

Bible reading: Isaiah 58: 6-12

'Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter – when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood? Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the Lord will be your rear guard. Then you will call, and the Lord will answer; you will cry for help, and he will say: here am I.

'If you do away with the yoke of oppression, with the pointing finger and malicious talk, and if you spend yourselves on behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday. The Lord will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail. Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings.

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: 8th Jane Smith 15th Val Walker

Intercessions: 8th Jean Belt 15th David Nettleton

St Mary's Church website is: www.stmaryspurton.org.uk

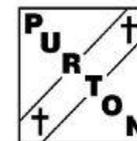
If you want to add an article into the church notices, please email Parish Administrator, Rosie Harris, by first thing Thursday mornings. administrator@stmaryspurton.org.uk



St Mary's
Church Purton

Purton
Churches
Together

"In partnership with
other Christians in Purton"



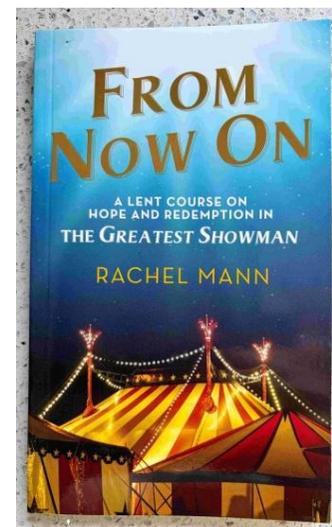
Purton
Methodist Church

Sunday 8th 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
- 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



**LENT
COURSE
2026**

Church Events

Sat 7 th	8.00am	Men's Breakfast at All Saints Lydiard Millicent
Sunday 8th February	10.30am	Extended Communion at St Mary's with Liz & David Martin
	10.30am	Own Arrangement Service at Purton Methodist Church
Mon 9 th	10.00am	Zoom Prayer Group Zoom ID: 907644918 Passcode:918865 https://us06web.zoom.us/j/907644918
	1.45pm	Bible group at Pear Tree Close – The Gospel of John
	3.00pm	Communion at Ashgrove House with Paul & Marie Dempsey
Tues 10 th		
Wed 11 th	5.00pm	Lady Chapel Prayer Group
Thurs 12 th		
Fri 13 th	12 noon	Memorial Service for the late Jean Bamford at St Mary's Church with Revd Judith Wells, followed by refreshments in the church afterwards and a chance to celebrate Jean's life together.
	7.30pm	Bellringing practice
Sat 14 th		Film showings of 'The Greatest Showman' for the Lent Course (details will be emailed out to those interested)
Sunday 15th February	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
	10.30am	Service at Purton Methodist Church led by Phil Bunce

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 Highworth 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, Tom Tickell, Jean Bamford, Reg Richardson, Derek Scuse and Marjorie Sansum.

The funeral service for the late Marjorie Sansum will be at St Mary's on 26th February at 2.00pm; and for the late Derek Scuse at St Mary's on 3rd March at 10.30am, both 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: Candlemas

Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Monday afternoon Bible Group

A new course is beginning this Monday 9th February at 1.45pm, meeting at Val Walker's house. Marie Dempsey has kindly offered to lead a new study on the Gospel of John. If you have never been to the group before you are welcome to come and try it.

Please speak to Marie for more information. Tel. 07455046815

Lent Groups

This Lent we're running small groups using short clips from 'The Greatest Showman' to explore themes of hope, redemption, and new life through discussion and prayer. The groups run for five weeks, starting the week commencing 16th February, and are open to everyone—whether you've been part of a group before or are just curious to try one. There will be food and a film showing in **two** homes on 14th February (due to large numbers – a great problem to have!) Details will be emailed out to anyone interested.

For more information contact: Richard Harris 07854444663
richard@harris-family.co.uk or Paul Dempsey 07796378136