

## ABBEY WEEKDAY/MONTHLY SERVICES

**Every Monday – Saturday** - 8.30 am:

Morning Prayer in The Sepulchre Chapel

**Every Monday** - 9.00 am:

CW Holy Communion in The Sepulchre Chapel

**Every Tuesday** - 12 noon:

CW Holy Communion in The Sepulchre Chapel

**Every Wednesday** - 10.30 am:

Holy Communion with Homily (CW/BCP)

in The Lady Chapel

**Every Thursday** - 12 noon:

BCP Holy Communion in The Lady Chapel

**Every Friday** - 9.00 am:

Ecumenical Holy Communion

in The Sepulchre Chapel

**1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month** - 9.00 am:

Requiem HC in The Sepulchre Chapel

(next service: Friday 2nd January 2026)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month** - 11.00am: Remembering the Fallen (next service: Fri 19 December 2025)

**Every Saturday** at 9.00 am:

CW Holy Communion in The Sepulchre Chapel

### CONTACT US

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*(with particular responsibility for  
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St. Mary Magdalene, Castleton &

St. James the Great, Longburton

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

## PEWSHEET

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2025

3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### Worship This Sunday

#### ABBEY

**8.00 am BCP Holy Communion**

Celebrant: The Reverend Martin Lee

**9.30 am Parish Eucharist**

Celebrant: The Reverend Martin Lee

Preacher: The Reverend Robert Green

2.45 pm: Freemasons Carol Service

Officiant: The Reverend Martin Lee

**6.00 pm Choral Evensong**

Officiant: The Reverend Martin Lee

#### CASTLETON

**11.15 am BCP Holy Communion**

Celebrant: The Reverend Becca McDonnell

#### ST PAUL'S@THE GRYPHON

**10.30 am Nativity Service**

Cosmic

#### LILLINGTON

**9.30 am Holy Communion BCP**

Celebrant: The Reverend John Townend

#### LONGBURTON

**6.00 pm Carol Service**

Officiants: The Reverend Pene Kennedy

The Reverend Brenda Phillips

### PRAYER LIST

**The Sick:** Harry Bond, Alan Gillard,  
Peter Dunkin, Miranda Broadhurst,  
Shirley Fooks, Mervyn Davies, Jo Gem, Toby  
Wright, Gilly Gibbons, Anne Mash, Jo Kemp,  
Daniel Smallbone, Mary Browne.

#### **The Departed:**

John Bowles, Janet Quinn, David Comben,  
Maddie Wickham

## 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

## READING

**Isaiah 35. 1-10**

## GOSPEL

**Matthew 11.2 – 11**

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me." As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: What did you go out in the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

## MUSIC AT THE ABBEY

### 9.30 am Sung Eucharist

Setting: *Missa Brevis* Matthew O'Donovan

Carols: *In the bleak midwinter* Holst

*Adan lay ybounden* Warlock

*Nativity Carol* John Rutter

Hymns: 5, 15, 11, 490

Organ: *Toccata on Veni Emmanuel* Andrew Carter

### 6.00 pm Choral Evensong

Anthem: *Adam lay ybounden* Warlock

Responses: Shephard

Psalm: 73 vv 1-12 Smart

Canticles: Stanford *in G*

Anthem: *Ding Dong Merrily on high* arr Stuart

Nicholson

Hymns: 7,10

Organ: *Rorate Caeli* Melissa Dunphy

## ORGAN RECITAL

The next Organ Recital will be on

Monday 12 January 2026

## THURSDAY CHORAL EVENSONG

The next Thursday Choral Evensong will take place on

8<sup>th</sup> December 2026 at 5.30pm.

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

On this Third Sunday of Advent, we once again reflect on John the Baptist, but this time his question of Jesus "Are you the one?" I find it particularly interesting as last week we were introduced to John as the prophet who was telling the crowds that Jesus was the one 'whose sandals [He was] not worthy to carry' (Matthew 3:11). Perhaps the reality of Jesus was so different to the anticipated Messiah that even John is now unsure. However, Jesus sends reassurance and what is the sign of His status as the Christ and Son of God? The outcast and marginalised are brought *into* the fold; the blind, the lame, the leper, the poor, even the dead.

This Advent season there appears to be a narrative from some with a far-right political agenda that they are going to be putting 'Christ back into Christmas' I would encourage therefore that the prophetic voice of the church needs to remind people that Jesus is 'The One' and that He has gone nowhere, but also that Christ will always stand with the outsider, marginalised and the overshadowed. The message of Jesus this festive season (as at all times) is one of radical acceptance, inclusion, love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness and gentleness. Everyone is invited.

*The Reverend Jim Edie*