

Stour Vale Letter No.188

Services in the Stour Vale – Sunday 12th November

9:15am Said Communion Buckhorn Weston

10:30am Remembrance Service for the Benefice East Stour



Readings for Sunday 12th November *Remembrance Sunday*

Wisdom of Solomon 6.12-16

Psalms 70

1 Thessalonians 4.13-end

Matthew 25.1-13

Stour Vale Benefice

Remembrance Sunday

Benefice Service
at East Stour 10:30am

Please note there will be a
Said Communion
at Buckhorn Weston at 9:15am

Other Benefice events coming up in November:

Every Tuesday – Said Morning Prayer West Stour Church 9:30am

Monday 20th – Knit and Natter 2:30pm East Stour Village Hall

Thursday 30th – Stour Vale Prayer Group 2pm East Stour Church

Praying for our communities

This week in the Stour Vale we pray for the community in Stour Row, and all who live and work in and around the village. Please find a few moments in your week to remember this community.



And we pray for:

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.

In particular we pray for:

Henrietta (KM), Barry (SR) and Margaret (WS) and all known to us, or only to God, who are ill and in need of prayer.

And for the bereaved family and friends of Frances Austin Jones (ES) and June Hough (FM).

If anyone would like to be included in our prayers, please ask your Church Warden

to let Jill know, or contact her direct – details at the end of the newsletter.

*Please remember if you asking on behalf of someone else,
check they are happy for their name to be included.*

Other 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



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.

Canon Paul Hardingham continues to his year-long series on the Spiritual Disciplines.

12th November The poppies of Remembrance Sunday

In late 1914, WW1 erupted across Northern France and Flanders. Great swathes of previously green fields and forests were blasted and bombed, leaving them bleak and barren, with seemingly every living thing destroyed.

But then in the Spring of 1915, something beautiful began to come out of all the destruction. Tens of thousands of bright red Flanders poppies began to put out tentative shoots across the endless vistas of mud. These resilient little flowers had actually flourished in the middle of so much chaos and destruction, because their seeds grow when exposed to sunlight, through disturbances to soil.

We all know that these endless fields of cheerful poppies, growing in the midst of such misery and destruction, were what inspired the Canadian doctor, Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, to write the now famous poem 'In Flanders Fields'.

And it was McCrae's poem which inspired an American academic named Moina Michael to adopt the poppy in memory of those who had fallen in the war. She got it adopted as an official symbol of Remembrance across the United States, and worked with others who were trying to do the same in Canada, Australia, and the UK.

A French woman, Anna Guérin who was in the UK in 1921, caught the same vision, and planned to sell the poppies in London. There she met Earl Haig, the founder of the Royal British Legion, who was persuaded to adopt the poppy as its emblem in the UK.

The Royal British Legion, which had been formed in 1921, ordered nine million poppies and sold them on 11 November that year. Ever since then, the red poppy has been a symbol of Remembrance, of support for the Armed Forces community, and also of hope for a peaceful future.



God loves the real you.

*I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness.
Jeremiah 31:3*

No makeup. Hair all in a mess. Sneakers and sweats. No polish, no poise, no primp. It's the real you, all natural and unadorned. The one loved by God. You see . . .

You don't have to put a show for God; you just have to show up.

You don't have to have it all together; you just have to know One who put it all together.

You don't have to wear designer clothes; you just have to be clothed in Him.

It's the ultimate come-as-you-are party. God created you – drew you – from the riches of His imagination and out of the wealth of His love and kindness. And He loves the way you are drawn.

From '100 Things God Loves about You' by Tama Fortner

Quotes:

The tragedy of war is that it uses man's best to do man's worst. - *Anon*

Mankind must put an end to war, or war will put an end to mankind. - *John F Kennedy*

Let men who delight in the cruelties of war remember that their day is coming. - *Louis Mumford*

In war, whichever side may call itself the victor, there are no winners, but all are losers. - *Neville Chamberlain*

Parish Pump

**Please note that for most other events around the Benefice,
'For you Diary' has returned to the back page of Octavo
But here are a couple of addition events/reminders:**

Winter Talks at Stour Provost Village Hall

Friday 17th November - 7pm

We will welcome the **Revd Clare Dean** to give the first of our winter talks.

Her talk entitled "When JK Rowling nicked my boyfriend and other stories on my journey of faith" will give us the opportunity to meet our new vicar and find out a bit more about her.

Doors open 6:45pm for a glass of wine before the talk starts at 7pm.

This is a free event. All Welcome!

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DEMONSTRATION

Organised by Shaftesbury Flower Arranging Group

20th November 2023 7pm for 7.30pm

Shaftesbury Arts Centre, SP7 8AR

'The Bells Ring Out at Christmas'

by Pam Lewis

Tickets £15 to include a glass of wine

Tickets from Liz Flower 01747 840074 or

elizabeth.newton137@btinternet.com

Smile Lines Clocks

It is told of the great preacher C H Spurgeon that after preaching at length one Sunday he said: "I don't mind people looking at their watches, but I do dislike to see them holding them to their ears, to see if they are still going."

Signs found outside churches:

Church carpark sign...FOR MEMBERS ONLY. Trespassers will be baptised.

No God - No Peace. Know God - Know Peace.

Free Trip to heaven. Details Inside!

Searching for a new look? Have your faith lifted here!

Outside one church is a picture of two hands holding stone tablets on which the Ten Commandments are inscribed. A headline reads: 'For fast relief, take two tablets.'

Parish Pump

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.

You can contact Revd Clare on: 01747 838171

Please remember Clare's day off is Mondays.



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or search for 'The Church of England in the Stour Vale' in Facebook,
or follow the link on the Benefice Website.

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

