

**Churches of St James,
St Giles, Holy Cross & St Bartholomew**

Rector: Revd Juliet Jensen 01453 350810

Parish Office 01453 549280

www.ewelmebenefice.co.uk

**Services for Sunday 23rd August 2026
Twelfth Sunday after Trinity**

St James, Dursley

10am Parish Holy Communion
Revd Ian Gardner

Holy Cross, Owlpen

10am Parish Holy Communion
Revd Juliet Jensen

St Bartholomew's, Nympsfield

6.30pm Hymns, Drink and Nibbles
Revd Juliet Jensen

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
you are always more ready to hear than we to pray
and to give more than either we desire or deserve:
pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy,
forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid
and giving us those good things
which we are not worthy to ask
but through the merits and mediation
of 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

First Reading: Isaiah 51: 1-6

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness,
you that seek the Lord.
Look to the rock from which you were hewn,
and to the quarry from which you were dug.
Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who
bore you; for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.
For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her
waste places, and will make her wilderness like
Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord;
joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving
and the voice of song.
Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my
nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my
justice for a light to the peoples.
I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation
has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope.
Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the
earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like
smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats;
but my salvation will be for ever, and my
deliverance will never be ended.

Psalms 138

I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before
the gods I sing your praise; I bow down towards your
holy temple and give thanks to your name for your
steadfast love and your faithfulness; for you have
exalted your name and your word above everything.
On the day I called, you answered me, you increased
my strength of soul.

All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord,
for they have heard the words of your mouth.

They shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the
glory of the Lord.

For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly; but
the haughty he perceives from far away.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me
against the wrath of my enemies; you stretch out your
hand, and your right hand delivers me.

The Lord will fulfil his purpose for me; your steadfast
love, O Lord, endures for ever.

Do not forsake the work of your hands.

Second Reading: Romans 12: 1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the
mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living
sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your
spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but
be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that
you may discern what is the will of God - what is good
and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among
you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to
think, but to think with sober judgement, each according
to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in
one body we have many members, and not all the
members have the same function, so we, who are many,
are one body in Christ, and individually we are members
one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the
grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith;
ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the
exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the
leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 16: 13-20

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea
Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that
the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the
Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one
of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that
I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the
Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed
are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not
revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell
you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church,
and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give
you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you
bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you
loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' Then he sternly
ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the
Messiah.

Intercessions

We pray for those who are ill at this time or in other forms
of need, especially those we know. We remember Kerry,
Henry, Fiona, Olive, Keith, Albie, Carol, Sam, Jane,
Marion, Charlie and Rita. Be with them in their suffering,
support and comfort them and give them peace of mind
in times of trouble.

We pray for Kenneth Gubbins and Barbara Savage,
recently departed, we remember their families and friends
and all those who grieve.

Post Communion Prayer.

God of all mercy,
in this eucharist you have set aside our sins
and given us your healing:
grant that we who are made whole in Christ
may bring that healing to this broken world,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

This Week.

Tuesday 25th August

2.30pm Communion at The Hollies Care Home

Thursday 27th August

9am Morning prayer at St James

10am Holy Communion at St James

Friday 28th August

2pm Poetry Group at 9 Five Acres

Saturday 29th August

10.30am Coffee, Cake and Music at St James

Services for 30th August Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

St Giles, Uley

10am Benefice Holy Communion

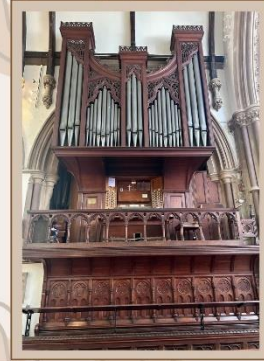
Evening prayer via Zoom is suspended during August.

Safeguarding Officers

Heather Arnold for the Parish of Dursley
07757 468371 Email: arnoldheather@icloud.com

Pat Jones for the Parish of Uley,
with Nympsfield and Owlpen
01453 860696 Email: patjones117@btinternet.com

St James the Great, Dursley Coffee, Cake and Music 2026



10.30am coffee,
tea and cake
11-11.40am
Recital

There is no charge, but a retiring
collection will be taken, the proceeds of
which go to the work of
St James' Church

August 29th William Reynolds (Minster Church of St Mary, Swansea)

**September 26th Andrew Millington
(Former DoM at Exeter Cathedral)**

**October 31st Bernard West
(Oxford)**

**St Bartholomew's,
Nympsfield**

**Hymns, Nibbles and
Drinks in the
Churchyard**

Accompanied by Thornbury Town Band

**Sunday 23rd August 2026
6.30pm**

All are very welcome

**Please remember to bring a
deck chair or picnic blanket.**

St James the Great, Dursley

Pet Service



5.30pm on



Saturday 3rd October 2026

All pets welcome, dogs must be on a
lead and other animals in pet
carriers.

Please bring your owner too!



20th September – Reflective worship: Songs of Praise

The worship group who plan some of these services is offering you the opportunity to choose, for this service, a favourite hymn or piece of prose or prayer – perhaps one which is important to you on your Christian journey or something which strengthened you at a particular time in your life.

Hymns do not have to simply come from our normal hymn book, so there is a wide choice!

Please take your choices into the Benefice office by 10th September or send them directly to me at: revdavid.vonberg@gmail.com. If you would like to speak in the service about your choice, please mention that.

I look forward to receiving your suggestions.