

Notices and Dates for your diaries:

The **funeral service for DAVID FULLMAN**, a regular attender at St Thomas's who died recently, will be at 1 p.m. on Thursday, 10 May. Please pray for his widow Jean and their family.

Please pray also for the recovery of **JEANNE WEBSTER** who broke a bone in her shoulder in a fall and was in hospital, but is now home.

There is a **TEAM SERVICE FOR ASCENSION DAY** at St Peter's 7 p.m. Thursday 10 May.

St Thomas's seeks **AN ORGANIST** for our 9.30 service on 3rd June, and a 'musician' for our outside pet service on 10th June at 11.15am. Please contact Jon Dakin on 01747 855976.

To encourage prayer during the '**THY KINGDOM COME**' SEASON this year (Ascension to Pentecost 10th – 20th May) there will be prayer stations in St James, St Peter's, Motcombe, Compton Abbas, Enmore Green and Melbury Abbas. Each church will have 1 – 3 stations to help us focus our prayer. There will be a 'passport' for you to take round, if you wish to have a sticker for each station you have visited.

TEAM OFFICE Please note the Team office is closing on Friday May 11th at 12 noon and will reopen on Monday 21st May at 9am.

TRADCRAFT CHRISTIAN AID LUNCH

One Christian Aid Lunch has been rescheduled for Wednesday May 16th in Shaftesbury Town Hall. Soup Lunch with middle eastern extras - 12noon until 1.30pm Traidcraft and bring and buy. All welcome.

HEAVENLY SOUNDS CONCERT Four professional singers from Germany will perform at St Peter's a programme including Mozart, Fauré, Franck, Elgar and Britten, and a selection of traditional spirituals. The concert "Heavenly Sounds" begins at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday 23 May, Tickets cost £10, available at the door.

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
www.ShaftesburyCofE.org.uk

THE SHAFTESBURY TEAM
St Thomas's, Melbury Abbas



Sunday 6th May – Sixth Sunday of Easter

9.30am Parish Communion

Sunday 13th May – 11:15 a.m. Rogation Service in Nigel and Hannah Kay's barn

Sunday 20th May – Pentecost

No service at St Thomas's

Collect

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; 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 Acts 10.44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Second Reading 1 John 5.1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Gospel Reading John 15.9-17

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

Post Communion Prayer

God our Father, whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life: may we thirst for you, the spring of life and source of goodness, through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.