



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

Friday 19th December at 6pm – Carol Service at St Mary's Church in Hardington Mandeville

Saturday 20th December at 6.30pm – Carol Service at St Martin of Tours Church in West Coker

Welcome to Benefice Service this Sunday – (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.

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

Monday 22nd December at 6.30pm (Purple) – Crib & Carol Service at St Roch's in Pendomer

Tuesday 23rd December at 6.30pm (Purple) – Carol Service at All Saint's Church in Sutton Bingham.

Wednesday 24th December (Christmas Eve) (Purple):

3pm Crib Service at St Martin of Tours Church in West Coker

4.30pm Crib Service at St Mary's Church in East Chinnock

11.30pm Midnight Mass at St Martin of Tours Church in West Coker (**Gold or White**)

Thursday 25th December 2025 (Christmas Day) (White or Gold):

1000 Holy Communion at East Coker Church – Rev. Phil Macaulay

1000 Family Service at West Coker Church – Canon Richard Kirlew

1000 Holy Communion at East Chinnock Church – Canon John Owen

1030 Family Carol Service at Hardington Church – Lay Led

Services for Sunday 28th December 2025 First Sunday of Christmas (White)

0830 BCP at West Coker Church – Rev. Phil Macaulay

1100 Holy Communion at East Coker Church – Rev. Phil Macaulay

1100 Morning Worship at West Coker Church – Lay Led

1830 Evensong at Closworth Church – Lay Led

Readings for Sunday 28th December 2025:

Principal Service: Isaiah 63.7-9; Psalm 148; Hebrews 2.10-end; Matthew 2.13-end.

Collect for Sunday 28th December 2025:

Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity; 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 Macaroni Cheese, Peas, Soup; Packets of Pasta; Medium Christmas Puddings; Christmas Cake; Mince Pies; 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 Chinnoek** during December will be for: Weston Street to Judy's Barn, Forge Lane, Weston Farm, the cottages up to Cleeves.
- ❖ **Oasis Bereavement Café** -



Drop in anytime
Between 2.00pm - 4.00pm
On the last Saturday of every
month.



Oasis Bereavement Cafe offers a safe and welcoming place for:

- * Anyone affected by bereavement and living with loss.
- * Sharing tea and cake etc. with others who share the pain of loss,
- * Enjoying the company of friends.

The Oasis Bereavement Cafe offers a time and a place for rest and refreshment; to gain strength for the journey through, what may seem, the desert of bereavement.

For more information call St James' Church Office
01935 414097 or Email office@stjamesandstpeters.org.uk

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

Peaceable living

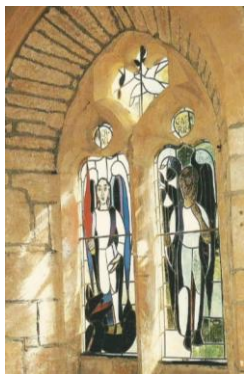
Building peace in our divided worlds

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)