

Dear Friends,

### THY KINGDOM COME

I imagine seeing the title above taken from the traditional version of the Lord's Prayer might seem a little strange when written out of context. However, this is the title which the Archbishop of Canterbury has given to an idea he has to encourage Christians around the country to pray for our church and communities between Ascension (25<sup>th</sup> May) and Pentecost (4<sup>th</sup> June). Our response in our benefice is to organise some activities and times of worship to which you are all invited. During the week, there will be prayer stations set up in all the benefice churches with simple instructions of how to get the most out of them (very child friendly too, so do take your children along). The acts of worship and other activities are listed below. You would be most welcome to join us for any of what's on offer

<b>Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Ascension Day Communion</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>St. Peter's</b>
	<b>Ascension Day Communion</b>	<b>7.30pm</b>	<b>St. Nicholas'</b>
<b>Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Prayer walk in Longparish</b>	<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Begin at the church</b>
<b>Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Prayers at Woodcott</b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>St. James'</b>
<b>Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Prayers at St. Mary Bourne</b>	<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>St. Peter's</b>
<b>Wed 31<sup>st</sup> May</b>	<b>Prayer walk in St. Mary Bourne</b>	<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Begin at the church</b>
<b>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June</b>	<b>Prayers at Hurstbourne Priors</b>	<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>St. Andrew's</b>
<b>Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June</b>	<b>Friday Reflections</b>	<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>School House HBP</b>

It is my hope that by the end of the period between Ascension and Pentecost we shall be well and truly pickled in prayer.

### FUTURE PLANS

During the month of May there will be notices, information and details outlining our plans for the future for the church in our benefice. These include information about events, activities, the new website to be launched shortly and much else besides. Please do take a few moments to drop by and see what's happening. What's more, if there is something which you find interesting, you would be more than welcome to join in or help. The meeting advertised for **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May at 5.30pm in St. Mary Bourne Village Centre** is for all the villagers of St. Mary Bourne and anyone else around the benefice who might be interested whether regular worshippers or not to see how our exciting plans are coming to fruition. These plans include the new lavatory and servery in St. Peter's. Other evenings will be arranged for each parish in due course, so please watch this space.

This comes with every blessing to you all.

*Craig*

### Vicar's Diary Dates

5 <sup>th</sup> May	Friday Reflections	<b>7.00pm</b>	School House (Hurstbourne Priors)
<b>14<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>PRESENTATION EVENING</b>	<b>5.30 - 7.00pm</b>	<b>St Mary Bourne Village Centre</b>
30 <sup>th</sup> May	Bible Study	11.00am	The Vicarage (St Mary Bourne)