



SHERBORNE ABBEY with CASTLETON,  
SAINT PAUL'S, LILLINGTON and  
LONGBURTON

*To know God and to make Him known  
in wonder, love and praise*

*Founded by St Aldhelm AD 705*

## Sunday 18 December 2022 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

### THE ABBEY

8.00 am BCP Holy Communion	Celebrant:	The Reverend Martin Lee
9.30 am Parish Eucharist	Celebrant:	The Reverend Martin Lee
	Preacher:	Canon Charles Mitchell-Innes

**Collect:** God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge: who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** Isaiah Ch 7: v 10 – 16; Matthew Ch 1: 18 – 25

5.00 pm Abbey Festival of Lessons and Carols	Officiant:	The Reverend Martin Lee
		<i>All welcome, free entry (not ticketed).</i>

### CASTLETON CHURCH

11.15 am Mattins	Officiant:	The Reverend Hugh Bonsey
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### LILLINGTON CHURCH

6.00 pm Carol Service	Officiant:	The Reverend Hugh Bonsey
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### LONGBURTON CHURCH

4.00 pm Carol Service with Nativity	Officiant:	The Reverend Lesley McCreadie
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### STPAULS@THEGRYPHON

10.30 am All Age Nativity Service	Leaders:	The Reverend Jim Edie and COSMIC
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## Saturday 24 December 2022 – Christmas Eve

### THE ABBEY

3.00 pm & 5.00 pm Crib Services	Officiant:	The Reverend Martin Lee
11.30 pm Midnight Mass	Celebrant & Preacher:	The Reverend Martin Lee
	Deacon:	The Reverend Robert Green

### LONGBURTON CHURCH

11.30 pm Midnight Mass	Celebrant:	The Reverend Lesley McCreadie
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## The Abbey - Weekday Services

**Every Monday – Saturday** at 8.30 am – Morning Prayer - The Sepulchre Chapel

**Every Monday** at 9.00 am – CW Holy Communion - The Lady Chapel

**Every Tuesday** at 12 noon – CW Holy Communion - The Sepulchre Chapel

# The Abbey - Weekday Services continued

**Every Wednesday** at 10.30 am – Holy Communion with Homily – The Lady Chapel  
(alternates CW and BCP)

**Every Thursday** at 12 noon – BCP Holy Communion - The Lady Chapel

**Every Friday** at 9.00 am – Ecumenical Holy Communion - The Sepulchre Chapel

**1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month** at 9.00 am – Requiem Holy Communion - The Sepulchre Chapel -  
(next service on Friday 6 January 2023).

**3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month** at 11.00 am – Remembering the Fallen (next service Friday 20 Jan 2023.)

**Every Saturday** at 9.00 am – CW Holy Communion - The Sepulchre Chapel

## Sunday 25 December 2022 – Christmas Day

### THE ABBEY

<b>8.00 am BCP Holy Communion</b>	Celebrant:	The Reverend Martin Lee
<b>9.30 am Parish Eucharist with Carols</b>	Celebrant & Preacher:	The Reverend Martin Lee
	Deacon:	The Reverend Christopher Huitson
<b>11.30 am Festal Mattins</b>	Officiant:	The Reverend Martin Lee

### CASTLETON CHURCH

	Officiant:	The Reverend Hugh Bonsey
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**11.00 am Lessons & Carols followed by BCP HC**

### LILLINGTON CHURCH

	Celebrant:	The Reverend Hugh Bonsey
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**9.30 am Lessons & Carols followed by BCP HC**

### Longburton Church

<b>10.00 am Family Communion</b>	Celebrant:	The Reverend Lesley McCreadie
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### STPAULS@THEGRYPHON

<b>10.00 am All Age Celebration</b>	Leader & Speaker:	The Reverend Jim Edie
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## Thought for the Day

On a visit to London in mid-October I noticed that the illuminated Christmas street decorations were being put up. They are attractive and bright, but point determinedly towards the festivities two months later; in other words, they bypass Advent, with its interplay of darkness and light, and simply glitter steadily. And why should they not? They cheer us up in the depths of winter. Yet they offer a marked contrast with the way Christians through the ages have approached the season of Advent, with a sense of eager anticipation, of waiting expectantly in a dark world, of muted celebration. We watch and wait, in prayer and reflection, but we also look forward to that glorious light when the coming of Christ scatters the darkness. So it is natural for today's readings to place their emphasis on Mary the mother of Our Lord, carrying the child and preparing intimately for his advent into the world.

The ancient prayers that form the Great 'O's of Advent are traditionally sung in its final week. Today's verse, O Adonai, appeals to God "who appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush, and gave him the law on Sinai." It reflects on these two mysterious and awesome manifestations, and then dares to pray that this same transcendent God will come clothed in human flesh and meet us where we are. This is the Advent hope: "Come, and deliver us with an outstretched arm."

*Canon Charles Mitchell-Innes*

# Notices

**Visiting Hours: The Abbey** is open to visitors on Mondays to Saturdays from 8.00 am – 5.00 pm and on Sundays from 11.00 am – 5.00 pm. (*From Monday 26 December until Saturday 31 December 2022 visiting hours will be 11.00 am – 3.00 pm.*) Please be aware that The Abbey may close when private services are taking place. (*Funerals on Monday 19 December (2.00 pm) and on Thursday 29 December (1.30 pm).*)

**Service Music: Parish Eucharist:** Darke in F; I sing of a maiden, Hadley; The Angel Gabriel, Pettman; A spotless rose, Howells; Hymns 185, 19 (ii), 181 (i), 188 (ii) omit\*; Festival of Lessons and Carols: This is the truth, Vaughan Williams; Sans Day Carol, Rutter; Lully, lulla, Leighton; In the bleak midwinter, Darke; Noël Nouvelet, Jackson; Joys Seven, arr. Cleobury.

**Organ Recitals:** The new series will start on Monday 9 January 2023 at 1.30 pm (*free entry, retiring collection, all welcome*).  
*James Henderson, Director of Music*

**Christmas Message from Martin & Sue:** Martin & Sue would like to wish everyone a very happy Christmas and all good wishes for 2023. Thank you very much for all your cards and Christmas messages.  
*The Reverend Martin & Sue Lee*

**Mulled Wine & Mince Pies with Carols:** All are invited to enjoy mulled wine & mince pies on Monday 19 December 2022 from 7.00 pm in The Lady Chapel and then sing carols outside (weather permitting).  
*The Reverend Martin Lee*

**RBL Poppy Appeal:** The Royal British Legion would like to thank the congregation, and visitors, of the Abbey for their donations to the appeal which raised £520.00, part of the £22,000.00 raised by the district. Thank you.

**Longburton Village Café:** Held in the village church of St James, the café provides tea, coffee (free refills) and great cakes, for just £2.00 and will be open on Tuesdays 3, 17 & 31 January 2023 from 10.30 am until noon.  
*The Reverend Lesley McCreadie*

**Julian Group:** This is not a prayer group – just an opportunity to share half-an-hour's silence and meditation with fellow Christians and let God speak to us. The meetings are ecumenical. It is very refreshing. Why not give it a try? The next meeting is on Wednesday 11 January 2023 in St. Johns' Almshouse Chapel from 4.00 pm to 4.30 pm.  
*Shirley Fry (01935 389124)*

**Mothers' Union:** The MU will see in the New Year with their AGM and a celebration of the Eucharist on Friday 27 January 2023 from 10.00 am until midday in the Griffiths Room at the Digby Memorial Church Hall.  
*Jo Higgs, MU Secretary*

**St Paul's Church Warm Space:** St Paul's Church is offering a Warm and Welcoming Space every Tuesday and Friday afternoons from 2.00 pm until 5.00 pm. Refreshments will be offered.

**Morning Prayer and Daily HC Services:** Please note that Morning Prayer (8.30 am) will not take place from Monday 26 December to Saturday 31 December 2022 inclusive. The daily Holy Communion services on Tuesday 27 December, Thursday 29 December, Friday 30 December and Saturday 31 December 2022 will also not take place.  
*The Reverend Martin Lee*

**Ride+Stride 2022 Results:** Very many thanks to all those who kindly donated to the Dorset Historic Churches charity Ride+Stride event this year - Sherborne raised a very satisfactory £1,235.00 which was a pleasing result considering that some of the fund raising had to be reduced or cancelled due to the week of mourning for the late Queen. Our congratulations and thanks go to Abbey strider, Mike Keatinge, who walked a remarkable 17 miles on the day to raise funds for the charity, which provides badly needed help for the maintenance of Dorset churches.  
*Hilary Leavey*

**Sherborne Advent Windows:** Each December day, a new window will appear until there are 24 across Sherborne. The first is the Pod in Cheap Street. Decorated by volunteers, the idea is to bring love and joy to all, to shine a light in the cold, dark wintertime and to share the festive spirit with our community. So please do go, find and look at some of the beautiful windows – between 3.00 pm – 7.00 pm might be the best time!  
*Ruth Rogerson*

**Ezo Christmas Appeal 2022:** This year's appeal reflects Bishop Isaac's two priorities: **Support the School Farm Programme:** *"Help the learners acquire farming skills and provide the crops for 'Free School Meals'. We need more seeds, tools and fertiliser please"*. **Internet Connection:** *"The new teaching equipment provided last year helps the children learn enthusiastically. We need an internet link please to access new teaching materials for schoolchildren and the pastors we train locally"*. To donate: BACS A/C No: 9781 9735; Sort Code 60-19-12; A/C Name: Sherborne Deanery Synod; please write Ezo22 in the payment box or by cheque payable to "Sherborne Deanery Synod Account" and send to Milton Brook, Corscombe, Dorset, DT2 0NU. Online: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/ezoschool2022> *This year - a generous donor will match your gift until a total of £10,000 is raised!*  
*Andrew Tomkins*

**Abbey Shop:** Do visit the shop for a great selection of Christmas cards, Advent candles & seasonal gifts. Also plum, luscious lemon and sticky toffee puddings available! We have new stocks of The Reverend Nelva Moss' book 'A Question of Belief', priced at £6.95, available too. *Phil Prout*

**Pewsheets and Monthly Bulletin:** Both the Pewsheets and Monthly Bulletins are available on the Abbey's website: <https://www.sherborneabbey.com/pew-sheets/> *Parish Office*

**Rollator and Wheelchair Available:** We have a blue folding rollator wheeled walker and a good quality wheelchair that folds and has pneumatic tyres available for anyone who could make use of them or knows someone who could benefit from the help. Free to a good home (although a donation to the Abbey would be appreciated). If you are interested, please see one of the vergers.

## The Benefice Team

**Team Rector of Sherborne Abbey with Castleton, St Paul's, Lillington and Longburton:**

### The Reverend Martin Lee

The Vicarage, Abbey Close, Sherborne, Dorset DT9 3LQ.

Tel: 01935 713777 or 07725 593100 Email: [martinlee903@btinternet.com](mailto:martinlee903@btinternet.com)

#### Team Vicar:

##### The Reverend Jim Edie

*with particular responsibility for St Paul's Church, Sherborne.* St Paul's Vicarage,  
8 Kings Road, Sherborne DT9 4HU  
Tel: 01935 816444 (St Paul's Office)

#### Associate Priest:

##### The Reverend Hugh Bonsey

*with particular responsibility for St Martin of Tours, Lillington*  
67 Acreman Street, Sherborne,  
Dorset DT9 3PH. Tel: 01935 812749

### St Mary Magdalene, Castleton and St James the Great, Longburton

*Please contact the Parish Office on 01935 713777 or email Sue Lee*

*([Sue.Lee@sherborneabbey.com](mailto:Sue.Lee@sherborneabbey.com)) for enquiries about these two churches.*

Parish Office – 01935 713777 (Monday – Friday 9.00 am – 3.00 pm (1.00 pm on Thursdays))

Email: [Joanna.Sams@sherborneabbey.com](mailto:Joanna.Sams@sherborneabbey.com)

Abbey Shop – Staffed hours: Monday - Friday 10.30 am – 3.30 pm; Saturday 10.30 am – 1.00 pm.

Abbey Tours – If you wish to book a tour, please contact the Parish Office.

Website: <https://www.sherborneabbey.com/>