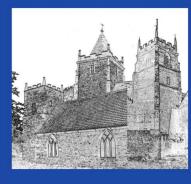
The Three Parishes Benefice



St Mary's Church, Saltford. All Saints Church, Corston. Holy Trinity Church, Newton St Loe.



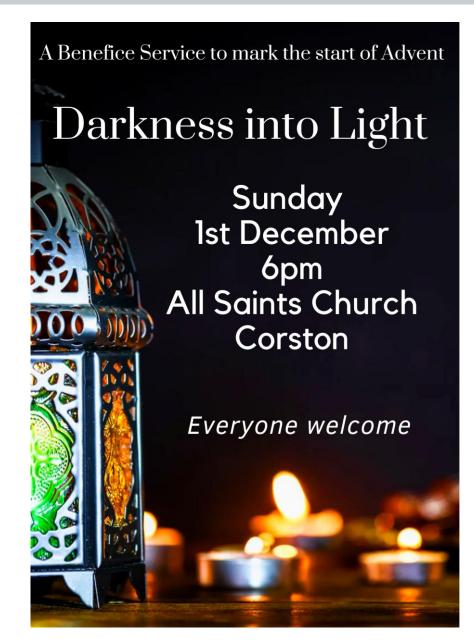
Sunday 1st December - Advent Sunday

9.30am Holy Communion - St Mary's Saltford 4pm Benefice Telephone Service 6pm Darkness into Light - All Saints Corston

Collect

Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen

Readings Jer 33:14-16 Luke 21:25-36



Wednesday 4th December

7.30pm Compline - St Mary's Saltford



Sunday 8th December - Advent 2

9am Parish Breakfast - St Mary's Hall Saltford 10am All Age Family Nativity Service - St Mary's Hall Saltford 11.15am Christingle - Holy Trinity Newton St Loe 4pm Carol Service around the Christmas Tree - All Saints Corston 4pm Benefice Telephone Service

Collect

Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God. Amen

Readings tba

PARISH BREAKFAST

Sunday 8th December From 9.00am in St Mary's Church Hall

Come along to enjoy fellowship and help The Children's Society in their work helping young people find hope this Christmas

Pastries and tea/fresh coffee

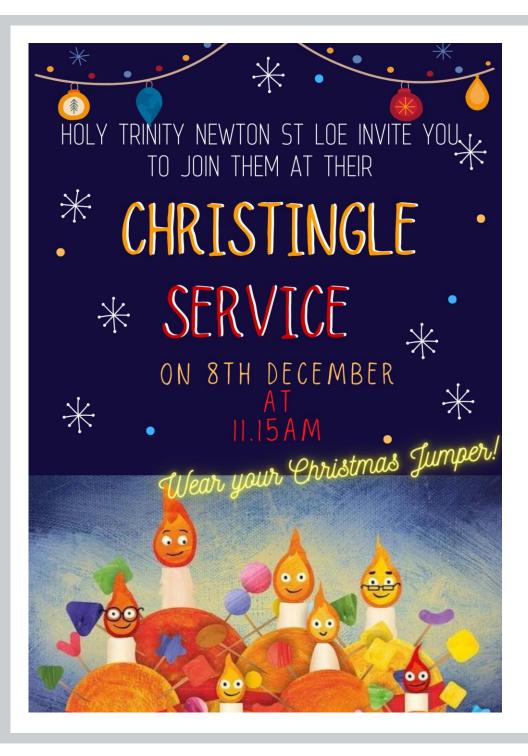
Contact Julia Norris for more information (07977 956 969) St Mary's Open the Book team warmly invite you to

St Marys Nativity Service *

IOam Sunday 8th December
St Mary's Hall, Queen Square, Saltford.
Come early for coffee and pastries
from 9am.

If your child would like to take part, please email scnbenefice@gmail.com by 2nd December.





Carol Service around the Christmas Tree Sunday 8th December 4pm All Saints Corston All welcome

Wednesday 11th December

7.30pm Compline - All Saints Corston

Jesus, the Light of the World

'All is calm, all is bright' may not be the words that many of us would use to describe our experience of either the run up to Christmas or the feast itself. Presents to buy and wrap, food to order and cook, events and church services to be part of. And that's before we've negotiated the big day itself. I saw one website recently that claimed that Christmas is considered as one of the six most stressful life events, along with divorce, moving house and changing jobs!

In the midst of such chaos, our churches offer an opportunity to find peace during this busy time – of stillness, quiet and the opportunity to stand back from all the pressures that the season contains. This year, the Church of England's theme for Advent and Christmas is Follow the Star: Calm and Bright. The theme draws on some of the lyrics of the famous carol, Silent Night:

"Silent Night! Holy Night! All is calm, all is bright..."

To be calm and bright is to be invited into the still centre of the Christmas story. It's to contemplate Mary holding the new-born Jesus, the Light of the World. It's to open ourselves to the joy of the angels as they tell the shepherds "Do not be afraid - Fear not!" It's to encounter the wonder of the wise men as they discover that the gift of this child is for the whole world.

May your Christmas 2024 be 'Calm and Bright'!

Bishop Michael Beasley Bishop of Bath and Wells

Pause for Thought

Encouraging each other is a good thing, isn't it. But is it always a good thing from the point of view of the one being encouraged?

Paul's letter to the Ephesians is full of encouragements, one of which is to put off falsehood and speak truthfully to each other. They are to say how things *really* are.

Doesn't putting off falsehood suggest more than just not telling fibs? Doesn't it include not pretendingputting on an act, rather than being who we really (truly) are?

Might the enthusiasm of an encourager actually cause the one one being encouraged to mask their real (true) experiences and feelings?

They hear how The Gospel promises to have all sorts of effects on them, but for them it may seem not to do so... and to say so might feel to them like admitting failure and also disappoint the encourager!

Can we be too keen to tell, and fail to listen?

Should our encouragement not rather be to direct each other to spending time in listening to the Holy Spirit, and not towards certain expected outcomes?

These thoughts are heart-searching, aren't they? Naturally we want to share the good things

we have experienced, but are they things that God wants for everyone? ("To each one of us, grace has been given as Christ appointed it".) Heart-searching as these thoughts may be, they are about 'who is in control'.... aren't they?

(Ephesians 4 v 25 & v 7)

Ken Plant

Wednesday Mornings Telephone Service

Ken & Teresa invite you to join them at the weekly Telephone Service on Wednesdays at 9.30am. Please see below on how to join in or contact the Parish Office for help. All welcome

Benefice Telephone Service

To join our telephone service ~~~~ Dial: 03330164757 Room Number: 30497259# Room Number: 5856#

Opportunities to Pray

Morning Prayer Monday to Wednesday via Zoom at 8.30am

Prayer @ 6 Monday to Thursday via Zoom at 6pm

Zoom Meeting Details for Morning Prayer and Prayer@6 https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85017998147pwd=L0FWMnZENHIvZ3VxS3FOeWpaNXJWZz09

Meeting ID: 850 1799 8147 Passcode: Prayer

Supporting the Mission and Ministry of St Mary's Church

If you would like to make an online donation to support the ongoing work of St Mary's please click on the donate button. It will redirect you to our online giving page. You can also give in other ways like standing order, through the contactless device in church, through our website or by cash. For more information about how to give, please speak to Pam F our treasurer and she will be able to help you.









KEYNSHAM METHODIST CHURCH

HAS A VACANCY FOR A

Church Bookkeeper (Part Time)

Location: Keynsham Methodist Church, Victoria Centre

Hours: 5 hours per week

Salary: £29,000 per annum FTE pro rata (Actual salary £3,625 per annum)

Keynsham Methodist Church is seeking to recruit a Church Bookkeeper. This role is responsible for maintaining the church accounts on our online accounts system, keeping entries up to date and reconciled, including bank accounts and donations (restricted and non-restricted). This role is also responsible for preparing the year end entries, Cash Management, staff payroll, and monitoring the restricted income and expenditure.

Candidates should be AAT qualified or part qualified CCAB i.e. ACCA, ICAEW, CIMA or CIPFA or equivalent. Experience of preparing accounts using computerised accounting system is essential, and also the use of Microsoft Office applications, in particular Excel. Candidates should possess a professional and flexible attitude to work, and the empathy to work in a faith environment.

For a copy of the application pack please contact the church office by email at <u>office@keynshammethodistchurch.co.uk</u> Applications are by application form and covering letter. The closing date for applications is Sunday 1st December, 2024. Interviews will be held during week commencing 9th December 2024.

Safeguarding

If you have cause for concern regarding the safety of a child or vulnerable adult it is vital that you contact our Benefice Safeguarding Officer.

Benefice Safeguarding Officer Mrs Sue Dixon 01225 359014 smdstm31@gmail.com

Contact Us

Rector

Revd Nigel Williams (Day off Friday) Rector@scnbenefice.org.uk 07850 887498

Administrator

Liz Benden (Day off Friday) Parish Office Opening Hours (term time only) Tuesday - Thursday 9am-12pm 01225 872275 scnbenefice@gmail.com

Readers (Lay Ministers)

Teresa Austin 07763 208664 Robin Dixon 01225 359014 Ken Plant 01225 872904

Church Wardens

Norman (Saltford) 01225 874591 Ian (Saltford) 01225 872275 Julie (Corston) 07983 910796 David (Corston) 01225 873887 Harvey (Newton) 07711 506676 Matthew (Newton) 07469 377438

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