



Purton Churches - Christmas 2025



St Mary's Church - Church End SN5 4EB — Methodist Church - Play Close SN5 4DP

Saturday 6th December 2025

10.00am - 6.00pm Come and Sing Handel's Messiah from scratch
6.00pm Come and listen to Handel's Messiah - sung by your community

Sunday 7th December

6.00pm Community Christmas Carols: Ridgeway Farm & St Mary's School Choirs, St Mary's Music Group, followed by Refreshments & Mince Pies at St Mary's Church

Saturday 13th December

4.00pm Village Christingle Service/Messy Church for children of all ages at St Mary's Church followed by Refreshments - Children please bring an Adult!

Sunday 21st December

10.30am Narnia meets Nativity - with the young people - "BASH" - at St Mary's Church
10.30am Carol Service at Purton Methodist Church
6.00pm Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols - Candelight at St Mary's Church with Church Choir and Handbells followed by Mulled Wine and Mince Pies

Christmas Eve, Wednesday 24th December

4.00pm United Village Nativity and Carol Service with the Cricklade Band at St Mary's Church

Please bring children with any appropriate costumes for shepherds, angels, stars, kings...We want everyone to join in...come early to guarantee entry

11.30pm Traditional Choral 'Midnight' Communion Service at St Mary's Church

Christmas Day, Thursday 25th December

8.00am Traditional Holy Communion at St Mary's Church

No service at Purton Methodist Church - All are welcome at St Mary's

10.30am Christmas Day Family Celebration with Holy Communion at St Mary's Church (also on YouTube) - Come and hear of God's Good News

Sunday 28th December

10.30am Carols, Coffee & Cake at Purton Methodist Church

No service at St Mary's - All are welcome at Purton Methodist

10.30am St Mary's on Zoom - Reflections on Christmas - A time to connect with each other online - Zoom Link on Website www.stmaryspurton.org.uk

If you or any of your family or friends need our prayers please contact:

Revd Ian Tweedie-Smith 01793 770077 email vicarage@stmaryspurton.org.uk
or Revd Judith Wells 01793 770627 for St Mary's Church.

Or Revd Shirlyn Toppin 01793 853197 for Purton Methodist Church

Happy Christmas to everyone from Purton Churches

What is News?

I meet many people who have stopped watching "the news" because it is too bad to see, others because it does not fit with what they want to hear. There has been some discussion recently about bias. Also many have been shocked to discover that news from certain outlets is filtered by a computer algorithm which only shows news which supports the consumer's existing views.

In the midst of all this uncertainty God breaks in with His news to the shepherds near Bethlehem, His angel said, *"I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord."* [Luke chapter 2 verses 10-11 The Bible]. This message would be good news and bring great joy to the ordinary people. But it would be bad news for King Herod and for the religious authorities, it would be bad news for any who did not think they needed a saviour for all the wrong things they had done. Yet it would be good news for those who realise their need and are willing to receive God's solution, God's promised Messiah, God's all powerful Lord. No wonder the angels sang their Hallelujah chorus across the heavens that night. No wonder the shepherds went into Bethlehem to discover the truth of the news they had heard.



This Christmas I invite you to come and test afresh the truth of that news, God's good news that you will hear at our various Christmas services. I invite you to test if it can be good news for you, for your family, and for your friends.

Happy Christmas

Revd Ian Tweedie-Smith (Vicar of St Mary's)

Please join with us at one of our Christmas services.

Also If you would like to explore further about the news of Jesus the Messiah, we are starting a new course on the the Messiah for three weeks in December and continuing into January. Please use the link below for further details or get in touch using the contact details overleaf.

The services overleaf are our special Christmas Services

(details also on the website below - some Services also accessible online)

Our normal Sunday pattern at present is as follows:

8.00am Traditional Holy Communion at St Mary's Church (1st & 3rd Sundays)

10.30am Church for All Service (1st & 3rd Sundays) at St Mary's Church (+ YouTube)

10.30am Parish Holy Communion (2nd & 4th Sundays) at St Mary's Church (+ YouTube)

10.30am Special Service (5th Sundays) at St Mary's Church (+ YouTube)

10.30am Service at Purton Methodist Church

4.00pm Messy Church (Monthly) at St Mary's Church

**For more Information (including online services)
and for details about The Bible Course Use QR Code or**



See website www.stmaryspurton.org.uk **Facebook** St. Mary's Church, Purton, Wiltshire