

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

1st Friday of the month - 9.00 am:

Requiem HC in The Sepulchre Chapel

(next service: Friday 2nd January 2026)

3rd Friday of the month - 11.00am: Remembering

the Fallen (next service: Fri 16 January 2026)

Every Saturday at 9.00 am:

CW Holy Communion in The Sepulchre Chapel

CONTACT US

Team Rector: The Reverend Martin Lee

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Assistant Curate:

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Team Vicar: The Reverend Jim Edie

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*(with particular responsibility for
St. Paul's Church, Sherborne)*

Associate Priest: The Reverend Hugh Bonsey

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*(with particular responsibility for
St. Martin of Tours, Lillington)*

St. Mary Magdalene, Castleton &

St. James the Great, Longburton

Please contact the Parish Office.

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Abbey. Thank you!



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

PEWSHEET

Sunday 21st December 2025

4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Worship This Sunday

ABBEY

8.00 am BCP Holy Communion

Celebrant: The Reverend Becca McDonnell

9.30 am Parish Eucharist

Celebrant: The Reverend Martin Lee

Preacher: The Reverend John Townend

1.30 pm & 2.30 pm Shoppers Carols

Officiants: The Reverend Martin Lee

The Reverend Becca McDonnell

5.00 pm Festival of Lessons & Carols

Officiants: The Reverend Martin Lee

The Reverend Becca McDonnell

CASTLETON

11.15 am Mattins

Officiant: The Reverend Hugh Bonsey

ST PAUL'S@THE GRYPHON

10.30 am All Age Service

Leader: The Reverend Jim Edie

LILLINGTON

6.00 pm Carol Service

Officiant: The Reverend Hugh Bonsey

LONGBURTON

10.00 am Holy Communion

Officiants: The Reverend Pene Kennedy

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:

Janet Quinn, David Comben,
Maddie Wickham

COLLECT

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

READING

Isaiah 7.10-16

Again, the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

GOSPEL

Matthew 1.18-end

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

MUSIC AT THE ABBEY

9.30 am Sung Eucharist

Setting: *Missa Brevis* Palestrina

Carols: *I sing of a maiden* Berkeley

O little one sweet J S Bach

Quem pastores laudavere Praetorius

Hymns: 21,48,376,186

Organ: *Fanfare* Mathias

5.00 pm Festival of Lessons & Carols

Carols: *Joys Seven* arr Cleobury

I sing of a maiden Berkeley

The holy and the ivy Matthew Owens

Lully, lulla Leighton

Noël Nouvelet Stephen Jackson

Silent Night Ledger

Ding dong! Merrily on high arr Stuart Nicholson

Hymns: 34, 39, 32, 42, 29, 26, 30

Organ: *In dulce jubilo, BWV 729* J S Bach

Dieu parmi nous Messiaen

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
8th January 2026 at 5.30pm.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

When God sent His son to Earth to be our Saviour, He sent him quietly, tucked away and hidden, into the womb of Mary. God the Son, who was present at the birth of all things in creation, took on flesh in the most vulnerable form imaginable. Mary's womb, a cradle of creation, and from the darkness and warmth our future salvation is promised. As Jesus grew, Mary would have had to make space within her body for him, we've all seen the cross-section diagrams of how a mother's organs are rearranged to make space for a growing baby. So, Mary made space for her child, and she made space in her heart too. It is all too easy to whizz through Advent in an excited rush for Christmas day, tied down with endless jobs, but let us not forget to take Mary as our example and do some rearranging ourselves to make room for the Christ child. The world may feel like a dark and scary place, but from Mary's womb came the true light of the world. Let us open our hearts to receive him and help others too as well.

The Reverend Becca McDonnell