

# Stour Vale Letter No.121

## Services in the Stour Vale – 31<sup>st</sup> July

A warm welcome awaits you at our services this week:

### 10:30am Lammas Service

Our Benefice 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday service is the Lammas service at Tanners Farm Kington Magna (SP8 5HB)

CW – Common Worship BCP = Book of Common Prayer



*Please note: the parishes will aim to provide cover for Communion services, but those services may be subject to change at short notice.*

*There is no mid-week communion service at East Stour at the moment.*

## Readings for 31<sup>st</sup> July – 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Trinity



Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23      Psalm 49:1-12  
Colossians 3:1-11                              Luke 12:13-21

### Collect

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; 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.

### Praying for our communities

This week in the Stour Vale we pray for the community in Stour Provost, the congregation of St Michael & All Angels and all who live and work in and around the village. Please find a few moments in your week to remember this community.



**Please Note:** Rev Richard is currently unavailable due to illness. Please contact Jill Perry (01747 838911) in the first instance if you have any queries and she will endeavour to assist.

### Regular Benefice Gatherings coming up in August:

There are no events in August – please note that Rucksack Stories and Compline & Company have been cancelled.

### Events dates for your Diary

#### Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> August – Kington Magna Church

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



## ***Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September DHCT Ride and Stride***

A number of our churches will be open and/or having people looking for sponsorship as they Ride and Stride around the Benefice.

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

### **#BringAPicnicNotABBQ**

If British Summer Time and warmer days means you will be visiting one of Dorset & Wiltshire's local heathlands or outdoors spaces to enjoy the wildlife and wilderness, please take a picnic.

Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service (DWFRS) are encouraging residents and visitors to take a picnic and not a BBQ. Warmer and breezy weather increases the risk of accidental or deliberate fires in our open spaces. A wildfire can move at speeds faster than an Olympic sprinter, so we are asking people who are out and about to follow some simple steps:



- If you are enjoying our open spaces when a fire occurs, get to a safe place and call 999 with as much information as possible.
- Consider downloading and using What3Words to identify your exact location.
- You can also help by reporting any antisocial behaviour on the heath to the Police on 101.

During 2021, DWFRS dealt with 494 fires in the open. In 2022, we have already seen large wildfires in Dorset & Wiltshire and firefighters across the UK have dealt with more wildfires between January and May than in the whole of 2021 (243 compared to 237 in 2021).

Area Manager Marc House, Head of Prevention at DWFRS said: "As we move into the summer, with longer daylight hours and warmer weather, understandably more people want to get out and use Dorset & Wiltshire's natural environments. There is a trend that the number of deliberately set fires and fires caused by BBQs and bonfires in these open spaces, increases.

He added: "I cannot stress enough how important it is to take extra care when enjoying our beautiful open and forestry areas. If you are a smoker, please extinguish them fully before disposing of them responsibly – never ever just throw them away lit, similar to throwing them out from car windows – the result could be 50 or 100 firefighters tackling the subsequent blaze."

Anyone caught starting a fire on a heath will be prosecuted whether it is a case of deliberate arson or neglect, for example an unauthorised camp fire or a disposable BBQ that gets out of control. Wildfires cost lives not only to endangered plants and animals but also put people and houses in danger.

We need your help to protect our countryside. Please #BringAPicnicNotABBQ

## Pause for Thought

Summer seems to have become a time of rushing off to other places for a 'holiday', supposedly so we can have a time of rest. This year in particular it also seems to be a time of queues and transport chaos making the journey to our chosen place of rest even more exhausting. How many times have you heard people come back from a 'holiday' saying, now they need a holiday! And yet Jesus said all we need to do is 'come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest' (Matt 11:28). And in coming to Him for rest, David points out that the whole of our lives will be brought under God's hand. So if you are in need of rest remember, the Lord is our Shepherd...

### Psalm 23

#### A psalm of David.

<sup>1</sup> The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

<sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures,  
he leads me beside quiet waters,

<sup>3</sup> he refreshes my soul.

He guides me along the right paths  
for his name's sake.

<sup>4</sup> Even though I walk  
through the darkest valley,<sup>[a]</sup>

I will fear no evil,

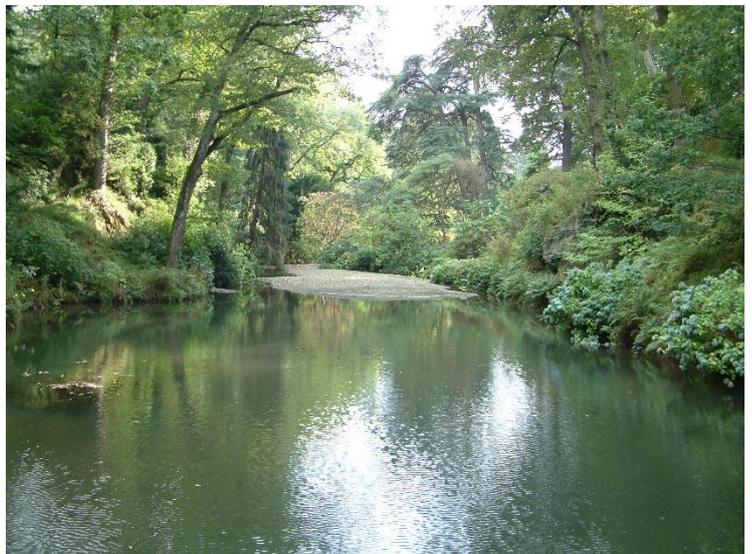
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff,  
they comfort me.

<sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.

<sup>6</sup> Surely your goodness and love will follow me  
all the days of my life,

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord  
forever.



### Quote of the Week

Each day is a new beginning. I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, take the long view, to give of my best in that the day brings and to put my trust in God.

*Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II*

## 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 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 Jill Perry at [octavoeditorsvb@googlemail.com](mailto: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.

Please remember Richard is currently unavailable due to illness. You can pass messages via Jill Perry, 01747 838911, Email: [octavoeditorsvb@googlemail.com](mailto:octavoeditorsvb@googlemail.com); or for anything urgent please speak to your church warden.

Newsletter produced on behalf of:  
Revd Richard Priest – Vicar of the Stour Vale Benefice

