

Luke 15: 11-32

¹¹ Jesus continued: 'There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger one said to his father, "Father, give me my share of the estate." So he divided his property between them.

¹³ 'Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. ¹⁴ After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

¹⁷ 'When he came to his senses, he said, "How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! ¹⁸ I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants." ²⁰ So he got up and went to his father.

'But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms round him and kissed him.

²¹ 'The son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son."

²² 'But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴ For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found." So they began to celebrate.

²⁵ 'Meanwhile, the elder son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ²⁷ "Your brother has come," he replied, "and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound."

²⁸ 'The elder brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, "Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!"

³¹ "My son," the father said, "you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found."



St Mary's
Church Purton

**Purton
Churches
Together**

"In partnership with
other Christians in Purton"



Purton
Methodist Church

Sunday 2nd August 2026

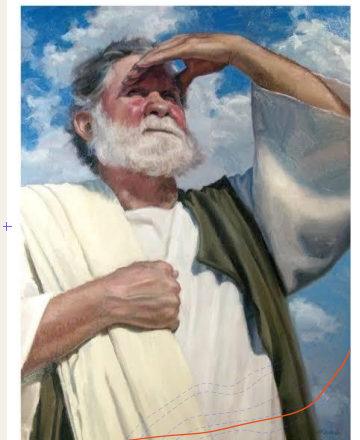
Welcome to our two Churches.

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

- The Vicar, Rev Ian Tweedie-Smith on 01793 770077
vicarage@stmaryspurton.org.uk
- The Methodist Minister, Rev Shirlyn Toppin on 01793 853197
shirlys8@hotmail.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 parable
of the lost son**

**Finding God's hope in
the face of being lost**



Church Events

Sunday 2nd 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	Service at Purton Methodist Church led by Jenny Corkett
Mon 3 rd	10.00am	Zoom Prayer Group Zoom ID: 907644918 Passcode:918865 https://us06web.zoom.us/j/907644918
Tues 4 th		
Wed 5 th	5.00pm	Lady Chapel Prayer Group
Thurs 6 th	2.30pm	Communion at the Cedars with Liz & David Martin
Fri 7 th	7.30pm	Bellringing practice
Sat 8 th		
Sunday 9th August	10.30am	Communion at St Mary's with Revd Ian Tweedie-Smith
	10.30am	Service at Purton Methodist Church led by Rev Ian Mead

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 Purton Methodist Church. 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.

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 9

Almighty God, who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace; 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

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

Readers: 2nd Aug Jessie Palmer-Day 9th Libbie Sheppard

Intercessions: 2nd Aug Sandra Horsnall 9th Libbie Sheppard

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

