



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 17 December 2023 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

### THE ABBEY

8.00 am BCP Holy Communion	Celebrant:	The Reverend Lesley McCreadie
9.30 am Parish Eucharist	Celebrant:	The Reverend Martin Lee
	Preacher:	The Reverend Robert Green
	Deacon:	The Reverend Rebecca McDonnell

**Collect:** O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Readings:** 1 Thessalonians Ch 5: v 16 – 24; John Ch 1: v 6 – 8, 19 - 28 **Hymns:** 5, 15, 11, 490

**1.30 pm & 2.30 pm Shoppers' Carols** (*part of The Sherborne Market day*)

5.00 pm Abbey Festival of Lessons and Carols	Officials:	The Reverend Martin Lee The Reverend Rebecca McDonnell
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### 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 ( <i>Eats/drinks after the service</i> )
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### LONGBURTON CHURCH

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

 (*Theme: Advent/Christmas*)

10.30 am All Age Nativity Service	Leaders & Speakers:	COSMIC Team
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## Tuesday 19 December 2023

5.00 pm Festive Evensong sung by The Sherborne Singers (Musical Director: William Slogrove)

## 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

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

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

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

# The Abbey - Weekday Services continued

**1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month** at 9.00 am – Requiem Holy Communion - The Sepulchre Chapel  
(next service on Friday 5 January 2024)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month** at 11.00 am – Remembering the Fallen (next service Friday 19 Jan 2024)

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

## Sunday 24 December 2023 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

### THE ABBEY

<b>8.00 am BCP Holy Communion</b>	Celebrant:	The Reverend Katie Windle
<b>9.30 am Parish Eucharist</b>	Celebrant:	The Reverend Martin Lee
	Preacher:	The Reverend Christopher Huitson
	Deacon:	The Reverend Rebecca McDonnell
<b>3.00 pm &amp; 5.00 pm Crib Services</b>	Officiants:	The Reverend Martin Lee The Reverend Rebecca McDonnell
<b>11.30 pm Midnight Mass – The First Eucharist of Christmas</b>	Celebrant:	The Reverend Martin Lee
	Preacher:	The Reverend Lesley McCreadie
Deacons: Canon Charles Mitchell-Innes & The Reverend Rebecca McDonnell		

### CASTLETON CHURCH

**11.15 am Mattins** Officiant: The Reverend Hugh Bonsey

**LILLINGTON CHURCH** (*no service*)

**LONGBURTON CHURCH** Celebrant: The Reverend Lesley McCreadie  
**4.00 pm Crib Service@the Inn** (*Rose & Crown Pub, Longburton*)

**11.30 pm Midnight Mass** Celebrants: The Reverend Pene Kennedy  
The Reverend Brenda Phillips

### STPAULS@ST PAUL'S CHURCH (*Theme: Advent/Christmas*)

**10.00 am Reflective HC** Leader & Speaker: The Reverend Jim Edie

## Monday 25 December 2023 – 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 Rebecca McDonnell
<b>11.30 am Festal Mattins</b>	Officiants:	The Reverend Martin Lee The Reverend Rebecca McDonnell

### CASTLETON CHURCH

**11.00 am Lessons & Carols with BCP Holy Communion** Officiant: The Reverend Hugh Bonsey

### LILLINGTON CHURCH

**9.30 am Family HC with Carols** Officiant: The Reverend Hugh Bonsey

### LONGBURTON CHURCH

**10.00 am Family Communion** Celebrant: The Reverend Lesley McCreadie

### STPAULS@THEGRYPHON (*Theme: Christmas*)

**10.00 am All Age Celebration** Leader & Speaker: The Reverend Jim Edie

# Thought for the Day

**What are you waiting for?** Sometimes we are guilty of forgetting about John the Baptist, but this Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent, it is John that gets centre stage. 450 years prior to John's arrival, Malachi, the last of the Old Testament prophets, declares these words "'I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me.'" (Malachi 3:1) which features in last Sunday's gospel reading from Mark. Then nothing, no word of God for hundreds of years, until an elderly man named Zechariah was chosen by lot to enter the sanctuary of the Lord in the temple to burn incense. Perhaps you know something of his story – you've probably heard it each year at the beginning of Advent. While he was in the sanctuary an angel of the Lord appeared to him. The angel told him not to be afraid, that his elderly wife was to have a son named John. 400 years of silence ended and God's promises, as spelled out by the prophets, of an Elijah 'type' messenger, who would precede the Messiah, were starting to come to fruition.

John was of course a light that pointed to the Messiah and we too are to do the same. We, the body of Christ, are also to point to the Good News, to Jesus, through our actions and our words, this Advent and Christmas time. What are you waiting for?  
*The Reverend Jim Edie*

## Notices

**Visiting Hours: The Abbey** is open to visitors (free of charge) on Mondays to Saturdays (8.00 am – 5.00 pm) and on Sundays (11.00 am – 5.00 pm). The Abbey may close when private services are taking place. *Funeral/Memorial Services – Monday 18 December (2.00 pm), Wednesday 20 December (midday) & Wednesday 3 January (2.00 pm). Blessing – Friday 29 December (1.00 pm).*

**Guided Tours:** Our regular guided tours have now finished but we are still very happy to undertake guided tours by arrangement with the Parish Office – do give Joanna a ring if you would like a tour!

**Service Music: Parish Eucharist:** Setting: Setting Mass for four voices, Byrd; Carols: In the bleak midwinter, Holst; People look East, Ferguson. Hymns 5, 15, 11, 490. *Festival of Lessons and Carols:* Carols: This is the truth, Vaughan Williams; E'en so, Lord Jesus, Manz; Lully, lulla, Leighton; In the bleak midwinter, Darke; Noël Nouvelet, Jackson; Joys Seven, arr. Cleobury. *On Tuesday 19 December, Choral Evensong* (sung by the Sherborne Singers): Introit: Torches, Joubert; Responses: Slogrove; Psalm: 39, Slogrove; Canticles: Stanford in G; Anthem: At the round earth's imagined corners, Malcolm Archer; Hymns: 32, 39.  
*James Henderson, Director of Music*

**Prayer List:** *The Sick:* Harry Bond, Chris Smallbone, Alan Gillard, Robert Harris, Judith Spelman, Florence Bachelor & Julie Mahony. *Departed:* Myra Clear, Linda Rowe, Stephen Saunders, Bridget Hill, Ann Alexander, Martin Dodge, Philip Antell & George Brown.  
*Andrew Cross, Head Verger*

**Funeral for the late Bridget Hill:** Bridget's funeral will take place on Wednesday 20 December 2023 at midday in the Abbey.  
*The Reverend Martin Lee*

**SCT Carol Singing:** On Saturday 16 December 2023, outside Waitrose from 11.00 am – midday – please join in to make it a 'Big Sing'!

**Festive Evensong:** The Sherborne Singers will be singing Festive Evensong in the Abbey on Tuesday 19 December 2023 at 5.00 pm.

**Mulled Wine & Mince Pies with Carols!:** Join us on Wednesday 20 December 2023 from 7.00 pm in the Lady Chapel and then sing carols outside (weather permitting). All most welcome!

**Messy Church:** On Friday 22 December 2023, 10.00 am – midday, Digby Memorial Church Hall. Christmas themed art & craft activity session; all ages from 4+ (to be accompanied by an adult); no charge; all welcome!  
*Sue Lee, Parish Office*

**UK Railtours Carol Service:** On Saturday 23 December 2023 at 2.30 pm in the Abbey. All welcome!

**Confirmation Classes:** If you, or your child, is interested in confirmation, there are classes starting for adults and children very soon. Please contact the Rector. *The Reverend Martin Lee*

**Phil Prout Retirement:** Some of you will be aware that the Abbey's Shop Manager, Phil Prout, is retiring at the end of December after over 30 years of service to the Abbey in various positions (not to mention being a choir boy in his youth!). His wife, Sally, who regularly volunteers and has helped with school visits etc, is also retiring at the same time. We would like to mark their service to the Sherborne Benefice with a gift. If you would like to contribute, please put cash or a cheque (made payable to Sherborne Abbey PCC) into an envelope, mark the envelope '**A Gift for Phil Prout**' and deliver it to the Parish Office or give to the vergers. Thank you. *Parish Office*

**Day of Prayer & Gifts:** We should like to thank all of you who so generously donated on our Day of Prayer & Gifts on Saturday 28 October 2023. A total of just under £3,000.00 was gifted which we appreciate so very much. Thank you. *The Reverend Martin Lee*

**Sherborne Food Bank Christmas Food Box Appeal:** If you are able to give a helping hand to the hungry this Christmas, please donate tinned ham/salmon/fruit, jars of pickles/pate/dips, packet stuffing mix, Christmas cake/log/puds/biscuits/chocolates, mince pies, long-life jellies/custard/spray cream, savoury crackers/snacks, cordials/squash, children's treats, Christmas crackers etc. Gluten/dairy free, vegetarian/vegan options always welcome. There is a donation basket at the back of the Abbey and it is possible to make a monetary donation using the QR code displayed on the basket. Other donation points are near the check-outs at Waitrose, Sainsburys, Co-op, Hunts and Dikes (Stalbridge). [www.sherbornefoodbank.org](http://www.sherbornefoodbank.org) *Liz Murray*

**Mothers' Union:** The first meeting of 2024 will take place on Friday 26 January 2024 at 10.00 am in the Griffiths Room, Digby Memorial Church Hall. We will celebrate by sharing in the Eucharist followed by our AGM. All welcome! *Jo Higgs, MU Secretary*

**Parish Office:** The office will be closed from Monday 25 December 2023 until Monday 1 January 2024 inclusive. It will re-open on Tuesday 2 January 2024. *The Reverend Martin Lee*

## 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)

**Assistant Curate: The Reverend Rebecca McDonnell** Email: [rev.becca.mcdonnell@gmail.com](mailto:rev.becca.mcdonnell@gmail.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.*

*01935 816444 (office)/[revdjim.edie@gmail.com](mailto:revdjim.edie@gmail.com)*

**Associate Priest: The Reverend Hugh Bonsey**

*with particular responsibility for*

*St Martin of Tours, Lillington*

*11 Fairfield, Sherborne DT9 4HG,*

*01935 812749/[Fr.Hugh.Bonsey@gmail.com](mailto:Fr.Hugh.Bonsey@gmail.com)*

**St Mary Magdalene, Castleton & St James the Great, Longburton** - *Contact Sue Lee at the Parish Office ([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 Mondays))**

**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/>**