

## Notices for your diaries:

**NEW HYMNBOOKS:** as explained in October's 'Key-Ring', the P.C.C. has after some discussion adopted new hymnbooks and these will be used for the first time this Sunday. The Preservation Society have kindly paid for them.

**PLEASE PRAY** for Delia Johnson Lay Pastoral Assistant, Chalice Bearer and regular worshipper at St Thomas's who has undergone surgery and is now recovering with her family in Andover.

**OPEN HOUSE** has been chosen for the Waitrose [Gillingham] Community Matters green token scheme! Throughout October you can help raise money for our project. Get shopping and support Open House!

**PILGRIM COURSE** John Fuller will be leading the next Pilgrim Course on "*The Bible*". As before, there will be six sessions; the first at 7.30pm on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October at John's house: 11 Ratcliffe Gardens. Everyone is welcome. For information please contact John on 01747 850079 – or just arrive.

Rodney Atwood will speak on **BRITISH ARMY CHAPLAINS IN WWI** at 7 p.m., 30 October at St Peter's Church. Admission £5, funds to the Poppy Appeal and the Shaftesbury Team of churches.

**AN EVENING WITH BISHOP PETER PRICE** Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 7.30pm in St. John's Church, Enmore Green. An evening of reflection, conversation and worship on the publication of his book *A Shaking Reality – Daily Reflections for Advent*. The evening will provide an opportunity to consider together how we may find courage and compassion to face the challenges of our contemporary world and understand a little better why God has sent *us* into this time. There is no charge– to reserve a seat in the Nave, please contact Jo Churchill on 01747 850432 or [jo.churchill@enmoregreen.co.uk](mailto:jo.churchill@enmoregreen.co.uk) Seats must be taken by 7.10pm.

For pewsheets notices please contact Rodney Atwood on 855255 or [harrietatwood@hotmail.com](mailto: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.

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Team Office is open Mon - Fri 9am - 12pm  
Tel: 853060 email: [office@ShaftesburyCofE.org.uk](mailto:office@ShaftesburyCofE.org.uk)  
[www.ShaftesburyCofE.org.uk](http://www.ShaftesburyCofE.org.uk)

THE SHAFTESBURY TEAM  
St Thomas's, Melbury Abbas



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**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October – Harvest**

**9.30am Harvest Festival Communion**

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> October – 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity**

**11.15am Parish Communion**

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> October – 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Trinity**

**No service at St Thomas'**

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**Collect**

Eternal God,  
you crown the year with your goodness  
and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season:  
grant that we may use them to your glory,  
for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being;  
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** *Joel 2.21-27*

Do not fear, O soil; be glad and rejoice,  
for the Lord has done great things! Do not fear, you animals of the field, for  
the pastures of the wilderness are green; the tree bears its fruit, the fig tree  
and vine give their full yield.

O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the Lord your God; for he has  
given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you  
abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. The threshing-floors  
shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. I will repay you  
for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer,  
and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you.

You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord  
your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never  
again be put to shame. You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and  
that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall  
never again be put to shame.

**Second Reading** *1 Timothy 2.1-7*

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and  
thanksgivings should be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in  
high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all  
godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our  
Saviour, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge  
of the truth. For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God  
and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself a ransom

for all —this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald  
and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the  
Gentiles in faith and truth.

**Gospel Reading** *Matthew 6.25-33*

‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what  
you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than  
food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they  
neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father  
feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by  
worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about  
clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor  
spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of  
these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and  
tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of  
little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, “What will we eat?” or “What will  
we drink?” or “What will we wear?” For it is the Gentiles who strive for all  
these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all  
these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness,  
and all these things will be given to you as well.

**Post Communion Prayer**

Lord of the harvest, with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in  
creation and have shared in the bread and the wine of the kingdom: by your  
grace plant within us a reverence for all that you give us and make us  
generous and wise stewards of the good things we enjoy; through Jesus  
Christ our Lord.