



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



# MONTHLY BULLETIN – MARCH 2025

## March Snapshots!



**World Day of Prayer:** To be held at the Sacred Heart & St Aldhelm Church on **Friday 7 March 2025** at 11.15 am followed by tea/coffee in the hall. As we begin our Lenten preparation for celebrating the Passion, Death and Resurrection of the Lord, we will join in prayer and worship with Christians in thousands of churches around the world, using a liturgy developed by women in the Cook Islands in the Pacific.  
*Caroline Polley, SCT*

**Lent Courses - "Plenty":** From **Thursday 6 March 2025**, Lent groups organised by SCT will be available for all the Christian community in Sherborne. This course has been developed as part of Green Christian's 'Joy in Enough' project and will last for six weeks leading up to Easter. See [The Plenty! course – Joy in Enough](#) Do sign up for one of the following groups: **Group 1:** Lenthay Road, led by John & Margaret Crossman, Thursdays 2.30 pm, starting 6 March (07721 616003/[john.crossman@btinternet.com](mailto:john.crossman@btinternet.com)). **Group 2:** Longburton, led by The Reverend Lesley McCreadie, Mondays 2.00 pm, starting 10 March ([vicarlesley@outlook.com](mailto:vicarlesley@outlook.com)). **Group 3:** St Paul's Vicarage, led by Rev Jim Edie, Tuesdays 7.45 pm, starting 11 March ([admin@spcsherborne.co.uk](mailto:admin@spcsherborne.co.uk)). **Group 4:** Cheap Street Church, led by Rev Kate Konrad, Wednesdays 10.00 am, starting 12 March ([revkatekonrad@gmail.com](mailto:revkatekonrad@gmail.com)) email or simply come along on the day. **Group 5:** St Paul's Church, led by Rev Jim Edie and others from St Paul's, Wednesdays 7.30 pm, starting Wednesday 12 March ([admin@spcsherborne.co.uk](mailto:admin@spcsherborne.co.uk)).

**Longburton Lent Lunches:** On **Tuesday 11 March 2025 & Tuesday 8 April 2025**; 12.30 pm; St James the Great Church, Longburton. Join us for a soup, bread and cheese lunch. Donations for Christian Aid.

*The Reverend Lesley McCreadie*



**Lenten Lunches (Wednesdays from 5 March 2025):** The Catholic Church Parish CAFOD Group are holding lunches in the Sacred Heart & St Aldhelm Church Hall, Westbury DT9 3EL, from Ash Wednesday 5 March 2025. A modest lunch of soup, bread, cheese & fruit will be available for £3.50 plus tea/coffee between 11.30 am - 1.00 pm. All proceeds to CAFOD. Do join us – all in the Sherborne Churches Together area are welcome.  
*Paul J O'Hara (07801 475633)*

**Thursday Choral Evensongs:** Don't forget that there is Choral Evensong every Thursday at 5.30pm. Primarily sung by the Abbey Girls' Choir, and frequently with our 'back rows', all are welcome at these services.  
*James Henderson, Director of Music*



**Mothers' Union:** This month's meeting is on **Friday 28 March 2025** at 10.00 am for 10.30 am in the Griffiths Room, Digby Memorial Church Hall. We will have a talk by Mrs Sue Place on The Balsam Centre, Wincanton. All welcome! Don't forget Mothering Sunday on 30 March 2025.

*Jo Higgs ([musecretary@sherborneabbey.com](mailto:musecretary@sherborneabbey.com))*

## Other Events and Notices

**Longburton Village Café:** Held in the village church of St James, the café provides tea, coffee (free refills) & great cakes for just £2.50. **Tuesdays 4 & 18 March 2025;** 10.30 am – noon.

**Sherborne The Arts Society:** On **Wednesday 5 March 2025;** 3.00 pm & 7.00 pm; Digby Hall, Hound Street. *'John Singer Sargent: High Society's Leading Portraitist'* presented by Gavin Plumley; flaunting a consummate technique, his luxurious canvases mirrored his subjects' wealth. Members free; non-members £10.00. <https://theartsocietysherborne.org/>

**Sherborne Historical Society:** On **Thursday 6 March 2025,** *'Sex and Christianity – Getting the history right'* by Rev Professor Diarmaid MacCulloch. On **Thursday 20 March 2025,** *'Sherborne's Castles'* by Dr John Goodall. Tea/coffee available from 7.15 pm; talks begin at 8.00 pm; entrance £5.00 (members free). <https://www.sherbornehistoricalsociety.co.uk/>

**Sherborne Girls School Concert:** On **Friday 7 March 2025;** 7.30 pm; Merritt Centre. Guy Johnstone (cello) & Melvyn Tan (piano) play Saint-Saëns, Strauss & Chopin. Tickets £20.00 (U18s free) from 01935 818304 or [www.trybooking.com/uk/EEZF](http://www.trybooking.com/uk/EEZF)

**Taizé Service:** On **Sunday 9 March 2025;** 6.30 pm, Cheap Street Church. Half an hour of prayer, meditation & music. All welcome. [vicarlesley@outlook.com](mailto:vicarlesley@outlook.com) *Rev Lesley McCreddie*

**Julian Group:** On **Wednesday 12 March 2025,** Lady Chapel, Abbey, 4.00 pm – 4.30 pm. Not a prayer group; an opportunity for silence & meditation with fellow Christians and let God speak to us. Meetings ecumenical & very refreshing. *Shirley Fry (01935 389124)*

**Sherborne Chamber Choir Concert:** On **Saturday 15 March 2025,** 7.30 pm, Sherborne Abbey. *'Eternal Light'* – uplifting music for Lent from the 16<sup>th</sup> century to the 21<sup>st</sup>, featuring Tomás Luis de Victoria's sumptuous six-part setting of the Requiem from 1605, along with music by Purcell, Lotti, Howells, Reger, Pizzetti and Tavener. Conductor: Paul Ellis. Tickets: £7.00 - £20.00 (U18 free) from 0333 666 3366/[www.sherbornechamberchoir.org.uk](http://www.sherbornechamberchoir.org.uk). *Rachel Greaves*

**Wessex Strings Concert:** On **Sunday 16 March 2025;** 3.00 pm; Cheap Street Church. Programme: Bach (Brandenburg Concerto No.4 in G major), Janacek (Suite for Strings) & Mozart (Symphony No.29 in A major). Conductor: John Jenkins; Leader: Shoko Middleton; Soloists: Lucy-Anne Allen (violin), Laura Jones & Eleanor Shortman (recorders). Tickets: £10.00 Winstone Books, Sherborne (cash only) or £12.00 on the door (U18 free). *Gareth Price*

**Remembering the Fallen:** On **Friday 21 March 2025;** Lady Chapel; 11.00 am. This short service takes places monthly (3<sup>rd</sup> Friday), at 11.00 am. Following prayers, a member of the Devonshire & Dorset Regimental Association reads the names from one page each of the two Dorset Regiment Books of Remembrance, the Sherborne Book of Remembrance and The Rifles Book of Remembrance. The service concludes with the Last Post, Two Minutes' Silence, Reveille and Blessing. All are welcome.

**The Sherborne Market:** No market Jan-Mar; restarts **Sunday 20 April 2025.** *Jules Bradburn*

### JUST FOR FUN!

At which church in our Benefice would you find this monument of Sir John Fitzjames (1625) & his wife Joan (Trenchard) (1612)?

*February's answer: St Martin of Tours*

If you have an item for a future Bulletin please email:

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



**Sherborne Museum Winter Talk:** On **Thursday 20 March 2025**; 2.00 pm; Digby Memorial Church Hall DT9 3NL. "*Dating the Cerne Abbas Giant*" with Martin Papworth. Museum members free; non-members £5.00; light refreshments. *Elisabeth Bletsoe, Curator*

**Coffee Morning:** Please come to the Friends' Coffee Morning on Wednesday 26 March 2025, 10.30 am - 1.00 pm, Digby Memorial Church Hall. An informal opportunity to meet over tea/coffee and cake! Do join us and bring a friend, or friends! It would be helpful, for catering purposes, if you could RSVP to [Joanna.Sams@sherborneabbey.com](mailto:Joanna.Sams@sherborneabbey.com). Thank you. *Chris Hamon*

**Sherborne Stop the Litter Campaign:**, Please help! **Tuesdays**; 10.00 am - noon. High viz tabards, litter pickers, bags & gloves provided: **18 Mar:** Area 1: Junc of Coombe/Blackberry Lane; **15 Apr:** Area 3: Junction of Castleton/Newland/New Road/Long Street; **6 May:** Area 2: Simons Road (outside the stores); **17 Jun:** Area 4: West End Hall Car Park; **15 Jul:** Area 1; **12 Aug:** Area 3; **16 Sept:** Area 2; **14 Oct:** Area 4; **18 Nov:** Area 1; **16 Dec:** Area 3.

*Anthony Vosper (07977 241305)*

**Sherborne Digby Hall Monthly Market:** Large indoor market of up to 70 stalls; café; free entry; parking & toilets; **1st Saturday of every month**; 10.00 am – 3.00 pm, Mar – Dec; Digby Hall, Hound Street. <https://www.facebook.com/SherborneDigbyHallMonthlyMarket>

**The Rendezvous Community Cuppa: 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday** each month (**17 Mar**; 14 Apr (early due to Easter); 19 May); 10.30 am – 12.30 pm; Cheap Street Church Hall (accessible). Join us for a chat, cuppa (£1.00) & cake (£2.00). Support/advice from local surgery, pharmacist & Age UK plus have your blood pressure checked! Profits to Rendezvous. *Fiona Franklin, Rendezvous*



## **'Music Corner' & The Abbey Choirs Organ Recitals**



*(Mondays; The Abbey; 1.30 pm; free entry; retiring collection)*

**Monday 3 March 2025** – Andrew Johnstone, Trinity College, Dublin

**Monday 10 March 2025** – Alexander Eadon, Director of Music, Sherborne School

**Monday 17 March 2025** – Richard Mayo, London

**Monday 24 March 2025** – Robert Costin, Head of Academic Music, Sherborne School

**Monday 31 March 2025** – Peter Bray, Assistant Organist

**Music News:** Choral Evensong will be sung on the first three Thursdays of March by the Girls' Choir. The size of the midweek congregation is slowly growing, but why not give it a go if you have never been before? There is so much good music to hear on Thursdays and Sundays; as Lent begins, both choirs will be performing some of the most beautiful music written for the liturgy—particularly that by Tallis, Byrd and Victoria. Many people believe the great Anglican Lent repertory to be the highpoint of the church's liturgical and musical year.

Meanwhile the Children's Choir makes its first appearance on Sunday 2 March with the return of the 'Short Abbey Service' at 11.45 am. Charlie Gurnham, our Assistant Director of Music, has been working with this non-auditioned group on Mondays at 4.00 pm in the Almshouse. New members continue to be welcome by just arriving in time for the start of the rehearsal.

Applications for the Sherborne School–Sherborne Abbey choral and organ scholarships closed at the end of February with interviews and auditions taking place imminently. The scholarship programme, established in 2005, provides opportunities for university-aged singers who are interested in immersing themselves in the life of an outstanding choir. Appointments will be announced in the April bulletin. Email: [James.Henderson@sherborneabbey.com](mailto:James.Henderson@sherborneabbey.com)

# ***Church Services***

## ***Sherborne Abbey***

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

**Mondays** – CW Holy Communion - 9.00 am – The Lady Chapel

**Tuesdays** (CW) and **Thursdays** (BCP) – Holy Communion - 12 noon – Sepulchre/Lady Chapel

**Wednesdays** – HC with Homily (alternates CW/BCP) – 10.30 am – The Lady Chapel

**Fridays** – Ecumenical Holy Communion – 9.00 am – The Sepulchre Chapel

**1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month** – Requiem Holy Communion – 9.00 am – The Sepulchre Chapel

**3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month** – Remembering the Fallen – 11.00 am – The Lady Chapel

**Saturdays** – CW Holy Communion – 9.00 am – The Sepulchre Chapel

**Sundays** – BCP Holy Communion 8.00 am/Parish Eucharist 9.30 am/Choral Evensong 6.00 pm

## ***St Mary Magdalene, Castleton, Sherborne***

Services are at 11.15 am and take the form of Mattins

except on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month when the service is a BCP Holy Communion.

## ***St Paul's@The Gryphon, Sherborne***

Services are at 10.30 am and alternate between Morning Worship,  
Holy Communion, All Age Worship and Family Worship.

## ***St Martin of Tours, Lillington***

Services are at 9.30 am with a Family Service on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month,  
BCP Holy Communion on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday and Morning Service thereafter.

## ***St James the Great, Longburton***

Services are at 10.00 am with Village Communion on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month,  
and Holy Communion on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday with Family Communion on the other Sundays.

**Sherborne Quakers: Sundays;** 10.30 am; Griffiths Room, Digby Memorial Hall; an hour of quiet prayer/meditation followed by coffee. All welcome! *Nick Jackman* (07870 192599)

**Donations to Sherborne Abbey PCC** - The running of our wonderful Abbey costs £5.00 per minute - not to mention our other churches! We rely on donations to help maintain them – if you could kindly *'spare a minute'* to make a donation please use this QR code or the card machine in the Abbey. Thank you so much.



**Sherborne Abbey 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; free entry.  
*(Please be aware that The Abbey may close when private services are taking place.)*

**APRIL BULLETIN – DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: THURSDAY 20 MARCH 2025 (9.00 AM)**

Parish Office – 01935 713777 (open Monday – Friday 9.00 am – 3.00 pm (closes 1.00 pm Mondays)  
Email: [Joanna.Sams@sherborneabbey.com](mailto:Joanna.Sams@sherborneabbey.com) Website: <https://www.sherborneabbey.com/>