

Stars!

We are hoping to fill the Church with home-made stars during Advent! We do hope YOU will take part and add some stars of your own. You can make some in memory of someone: you can paint and decorate them: They can be made of paper, or fabric, wood or whatever you like. We have some being made from clay, by youngsters at Messy Church. Others are being knitted or sewn. We're experimenting with paper folded stars and searching out poems! The younger children at Purton School are even doing a 'Star Trail' around the church! Can you get involved? Can you help by making some stars? The only rule is please *no glitter!* Please contact Libbie 771018 or Jane 772422 to know more.

Christmas Market in St Mary's Church

Saturday 28th November 2026 from 11.00am - 2.30pm

I will send further details next week, asking for help with stalls etc.

In the meantime, here is an appeal to please begin to collect donations of items for the tombola / Christmas hamper / raffle! Thank you. For further information please speak to Sandra Horsnall.

Come & Sing Day: Messiah at St Mary's Church

Around 70 people gathered at St Mary's Church for the joyful Come & Sing event organised by the Faith Alive Choir. Under the direction of conductor Bo Zohm, singers of all abilities came together to learn and perform choruses from Handel's Messiah. Faith Alive brought its trademark enthusiasm, energy and spirituality to the day, and created a welcoming, enjoyable atmosphere for everyone. We all worked extremely hard, but none more so than Bo and the organist, Leon de Wet.

Singers were sustained by a wonderful selection of Purton cookies, cakes, soups, curry and biscuits, generously provided in true Purton community spirit. Thank you so much to all who baked and helped in the kitchen and food department. The result was a magnificent informal performance at the end of the day which many locals came to enjoy. Funds raised from the evening performance will help to support the ongoing work of St Mary's Church.



St Mary's
Church Purton

Purton Churches Together

"In partnership with
other Christians in Purton"



Purton
Methodist Church

Sunday 18th October 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, Rev Tony Brookes on 01793 853197
tony.brookes2025@outlook.com
- 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

• 'The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'

• Mark 10:45

Church Events

Sunday 18th October	8.00am	Extended Communion at St Mary's with Paul Dempsey
	10.30am	Church for All at St Mary's with Canon Chris Dobson
	10.30am	Own Arrangement Service at Purton Methodist Church
Mon 19 th	Morning 1.45pm 2.00pm	Church boiler being serviced from 9am Bible group at Pear Tree Close Book of John Fellowship of Women at Purton Methodist Church with Carol Britton: "The Companion Guide to the Athelstan Pilgrim Way" by Hilary Peters
Tues 20 th	7.30pm	Music group rehearsal in church (tbc)
Wed 21 st	5.00pm	Lady Chapel Prayer group
Thurs 22 nd		
Fri 23 rd	7.30pm	Bellringing practice
Sat 24 th		
Sunday 25th October	10.30am	Communion at St Mary's with Canon Michael Johnson
	10.30am	Service at Purton Methodist Church led by Adam Longhurst

Prayer: In October (cycle of prayer for those living and working in the Parish) we pray for those living and working in Witfield Close, Glevum Close, The Common, Locks Lane, (*and from Moulden View*) Bretton Close and Bashkir Close, and Quarrydene (Care Home) on Pavenhill. Methodist circuit prayers for this week are Shrivenham Methodist Church.

We give thanks to God for the lives of those who have recently died. We pray for the families and friends of Kevin Wicks, Ann Telling, Nigel Hopgood, Claire Housley and Sally-Ann Duguid.

Eco-Prayer Calendar for October

Give thanks to God for his provision of the harvest. Pray for farmers and the challenges they face because of climate change and world events out of their control. Please also pray for 'Africa Naturally' in Mozambique (a charity supported by St Mary's).

Collect: Trinity 20

God, the giver of life, whose Holy Spirit wells up within your Church: by the Spirit's gifts equip us to live the gospel of Christ and make us eager to do your will, that we may share with the whole creation the joys of eternal life; 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.

Bible reading: Mark 10: 35-45

³⁵ Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. 'Teacher,' they said, 'we want you to do for us whatever we ask.'
³⁶ 'What do you want me to do for you?' he asked. ³⁷ They replied, 'Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory.'
³⁸ 'You don't know what you are asking,' Jesus said. 'Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptised with the baptism I am baptised with?'
³⁹ 'We can,' they answered. Jesus said to them, 'You will drink the cup I drink and be baptised with the baptism I am baptised with, ⁴⁰ but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared.'
⁴¹ When the ten heard about this, they became indignant with James and John. ⁴² Jesus called them together and said, 'You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. ⁴³ Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. ⁴⁵ For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'

Readers: 18th Brian Gill 25th Sandra Horsnall

Intercessions: 18th Jane Smith 25th Val Walker

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

