

Bourne Abbey and Parish Church

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Bourne Abbey Church Group

Sunday 31 December 2023

Christmas 1

A warm welcome to all! Please take this pew sheet home and include those listed on the reverse in your prayers.

Are you visiting the Abbey today?

If you are a communicant member of your own church, you are invited to take communion here. If you would prefer to receive a blessing instead, please come forward holding the service booklet to indicate your preference.

Services this week:

Thursday 4 January: 10.00am - Holy Communion (BCP)

Sunday 7 January: 11.00am – Sung Eucharist

Tea and coffee continue to be served after the service; do stay and enjoy Christian fellowship.

Dates for Your Diary

Julian Group, Monday 1 January 2024 at 10am, Abbey vestry for 30 minutes of silent prayer and reflection.

Nibble & Natter coffee morning, Saturday 6 January, 10am-12noon, Church Hall. Book stall, raffle & refreshments. Proceeds to church funds. Make a New Year's resolution to attend!

The Abbey at Home, Friday 19 January, 1000-1130. The Reverend Sylvia Rice-Oxley invites you to The Abbey at Home, Christian Fellowship with prayer, on the third Friday of every month. Refreshments. See noticeboard for full details.

Warm Hubs 2023/24. The Baptists and the Salvation Army have started to operate warm hubs in their premises on, respectively, Wednesdays and Fridays between 1000 and 1600. Want to help? Please speak to Marilyn Roberts.

The Abbey Needs YOU! Have you offered your talents yet? All skills are useful at some point so please join in—don't hide your light under a bushel! Any questions? Please speak to Marilyn Roberts or Jennifer Maclean.

Planned Giving Envelopes. The envelopes for 2024 are available for collection at the back of the church; please read the accompanying note.

If you are willing to pay directly from your bank account into the PCC account, this will be greatly appreciated as it is much simpler for the Treasurer now that the town branch of the bank has closed. Regular payment forms are available on the oak chest – any queries to the Treasurer or Jennifer Maclean.

Please pray for:

The parish and deanery: for Fr. Peter Lister, the Rev. Sylvia Rice-Oxley, Rev. Canon David Staples, our Ministry Team, Bishop Hall in his role in Madagascar, and Fr. Chris in his retirement from full-time ministry.

Peace and goodwill within and between nations:

especially for peace and justice in Ukraine, Yemen, Afghanistan, North and South Sudan, the Holy Land and for those countries where democracy is being eroded. We also pray for those in refugee camps for the displaced, wherever they may be.

Those suffering hunger, disease and oppression:

especially those people whose homes have been lost through war, and natural disaster in Morocco and Libya. Also those suffering from the shortage of food, water and medicines particularly in Syria, Central Africa, North and South Sudan, Yemen, Afghanistan and Somalia. We pray for those in our own country who are homeless, hungry and in need of support.

Those in present need.

Those whose illness or recovery is longer-term.

The souls of the recently departed:

Beryl Lees, Jenny Cooper, Elizabeth Payne and Fiona Creasey.

Those whose year's mind falls this week:

Hazel Morgan, Patricia Leverton, Jean Miller, John Edwards, John Bentley, Karen Paterson, and George Pickett

We welcome the names of those who are ill or awaiting an operation, so that prayers may be offered for them, and/or a visit arranged.

Our bishops have invited us to consider using the following prayer:

"God of justice and peace, we hold before you the Israeli and Palestinian people in all their need, pain, and fear. Bring an end to humiliation, injustice, corruption and violence. Prosper all who work for peace with justice, that all the people of the Holy Land may know security and prosperity. We ask this through your Son, the Prince of peace, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen."

Foodbank Still urgently needed: tinned vegetables, fruit, soups, custard & rice puddings, jam, UHT milk, marmalade, instant desserts, tea, chocolate & children's lunch snacks, and toiletries. Many thanks.