



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 21 September 2025 – St Matthew, Apostle

THE ABBEY

8.00 am BCP Holy Communion	Celebrant:	The Reverend Martin Lee
9.30 am Parish Eucharist	Celebrant:	The Reverend Martin Lee
	Deacon:	The Reverend Becca McDonnell
	Preacher:	The Reverend John Townend

Collect: O Almighty God, whose blessed Son called Matthew the tax-collector to be an apostle and evangelist: give us grace to forsake the selfish pursuit of gain and the possessive love of riches that we may follow in the way of your Son Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Readings: 2 Corinthians 4.1-6. Matthew 9.9-13.

6.00 pm Evensong	Officiant:	The Reverend Martin Lee
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Choral Evensong Thursday 25 September 5.30pm

CASTLETON CHURCH

11.15 am Mattins	Officiant:	Canon Charles Mitchell-Innes
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STPAULS@THEGRYPHON

10.30 am All Age Harvest	Leader:	Andrew & Cathy Broadley
	Speaker:	Reverend Jim Edie

LILLINGTON CHURCH

9.30 am Morning Service	Officiant:	The Reverend Hugh Bonsey
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LONGBURTON CHURCH

10.00 am Harvest Festival	Celebrant	The Reverend Lesley McCreadie
		The Reverend Pene Kennedy
		The Reverend Brenda Phillips

The Abbey – Weekday/Monthly Services

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

Every Monday - 9.00 am – CW Holy Communion - The Sepulchre Chapel

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

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

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

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

1st Friday of the month - 9.00 am – Requiem HC - The Sepulchre Chapel (Friday Oct 3 2025)

3rd Friday of the month - 11.00 am – Remembering the Fallen (next service: Fri 17 Oct 2025)

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

Thought for the day

Today we celebrate St Matthew's Day. It is an occasion when we recall one of the most extraordinary moments in the New Testament: Jesus calls a despised tax collector to be a disciple. The result is positive and immediate. Matthew rises from his seat at the tax booth and follows Jesus; ultimately ending his life as a martyr.

Jesus shows his willingness to invite sinners, and those on the fringe of society, to be members of the Kingdom of God. It is a story of the working of God through grace, that everyone is invited to be in the Kingdom. Past failures can be rectified: new life can come through repentance and forgiveness.

Matthew shows Jesus to be the fulfilment of Old Testament prophecy, His Gospel contains much teaching; especially the Sermon on the Mount. Matthews work has shaped Christian Theology, worship and moral teaching down the centuries.

The story of Matthew's call to discipleship shows us the radical transformation of life, which is possible through the work of Christ. Matthew changed from being a servant of the Roman empire to a person who served the Kingdom of God as a disciple and apostle, drawing many people into the orbit of God's love.

The Reverend Hugh Bonsey

Sunday 28 September 2025 – Harvest Festival

THE ABBEY

8.00 am BCP Holy Communion	Celebrant:	The Reverend Martin Lee
9.30 am Parish Eucharist	Celebrant:	The Reverend Martin Lee
	Preachers:	The Reverend Martin Lee The Reverend Becca McDonnell
11.30 am Childrens Choir Service	Officiant:	The Reverend Martin Lee
6.00 pm Evensong	Officiant:	The Reverend Martin Lee

CASTLETON CHURCH

11.15 am Mattins	Officiant:	Reverend Hugh Bonsey
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Harvest Festival

STPAULS@THEGRYPHON

10.30 am	(The U-Shaped Bible)	
	Leader:	Kathy Pinsent
	Speaker:	The Reverend Jim Edie

LILLINGTON CHURCH

9.30 am Morning Service:	Officiant:	The Reverend Hugh Bonsey
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Longburton Church

10.00 am Holy Communion	Officiant:	The Reverend Pene Kennedy The Reverend Brenda Phillips
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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.

Prayer List: *The Sick:* Harry Bond, Alan Gillard, Peter Dunkin, Miranda Broadhurst, Mervyn Davies, Shirley Fooks Toby Wright, Jilly Gibbons, Jo Gem, Maddie Wickham, Anne Mash.

The Departed: Michael Long, Sr Pauline, Pamela Ross, Roger Slaymaker.

Service music: Sunday Eucharist (9.30am) *Mass for Four Voices* Byrd; *Ubi caritas* Duruflé; *Holy is the true light* Harris; *If I take the wings of the morning* Julian Dams; Hymns 334, 433, 288, The National Anthem, 417 Organ: *Fugue in Eb, BWV 552/ii* J S Bach

Sunday Choral Evensong (6.00pm) Introit *Holy is the true light* Harris; *Responses* Shephard; Psalm 46; *Sunsion in G; For lo, I raise up that bitter and hasty nation* Stanford; Hymns 245, 493, The National Anthem. Organ *Fantasia in D minor, Op. 57* Stanford

Thursday Choral Evensong (5.30pm) Introit *The Father's Love* Simon Lole; *Responses* Radcliffe; Psalm 119 vv 97–104; *Collegium Regale* Howells; *Like as the hart* Howells; Hymns 251, 252; Organ *Preludio 'sine nomine'* Howells

Music News: Both choirs have begun the new year well and we are currently recruiting new choristers. Thursday Evensongs resumed last week; please do come along to hear the girls' choir, with our back rows, on Thursdays at 5.30pm. This Sunday we are hosting 24 delegates from the *Cathedral Music Trust*, with their CEO Jonathan Mayes who is on a cycling pilgrimage visiting over 100 choirs across England and Wales in 50 days of cycling. Do say hello at coffee after Eucharist.

Organ Recitals: Monday 22 September-Robert Costin, 29 September- Alexander Eaden
James Henderson, Director of Music

Farming Community Network (FCN): A voluntary charity that supports farmers, farming families and people in rural communities through difficult times of change. It is celebrating its 30th Anniversary in 2025. Father Martin has kindly invited the Dorset Branch to celebrate this with a Harvest Festival Evensong on 28 September at 6.30pm. This is in place of the normal Parish Evensong. All those who normally attend Evensong are very welcome to attend as are all members of the Benefice. There will be refreshments in the Abbey afterwards.

Thankyou: Many thanks for all the contributions to the youth project. We are still looking for the following donations – pot plants, a small bookcase, a low small table, new plastic storage boxes, new colouring/doodle books, new/good quality games like Uno, Dobble, Connect Four, Guess Who. We would also like to recruit some more volunteers. If you can offer any time Mon-Fri 3.30 – 6.30pm and for more information, please contact me –
youthproject@sherborneabbey.com
Rosie Whittock

Pots & Frocks: Wednesday 1st October 3pm & 7pm. The world of Grayson Perry to be presented by Ian Swankie. Best known for his outlandish appearances dressed as his feminine alter ego, Claire, Sir Grayson Perry is now a core part of the art establishment. Digby Hall, Hound Street. Free for members, £10 for non members.

<https://theartssocietysherborne.org/>

Cider Saturday with Twisted Cider: Saturday 4 October, 11am – 3pm. Immerse yourself in the autumn season learning about Sherborne's lost orchards and heritage apples, while sampling some of the finest local juice and cider. Sherborne Museum, Church Lane, Sherborne. Free admission.

The Mothers' Union in Argentina: A power point presentation by Mrs Shelley Stokes. Friday 26 September, Griffiths Room, Digby Memorial Church Hall, Digby Road.

Choral Classics: A Chamber Choir evening of choral classics old and new, featuring Vivaldi's joyful Gloria and favourites by composers including Durufle, Grieg, Mozart, Mendelssohn, Stanford and Eric Whitacre. Saturday 27 September 7.30pm, Sherborne Abbey. Tickets £7 - £20, available from www.sherbornechamberchoir.org.uk or Ticketsource on 03336663366.

Harvest Lunch: Sunday 28 September in the Digby Memorial Church Hall to celebrate Harvest Festival and to support the Almshouse Project. The menu is Cottage Pie with a special leek and cheese topping followed by Apple Charlotte with Ice Cream. Vegetarian and gluten free options available. Tickets are £12.50 for adults, which includes wine and soft drinks, and £5 for children. It really helps if you buy your tickets from the Parish Office early so we know how many to cater for. We would be grateful for donations of prizes for the raffle, which may be left in the Parish Office.

Frances Walker, Abbey Social Committee

Harvest Produce: Donations of Harvest goods are very welcome, nonperishable items in particular that can be given to the food bank. Please present your donations at one of the services on Sunday 28th September or bring them to the Parish Office.

Friends Coffee Morning: Wednesday 8th October 10.30am – 1.00pm at the Digby Memorial Church Hall.

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.



The Benefice Team

Sherborne Abbey with Castleton & St Paul's, Lillington and Longburton:

Team Rector: [The Reverend Martin Lee](#)

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

Tel: 01935 713777 or 07725 593100 Email: Rector@sherborneabbey.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.

01935 816444 (Office)

revdjim.edie@gmail.com

Associate Priest: [The Reverend Hugh Bonsey](#)

with particular responsibility for St Martin of Tours, Lillington

Email: frhughbonsey@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: Sue.Lee@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/>