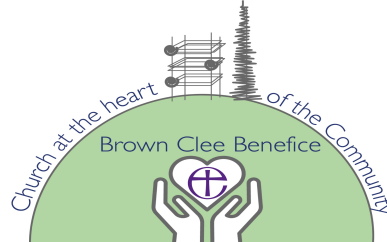


Aston Botterell,
Burwarton,
Chetton,
Cleobury North,



Ditton Priors,
Loughton,
Neenton,
Wheathill.

Revd Joe Simons, Rector
The Vicarage, Ditton Priors, Shropshire. WV16 6SQ.
01746 599217 / 07872 464276

...."name him Emmanuel"....."God is with us"....

*As a Church we pray for those who are ill
and in need and for those recently
departed and their families.*

**We especially pray for the family of the late
Mr. Reg May.**

**A Service of Remembrance to celebrate his
life will be held on Saturday 27th December, at
St. John the Baptist Church, Ditton Priors at
12 noon.**

Sunday 21st December

The Fourth Sunday of Advent - Purple

9.30am – Holy Communion – Neenton
(please note venue) - **Revd Val**
11.30am – Carol Service – Ditton Priors –
Revd Joe

5.00pm – Festival Carol Service – Aston
Botterell – **Revd Joe**

Wednesday 24th December

Christmas Eve - Purple

4.00pm – Crib Service – Ditton Priors - **LMDG**
7.00pm – Carol Service – Wheathill
Revd Joe
11.15pm – Midnight Mass – Ditton Priors
Revd Joe

Thursday 25th December

Christmas Day – Purple

10.00am – Group Holy Communion - Chetton
Revd Joe

Activities & News

throughout the Benefice

more info in Wheatland News or online at
www.achurchnearyou.com/Brown-Clee-Benefice

Sunday 21st December – 5.00pm

Please don't miss Aston Botterell's
Illuminated Festival Carol Service – Brass
Band – Design a Father Christmas Comp –
Visit from Father Christmas (please contact
Anne to confirm on 07966 459806 as she is
in charge of his bookings!)
Light refreshments).

Sunday 28th December

10.00am – Group Holy Communion –
Ditton Priors

Saturday 3rd January 2026

Please remember The First Coffee Morning of
the Month will be back in Feb!

Sunday 4th January

9.30am – Holy Communion –
Ditton Priors
11.00am – Coffee & Prayers at Middle House
Farm, Aston Botterell.
Everyone welcome to come along

Saturday 24th January – 10.30am

"Not Socks Again!"

Ditton Priors Village Hall 🧦🙄
St. John the Baptist's First Fundraiser of the
Year – Bring & Buy Stall & Raffle

Benefice Office: Open Monday & Wednesday 9.30am – 1.30pm

Email: browncleebenefice@outlook.com

Follow us on Facebook for all the news and pictures on our churches – www.facebook.com/browncleechurches

Collect for the Day

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.

Post Communion Prayer

Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Readings for Sunday 21st December The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Psalm 80. 1 – 8, 18 – 20
or 80. 1 - 8

Isaiah 7. 10 - 16

Isaiah Gives Ahaz the Sign of Immanuel.

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high

as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

Romans 1. 1 - 7

Salutation

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves

who are called to belong to Jesus Christ. To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Matthew 1. 18 - end

The Birth of Jesus the Messiah

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the

Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.



Aston Botterell's Festival Carol Service

Sunday 21st December 5.00pm,
at St. Michael & All Angels Church

Come along and sing your favourite Carols - Brass Band - Design a Father Christmas Competition - please bring along to display - A visit from Father Christmas (He would be grateful if you could confirm with Anne on 07966 459806 as he has asked her to organise his bookings for numbers) -

Light refreshments - Christmas lights inside and out!

We do hope that you can join us!



Crib Service

**For unto us
a child is born!**



Wednesday 24th December
at St. John the Baptist, Ditton Priors
at 4.00pm

We do hope you can join us!

During the last year it has been a real joy to have been your rector.
There is so much happening across all our communities and I feel certain that
God in his grace has great plans for us in 2026.

Can I thank all that have helped across our churches, at our social events,
the special services, with our school and pre-school
not forgetting the young farmers.

I would also like to encourage you all in your efforts which will be fruitful in
ways we don't yet know, so keep it up.

Finally thank you to all that have attended all our services and events and we
are looking forward to seeing you in the future.

Thanks and every blessing to you and your loved ones.

Joe

*Join us for:
Brown Clee Benefice
Vision Afternoon*

A gathering to discuss and agree a vision for our Benefice and to spend
time reflecting, including in prayer, on how we move this forward.

Saturday 21st February 2026 2-4pm at The Pavilion, Ditton Priors.

Please let Revd Joe, Karen or Emma know if you are able to come along!

01746 599217 or browncleebenefice@outlook.com

Everyone welcome - Light refreshments.



And finally if you have 10 minutes to sit down with a cup of tea – A little Christmas Quiz!

1. In which year was the first Christmas card sent?
2. Which ruler allegedly banned mince pies in Britain in the 1600s?
3. Who served up figgy pudding in Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol?
4. Name all nine of Father Christmas's reindeer?
5. How many gifts in total were given in the 12 days of Christmas?