In Touch with the Bourne Valley Churches

in the Parishes of Cholderton, Newton Tony, St Nicholas Porton & District, Winterbourne Gunner, Winterbourne Earls with Dauntsey, Ford and Hurdcott

Benefice website: www.bournevalleychurches.org.uk

Thank you to everyone who helped with, and came to, **Messy Church** for our **'Christmas Special'** last week – it was fun to be in the church. The next Messy Church will be on **Tuesday 3**rd **February** from **3.30pm** until 5.00pm in the **Glebe Hall**, so please 'save the date' and we will see you then... For more details, email Margaret: margaretiward@btinternet.com or Jenny: jenny.head@live.co.uk

Sunday 14th December 2025 – Third Sunday of Advent (Year A) (*Purple*)

St Andrew's Newton Tony
St Nicholas' Porton
St Michael & All Angels W Earls
9.30am Holy Communion (POE)
9.30am Carol Service (DP)
6.00pm Carol Service (POE)

(United Carol Service, with St Mary's & BV Methodists)

Readings: (Isaiah 35: 1 - 10) James 5: 7 - 10 Matthew 11: 2 - 11 or **Carol Service** readings (or as chosen by the preacher)

Collect God for whom we watch and wait,
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son:
give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen

Please keep our local **Schools** in your prayers, as there are lots of additional, festive activities and events taking place this week, including Christmas and Nativity Services in our Churches. Pray that pupils, families and staff will have the energy they need, and stay as healthy as possible...

On **Wednesday 17th December**, at **6.30pm**, **All Saints, Idmiston** will hold their **Carol Service** so wrap up warmly, and come along to enjoy the carols, Bible readings and refreshments too...

Thank you so much for supporting our collection for **Sophie's Legacy** in the marked box in **St Michael & All Angels** church. The collection will be finishing before Christmas, so please make your *final donations* by *Friday 19th December*. Thank you to everyone who has been so generous, your donations have, and will, definitely help many families in need – Abi and Grace

NB: The **BV Link Scheme** will be *closed for Christmas* from **5.00pm Friday 19th December** to **9.00am Monday 5th January**. Apart from that period, please call the Coordinator on 01980 611117 – thank you

On **Saturday 20th December** from 2.30pm until 4.00pm, the Community Partnership team are putting on a **Christmas Event** in **Allington**, including **carol singing** in **St John the Baptist** church at 3.15pm Come along, find lovely Christmas gifts on the stalls, and you may even win in the popular Raffle...!

(or as chosen by the preacher)

Sunday 21st December 2025 – Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year A) (Purple)

St Nicholas' Cholderton
St Andrew's Newton Tony
St Andrew's Boscombe
St Michael & All Angels W Earls
St Mary's W Gunner

11.00am Carol Service (DC)
6.00pm Carol Service (POE)
4.00pm Carol Service (POE)
11.00am Holy Communion (MW)
9.30am BCP Holy Communion (POE)

Readings: for Advent 4: (Isaiah 7: 10 – 16) Romans 1: 1 – 7 Matthew 1: 18 – 25

or Carol Service readings

Collect 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

Advanced notice of **Anglican Christmas Services** in the Bourne Valley:

Christmas Eve

St Mary's W Gunner 4.00pm Crib Service

St Michael & All Angels W Earls 6.00pm Christingle Service

St Michael & All Angels W Earls 11.30pm Midnight Mass

St Andrew's Newton Tony 11.30pm Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

St Nicholas' Cholderton 11.00am Christmas Communion St Nicholas' Porton 10.00am Christmas Communion

St Mary's W Gunner 9.30am BCP Christmas Communion

St Michael & All Angels W Earls 10.45am Christmas Communion

Club Friday (the Bourne Valley Day Centre) is looking for **volunteers** to help put fun into the lives of its guests, who are retired people who remain fairly mobile and do not require personal care. Volunteers can help with a range of activities, and join in on a rota basis, to suit availability.

Club Friday meets on Fridays from 10.00am – 2.30pm in the Idmiston Parish Memorial Hall and currently has vacancies for **guests** (as well as volunteer helpers...!). Please contact Niki Hetreed on 07789 318759 or via email: bournevalleyclubf@gmail.com to find out more.

The **Bourne Valley Magazine** remains a great way to publicise YOUR events, or your business, in our communities, as 100's of people living locally subscribe. If you don't yet subscribe please contact **Priscilla Park-Weir** by email: **pvpw71@gmail.com** and she can put you in touch with your *local distributor*. All profits, from subscriptions and advertising, go to support the Parish churches in the Valley – thank you

Looking for a welcoming **Friendship** group...? Over 50s are invited to contact **Amicus** on 07503 006284 or by email: amicusfriendshipgroup@gmail.com to find out more...

The **Salisbury Foodbank** (part of Trussell Trust) continues to value our support as winter brings its own challenges, and you are welcome to leave donations in our **churches**, but the most effective way to donate is via **supermarkets**, as you do your regular shopping, because they match the value of donations placed in their own collecting 'bins' so the Foodbank benefits even more – thank you...

Please continue to keep in your prayers all for whom this is a difficult time, in whatever way, and particularly we remember those who have recently died, and all who mourn their loss.

Do make use of the **Bourne Valley Prayer Tree**, so called because it has branches (people who respond to the request to pray) spread throughout the Valley. **Contact: Ali Joyce** on **01980 619195** or email: **aliloujoyce@gmail.com** to ask for prayer, and please let her know as and when the need for prayer changes – thank you

Benefice Prayer: Be with us, Lord, in all we do and say,

Visit each home with your peace and love

Turn all hearts and minds to you, our loving God, in Jesus' name, Amen

NB: If you would like to receive this 'In Touch' regularly by email, or wish to discuss anything relating to church or faith, please contact the Rector, Rev'd Peter Ostli-East on **01980 611350** at The Vicarage, Winterbourne Earls SP4 6HA or by email: revpeterbyt@gmail.com

Office: bournevalleyoffice@gmail.com Benefice website: www.bournevalleychurches.org.uk