



**The Mothers' Union:** 24 January 2026. The Griffiths Room of the Digby Church Hall, Digby Road. 10.00 am for 10.30 am. We will start the New Year by celebrating the Eucharist together, having our AGM and enrolling new members.

*Jo Higgs*

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

**Hidden Needs Trust:** Presents 'A night of Take That' featuring the Tribute Band 'Let it Shine'. Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2026, 7.30 pm at Westlands, Yeovil. Tickets £25 available from Westlands Booking Office or online at [www.westlandseyevil.co.uk](http://www.westlandseyevil.co.uk)

**Christmas Lunch:** Sherborne Churches have a wonderful tradition of offering a free Christmas lunch to anyone living in the Sherborne area who might otherwise be on their own. Last year we had nearly 100 people attending. Please visit the Parish Office to fill in the application form for lunch.

*Kathy Pinsent*

### **The Pod On Cheap Street:**

<https://www.cheapstreetchurch.co.uk/the-pod.php> has become an extremely effective award-winning Christian outreach ministry in our town. It successfully combines information giving about community and church life, signposting to financial and practical assistance, a second-hand Christian bookshop and a listening ear for anyone who drops in. They are now urgently looking for volunteers from any of the town's churches to help them continue their outreach - just a couple of hours a fortnight would make a big difference. Maybe you could consider this as a New Year commitment? Do contact them directly 07496755549 or [team@thepodsherborne.co.uk](mailto:team@thepodsherborne.co.uk). Or have a brief word with me. *John Crossman*  
[john.crossman@btinternet.com](mailto:john.crossman@btinternet.com) 07721616003

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

21 December 2025

### BENEFICE NOTICES

Worship for Christmas Eve & Christmas Day

#### 24<sup>th</sup> December, Christmas Eve

##### ABBEY

##### **3.00 pm & 5.00 pm Crib Service**

Officiants: The Reverend Martin Lee

The Reverend Becca McDonnell

##### **11.30 pm First Eucharist of Christmas**

Celebrants: The Reverend Martin Lee

The Reverend Becca McDonnell

**CASTLETON** No service

##### ST PAUL'S@THE GRYPHON

##### **10.00 am Quieter Christmas Communion**

Leader: The Reverend Jim Edie

##### LILLINGTON

No service

##### LONGBURTON

##### **4.00 pm Crib Service at the Inn**

Officiant: The Reverend Lesley McCreadie

##### **11.30 pm The First Eucharist of Christmas**

Celebrant: The Reverend Pene Kennedy

#### 25<sup>th</sup> December, Christmas Day

##### ABBEY

##### **8.00 am BCP Holy Communion**

Celebrant: The Reverend Martin Lee

##### **9.30 am Parish Eucharist with Carols**

Celebrant: The Reverend Martin Lee

Preacher: The Reverend Becca McDonnell

##### **11.30 am Festal Mattins**

Officiant: The Reverend Martin Lee

Preacher: The Reverend Becca McDonnell

##### CASTLETON

##### **11.00 am Lessons & Carols followed by BCP Holy Communion**

Celebrant: The Reverend Hugh Bonsey

##### ST PAUL@S @THE GRYPHON

##### **10.00 am Christmas Celebration**

Leader: The Reverend Jim Edie

##### LILLINGTON

##### **9.30 am Holy Communion with Carols**

Celebrant: The Reverend Hugh Bonsey

##### LONGBURTON

##### **10.00 am Family Communion**

Celebrant: The Reverend Lesley McCreadie

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> December 2025**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas**  
**Holy Innocents**

**Friday 26 December**  
**St Stephen's Day**

**ABBEY**

**10.00 Eucharist with Carols**

Celebrant: The Reverend Martin Lee

**Worship next Sunday**

**28th December**

**ABBEY**

**8.00 am BCP Holy Communion**

Celebrant: The Reverend Martin Lee

**9.30 am Parish Eucharist**

**Celebrant:** The Reverend Becca McDonnell

**Preacher:** The Reverend Martin Lee

**6.00 pm: Said Evensong with hymns**

**Officiant:** The Reverend Martin Lee

**CASTLETON**

**11.15 am: Mattins**

**Officiant:** The Reverend Hugh Bonsey

**ST PAUL@S@THE GRYPHON**

**10.30 am Reflective Communion Service**

**Leader:** Reverend Jim Edie

**Speaker:** John Crossman

**LILLINGTON**

**No Service**

**LONGBURTON**

**No Service**

**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.

**Parish Giving Scheme (PGS):** Sherborne Abbey joined the Parish Giving Scheme on 25 September. The scheme is designed to enable donors to give monthly, quarterly or annually by direct debit to the Abbey. Donors have the option to index link their gifts. Admin is reduced as the PGS collect the gift aid. For further information please contact [liz.ashmead@sherborneabbey.com](mailto:liz.ashmead@sherborneabbey.com)

**Becca's final service:** Our curate, The Reverend Becca McDonnell, will be leaving us to become Rector of St Mary's, Gillingham, on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2026. We have opened a collection for her and gifts can be left at the Parish Office, cash or Cheques made payable to Sherborne PCC.

**Weekday Holy Communion:** Weekday Holy Communions will take place at 10.30 am from Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> December until Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> January inclusive. The Abbey will be open from 10.00 am until 3.00 pm between Christmas and New Year.

**Christmas Closing for Parish Office:** The Parish Office will close from 12 noon on 24<sup>th</sup> December and will reopen on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

**What is that great enclosure outside the West Door ?** We are doing some much needed masonry conservation, including on the balustrade from which pieces were dropping off. Work will extend to the porch after Christmas and will continue to March. The gates to the West Door have been removed for workshop refurbishment and the porch gates will be taken away in January. All should be restored by April. We are grateful to The Friends of Sherborne Abbey for funding this work.

**Shop Volunteers.** The Abbey Shop is looking for more volunteers to help. If you are interested, please speak to Chris Hamon.

**Christmas Service Notice Sheet:** For information regarding all Carol Services and concerts throughout December please take a notice sheet from the table at the back of the church or visit our website.

**The Porch Gates:** The gates to the main porch are to be removed for workshop refurbishment. Please be aware that the porch will be closed all day on Thursday 8 January, and there will be preparatory work on the preceding days.  
*Mike Keatinge, Fabric Committee*