

### **Bible reading: Romans 15: 1-13**

We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. <sup>2</sup> Each of us should please our neighbours for their good, to build them up. <sup>3</sup> For even Christ did not please himself but, as it is written: 'The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me.' <sup>4</sup> For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.

<sup>5</sup> May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, <sup>6</sup> so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>7</sup> Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. <sup>8</sup> For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the Jews on behalf of God's truth, so that the promises made to the patriarchs might be confirmed <sup>9</sup> and, moreover, that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written:

'Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles; I will sing the praises of your name.' <sup>10</sup> Again, it says, 'Rejoice, you Gentiles, with his people.'

<sup>11</sup> And again, 'Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles; let all the peoples extol him.' <sup>12</sup> And again, Isaiah says, 'The Root of Jesse will spring up, one who will arise to rule over the nations; in him the Gentiles will hope.'

<sup>13</sup> May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

### **India Unfolded:**

#### **Sights, stories and surprises from 40 years of travel**

Saturday 24 January, 3pm - 5pm All Saints Church

Andrew Roberts shares highlights from 40 years and 43 journeys to India — from unexpected encounters and extraordinary friendships to moments of wonder, surprise and adventure.

An illustrated talk by the Lydiard Millicent resident and church warden.

English and Indian refreshments and nibbles

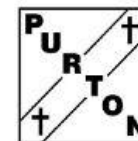
Admission free; donations invited. No booking required



St Mary's  
Church Purton

Purton  
Churches  
Together

"In partnership with  
other Christians in Purton"



Purton  
Methodist Church

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January 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)

**<sup>13</sup> May the God of hope fill  
you with all joy and peace  
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Holy Spirit.**

Romans 15 v.13

## Church Events

<b>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January</b>	10.30am	Communion at St Mary's with Revd Ian Tweedie-Smith
	10.30am	Service at Purton Methodist Church led by Joseph Musungu
	4.00pm	Messy Church at St Mary's Church
Mon 26 <sup>th</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>
Tues 27 <sup>th</sup>		
Wed 28 <sup>th</sup>	5.00pm	Lady Chapel Prayer Group
Thurs 29 <sup>th</sup>		
Fri 30 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Bellringing practice
Sat 31 <sup>st</sup>	10.00am -4.30pm	Walk through the Bible: New Testament in a nutshell at St Mary's Church – please book!
<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 Tweedie-Smith
	4.00pm	Holy Communion Service at Purton Methodist Church led by Rev Shirlyn Toppin
	6.00pm	Sunday Evening Music at Purton Methodist Church

**Prayer:** In January (in our cycle of prayer for those living and working in the Parish) we pray for those living and working in Pavenhill, Upper and Lower Pavenhill, Paven Close, Bunce Court, Gleed Close, (*and from Ridgeway Farm*) Cob Hill, Saxon Mill, Cowleaze and Ashgrove House Care Home. Methodist Circuit prayers 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 Sheila Fowler, Trevor Maxfield, Patricia Fryer, Tom Tickell, Jean Bamford and Reg Richardson.

### **Eco-Prayer Calendar for January**

Pray for people, communities and wildlife affected by the loss of ice and snow and melting glaciers due to climate warming.

### **Collect: Epiphany 3**

Almighty God, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; 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.

### **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: 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:** 25<sup>th</sup> Jane Smith 1<sup>st</sup> Feb Libbie Sheppard

**Intercessions:** 25<sup>th</sup> Madeleine Harvey 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 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)

