L	C
G	T	L	E	E	N	W	O	I
I	A	O	S	C	T	E	R	P
V	T	R	P	T	A	R	Y	L
E	I	D	A	I	N	A	M	E
N	O	S	S	O	C	D	A	S
E	N	P	S	N	E	V	F	W
S	K	P	E	V	I	L	A	I
S	I	R	S	I	N	S	T	L
Y	N	A	E	A	R	T	H	L
G	Y	H	E	A	V	E	N	
I	D	E	L	I	V	E	R	E
F	O	R	G	I	V	E	V	E
A	M	E	N	W	O	R	L	D
I	L	F	L	J	E	S	U	S



Fill in the missing words of the Lord's Prayer then find them and these extra words in the word search:
LORD'S PRAYER
DISCIPLES
JESUS
GOD
WORLD
NEEDS
FORGIVENESS
TRESPASSES
PROTECTION
REPENTANCE



The versions of **The Lord's Prayer** we say today come from the Gospels of Matthew and Luke.
Which version do you use in your church?



Read
Matthew 6:9-15
and
Luke 11:1-4



SUMMER COMMUNITY CARVERY DINNERS

Bridge House Hotel

Riverside Suite

Longham BH22 9AN



Menu

Carvery - Beef/ Ham/ Chicken or Turkey

Vegetables of the day

Vegetarian menu of the day

Dessert of the day Tea or Coffee

£22.00 per person

Thursday 17th July 2025 7-9pm

Tuesday 22nd July 2025 7- 9pm

Our community dinners are here again due to popular demand. We are fortunate to have been allocated the Riverside Suite with round tables of six or eight. Should there be a group of you please let me know to reserve a table for you.

There are many households with a single occupant in West Moors. I have received some enquiries from well-connected friends and neighbours asking if they could either bring a friend or for an invitation be given to a person living alone. Community luncheons or dinners are available to ALL members of the community. It allows them an opportunity to meet other people and to socialise.

Meghan and her team welcome us as this event has been going for fifteen years!

Do join us, come to any event dates, all if you wish!

Please book with me either in person, text or email.

Please specify Carvery, Vegetarian or Vegan when booking

Payment in advance or on the day by cash, cheque or BACS (bank co-ordinates on request)

Thank you

Stuart Stebbing

Spstebbing35@btinternet.com

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