

A Message for the Parishes of the Bride Valley

As the season of Advent enters its second phase, I send greetings to each of the Parishes of the Bride Valley and the two Schools. Each and every Advent and Christmas celebration points beyond itself, to the unfolding of the mystery of Jesus' deep involvement with our lives – for me, marking Advent at St. Aldhelm's for the last time means anticipating what lies ahead in a new ministry in the Bride Valley during 2015.

My wife Frances and I look forward to getting to know each of the communities in Shipton Gorge and Long Bredy and Littlebredy and Litton Cheney and Swyre and Puncknowle and Burton Bradstock & Chilcombe and to helping shape our common life together into an expression of Jesus' peaceable kingdom. Peace and all Good Will to all in the Bride Valley.

Reverend Canon Stephen Batty, Branksome, Poole, December 2014.