



## Purton Churches - Christmas 2021



St Mary's Church - Church End SN5 4EB — Methodist Church - Play Close SN5 4DP

### **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

6.00pm Classic Christmas Carols with Ridgeway Farm School Choir, St Mary's Church Music Group, and children from other schools followed by Refreshments and Mince Pies at St Mary's Church

### **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

4.00pm Christingle Service for children of all ages at St Mary's Church followed by Refreshments - Children please bring an Adult!

### **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

10.30am Carol Service with mince pies at Purton Methodist Church  
6.00pm Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at St Mary's Church  
Candelight Service with St Mary's Church Choir followed by Mulled Wine and Mince Pies

### **Christmas Eve, Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December**



4.00pm United Village Carol and Nativity Service  
Entrance is free but (due to Covid concerns) will be by ticket only  
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/concert-tickets-207255987237>  
or email [vicarage@stmaryspurton.org.uk](mailto:vicarage@stmaryspurton.org.uk) or phone 01793 770077  
*If over-subscribed then there may be an overflow venue and/or streamed online*  
11.30pm Traditional Choral 'Midnight' Communion Service at St Mary's Church

### **Christmas Day, Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> December**

8.00am Traditional Holy Communion at St Mary's Church  
10.30am Christmas Day Informal Service at Purton Methodist Church  
10.30am Family Holy Communion at St Mary's Church  
Come and bring a present you have received to show to others  
Come and hear of God's Christmas present to us

### **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December**

10.30am A Time of Reflection for Christmas  
Live on Zoom <https://zoom.us/j/549593510> Passcode 928294

**If you or any of your family or friends need our prayers please contact:**

Revd Ian Tweedie-Smith 01793 770077 email:

[vicarage@stmaryspurton.org.uk](mailto:vicarage@stmaryspurton.org.uk)

or Revd Judith Wells 01793 770627 for St Mary's Church.

Or Revd Shirlyn Toppin 01793 853197 for Purton Methodist Church

## Happy Christmas to everyone from Purton Churches

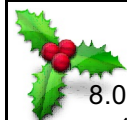
What do you want for Christmas? As a child many if not most of us would have been able to produce a list of what we wanted. Now as adults we probably do not want yet more socks or scarves. Instead we could be looking for a solution maybe even a saviour to help us with Covid or Climate Change after all James Bond seems to be out of the picture. In contrast God is wanting to give us the one Christmas present we really need. He sent His angel to declare the details of His present to a group of shepherds out in the fields in a small middle eastern country. The angel said "...I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord." [Luke chapter 2 verse 10-11 - The Bible]



It has been rightly said that Jesus is the reason for the season and so our focus at Christmas should be on a Nativity scene with a baby and a manger rather than a snow scene with a robin and a reindeer. However if that is the limit of our focus and our celebrations then it hardly justifies the angel's message that this is Good News for all the people. It is not just that a baby has been born in the town of David, in Bethlehem, rather it is who the baby is, that is most important. He is the Messiah, the one who fulfils all of God's promises down the centuries. He is the Lord, the one with the sovereign and supreme power to bring change to our lives, to be our Saviour. Now a solution and a saviour for both Covid and Climate Change is important and needs our efforts and our resources. However we need a far greater Saviour to give us peace with God the Father for now and for eternity, as the whole host of angels went on to proclaim. So this year as we consider what we want for Christmas let us set our sights higher than socks or scarves and look to God for His present of a Saviour - after all this gift, this Jesus is for life not just for Christmas. If you want to find out more please come to one of our Christmas services or contact me direct and I will give you a short book which explains more about God's present to us.

Happy Christmas.

Ian Tweedie-Smith (Vicar of St Mary's)



**The services overleaf are our special Christmas Services**  
**Our normal Sunday pattern at present is as follows:**



8.00am Traditional Holy Communion at St Mary's Church (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays)  
10.30am Contemporary Service (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays) at St Mary's Church  
10.30am Parish Holy Communion (2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays) at St Mary's Church  
10.30am Special Service (5<sup>th</sup> Sundays) at St Mary's Church  
10.30am Service at Purton Methodist Church  
4.00pm Messy Church (Monthly) at St Mary's Church

**For more information**

See website [www.stmaryspurton.org.uk](http://www.stmaryspurton.org.uk) Facebook St. Mary's Church, Purton, Wiltshire