

**Bible reading: Matthew 18: 23-27**

<sup>23</sup> 'Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup> As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. <sup>25</sup> Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

<sup>26</sup> 'At this the servant fell on his knees before him. "Be patient with me," he begged, "and I will pay back everything." <sup>27</sup> The servant's master took pity on him, cancelled the debt and let him go.

**New Testament in a Nutshell**

**St Mary's Purton 31<sup>st</sup> January 10am-4.30pm**

The New Testament is well known; however, the context can often be missed. Relax and enjoy the journey as an experienced guide encourages you to see God's Word through the 'Big Picture'. Our fun and memorable sessions will help you learn with such clarity you'll be able to retell the whole Storyline to a friend. We will also do our best to inspire and equip you to keep digging deeper.

St Mary's Church, Church End, Purton, SN5 4EB

Cost £19 including workbook and bread and soup lunch.

Free for children 11-18 if accompanied by an adult.

Book at [www.Bible.org.uk](http://www.Bible.org.uk) or from Ian Tweedie-Smith

01793 770077 [vicarage@tweediesmith.co.uk](mailto:vicarage@tweediesmith.co.uk)

**Advance notice:**

**Passion Play being put on by Swindon Youth for Christ (SYFC)**

Date: Wednesday 18 March

Venue: City Faith Church, Regent Street, SN1 1JL

Doors open 7.00pm; Start of performance 7.30pm

Cost: Adults £12.00. Concessions & under 16s: £10.00

Group tickets: book more than four and youth leader goes free

Family tickets- cost to be announced

Tickets to be available on Eventbrite soon

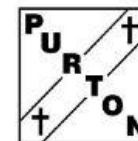
This is a great opportunity for our young people to meet others in small youth groups like our own, as well as for our congregation to support our young people and others being served by SYFC!



St Mary's  
Church Purton

**Purton  
Churches  
Together**

"In partnership with  
other Christians in Purton"



Purton  
Methodist Church

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February 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](mailto:vicarage@stmaryspurton.org.uk)
- The Methodist Minister, Rev Shirlyn Toppin on 01793 853197  
[shirlys8@hotmail.com](mailto:shirlys8@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)



An Epiphany theme at Messy Church last Sunday; the children also made a bird feeder tribute to the late lovely 'Auntie Jean' Bamford, a founder member of Messy Church.

## Church Events

<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February</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 & Paul Keys
	10.30am	Holy Communion Service at Purton Methodist Church led by Rev Shirlyn Toppin
	6.00pm	Sunday Evening Music at Purton Methodist Church
Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.00am	Zoom Prayer Group Zoom ID: 907644918 Passcode:918865 <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/907644918">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/907644918</a>
	7.00pm	PCC meeting at the vicarage
Tues 3 <sup>rd</sup>		
Wed 4 <sup>th</sup>	5.00pm	Lady Chapel Prayer Group
Thurs 5 <sup>th</sup>	2.30pm	Communion at the Cedars
Fri 6 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Bellringing practice
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup>		
<b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February</b>	10.30am	Extended Communion at St Mary's with Liz & David Martin
	10.30am	Own Arrangement Service at Purton Methodist Church

**Prayer:** In February (in our cycle of prayer for those living and working in the Parish) we pray for those living and working in Blacklands, Red Gables Close, Ward Close, Highridge Close, The Masons, (*and from Ridgeway Farm*) Upper Mill, Ray Close and The Buffer 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 Sheila Fowler, Trevor Maxfield, Patricia Fryer, Tom Tickell, Jean Bamford and Reg Richardson. A memorial service for the late Jean Bamford will be held at St Mary's Church on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February at 12 noon with Revd Judith Wells.

## Eco-Prayer Calendar for February 2026

Recent reports suggest that the world is on track to exceed a key global warming target soon. Pray that God will give wisdom to nations to honour the commitments they have made to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions; ask God to inspire scientists, industry and governments to find global solutions to the problem of generating clean affordable energy.

## Collect: Epiphany 4

God our creator, who in the beginning commanded the light to shine out of darkness: we pray that the light of the glorious gospel of Christ may dispel the darkness of ignorance and unbelief, shine into the hearts of all your people, and reveal the knowledge of your glory in the face of 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.

## Advance Notice: Christian Aid Conference: Live streamed.

On Saturday March 14 there will be the annual Christian Aid Conference, live streamed in Purton. We are very grateful that The Methodist Church has agreed, once again, to welcome us at the Methodist Church from 10.30 – 2pm. Coffee will be served from 10am; and soup/bread and cake/coffee will be served after the Conference. Please do let us know if you are interested in joining us. Libbie 771018 and Mary 770505

**Readers:** 1<sup>st</sup> Feb Libbie Sheppard 8<sup>th</sup> Jane Smith

**Intercessions:** 1<sup>st</sup> Feb Sandra Horsnall 8<sup>th</sup> Jean Belt

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)