

## **Bible readings: Hebrews 11:29–12:2**

<sup>29</sup> By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land; but when the Egyptians tried to do so, they were drowned.

<sup>30</sup> By faith the walls of Jericho fell, after the army had marched round them for seven days. <sup>31</sup> By faith the prostitute Rahab, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient.

<sup>32</sup> And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson and Jephthah, about David and Samuel and the prophets, <sup>33</sup> who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup> quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies. <sup>35</sup> Women received back their dead, raised to life again. There were others who were tortured, refusing to be released so that they might gain an even better resurrection. <sup>36</sup> Some faced jeers and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup> They were put to death by stoning; they were sawn in two; they were killed by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and ill-treated – <sup>38</sup> the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, living in caves and in holes in the ground.

<sup>39</sup> These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised, <sup>40</sup> since God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.

12 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, <sup>2</sup> fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy that was set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

**Readers:** 17<sup>th</sup> Brian Gill 24<sup>th</sup> Christine Gill

**Intercessions:** 17<sup>th</sup> Madeleine Harvey 24<sup>th</sup> Sandra Horsnall

St Mary's Church website is: [www.stmaryspurton.org.uk](http://www.stmaryspurton.org.uk)

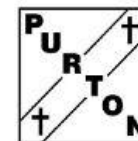
If you want to add an article into the church notices, please email Parish Administrator, Rosie Harris, by first thing Thursday mornings. [administrator@stmaryspurton.org.uk](mailto:administrator@stmaryspurton.org.uk)



St Mary's  
Church Purton

Purton  
Churches  
Together

"In partnership with  
other Christians in Purton"



Purton  
Methodist Church

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2025**

**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](mailto:vicarage@stmaryspurton.org.uk)
- The Methodist Minister, Rev Shirlyn Toppin on 01793 853197  
[shirllys8@hotmail.com](mailto:shirllys8@hotmail.com)
- If you have any Church Safeguarding concern:  
Marie Dempsey on 07455046815  
Email: [safeguarding@stmaryspurton.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@stmaryspurton.org.uk)  
For general enquiries: Parish Administrator, Rosie Harris  
01793 773035 (Tues/Thurs mornings)  
Email: [administrator@stmaryspurton.org.uk](mailto:administrator@stmaryspurton.org.uk)



Run with  
Perseverance

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

## Church Events

<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August</b>	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's with Revd Ian Tweedie-Smith
	10.30am	Church for All at St Mary's with Revd Ian & Celia Tweedie-Smith
	10.30am	Service at Purton Methodist Church led by Phil Bunce
Mon 18 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Zoom Prayer Group Zoom ID: 907644918 Passcode:918865 Join Zoom Meeting <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/907644918">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/907644918</a>
Tues 19 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Music group rehearsal (venue tbc)
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup>	5.00pm	Lady Chapel Prayer Group
Thurs 21 <sup>st</sup>	2.30pm	Communion at White Lodge with Liz & David Martin
Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup>	7.30pm	Bellringing practice
Sat 23 <sup>rd</sup>		
<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August</b>	10.30am	'Extended' Communion at St Mary's with Liz & David Martin (normal length service)
	10.30am	Service at Purton Methodist Church led by Robin Phoenix-Stone

**Prayer:** In our street prayer cycle for August, we pray for Witts Lane, Jewels Ash, Waite Meads Close, Pear Tree Close (*and from Moulden View*) Mustang Way, Caring Hands (Wiltshire) Care Home at Battle Lake Farm. Methodist Circuit prayers this week are for Cricklade United Church.

We give thanks to God for the lives of those who have recently died. We pray for the families and friends of Valerie Kay, Ian Handy, Dave Taperek, Jean Hibbard, Ron Scott and Roderick Wightman.

## **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.

## **Fundraising Classical Guitar Concert Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> August 7.30pm St Mary's Church**

with Aaron Notley-Jones and the Corinium Players.  
Free entry. Donations to St Mary's Church appreciated.

## **Flowers for St Mary's**

If any of you have flowers in your garden which could be used to decorate the Church, please do let us know. We are always grateful for garden flowers. We prefer to use local flowers, if possible, rather than bought flowers which may have travelled hundreds of miles. If you would like to come and arrange some flowers in church, we would be delighted. All are welcome. We'll help you if needed. Otherwise please feel welcome to 'do your own thing'! We have only learnt by practising, week by week! Thank you: Libbie and Jane S.

## **Ride and Stride Saturday 13th September 2025**

This event raises money for the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust. I have sponsor forms for anyone who wishes to cycle, walk or ride a horse to churches within Wiltshire. 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 on **772422 or [janersmith1@gmail.com](mailto: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

## **Ride and Stride**

I will be "Striding" in this year's Ride and Stride on 13th September and I'm looking for sponsors. The donations raised will be split 50/50 between St Mary's and the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust. I have sponsor forms, and all support will be most welcome. Thanks, Paul Dempsey.

