

Notices and Dates for your diaries:

DAVID FULLMAN, a regular attender at St Thomas's who died recently, was buried in the churchyard on Thursday in a moving service. Please pray for his widow Jean and their family.

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.

TRAIDCRAFT 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

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.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SHAFTESBURY Pentecost 2018 United Service will be at Shaftesbury Abbey on Sunday 20th May 2018 at 4.00pm. The choir will be singing during the service. Bring a chair if you can.

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 13th May – Seventh Sunday of Easter
11.15am – Rogation Sunday at the Kays' barn

Sunday 20th May – Pentecost
No service at St Thomas's

Sunday 27th May – Trinity Sunday
11.15am Matins
Followed by Memorial to Lionel Carver

Collect

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Reading Acts 1.15-17, 21-26

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred and twenty people) and said, 'Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.'

So one of the men who have accompanied us throughout the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.' So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, 'Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.' And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Second Reading 1 John 5.9-13

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Gospel Reading John 17.6-19

'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God, giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom: confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord.