

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

**Rector:** Revd Juliet Jensen 01453 350810

Parish Office 01453 549280

[www.ewelmebenefice.co.uk](http://www.ewelmebenefice.co.uk)

**Services for Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2026  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany**

**St James, Dursley**

**10am** Benefice Holy Communion

*Revd Juliet Jensen*

**St George's, Upper Cam**

**6pm** Service of Prayer for Christian Unity

*Revd Fiona Crocker & Revd David Vonberg*

**Collect**

Almighty God,  
whose Son revealed in signs and miracles  
the wonder of your saving presence:  
renew your people with your heavenly grace,  
and in all our weakness  
sustain us by your mighty power;  
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**

**First Reading: Isaiah 9: 1-4**

But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish.  
In the former time he brought into contempt the land of  
Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he  
will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the  
Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great  
light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness - on them  
light has shined.

You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as  
people exult when dividing plunder.

For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their  
shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as  
on the day of Midian.

**Psalm 27 1, 4-12**

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I  
be afraid?

One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after:  
to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,  
to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in  
His temple.

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;  
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me  
high on a rock.

Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me,  
and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;  
I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and  
answer me!

'Come,' my heart says, 'seek his face!' Your face, Lord,

do I seek.

Do not hide your face from me.

Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been  
my help.

Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation!  
If my father and mother forsake me, the Lord will take me up.  
Teach me your way, O Lord, and lead me on a level path  
because of my enemies.

Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries, for false  
witnesses have risen against me, and they are breathing  
out violence.

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1: 10-18**

Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our  
Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you should be in agreement and  
that there should be no divisions among you, but that you  
should be united in the same mind and the same purpose. For  
it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are  
quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is  
that each of you says, 'I belong to Paul', or 'I belong to  
Apollos', or 'I belong to Cephas', or 'I belong to Christ.' Has  
Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you  
baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized  
none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one can say  
that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the  
household of Stephanus; beyond that, I do not know whether I  
baptized anyone else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize  
but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so  
that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.  
For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who  
are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of  
God.

**Holy Gospel: Matthew 4: 12-23**

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he  
withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home  
in Capernaum by the lake, in the territory of Zebulun and  
Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the  
prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

'Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea,  
across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles - the people  
who sat in darkness have seen a great light,  
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death  
light has dawned.'

From that time Jesus began to proclaim, 'Repent, for the  
kingdom of heaven has come near.'

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers,  
Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother,  
casting a net into the lake - for they were fishermen. And  
he said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fish for  
people.' Immediately they left their nets and followed him.  
As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James  
son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their  
father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them.  
Immediately they left the boat and their father, and  
followed him.

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their  
synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the  
kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness  
among the people.

**Intercessions**

We pray for those who are ill at this time or in other forms of  
need, especially those we know. We remember Caroline,  
Ian, Keith, Kath, Ann, 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 give thanks for the life of Richard Graham, Eleanor Brewer and Hector Barrett, recently departed, and we pray for their families and friends and all those who grieve.

### **Post Communion Prayer.**

Almighty Father,  
whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world:  
may your people,  
illumined by your word and sacraments,  
shine with the radiance of his glory,  
that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed  
to the ends of the earth;  
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

**Amen**

### **This Week.**

#### **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January**

**2pm** Communion at the Hollies care home

#### **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January**

**1pm** Hector Barrett's Funeral at St James

**6pm** Evening prayer via Zoom.

#### **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January**

**9am** Morning prayer at St James

**10am** Holy Communion at St James  
Richard Graham's funeral at St James

### **Services for 1<sup>st</sup> February 2026** **Presentation of Christ**

#### **St James, Dursley**

**10am** Parish Holy Communion

#### **St Bartholomew's, Nympsfield**

**10am** Parish Holy Communion

**Evening prayer via Zoom is on Wednesday at 6pm, to join please use this login - Link – Meeting ID: 811 3331 8043**

### **Safeguarding Officers**

#### **Heather Arnold**

Safeguarding Officer for the Parish of Dursley  
07757 468371

Email: [arnoldheather@icloud.com](mailto:arnoldheather@icloud.com)

#### **Pat Jones**

Safeguarding Officer for the Parish of Uley,  
with Nympsfield and Owlpen  
01453 860696

Email: [patjones117@btinternet.com](mailto:patjones117@btinternet.com)

**This month the Poetry Group will meet on 23<sup>rd</sup> January at 9 Five Acres.**

# **Sunday January 25th 6pm**

## **SERVICE FOR**

### **THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR**

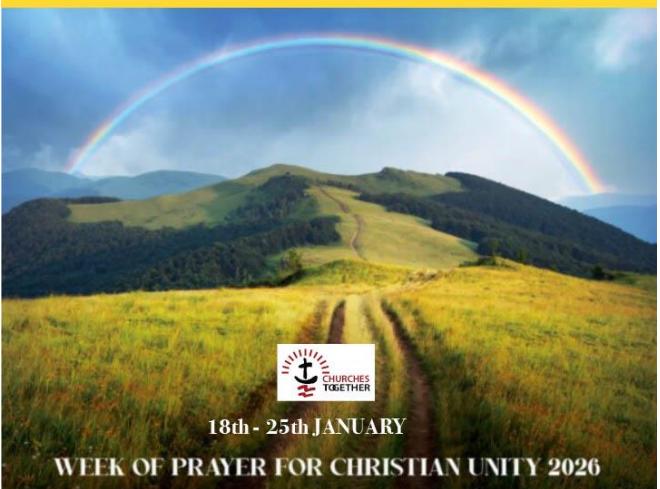
#### **CHRISTIAN UNITY**

##### **COME & SING!**

**All welcome to join an Ecumenical Scratch Choir**  
**Rehearsal at 4.30pm on Jan 25th**

**St George's Upper Cam GL11 5PQ**

Led by Revd Fiona Crocker Preacher: Revd David Vonberg



18th - 25th JANUARY

**WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2026**

**Churches Together are putting a “Scratch Choir” together for the service at St George's, Upper Cam on 25<sup>th</sup> January.**

**If you'd like to join rehearsals are on Sunday 25th at 4.30pm, the service will start at 6pm**  
**All are welcome.**

### **QUIZ NIGHT**



**7<sup>th</sup> February 7 pm  
for 7.30 pm start  
Uley Village Hall**

**Teams of 6. £10 per person including light refreshments  
Bar and Raffle Prizes**

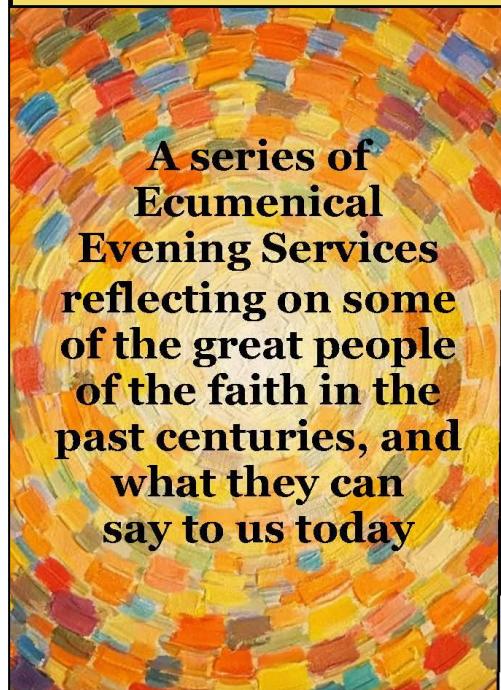
**Friends of St Giles raising money to refurbish a room in the Church for Church and Community Use.**

**To book tickets: [marionmills@btinternet.com](mailto:marionmills@btinternet.com) 01453 861001**

# LENT 2026 A CLOUD OF WITNESSES



All the services take  
place at 6.00pm  
at different churches



**22nd February**

"William Tyndale"

**St George's Cam**  
GL11 5PQ

**15th March**

"Mother Julian of  
Norwich"

**Dursley Methodist**  
Church GL11 4BS

**1st March**

"George Whitefield"

**Dursley Tab**  
GL11 4LW

**22nd March**

"St Benedict"

**St Dominic's**  
GL11 4ES

**8th March**

"Thomas Merton"

**The Quarry Chapel**  
GL11 6JA

**Don't forget the**  
**Walk of Witness on**  
**Good Friday**  
**3rd April**

Please  
volunteer to  
Cynthia or  
Anthea if you  
can help wash  
up, serve,  
waiter, make  
soup or cake.

## Light Lent Lunches 2026

**Starting on 23rd February, from 12 noon**

**in St James Parish Centre, Dursley.**

**Soup, bread, cake and tea or coffee will be  
served each Monday during Lent.**

**All are welcome.**

**All donations will be donated  
to our nominated charities.**

