

Acts 1: 6-11

Then they gathered round him and asked him, 'Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He said to them: 'It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. 'Men of Galilee,' they said, 'why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.'

Some Prayers for Christian Aid week

Faithful God, we come before you with our gifts and strengths, and with our faults and weaknesses, knowing your unfailing love for us. Open our hearts and our minds, that we may hear your word and act on it. Foster in us boldness and perseverance. Transform us into your likeness and inspire us to build your kingdom of justice and love on earth. Amen.

Lord, hear us as we pray for those with power: for governments, leaders, lawmakers, and those who speak with loud voices on the public stage. May those who have power and influence love mercy, act justly and walk humbly. We pray for governments to take action to end economic inequality. We pray especially for countries like Kenya, which are carrying an unjust debt burden. Instil in us the prophetic voice that speaks truth to power. Lord, you are faithful and just. In your mercy, hear our prayer.

Almighty God, we love one another because you first loved us. Send us out to act in loving service, strengthened by the knowledge that the one who calls us is faithful. We give thanks for the vital work of Christian Aid and for all those who pour themselves out for the cause of justice. May our actions and offerings plant seeds of change that grow and flourish. Guide us as we seek a world where every person can live a full life, free from poverty. Amen



St Mary's
Church Purton

**Purton
Churches
Together**

"In partnership with
other Christians in Purton"



Purton
Methodist Church

Sunday 17th May 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



Church Events

Sunday 17th May	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 and BASH Youth group
	10.30am	Service at Purton Methodist Church led by Joseph Musungu
	4.00pm	Messy Church at St Mary's
Mon 18 th	10.00am	Zoom Prayer Group Zoom ID: 907644918 Passcode:918865 https://us06web.zoom.us/j/907644918
	1.45pm	Bible group (Pear Tree Close)
	2.00pm	Fellowship of Women at Purton Methodist Church
	7.00pm	Annual Parochial Church Meeting at St Mary's Church
Tues 19 th		
Wed 20 th	All day from 8am to 5.00pm	Floodlighting and security lighting repair work at St Mary's Lady Chapel Prayer Group
Thurs 21 st		
Fri 22 nd	7.30pm	Bellringing practice
Sat 23 rd		
Sunday 24th May	10.30am	Communion at St Mary's with Revd Sandy Railton
	10.30am	Own Arrangement Service at Purton Methodist Church

Prayer: In May (in our cycle of prayer for those living and working in the Parish) we pray for those living and working in Kibblewhite Close, Proud Close, Reids Piece, The Peak, Willis Way, Long Acre, High Street, College Road, Hooks Hill, (*and from Ridgeway Farm*) The Brook, Webb's Place and New Reed; The Cedars Care Home on High Street. Methodist circuit prayers for this week are for MHA Fitzwarren House and Court.

We give thanks to God for the lives of those who have recently died. We pray for the families and friends of Linda Sawyer, Norene Richardson, Dr Andrew Reekie and Bob Stimpson.

Eco-Prayer Calendar for May 2026

Bring before God the work of organisations involved in conservation. Locally, give thanks and pray for the work of the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust and the RSPCA Oak and Furrows Wildlife Rescue Centre near Purton, whose volunteers look after 2500 wildlife patients annually.
<https://rspcanorthwilts.org.uk/pages/rescue-centre>

Collect: Easter 7

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A Benefit Concert for Christian Aid Week

By vocal ensemble 'Faith Alive'

Saturday 16th May at 5.00pm

St Mary's Church, Purton

Free admission, all donations to Christian Aid

(See poster for more details)

Diary Dates

Sat 11th July – Sing 4/4 Concert in St Mary's Church 7.00pm

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

Readers: 17th Jane Smith 24th Jean Belt

Intercessions: 17th Howard Smith 24th 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

