



Sunday 4th January 2026 – Epiphany (Gold or White)

Welcome to Benefice Service this Sunday:

0915 Holy Communion at East Chinnock Church – Rev. Phil Macaulay/Canon Richard Kirlew

1100 BCP Communion at Sutton Bingham Church – Rev. Phil Macaulay

1100 Morning Prayer at West Coker Church – Lay Led

Readings for Sunday 4th January 2026:

Principle Service: Isaiah 60. 1-6; Psalm 72. [1-9] 10-15; Ephesians 3.1-12; Matthew 2.1-12

Collect for Sunday 4th January 2026:

O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; 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.

Deanery Prayers – Please pray for Ashington Church, its leaders, congregation and community.

Services for Sunday 11th January 2026 – Plough Sunday (White or Gold)

0915 Holy Communion at Closworth Church – Rev. Phil Macaulay

0945 Family Service at Pendomer Church (also via Zoom) – Lay Led

1100 Holy Communion at Hardington Church – Rev. Phil Macaulay

1100 Family Service at East Coker Church – Rev. Rod Key

1100 Family Service at West Coker Church – Lay Led

Readings for Sunday 11th January 2026:

Principal Service: Isaiah 42. 1-9; Psalm 29; Acts 10.34-43; Matthew 3.13-end.

Collect for Sunday 11th January 2026:

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children; 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.

For your prayers:

Those who have died recently in the benefice: **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**

Funeral:

Service of Thanksgiving for Angela Johnson on Thursday 15th January at St Martin of Tours Church in West Coker time to be confirmed

ROUND AND ABOUT:

- ❖ **Lords Larder** – Current items needed are: Tins of Baked Beans, Soup, Tomatoes, Potatoes, Chilli, Tuna; Shampoo; and 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 January will be for: Orchardleigh, Springfields, Orchard Close.
- ❖ **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

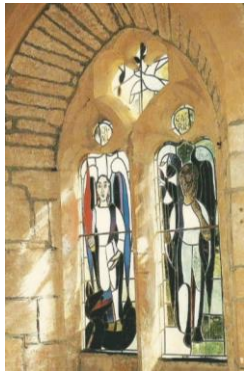
Who to Contact across the Benefice: Reverend Philip Macaulay Tel: 01935 733160, email: officecokerridge@gmail.com Barbs Hampshire – officecokerridge@gmail.com
Flexible Office Hours 01935 864574; Monica Whipp – Tel: 01935 862834; West Coker – Mick Collins - 01935 863129, Sue Bonning 01935 862351; East 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)