



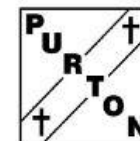
Come and see the wonderful Christmas Trees for yourself! Come to St Mary's Church any time from Sunday Dec 3 onwards throughout the month, to enjoy the Purton trees! Look around and enjoy the spectacle. Every tree will be so different. Each has been created by different people, groups, organisations from the village and they are a wonderful sight! There are so many contrasting ideas. Please come and support the event. You are so welcome. The Church will be open every day as usual, from 9am-5pm (or thereabouts) so please just walk in and enjoy. If you come on Sunday afternoon Dec 17 you may hear the Peartree Pealers as well, (2.30-3.30) and there may even be a cup of tea for you to enjoy at the same time! (When there are Services taking place in the church we would be grateful if you didn't walk around...maybe wait until the end of the Service.)



St Mary's
Church Purton

**Purton
Churches
Together**

"In partnership with
other Christians in Purton"



Purton
Methodist Church

3rd December 2023 – Advent Sunday

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 Curate, Rev Judith Wells on 01793 770627
judithwells36@googlemail.com
- The Methodist Minister, Rev Shirlyn Toppin on 01793 853197
shirlys8@hotmail.com
- If you have any Church Safeguarding concern:
Marie Dempsey: 07455046815
Email: safeguarding@stmaryspurton.org.uk



Church Events

Sunday 3rd December	8.00am	Communion at St Mary's Church with Rev Dr John Railton
	10.30am	Church for All at St Mary's Church with Liz & David Martin. Service of dedication to God of the Christmas Tree Festival.
	12.30pm	Service at Purton Methodist Church led by Rachel Dowling
	1.00pm	Baptism of Daisy White at St Mary's Church with Rev Judith Wells
Mon 4 th	10.00am	Zoom Prayer group ID: 907 644 918 Password: 918865
	1.30pm	Bible group at Pear Tree Close (email administrator@stmaryspurton.org.uk for more details) – note change of time
Tues 5 th	7.30pm	Choir practice
	7.30pm	Zoom Advent Course led by Richard Harris Zoom link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83879543705
Wed 6 th	5.00pm	Prayer Group
	7.30pm	Advent Course led by Paul Demsey
Thurs 7 th	6.00pm	'Explorers' at the Vicarage
Fri 8 th	11.00am	Funeral of Duncan Joslyn (k/a Joss) at St Mary's Church with Rev Judith Wells
	7.30pm	Bellringing practice
Sat 9 th	2-4.30pm	Rainbows meeting in St Mary's Church
Sunday 10th December	10.30am	Communion at St Mary's Church with Rev Ian Tweedie-Smith
	10.30pm	Junior Church at St Mary's Church
	10.30am	Holy Communion Service at Purton Methodist Church led by Rev Shirlyn Toppin
	6.00pm	'Classic Carols' with school choirs & St Mary's church music group at St Mary's Church, with Rev Ian Tweedie-Smith

Prayer: In our Prayer December we pray for The Fox, The Pry, Collins Lane, (*and from Moulden View*) Arabian Avenue, Palamino Place & Eriskay Place.

Methodist circuit prayers this week are for Shrivenham Methodist Church.

We give thanks to God for the lives of those who have recently died, and we pray for the families of Michael Hull, Tony Thombs, Frank Strange and Duncan Joslyn (k/a Joss)

Bible readings: Isaiah 10:33 to 11:2

Advent Books 2023

Many people use the season of Advent as merely a time of preparation for "Christmas" as if it was only about getting the house ready, buying presents and meeting family and friends. There is nothing wrong with that. However, it is my prayer that we will be able to use this Advent Season also as a time to reflect on what God might be saying to us from His Word and whether we are prepared to remember Jesus' first coming and look forward to His second coming. Please consider reading one of our Advent Books: Comfort and Joy, To a Different Drum, The Coming of the King – see attachment (or the sheet by the main door) for more details. Please also consider joining one of our Advent Courses – more details on the notice sheets or on the website.

Eco-Prayer Calendar for December

Pray for all world leaders, politicians and business leaders, that God would grant them wisdom in making decisions on matters related to the environment and climate. Pray for COP 28 taking place 30 November – 12 December 2023. Ask God for personal wisdom and guidance in how we as individuals can be more respectful of our natural world, including how to have an 'eco-friendly' Christmas.

Collect: Advent 1

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Readers: 3rd Dec Christine Gill 10th Sandra Horsnall 17th David Martin

Intercessions: 3rd David/Liz Martin 10th Jane Smith 17th Paul Dempsey
St Mary's Church website is: www.stmaryspurton.org.uk

