

# From Source to Sea

with the churches of the Bride Valley and Chesil

Weekly News: Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December: Advent 4

## SERVICES TODAY



8.00 am	<b>Burton Bradstock</b>	Holy Communion
9.00 am	<b>Portesham</b>	BCP Communion
9.30 am	<b>Litton Cheney</b>	Morning Worship
10.00 am	<b>Abbotsbury</b>	Family Praise
11.00 am	<b>Skipton Gorge</b>	Holy Communion
	<b>Puncknowle</b>	Café Church
4.30 pm	<b>Littlebredy</b>	Carol service
7.30 pm	<b>Langton Herring</b>	Evening Prayer

## Our ministry team:

Revd Andrew Rawding (Rector)  
Revd Margaret-Preuss-Higham  
Revd. Liz Howlett  
Revd. Ryder Rogers  
LWL Vicky Thomas  
LWL Paul Cheater  
LWL Heather Goffee  
LWL Diana Ludlow  
LWL Jethro Truscott

## 25<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER: CHRISTMAS DAY

9.30 am	<b>Skipton Gorge</b>	Holy Communion
10.00 am	<b>Burton Bradstock</b>	Holy Communion
10.30 am	<b>Abbotsbury</b>	Holy Communion
	<b>Portesham</b>	Holy Communion
11.00 am	<b>Littlebredy</b>	Holy Communion
	<b>Puncknowle</b>	Christmas Praise

Psalm: 98

NT: Hebrews 1: 1-12

OT: Isaiah 52: 7-10

Gospel: John 1: 1-14

## For our prayers:

### We have much to celebrate this week, including:

- The birth of Jesus, our Saviour, celebrated in so many ways in our churches and communities

### We are grateful for:

- Our musicians who serve us so regularly and bring joy to our worship especially at this time of year

### Your kingdom come, here and now:

- In our lives and those of our communities as we celebrate the birth of Christ

### Specially in our prayers this week:

- Those struggling with health issues and those being looked after in residential homes
- Those for whom Christmas is a difficult time often with painful memories
- Our Benefice exploring the appointment of a worker for children and families
- Those suffering abuse of any kind
- Langton Herring and all who live and work there
- recently bereaved families, including the family of *Malcolm Lawrence*

**Rector:** Revd Andrew Rawding (☎01308 898799 [rectorbridevalleychesil@gmail.com](mailto:rectorbridevalleychesil@gmail.com))

**Assistant Priest:** Revd Margaret Preuss-Higham (☎01305 873978 [revmph@gmail.com](mailto:revmph@gmail.com))

## **Collects for Advent 4 Sunday** *(for use in services or in private prayer)*

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

Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### *Post Communion*

Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

## **Collects for Christmas Day** *(for use in services or in private prayer)*

Lord Jesus Christ, your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth: accept our heartfelt praise as we worship you, our Saviour and our eternal God.

### *Post Communion*

God our Father, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem: may the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ the Lord.

### *Congregational prayer over the Advent Wreath (Advent 4: The Virgin Mary)*

**Lord Jesus, light of the world, blessed is Gabriel, who brought good news; blessed is Mary, your mother and ours. Bless your Church preparing for Christmas; and bless us your children, who long for your coming. Amen.**

### *Congregational prayer over the Advent Wreath (Christmas Day)*

**Lord Jesus, Light of light, you have come among us. Help us who live by your light to shine as lights in your world. Glory to God in the highest. Amen.**

## **Old Testament Reading: Micah 5: 2-5a**

<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. <sup>3</sup> Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. <sup>4</sup> And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; <sup>5</sup> and he shall be the one of peace.

## **New Testament Reading: Hebrews 10: 5-10**

<sup>5</sup> Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, 'Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; <sup>6</sup> in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings you have taken no pleasure. <sup>7</sup> Then I said, "See, God, I have come to do your will, O God" (in the scroll of the book it is written of me).' <sup>8</sup> When he said above, 'You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings' (these are offered according to the law), <sup>9</sup> then he added, 'See, I have come to do your will.' He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. <sup>10</sup> And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

## **Gospel Reading: Luke 1: 39-55: Mary Visits Elizabeth**

<sup>39</sup> In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, <sup>40</sup> where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup> When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup> and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. <sup>43</sup> And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? <sup>44</sup> For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. <sup>45</sup> And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

### Mary's Song of Praise

<sup>46</sup> And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, <sup>47</sup> and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, <sup>48</sup> for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; <sup>49</sup> for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. <sup>50</sup> His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. <sup>51</sup> He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. <sup>52</sup> He has brought down the powerful from their thrones and lifted up the lowly; <sup>53</sup> he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. <sup>54</sup> He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, <sup>55</sup> according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

## **SPECIAL SERVICES FOR CHRISTMAS – ALL WELCOME!**

There will be a number of special services across the Benefice on Christmas Eve.

**Crib Services** on Christmas Eve take place at:

Litton Cheney and Burton Bradstock at 4.00 pm

Portesham at 4.30 pm

**Early Christmas/Midnight Communion** services take place at:

Swyre at 9.00 pm

Litton Cheney at 11.30 pm

Langton Herring at 11.30 pm

**Please join us!**

## **BENEFICE WALKING CHURCH: 29<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER @ BURTON BRADSTOCK**

Weather and ground conditions permitting, we shall meet at the church at 10.30 am and, after an introduction, join in a circular walk to Hive Beach and the beacon at the top of Cliff Road, stopping at various points for reflections, prayer, singing or just silence before returning to the church for coffee. All are welcome to join us (including dogs) for all or part(s) of the walk. Please wear appropriate clothing and footwear for a winter walk.

**NB** There will also be a said Holy Communion service at Portesham at 9.00 am on that day.

## **SERVICES ON 5<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2025: EPIPHANY**

*Christmas  
Blessings to  
everyone*

9.00 am	<b>Langton Herring</b>	BCP Communion
9.30 am	<b>Litton Cheney</b>	Holy Communion
11.00 am	<b>Puncknowle</b>	Morning Praise
	<b>Long Bredy</b>	Holy Communion
	<b>Abbotsbury</b>	Holy Communion
	<b>Burton Bradstock</b>	Morning Worship
3.00 pm	<b>Swyre</b>	Epiphany Carols

## REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS

Monday	3.30 pm	Big Q Church at LATCH ( <i>term time</i> )
Tuesday	10.30 am	<b>NO</b> Life Group at Manafossen Barn, Burton Bradstock
	10.30 am	Friendship Café in Portesham Village Hall
	6.00 pm	Bell ringing practice (Litton Cheney ☎482312*)
Wednesday	2.00 pm	<b>NO</b> Warm Welcome Café in Portesham Methodist Hall
	4.30 pm	<b>NO</b> Bell ringing practice (Long Bredy ☎482270*)
	7.30 pm	<b>NO</b> Bell ringing practice (Shipton Gorge ☎07799751130*)
Thursday	6.00 pm	<b>NO</b> Bell ringing practice (Abbotsbury)
	7.00 pm	<b>NO</b> Bell ringing practice (Burton Bradstock)
Friday	10.00 am	Warm Welcome Café in Portesham Village Hall
	2.00 pm	<b>NO</b> Tots Time: Burton Bradstock ( <i>restarts 17<sup>th</sup> January</i> )
	3.00 pm	Bible Study Group at Portesham Methodist Hall

\* Please phone to check if practice is taking place

## ADDITIONAL EVENTS THIS WEEK

Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> 10.30 am Burial of Ashes: Mike Conway at Burton Bradstock

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

### JANUARY

- 9<sup>th</sup> Burton Coffee Mates: 10.30 am in the church  
10<sup>th</sup> Shipton Gorge Café: 10.30 am in the Village Hall  
11<sup>th</sup> Coffee Break: 10.30 am at Long Bredy Village Hall  
12<sup>th</sup> Plough Sunday celebration: 3.00 pm at Puncknowle Manor Farm Grain Store, DT2 9BX  
13<sup>th</sup> Long Bredy PCC: 10.30 am at Manor Farmhouse  
15<sup>th</sup> Coffee Stop: 10.30 am in Burton Bradstock Village Hall  
17<sup>th</sup> Tots restarts: 2.00 pm at Burton Bradstock  
17<sup>th</sup> Come Along Inn: 5.30 pm at Long Bredy Village Hall  
21<sup>st</sup> Litton Cheney PCC: 9.30 am at Steddings  
21<sup>st</sup> PSWB+ Lunch Club: 1.00 pm at Puncknowle Village Hall  
24<sup>th</sup> Shipton Gorge Café: 10.30 am in the Village Hall  
31<sup>st</sup> Burial of Ashes: Mike Burr 11.00 am at Burton Bradstock

Please check the **Bride Valley News** for further information and events.

## THANK YOU FOR GENEROUS GIVING

Thank you to everyone who supports the work of our churches by their financial giving, through the various ways that are now possible. We also recognise the time and talent we are fortunate to share. *"Yours Lord is the greatness, the glory, the splendour and the majesty. Everything in heaven and on earth comes from you and of your own do we give you."* (1 Chronicles 29:14)

**Please take this leaflet and use it for reference and prayer.** Each week's copy is at:

<http://www.burtonbradstockvillage.org>

Follow the Bride Valley and Chesil Churches on Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/bridevalleyandchesilchurches>

and on A Church Near You: [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com)

**Daily Hope** – the free service from the CofE is available on ☎0800 804 8044 Source to Sea is produced by a team. Items to the administrator, Helen Fry: [bvchurchesta@outlook.com](mailto:bvchurchesta@outlook.com) ☎01308 897260 The Churches of this Benefice have adopted the House of Bishops safeguarding policy and are 'Promoting Safer Churches'. The Benefice churches have an open door to all survivors. For further information or support please contact our Safeguarding Officer, Les Keatley. ☎07833545450 email: [Les@Keatley.me.uk](mailto:Les@Keatley.me.uk)