

Bible reading

Luke 18: 9-14

⁹ To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: ¹⁰ 'Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: "God, I thank you that I am not like other people – robbers, evildoers, adulterers – or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get." ¹³ 'But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, "God, have mercy on me, a sinner."

¹⁴ 'I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.'

Recent sermon series on 'Hope'

In case you missed any sermons or would like to listen to any of them again, this link is for all of the Sermon series on Hope:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLI270WUzI4H2VyrYixwBR_EP5-lyn5bjH

Diary Dates

Sun 27th September – Harvest Festival Parade Service 10.30am at St Mary's

Sat 3rd October – Harvest Supper & Barn Dance 6.00pm

Sat 10th October 'Come and Sing' Day at St Mary's Church – Handel's Messiah

Sat 17th October – Church maintenance day

"SANCTUM": Spiritual direction and formational training

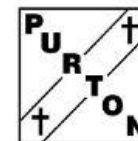
Are you exploring a call to the ministry of spiritual direction? In January 2027, the Diocese of Bristol will launch Sanctum, a new ecumenical formation and training course for both lay and ordained Christians. Running fortnightly during term time, with mainly online sessions and three in-person days, the course is designed to support and equip those discerning this important ministry. Applications are now open and close on Friday 2 October 2026. For more information see the separate attachment.



St Mary's
Church Purton

Purton Churches Together

"In partnership with
other Christians in Purton"



Purton
Methodist Church

Sunday 16th August 2026

Welcome to our two Churches.

For more information about the service please see the welcome page inside the order of service. If you would like a visit from a Church member, or would value prayer or an opportunity to find out more about the Christian faith please contact

- Vicar Rev Ian Tweedie-Smith on 01793 770077
vicarage@stmaryspurton.org.uk
- The Methodist Minister (a new minister starts at the beginning of September, details to follow)
- If you have any Church Safeguarding concern: Marie Dempsey on 07455046815
Email: safeguarding@stmaryspurton.org.uk
- For general enquiries: Parish Administrator Rosie Harris 01793 773035 (Tues/Thurs mornings)
Email: administrator@stmaryspurton.org.uk



Church Events

Sunday 16th August	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's with Revd Ian Tweedie-Smith
	10.30am	Church for All at St Mary's with Revd Ian Tweedie-Smith
	10.30am	Own Arrangement Service at Purton Methodist Church
Mon 17 th	10.00am	Zoom Prayer Group will resume on 31 st August due to holidays.
Tues 18 th		
Wed 19 th	5.00pm	Lady Chapel Prayer Group
Thurs 20 th		
Fri 21 st	7.30pm	Bellringing practice
Sat 22 nd		
Sunday 23rd August	10.30am	'Extended' Communion at St Mary's with David & Liz Martin
	10.30am	Holy Communion Service at Purton Methodist Church led by Rev Peter Grimwood

Prayer: In August (in our cycle of prayer for those living and working in the Parish) we pray for those living and working in Witts Lane, Jewels Ash, Waite Meads Close, Pear Tree Close (*and from Moulden View*) Mustang Way, and Ashgrove House Nursing Home, currently under new ownership.

Methodist circuit prayers for this week are for Shrivenham Methodist Church.

Weddings: Please pray for God's blessing on Alexandra and Angus – to be married on 15th August at St Mary's.

We give thanks to God for the lives of those who have recently died. We pray for the families and friends of Martin Gem, Ron Townsend, Hazel Beckett, Stephen Smith and Sylvia Handy.

The funeral of the late Sylvia Handy will take place at St Mary's on Thursday 27th August at 11.00am with Revd Judith Wells.

Eco-Prayer Calendar for August 2026

Pollution causes around 9 million premature deaths each year, mostly through air pollution. Bring before God these issues: Pollution, chemical use in industry which can leach into the land and nearby waters; traffic fumes, wildfires, dust, inadequate waste management. Pray for wisdom in land management, respect for the environment, and for the emergency services who deal with environmental problems and wildfires.

Collect: Trinity 11

O God, you declare your almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace, that we, running the way of your commandments, may receive your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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. Amen.

Ride and Stride: Saturday 12th September 2026

This event raises money for the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust. I can provide sponsor forms for anyone who wishes to cycle, walk or ride a horse to churches within Wiltshire. Alternatively, they can be found on the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust website Half of any money collected goes to the Trust and the other half goes to a church of your choice in this county. Please contact me if you want a sponsor form from me on 772422 or janersmith1@gmail.com I am also looking for volunteers to welcome cyclists/walkers/horse riders to St Mary's Church between 10am and 5pm and give them refreshments. So if you could spare an hour on this day, please let me know. Jane Smith

Readers: 16th Sandra Horsnall 23rd David Nettleton

Intercessions: 16th Val Walker 23rd Celia Tweedie-Smith

St Mary's Church website is: www.stmaryspurton.org.uk

If you want to add an article into the church notices, please email Parish Administrator Rosie Harris, by first thing Thursday mornings. administrator@stmaryspurton.org.uk