

From Source to Sea

with the churches of the Bride Valley and Chesil

Weekly News: 8th March 2026 – 3rd Sunday of Lent



Welcome!

We extend a warm welcome to all those worshipping with us today and during the week.

SERVICES TODAY

9.30 am	Litton Cheney Puncknowle Shipton Gorge	Morning Worship Holy Communion Breakfast Church
10.00 am	Portesham	Morning Worship
11.00 am	Burton Bradstock Langton Herring	Holy Communion Morning Worship

Our ministry team:

Revd Andrew Rawding (Rector)
Revd. Ryder Rogers
LWL Vicky Thomas
LWL Paul Cheater
LWL Diana Ludlow

Occasional visiting clergy:

Revd Canon John Wood
Revd Edward Tildesley
Revd Juliette Hulme
LLM Paul Rendell

15th MARCH: Mothering Sunday

9.30 am	Burton Bradstock Litton Cheney Long Bredy Langton Herring	Café Church Morning Prayer Morning Worship Holy Communion
10.00 am	Abbotsbury	Morning Worship
11.00 am	Portesham Swyre	Holy Communion Holy Communion* <i>*by extension</i>

Psalm 95

NT: Colossians 3: 12-17

OT: 1 Samuel 1: 20-28

Gospel: John 19: 25-27

For our prayers:

We have much to celebrate this week, including:

- The success of the St Bride's Day pilgrimage and event at Othona and development of future pilgrimage routes.

We are most grateful for:

- Our bell ringers who practise each week and call our communities to worship
- Those visiting clergy/LLMs taking services whilst Andrew continues to recover

Specially in our prayers this week:

- Our rector, Andrew, and Revd Philip Ringer for their continuing recovery
- Our Benefice as we pray about the appointment of a new house for duty priest and the organisation of the service plan affecting all our churches
- All who struggle with the daily grind of commuting to and from work
- Those who feel excluded in our communities
- All those living in fear because of wars and conflict
- Abbotsbury and all who live and work there
- Recently bereaved families and friends including *Robert Langran and Clare Viney*

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Administrator: **Helen Fry** (☎01308 897260) bvchurchesta@outlook.com

COLLECTS: 3rd SUNDAY OF LENT *(for use in services/in private prayer)*

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Post Communion Prayer

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 17: 1-7

Water from the Rock

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ² The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?' ³ But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' ⁴ So Moses cried out to the Lord, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' ⁵ The Lord said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶ I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

New Testament Reading: Romans 5: 1-11

Results of Justification

5 Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³ And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸ But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹ But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Gospel Reading: John 4: 5-42

⁵ He came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷ A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. ⁸ (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰ Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' ¹¹ The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?' ¹² Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well,

and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' ¹³ Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' ¹⁵ The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.'

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.' ¹⁷ The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; ¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!' ¹⁹ The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.' ²¹ Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' ²⁵ The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' ²⁶ Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.'

²⁷ Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?' ²⁸ Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹ 'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?' ³⁰ They left the city and were on their way to him.

³¹ Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' ³² But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' ³³ So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?' ³⁴ Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. ³⁵ Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. ³⁶ The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷ For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." ³⁸ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.'

³⁹ Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' ⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. ⁴¹ And many more believed because of his word. ⁴² They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'

IS MOTHERING SUNDAY DIFFICULT FOR YOU?

We are offering a safe space for those who find Mothering Sunday difficult. Whatever your story: whether you're grieving the loss of a mother, the loss of a child, or a baby through miscarriage; whether you're struggling with infertility or childlessness, singleness of a difficult relationship; whether you never even knew your mother or any other reason why you might find Mothering Sunday painful, this quiet, reflective space has been designed with you in mind. It will be an informal gathering: either to sit quietly, to light a candle, say a prayer or to chat over a cuppa. Please pop into **St Mary's Church, Burton Bradstock on Saturday 14th March between 2.00 pm and 4.00 pm** to find support.

BATH HALF MARATHON FOR PROSTATE CANCER RESEARCH

On Sunday 15th March our Rector will be walking the Bath Half Marathon on crutches to raise funds for Prostate Cancer Research (PCR). If you would like to sponsor Andrew the online link is here:

<https://2026getprobathhalf.enthuse.com/pf/andrew-rawding/post/22359848>

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS

Monday	3.30 pm	Big Q Church at Thorner's School (<i>term time only</i>)
Tuesday	10.15 am	Life Group at Manafossen Barn, Burton Bradstock
	10.00 am	Friendship Café in Portesham Village Hall
	6.00 pm	Bell ringing practice (Litton Cheney ☎482312*)
Wednesday	4.30 pm	Bell ringing practice (Long Bredy ☎482270*)
	7.30 pm	Bell ringing practice (Shipton Gorge ☎07581050910*)
Thursday	6.00 pm	Bell ringing practice (Abbotsbury ☎07791256443*)
	7.00 pm	Bell ringing practice (Burton Bradstock ☎898603*)
Friday	2.00 pm	Tots' Time: Burton Bradstock (<i>term time only</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	9 th	10.00 am	Ministry Team in the Rectory
Tues	10 th	9.30 am	Litton PCC at Steddings
		7.00 pm	Help our Planet (HOP) Group at Burton Bradstock
Wed	11 th	10.00 am	Coffee Stop in Burton Bradstock Village Hall
Thurs	12 th	10.30 am	Burton Coffee Mates in the Church
Fri	13 th	3.00 pm	Lent Study with Richard Lownbrough in Portesham Meth. Hall
Sat	14 th	10.30 am	Coffee Break in Long Bredy Village Hall
		2.00 pm	Mothering Sunday support at Burton Bradstock
Sun	15 th	4.00 pm	Community Choir Rehearsal at Langton Herring

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)

DATES FOR THE DIARY

- 16th Benefice Council: 7.00 pm in Puncknowle Village Hall
- 17th PSWB+ Lunch Club: 1.00 pm in Puncknowle Village Hall
- 17th Funeral at Swyre for Jane Goodrick: 11.00am
- 17th Portesham PCC: 7.30 pm in the church
- 20th Come Along Inn: 5.30 pm in Long Bredy Village Hall

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

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

<http://www.burtonbradstockvillage.org> and <https://bvn.org.uk>

Follow the Bride Valley and Chesil Churches on Facebook:

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

and on A Church Near You: www.achurchnearyou.com

Daily Hope – the free service from the CofE is available on ☎0800 804 8044 From Source to Sea is produced by a team. Items to the administrator, Helen Fry:

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