



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 3 December 2023 – 1st Sunday of Advent

THE ABBEY

| | | |
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| 8.00 am BCP Holy Communion | Celebrant: | The Reverend Martin Lee |
| 9.30 am Parish Eucharist | Celebrant & Preacher: | The Reverend Martin Lee |
| | Deacon: | The Reverend Rebecca McDonnell |

Collect: Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

Readings: Isaiah Ch 64: v 1 – 9; Mark Ch 13: v 24 - end

Hymns: 11, 6, 16, 9

1.30 pm, 2.30 pm, 3.30 pm Shoppers' Carols (*part of Sherborne Festive Shopping Day*)

4.00 pm Friends' of Sherborne Abbey Advent Reception (Lady Chapel)

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| 5.00 pm Advent Carol Service | Officials: | The Reverend Martin Lee |
| | | The Reverend Rebecca McDonnell |

CASTLETON CHURCH (*Fellowship Sunday*)

11.15 am Mattins Officiant: The Reverend Hugh Bonsey

LILLINGTON CHURCH

9.30 am Family Service Officiant: The Reverend Hugh Bonsey

LONGBURTON CHURCH

10.00 am Village Communion Celebrants: The Reverend Lesley McCreadie

The Reverend Jim Edie

STPAULS@THEGRYPHON (*Theme: Advent/Christmas*)

10.30 am Morning Worship Leader: Mark Greenstock
Speaker: John Crossman

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
(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

The Abbey - Weekday Services continued

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

3rd Friday of the month at 11.00 am – Remembering the Fallen (next service Friday 15 Dec 2023)

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

Sunday 10 December 2023 – 2nd Sunday of Advent

THE ABBEY

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| 8.00 am BCP Holy Communion | Celebrant: | The Reverend Katie Windle |
| 9.30 am Parish Eucharist | Celebrant: | The Reverend Martin Lee |
| | Preacher: | The Reverend Rebecca McDonnell |
| 2.45 pm Dorset Provincial Grand Lodge Carol Service | | The Reverend Martin Lee |
| 5.00 pm Christingle | Officials: | The Reverend Martin Lee |
| | | The Reverend Rebecca McDonnell |

CASTLETON CHURCH

11.15 am BCP Holy Communion Celebrant: The Reverend Hugh Bonsey

LILLINGTON CHURCH

9.30 am BCP Holy Communion Celebrant: The Reverend Hugh Bonsey

Longburton Church

10.00 am Family Communion Celebrant: The Reverend Pene Kennedy

STPAULS@THEGRYPHON *(Theme: Advent/Christmas)*

10.30 am Holy Communion Leader: The Reverend Jim Edie
Speaker: Tabitha Smith

Thought for the Day

Each year, over the weekend of Advent Sunday, there takes place the highly atmospheric service and procession in Salisbury Cathedral *From Darkness to Light*. Shortly before it begins on each evening, the lights are dimmed and then extinguished, and the packed congregation is silent whilst the organist plays Bach's wistful chorale prelude *Now come, thou Saviour of the nations*. It is as if the dark world holds its breath in expectation of His coming. Then, gradually, many hundreds of candles are lit throughout the cathedral, and the great Advent antiphons, anthems and hymns are sung, culminating in the triumphant hymn *Lo He comes with clouds descending*, thundered out by congregation and choir.

It is an apt image of our journey through Advent - an adventure, perhaps - which starts in the darkness of the world, but gives us unfolding glimpses of the radiance ahead: first, in the words of today's Collect, when "Jesus Christ [comes] to visit us in great humility" at Christmas; and finally, at the second advent, "When he shall come again in his glorious majesty... that we may rise to the life immortal."

Meanwhile we continue to hold in our prayers those for whom, at present, that radiance may seem but a distant prospect:

*O Dayspring, Brightness of Light everlasting, and Sun of righteousness,
Come, and shine on those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death.* (Advent Antiphon)

Canon Charles Mitchell-Innes

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. *Rehearsals – Saturday 2 December 2023 (9.00 am & 2.00 pm), Monday 4 December (9.30 am & midday), Tuesday 5 December (9.00 am & 4.00 pm), Wednesday 6 December (3.00 pm), Thursday 7 December (9.30 am & 1.00 pm), Saturday 9 December (4.30 pm) & Tuesday 12 December (9.00 am & 12.45 pm). Carol Services – Tuesday 4 December (2.30 pm), Thursday 7 December (4.00 pm), Friday 8 December (10.00 am Lady Chapel & 2.00 pm), Saturday 9 December (11.00 am & 2.30 pm). Sunday 10 December (2.45 pm). Funeral/Memorial Services – Monday 11 December (2.00 pm), Wednesday 13 December (midday).*

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: Missa aeterna Christi munera, Palestrina; Anthems: Almighty and everlasting God, Gibbons; O thou, the central orb, Gibbons. Hymns 11, 6, 16, 9. *Advent Carol Service:* Anthems: Matin Responsory, Palestrina; Advent Antiphons; Let all mortal flesh, Bairstow; Christe, redemptor omnium, Matthew Martin; A spotless rose, Howells; Magnificat in G, Stanford; O thou, the central orb, Wood; Hymns: 19 (ii), 11, 5, 12, 3 (ii), 9 (service booklet).

James Henderson, Director of Music

2023 Abbey Choir CD: The new CD, A Sherborne Christmas, is now available in the Abbey Shop (£10.00). Amongst many favourites is Howells' A Spotless Rose, Rutter's Sans Day Carol, Darke's In the Bleak Midwinter plus an arrangement of Silent Night. Is this the ultimate stocking filler?!

Organ Recitals: (Mondays at 1.30 pm) The recital planned for Monday 4 December 2023 has been cancelled due to time pressures with a service in the Abbey at 2.30 pm which would have seen the congregation arriving during the recital; a new series will be in January 2024.

Prayer List: *The Sick:* Harry Bond, Chris Smallbone, Alan Gillard, Robert Harris, Judith Spelman & Florence Bachelor, David Dodd. *Departed:* Bridget Hill, John West, Myra Clear, John Eccleston, Linda Rowe & Stephen Saunders.

Andrew Cross, Head Verger

Toy Sunday: Thank you so much for all the toys, books, games, toiletries and PJs etc that so many of you kindly donated last Sunday. The North Dorset Women's Refuge, Rendezvous in Sherborne and other local charities have benefited from your kind generosity.

The Reverend Martin Lee

Sherborne Chamber Choir Concert: On Saturday 2 December 2023; 7.30 pm; Sherborne Abbey. 'O Radiant Dawn, music to celebrate Advent and Christmas, from 16th century to the present day. Conductor: Paul Ellis; Organist: Simon Clarkson. Tickets: £5.00 - £18.00 (U18 free); TicketSource 0333 666 3366 or www.sherbornechamberchoir.org.uk.

Rachel Greaves

Mothers' Union: The MU Carol Service will take place in the Lady Chapel on Friday 8 December 2023 at 10.00 am. All welcome!

Jo Higgs, MU Secretary

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

Liz Murray

Dorset Federation of the WI: The Women's Institute's Carol Service will take place in the Abbey on Monday 4 December 2023 at 2.30 pm.

Salamanca Band of the Rifles Christmas Concert: On Saturday 9 December 2023 at 7.30 pm in The Abbey. *Start Christmas with the Rifles!* Free entry, all welcome, retiring collection.

Christmas Tree Festival (SCT): From Saturdays 2 - 9 December 2023; 10.00 am - 5.00 pm; Cheap Street Church. On Sunday 3 December 2023 at 10.30 am, Morning Worship led by The Reverend Kate Konrad. Choirs from schools, U3A & Sherborne Rock Choir performing throughout the week and Jazz concert on Friday. Please come and support this festival and help raise money for the chosen beneficiaries.

The Reverend Rebecca McDonnell

Julian Group: Not a prayer group; just an opportunity to share ½ hour's silence & meditation with fellow Christians and let God speak to us. The meetings are ecumenical & are very refreshing - why not give it a try? Our next meeting on Wednesday 13 December 2023 and will be held in the Lady Chapel, Sherborne Abbey from 4.00 pm – 4.30 pm.

Shirley Fry (01935 389124)

New facilities for the Abbey: Proposals to provide new toilet and vestry facilities, and improved accessibility, at Sherborne Abbey are available to view on the Abbey website and in The Lady Chapel. We welcome your feedback on the plans either via www.sherborneabbey.com/new-facilities or in writing to the Parish Office.

PCC/Steering Group

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 (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

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

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

Assistant Curate: The Reverend Rebecca McDonnell Email: 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

Associate Priest: The Reverend Hugh Bonse

with particular responsibility for St Martin of Tours, Lillington

11 Fairfield, Sherborne DT9 4HG,
01935 812749/Fr.Hugh.Bonse@gmail.com

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

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/>