St. Bartholomew

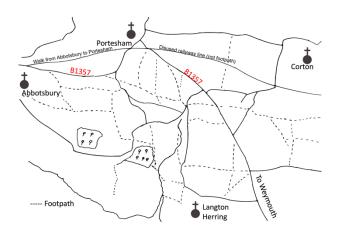


St Bartholomew's is a tiny 13th century church with a Purbeck Marble altar that is possibly older than the church. It is situated in a farmyard in the hills above Portesham with beautiful views toward Portland. Although there are no regular services there are about special services to celebrate the rural seasons in the churches calendar through the year, usually Rogation, Lammas tide, Harvest, Bartholomew's Day Service. It is a lovely peaceful place that charms all who visit. Access to the chapel is steep.

St Catherine's Chapel



St. Catherine's Chapel - dedicated to Catherine of Alexandria - is in the benefice, however, it is under the care of English heritage and is open daily. Services are held there during the year. Dates and times of services can be found on the English heritage website.



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Benefice of Abbotsbury, Portesham and Langton Herring.



Pilgrim Walk

Take a journey around the benefice churches, tread where pilgrims have trod before and find your own peace.

Connexions with the sea abound - not least through St. Peter fisherman and a man of at times of wavering faith — who gives his name to two of ancient churches in the benefice, and St. Nicholas, at Abbotsbury, the patron saint of seaman.

Walk off the beaten track, take in the magnificent views and reflect on the beauty God created for you to enjoy.

'To be a pilgrim'



St Nicholas Church Abbotsbury



St Nicholas was built as the Parish Church of Abbotsbury, alongside the Abbey Church of St Peter, in the late 14th or early 15th century.

Little of the ruined Benedictine Abbey of St Peter remains. Foundations of the north wall can be seen in the churchyard on the right as you walk past the west door towards the disabled access of the churchyard. More can be seen as you walk towards the Tithe Barn. A plan of the layout of the Abbey of St Peter can be found in the back of the Church.

St. Peter's Church
Portesham



Parts of St Peter's Church, Portesham have stood at the centre of the village for 900 years. The base of the tower at St Peter's Portesham is believed to be early Norman, even Saxon. The main body of the church dates to the 12th and 13th centuries.

The church and churchyard also have some old graves; some of them with quite interesting stories. For example, William Weare wanted to be buried 'neither in the church nor outside it', so he was interred in the wall. See if you can find the gravestone with an angel wearing a woolly jumper.

St. Peter's Church
Langton Herring



St Peter's Church, Langton Herring dates to the 13th century, and the churchwardens and PCC have made the decision to keep it open all the time. The church has recently become a member of the 'Small Pilgrim Network'.

Langton Herring is one of 14 villages in Britain not to have lost any soldiers in WW1/2, it is therefore known as a 'doubly thankful village.' The phrase 'Thankful Village' was popularised by writer Arthur Mee in his 1933 encyclopaedia titled The King's England.

All the churches are opening daily, and all offer a place of rest, an opportunity to be still and pray if you wish in silence.