

ST THOMAS'S

TEAM VICAR. The Revd Kirsty Clarke has been appointed to be Team Vicar in the Shaftesbury Team and will be licensed to her new post by the Bishop of Sherborne in a special service at 5pm on Sunday 8th September in St James' Church. Do come along to welcome her. Or come to her first service at St Thomas's 11:15 a.m. 22 September.

CHANGE OF SERVICE TIMES: with Kirsty as our new vicar, we would like to enable her to come to both our communion services. To achieve this, we are going to try having all our services at 11.15 am., starting from September. Matins will be on the first Sunday, communion on the second and fourth. It is proposed to have coffee before one of the services and to shorten Matins slightly by the omission of one hymn. Please let a member of the PCC know your views as this is for a trial period.

STUDY GROUP John Fuller is offering a study group on Paula Gooder's excellent book Everyday God. There will be an initial meeting at John's house, 11 Ratcliffe Gardens, on Wednesday 11th September to discuss this, with a view to the group meeting in October/November. If you are interested in joining the group, please contact John on 850079

SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE: Jon Dakin and Rodney Atwood will once again be taking part in the Dorset Historic Churches' Ride and Stride on 14 September, to raise money for our church and projects at others in Dorset.

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE for those killed or injured on Dorset roads at Wimborne Minster on Saturday 21st September at 11am led by Bishop Karen and Dorset police chaplains. Everyone welcome.

DEANERY EUCHARIST will be at St Mary's Gillingham Sunday 22 September at 11am. Preacher: The Ven Penny Sayer, Archdeacon of Sherborne. Followed by a shared lunch (bring your own packed lunch).

For pewsheets notices please contact Rodney Atwood on 01747 855255 or email: harrietatwood@hotmail.com

WELCOME to St Thomas's Church, Melbury Abbas

If you are new to the church or visiting, please introduce yourself to one of the team so we might get to know you better.

Team Office is open Mon - Fri 9am - 12pm
Tel: 853060 email: office@ShaftesburyCofE.org.uk
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THE SHAFTESBURY TEAM
St Thomas's, Melbury Abbas



Sunday 25th August – 10th Sunday after Trinity

11.15am Matins

Sunday 1st September – 11th Sunday after Trinity

11.15am Matins

Sunday 8th September – 12th Sunday after Trinity

11.15am Parish Communion

5.00pm Licensing Service for Kirsty Clarke at St James'

Collect

Let your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions make them to ask such things as shall please you; 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.

First reading: *Isaiah 58.9b-14*

Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.
If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.
The Lord will guide you continually,
and satisfy your needs in parched places,
and make your bones strong;
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water,
whose waters never fail.
Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.
If you refrain from trampling the sabbath,
from pursuing your own interests on my holy day;
if you call the sabbath a delight
and the holy day of the Lord honourable;
if you honour it, not going your own ways,
serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs;
then you shall take delight in the Lord,
and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth;
I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

Second reading: *Hebrews 12.18-29*

You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. (For they could not endure the order that was given, 'If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.' Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, 'I tremble with fear.') But you have come to Mount Zion and to the

city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, 'Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven.' This phrase 'Yet once more' indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

Gospel reading: *Luke 13.10-17*

Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, 'Woman, you are set free from your ailment.' When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, 'There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day.' But the Lord answered him and said, 'You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?' When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

Post Communion Prayer

God of our pilgrimage, you have willed that the gate of mercy should stand open for those who trust in you: look upon us with your favour that we who follow the path of your will may never wander from the way of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.