

# From Source to Sea

with the churches of the Bride Valley and Chesil



## Welcome!

We extend a warm welcome to all those worshipping with us today and during the week, especially newcomers and visitors on holiday. Please make yourselves known to us and let us know if there is anything we can do to help you enjoy your time in the area.

More information about the churches is available on the village websites.

Our ministry team:

- *Revd Margaret-Preuss-Higham*
- *Revd. Liz Howlett*
- *Revd. Ryder Rogers*
- *LLM James Webster*
- *LWL Vicky Thomas*
- *LWL Paul Cheater*
- *LWL Heather Goffee*
- *LWL Diana Ludlow*  
Occasional Visiting Clergy:
- *Revd. David Wilson*
- *Revd. Canon John Wood*
- *Revd. Jacquie Shaw*
- *Revd Prebendary Alastair Wheeler*

**Weekly News** 24<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023  
**Advent 4 and Christmas**



## Services for Christmas Eve

|                |                         |                |
|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| 4.00 pm        | <b>Burton Bradstock</b> | Crib Service   |
|                | <b>Litton Cheney</b>    | Crib Service   |
| <b>5.00 pm</b> | <b>Portesham</b>        | Crib Service   |
| 9.30 pm        | <b>Swyre</b>            | Holy Communion |
| 11.30 pm       | <b>Langton Herring</b>  | Holy Communion |
|                | <b>Litton Cheney</b>    | Holy Communion |

Psalm 98

NT: Hebrews 1: 1-12

OT Isaiah 52: 7-10

Gospel: John 1: 1-14

For **Christmas Day** and **New Year's Eve** services see the back of this sheet.

The **telephone service**, provided by the Reverend Liz Howlett will be available on **01308 293062**

## Prayer at the Advent Wreath (Advent 4: The Virgin Mary):

Lord Jesus, light of the world, blessed is Gabriel, who brought good news; blessed is Mary, your mother and ours. Bless your Church preparing for Christmas; and bless us your children, who long for your coming. Amen.

**Priest (part-time)** Revd Margaret Preuss-Higham (☎01305 873978 [revmph@gmail.com](mailto:revmph@gmail.com))  
**All Benefice enquiries during the vacancy** to the Benefice Administrator (☎01308 897260)

## **For our prayers:**

### **We have much to celebrate this week, including:**

- The visitors to our lovely part of the country enjoying time with families and friends at this special time of the year

### **We are grateful for:**

- All those who volunteer in whatever capacity in our churches at Christmas

### **Your kingdom come, here and now:**

- Across our family relationships
- Amongst the lonely and homeless: those working with and supporting them
- Across our benefice as we work together in mission

### **Regularly in our prayers:**

- Our ministry team as they plan and prepare our worship
- Lay Pastoral Assistants: Pauline, Cathryn, Jenny and Liz
- Bishops: Stephen, Karen, and Andrew, Archdeacon: Penny
- Bishop Rufus and the diocese of Lainya in Sudan during this time of unrest
- For the priest who may already feel called to move to this area.

### **Specially in our prayers this week:**

- Those having a difficult Christmas without loved ones this year
- Those who are ill and especially those in end-of-life care
- Those traumatised by the effects of war and conflict and being without rule
- The villages of our Benefice and all who live and work there

... remembering the families of those who have recently died

## **COLLECTS - for use in the services or for private prayer**

*Christmas Night:* **Eternal God**, who made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of your one true light: bring us, who have known the revelation of that light on earth, to see the radiance of your heavenly glory; 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

*Post Communion:* **God our Father**, in this night you have made known to us again the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him until the day dawns and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen

*Christmas Day:* **Almighty God**, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin: grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; 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

*Post Communion:* **God our Father**, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem: may the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ the Lord. Amen

## REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS:

**NB NOT taking place between Christmas & New Year**

|           |          |  |
|-----------|----------|--|
| Tuesday   | 10.00 am | Friendship Café, Portesham Village Hall.                       |
|           | 10.30 am | Life Group (Burton Bradstock) restarts 9 <sup>th</sup> January |
|           | 6.00 pm  | Bell ringing practice (Litton Cheney ☎482312*)                 |
| Wednesday | 2.00 pm  | Tea and chat, Portesham Methodist Hall                         |
|           | 4.30 pm  | Bell ringing practice (Long Bredy ☎482270*)                    |
|           | 7.30 pm  | Bell ringing practice (Shipton Gorge ☎07799751130*)            |
| Thursday  | 7.00 pm  | Bell ringing practice (Burton Bradstock ☎898603*)              |
| Friday    | 2.00 pm  | Tots Time at Burton Bradstock (restarts 12 <sup>th</sup> Jan)  |
|           | 3.00 pm  | Bible Study Group at Portesham Methodist Hall                  |

*\* Please phone to check if practice is taking place*

## ADDITIONAL EVENTS

|                          |          |  |
|--------------------------|----------|--|
| Wed 27 <sup>th</sup> Dec | 2.00 pm  | Wedding Blessing-Mariana & Eliot: Puncknowle |
| Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan  | 11.30 am | Midweek Communion and Light Lunch (BB)       |

## SUPPORT AND ADVICE OVER CHRISTMAS

If you or someone you know is feeling lonely or low over Christmas, there are support groups and charities you can contact.

[The British Red Cross](#)—Telephone 0808 196 3651 for their support line.

[Samaritans](#) – Freephone 116 123. If you need someone to talk to, you can call the helpline any time of day or night, any day of the year, including Christmas Day.

[Cruse Bereavement Support](#) offers bereavement support. Call their helpline on 0808 808 1677.

## A NEW YEAR PRAYER

May God make your year a happy one!

Not by shielding you from all sorrows and pain,  
But by strengthening you to bear it as it comes;

Not by making your path easy,

But by making you sturdy to travel any path;

Not by taking hardships from you,

But by taking fear from your heart;

Not by granting you unbroken sunshine,

But by keeping your face bright, even in the shadows;

Not by making your life always pleasant,

But by showing you when people and their causes need you most,

And by making you anxious to be there to help.

God's love, peace, hope and joy to you for the year ahead

## COLLECT FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

**Almighty God**, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

25<sup>th</sup> December

## Christmas Day

|          |  |  |
|----------|--|--|
| 9.30 am  | <b>Shipton Gorge</b>                                   | Holy Communion   |
| 10.30 am | <b>Abbotsbury<br/>Portesham</b>                        | Parish Communion<br>Parish Communion                       |
| 11.00 am | <b>Littlebredy<br/>Puncknowle<br/>Burton Bradstock</b> | Family Communion<br>Christmas Day Praise<br>Holy Communion |

Psalm 98

NT: Hebrews 1: 1-12

OT Isaiah 52: 7-10

Gospel: John 1: 1-14

The **telephone service**, provided by the Reverend Liz Howlett will be available on **01308 293062**

31<sup>st</sup> December

## 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas

10.00 am **United Bride Valley Service  
of Holy Communion  
at Long Bredy**

11.00 am **Portesham** Parish Communion

Psalm 148

NT: Galatians 4: 4-7

OT: Isaiah 61: 10 - 62:3

Gospel: Luke 2: 15-21

The **telephone service**, provided by Daily Hope will be available on **0800 804 8044**

### DATES FOR THE DIARY

Please check the **Bride Valley News** for further information and events.

### MAKING JESUS KNOWN

- is the vision for our Diocese and all our parishes. Keep up to date with the events: [www.salisbury.anglican.org/howeare/making-jesus-known/](http://www.salisbury.anglican.org/howeare/making-jesus-known/)

### GENEROUS GIVING:

Thank you to everyone who supports the work of our churches through their financial giving, through the various ways that are now possible. We also recognise the time and talent we are fortunate to share. "Yours Lord is the greatness, the glory, the splendour and the majesty. *Everything in heaven and on earth come from you and of your own do we give you.*" 1 Chronicles 29:14

### BENEFICE ADMINISTRATOR

In the week between Christmas and New Year, Helen is on holiday, but she will check emails periodically and phone messages if the need arises. ([bvchurchesta@outlook.com](mailto:bvchurchesta@outlook.com)) .

Please use this leaflet for reference and prayer. Each week's copy is at:

<http://www.burtonbradstockvillage.org>

Follow the Bride Valley Churches on **Facebook**:

<http://www.facebook.com/bridevalleychurches>

and on A Church Near You: [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com)

**Daily Hope** – the free service from the CoFE is available on **0800 804 8044**

Source to Sea is produced by a team. Items to: [bvchurchesta@outlook.com](mailto:bvchurchesta@outlook.com)

