



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

Welcome to Benefice Service this Sunday – (Purple)

0915 Holy Communion at Closworth Church – Led by Rev. Phil Macaulay
0945 Family Service at Pendomer Church (also via Zoom) – Lay Led
1100 Cristingle Service at East Coker Church – Led by Rev. Rod Key
1100 Holy Communion at Hardington Church – Led by Rev. Phil Macaulay
1100 Family Service at West Coker Church – Lay Led

Readings for Sunday 14th December 2025:

Principal Service: Isaiah 35. 1-10; Canticle: Magnificant; James 5.7-10;
Matthew 11.2-11

Collect for Sunday 14th December 2025:

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Deanery Prayers – Please pray for the work of the Lord's Larder, for staff, volunteer and the families they support.

Services for Sunday 21st December 2025 Fourth Sunday of Advent (Purple)

0915 Holy Communion at Pendomer Church (also via Zoom) – Rev. Phil Macaulay
0945 Café Church at East Chinnock Room @Park – Lay Led
1100 Holy Communion at West Coker Church – Rev. Phil Macaulay

Readings for Sunday 21st December 2025:

Principle Service: Isaiah 7.10-16; Psalm 80.1-8,18-20; Romans 1.1-7;
Matthew 1.18-end

Collect for Sunday 21st December 2025:

God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

For your prayers:

Those who have died recently in the benefice: ***Kenneth Curtis, Brian Bower, Allan Perry, Gerry Smith, Brian Rodney Smith and Angela Johnson.***

Please pray for all their families and friends at this sad time: Loving and merciful God, we entrust our loved ones to your mercy. You loved them greatly in their lives, now that they are freed from all its cares, give them happiness and peace for ever. **Amen**

ROUND AND ABOUT:

- ❖ **Lords Larder** – Current items needed are: Tins of Chilli, Carrots, Soup; Packets of Rice; Christmas Puddings; Christmas Cake; Children's Sweets; Carrier Bags. These can be left at East and West Coker Church's or Hardington-Springfield Stores or taken directly to The Gateway, Yeovil.
- ❖ **Street Prayers in East Chinnock** during December will be for: Weston Street to Judy's Barn, Forge Lane, Weston Farm, the cottages up to Cleeves.
- ❖ **Peaceable Living** – A One day programme on Building Peace in our Divided Worlds – Saturday 21st March 2026 – see the attached flyer for more information and how to sign up.

Who to Contact across the Benefice: Reverend Philip Macaulay Tel: 01935 733160, email: officecokerridge@gmail.com Barbs Hampshire – officecokerridge@gmail.com
Flexible Office Hours 01935 864574; Monica Whipp – Tel: 01935 862834; West Coker – Mick Collins - 01935 863129, Sue Bonning 01935 862351; East Chinnock – John Chappelle – 07887875622, East Coker – Toffer Beattie – 01935 862469; Hardington – Daphne Creed 01935 862363, Richard Middleton 01935 863812; Pendomer – Robin & Sheila Carpenter – 01935 862339; Closworth Robin Bryer robinbryer@btinternet.com; Sutton Bingham–Elaine Taylor elaine.taylor78@btinternet.com

Christmas Services including Carol and Crib Services

16 th Dec	19:00	East Chinnock Church	CAROL SERVICE	PM
19 th Dec	18:00	Hardington Church	CAROL SERVICE	PM
20 th Dec	18:30	West Coker Church	CAROL SERVICE	PM
21 st Dec	09:15	Pendomer Church	HC (also via Zoom)	PM
	09:45	East Chinnock Rm@Park	Café Church	Lay
	11:00	West Coker Church	HC	PM
	18:00	East Coker Church	CAROL SERVICE	HG
22 nd Dec	18:30	Pendomer Church	CRIB & CAROL SERVICE	PM
23 rd Dec	18:30	Sutton Bingham	CAROL SERVICE	PM
24 th Dec	15:00	West Coker Church	Crib Service	PM
	16:30	East Chinnock	Crib Service	LM
	23:30	West Coker Church	Midnight Mass	PM
25 th Dec	10:00	East Coker Church	HC	PM
	10:30	East Chinnock Church	HC	CJO
	10:30	Hardington Church	FAMILY CAROL SERVICE	Lay

	10:00	West Coker Church	FS	CRK
28 th Dec	08:30	West Coker Church	BCP	PM
	11:00	East Coker Church	HC	PM
	11:00	West Coker Church	MW	Lay
	18:30	Closworth Church	Evensong	Lay

Peaceable living

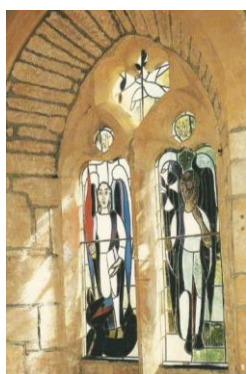
Building peace in our divided worlds

A one-day programme on Saturday 21st March 2026

10am to 4pm

St Mary's Church East Chinnock, BA22 9DP

In our increasingly divided and polarised worlds, whether globally, nationally or closer to home, how do we learn what it takes to live peaceably, with curiosity and understanding of those we label the 'other'?



The unique stained glass windows of St Mary's, East Chinnock have long symbolised peace and reconciliation. Created and donated by a WW2 German prisoner of war as tokens of peace and gratitude for care by the village, they remain inspiring symbols of reconciliation for our divided worlds today.

Drawing on this remarkable legacy, St Mary's second peace programme is thrilled to welcome speakers Jo Berry CBE and Simon Keyes.

Jo Berry CBE - international peace builder, founder of Building Bridges for Peace, and Somerset resident, Jo says *"On October 12th 1984 my father, Sir Anthony Berry and 4 others were killed in the bombing of the Grand Hotel, Brighton..... I made a personal decision just two days later, to bring something positive out of this emotionally shattering trauma and to try and understand those who had killed him. I chose to give up blame and revenge, instead taking responsibility for my pain and feelings, transforming them into passion for peace".* Jo was the subject of the 2001 BBC documentary "Facing the Enemy."



Simon Keyes was previously Professor of Reconciliation and Peacebuilding at the University of Winchester and is the Bath and Wells Diocesan Adviser on Peacebuilding.

The programme includes practical interactive sessions exploring how to listen skilfully and engage constructively in the face of "difference", in order to live more peaceably in our day-to-day contexts.



Up to January 31st 2026, 'Early bird' tickets are on sale for £20, including tea, coffee, and buffet lunch. Tickets from February 1st 2026 are £25

For tickets and more details contact Alex Swarbrick (alexclaire.es@gmail.com)