

# Stour Vale Letter No.112

## Services in the Stour Vale – 29<sup>th</sup> May

It's a fifth Sunday this week so just one special service for the whole Benefice – and it is a special one!



### 2.00pm *East Stour Village Hall*

Service of Thanksgiving for Her Majesty, The Queen's Platinum Jubilee,  
followed by a bring & share afternoon tea.  
See more details below but do come along.

## Readings for 29<sup>th</sup> May



Proverbs 8.1-16

Luke 22.24-27

## Collect

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the reign of your servant Elizabeth our Queen, and for the example of loving and faithful service which she has shown among us. Help us to follow her example of dedication and to commit our lives to you and to one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Service – Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May

To celebrate the amazing achievement of Her Majesty's 70 years reign we felt we should come together as a Benefice. So, we are holding a Benefice Service of Thanksgiving on the afternoon of Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May (a fifth Sunday), followed by a celebration bring & share tea. Just bring something with you for the table: a few cupcakes, half a dozen scones, a plate of sandwiches, some nibbles – anything that will go to make up afternoon tea. We have also secured the services of some special musicians to make the hymns go with a swing! So do put the date in your diary now and come along to join in this special occasion to mark a once-in-a-lifetime historic event.



## Praying for our communities



This week in the Stour Vale we pray for the community in Fifehead Magdalen, the congregation of St Mary Magdalene and all who live and work in and around the village.

Please find a few moments in your week to remember this community.

## **Regular Benefice Gatherings coming up in May/June:**

Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May at 2pm	East Stour Church	Benefice Prayer Group
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> June at 7pm	East Stour Church	Rucksack Stories
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> June at 7.30pm	East Stour Church	Compline & Company
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> June at 2.30pm	East Stour Village Hall	Knit & Natter
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> June at 10.30am	West Stour Village Hall	Bible Book Group

## **Events dates for your Diary**

### ***Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> May - Lower House, Buckhorn Weston***

Sue Hawksley has kindly offered to host a coffee morning in her garden for church funds from 10.30am



### ***Saturday & Sunday 28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> May - Stour Provost village***

2pm - 5pm Stour Provost Open Gardens

### ***Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May - East Stour Village Hall***

2pm Benefice Platinum Jubilee Service followed by a bring & share tea (*see above*)

### ***Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June - Todber Church***

Coffee morning & Brunch, 10am - 12 noon

### ***Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June - Todber Church***

Coffee morning with a gardening theme, 10am - 12 noon

### ***Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June - Kington Magna Church***

The ever-popular Artisan Coffee & Crafts from 10am - 12 noon

### ***Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July - Todber Church***

Coffee morning, 10am - 12 noon

### ***Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July - Buckhorn Weston Village Hall***

Fete and fun dog show starts 2.30pm

### ***Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July - East Stour Church***

Cream Teas - more information to follow

### ***Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> / Sun 24<sup>th</sup> July - Fifehead Magdalen Church***

Flower Festival from 3pm - 4.30pm both days, concluding with a Songs of Praise on Sunday at 6.30pm.

*See Octavo for other village activities over the next few months!*

## The Newsletter

Due to Barbara's new job and increased working hours, this Newsletter is now going to be produced by Jill Perry, our *Octavo* magazine editor and administrator. If you would like anything advertised in the weekly newsletter, contact either Jill or Revd Richard. Our sincere thanks to Jill for taking this on.



## Pause for Thought

*It is no secret that the Queen is a woman of great faith and that this has been a contributing factor to her strength throughout her reign. This extract is from her Christmas broadcast in 2002:*

"I know just how much I rely on my faith to guide me through the good times and the bad. Each day is a new beginning. I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all that the day brings, and to put my trust in God....I draw strength from the message of hope in the Christian gospel."

## Quote of the Week



*Life meanders like a path through the woods.  
We have seasons when we flourish and seasons  
when the leaves fall from us,  
revealing our bare bones.  
Given time, they grow again.*

Katherine May

## Prayer for the Queen

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ exchanged the glory of a heavenly throne for the form of a servant, we thank you that you have given Elizabeth our Queen a heart to serve her people, and have kept her devoted in this service beyond all who were before her: encourage us by her example to serve one another, and to seek the common good, until you call us all to reign with Christ in your eternal kingdom. Amen.



## For Your Prayers

*The Archbishops' Prayer:* God of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine. 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



We pray for Queen Elizabeth II as we enter this week of celebrations for her Platinum Jubilee. We give thanks for the dedication and service she has shown to this country for 70 years and we pray for her good health and safety.

We remember those in our communities who are ill or recovering at home, for those in hospital or care, and for those who are waiting for procedures and surgery. And we remember those who have lost loved ones and miss them. We pray for those who find life difficult, particularly the lonely, isolated and afraid, those who feel themselves forgotten or unloved, and those who are low in spirits or find the world a confusing place. May they all know the healing presence of God's love.

## Private Prayer

Many of our churches are open throughout the week for private prayer. Please do take advantage of this, and if you visit our beautiful churches and feel you can make a donation to their life and upkeep, please do so. It would be very much appreciated.



## 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 email address to [richard@allegro.co.uk](mailto:richard@allegro.co.uk) with the subject "Newsletter Mailing List". But, if you do not wish to continue receiving them, please email him with "Unsubscribe" in the subject field.

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