

### **Little by Little Daily Devotional**

As we start 2026, I can recommend that you begin using the free Little by Little podcast. I have used it throughout 2025 and found it helpful and inspirational. If you struggle to find the time each day for reading the Bible. Then please try Little by Little Daily Devotional (produced by Walk Through the Bible). If we all did it together then it would help us to listen through the Big Picture of the Bible in one or two key verses each day. You can access via your browser or favourite podcast app [https://www.bible.org.uk/lbl\\_daily\\_audio.php](https://www.bible.org.uk/lbl_daily_audio.php) There is a printed book available to have instead or as well. Please let me know and I can order you a copy for £10 or collect one when we join together for the New Testament Walk Through on 31<sup>st</sup> January. Please contact me if you need any help or more information. I will be starting again on 1<sup>st</sup> January – will you be joining me? Ian Tweedie-Smith

### **A Time of Fellowship – Shared by the Messiah Homegroups**

Everyone is warmly invited to a relaxed evening of fellowship and shared food, hosted by the Messiah homegroups as they come together for their final Advent gathering, shaped by *Handel's Messiah*. Alongside good company, there will be gentle reflection and an opportunity for anyone to explore what homegroups are like — whether you've journeyed with us through Advent or are simply curious.

**Sunday 18th January, from 7pm, at the Vicarage.**

All are very welcome.

### **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

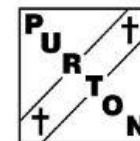
Admission free; donations invited. No booking required



St Mary's  
Church Purton

**Purton  
Churches  
Together**

"In partnership with  
other Christians in Purton"



Purton  
Methodist Church

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2026 Happy New Year!**

**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)



## Church Events

<b>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January</b>	8.00am	Extended Communion at St Mary's with Paul & Marie Dempsey
	10.30am	Informal Communion Service at St Mary's with Canon Chris Dobson
	10.30am	Service at Purton Methodist Church led by Adam Longhurst
Mon 5 <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>
	12 noon	Funeral of the late Patricia Fryer at St Mary's with Revd Judith Wells
Tues 6 <sup>th</sup>	All day	Halo Heater installation in Lady Chapel
Wed 7 <sup>th</sup>	All day	Halo Heater installation in Lady Chapel
Thurs 8 <sup>th</sup>	All day 2.30pm	Halo Heater installation in Lady Chapel Communion at the Cedars with Liz & David Martin
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Bellringing practice
Sat 10 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am	Mens' Breakfast at All Saints Lydiard Millicent – All welcome
<b>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> January</b>	10.30am	United Covenant Service at Purton Methodist Church led by Rev Shirlyn Toppin (No service at St Mary's)

**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 Shrivenham Methodist 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 and Edmund Tickell.

## **Collect: Christmas 2**

Almighty God, in the birth of your Son you have poured on us the new light of your incarnate Word, and shown us the fullness of your love: help us to walk in his light and dwell in his love that we may know the fullness of his joy; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## **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.

## **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)

**Readers:** 4<sup>th</sup> Jan Liz Martin 18<sup>th</sup> Jane Smith

**Intercessions:** 4<sup>th</sup> Jan Paul Dempsey 18<sup>th</sup> Libbie Sheppard

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)

