

**Churches of St James,
St Giles, Holy Cross & St Bartholomew**

Rector: Revd Juliet Jensen 01453 350810

Parish Office 01453 549280

www.ewelmebenefice.co.uk

**Services for Sunday 16th November 2025
Second Sunday before Advent**

St James, Dursley

8am Said Holy Communion

Revd Juliet Jensen

10am Service of The Word

Revd Ian Gardner

St Giles, Uley

10am Parish Holy Communion

Revd Mike Cross

Dursley CE Academy School

10am "Shine!" Family Service

Revd Juliet Jensen

Collect

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son was revealed
to destroy the works of the devil
and to make us the children of God and heirs of
eternal life:
grant that we, having this hope,
may purify ourselves even as he is pure;
that when he shall appear in power and great glory
we may be made like him in his eternal and
glorious kingdom;
where he is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

First Reading: Malachi 4: 1-2a

See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the
arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that
comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that
it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who
revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with
healing in its wings.

Psalm 98

O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done
marvellous things.
His right hand and his holy arm have gained him victory.
The Lord has made known his victory; he has revealed his
vindication in the sight of the nations.
He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.
Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the
sound of melody.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful
noise before the King, the Lord.
Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those
who live in it.
Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together

for joy at the presence of the Lord, for he is coming to judge
the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples
with equity.

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 3: 6-13

Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord
Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in
idleness and not according to the tradition that they received
from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate
us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not
eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and
labour we worked night and day, so that we might not burden
any of you. This was not because we do not have that right,
but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when
we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone
unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you
are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work.
Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus
Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living.
Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

Holy Gospel: Luke 21: 5-19

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was
adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God,
Jesus said, 'As for these things that you see, the days will
come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will
be thrown down.'

They asked him, 'Teacher, when will this be, and what will
be the sign that this is about to take place?' And he said,
'Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in
my name and say, "I am he!" and, "The time is near!" Do
not go after them.

'When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be
terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end
will not follow immediately.' Then he said to them, 'Nation
will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom;
there will be great earthquakes, and in various places
famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents
and great signs from heaven.

'But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and
persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and
prisons, and you will be brought before kings and
governors because of my name. This will give you an
opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to
prepare your defence in advance; for I will give you words
and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to
withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by
parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they
will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all
because of my name. But not a hair of your head will
perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls.'

Intercessions

We pray for those who are ill at this time or in other forms of
need, especially those we know. We remember Christine,
Albie, Carol, Sam, Jane, Marion, Charlie and Rita. Be with
them in their suffering, support and comfort them and give
them peace of mind in times of trouble.

We pray for Pam Bartlett, Kath Newman and Elliot Gilfoyle,
Recently departed, we pray for their families and friends and
all those who grieve.

Post Communion Prayer.

Gracious Lord,
in this holy sacrament
you give substance to our hope:
bring us at the last
to that fullness of life for which we long;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen**

Evening prayer via Zoom is on Wednesday at 6pm, to join please use this login - Link – Meeting ID: 811 3331 8043 Passcode: 346570

This Week

Tuesday 18th November

7.30pm PCC Uley at St Giles

Wednesday 19th November

12pm Elliot Gilfoyle's funeral at St Giles, Uley

6pm Evening prayer via Zoom.

Thursday 20th November

9am Morning prayer at St James

10am Holy Communion at St James

Saturday 22nd November

9-12noon Books serenaded by music practice at St James (Kim Ward's pupils)

11-3pm St Giles, Uley, Christmas Fair

1.30-3.30pm Come and Play the Organ at St James

Services for 23rd November 2025 Christ the King

St James, Dursley

10am Benefice Holy Communion Service

A huge thank you to Ann and Clive for the lunch provided for the Book team last Saturday. Thank you also for all the hard work put in by Clive and the book team for your massive efforts every week. Your hard work brings so many people into church on a Saturday; it makes a wonderful social setting across the generations. Everyone is welcome to lend a hand or just come along to meet and chat.

BECOMING CHURCH TOGETHER
With St James Church, Dursley; Sportly and Dursley Academy CE School

SHINE!

Family Service

**10am Sunday 16th
November 2025**

EVERYONE WELCOME



Refreshments



Games



Music

Venue:
Dursley CE Primary Academy, School Rd, Dursley GL11 4NZ

St James the Great, Dursley
**COME AND PLAY OUR
SPLENDID ORGAN**
Saturday 22nd November 2025
from 1.30pm to 3.30pm



Join us to hear - and play - our remarkable pipe organ, aka 'the King of Instruments'. There will be a short demonstration followed by the opportunity to play – open to all, regardless of musical experience or ability!

Part of the Royal College of Organists
"Play the Organ Year"

EWELME BENEFICE

ST GILES, ULEY CHRISTMAS FAIR

Date – Saturday 22nd November.
Venue – St Giles Church
Time – 11am–3pm
An opportunity to buy local handcrafted items.
Grand Raffle, Tombola, Soup, Gluhwein, Good Company & much more!

For more information please contact
Gill Holmes or Prue Vernon

Please can you volunteer to help with the Christmas Market.

Help is needed with refreshments, please.

The bellringers need tombola prizes and the choir need bottles of wine for their stall.

Cynthia will need beautifully presented cakes for the cake stall. Last year was a great success with your donations and we'd like to be able to achieve this again.

Many thanks, Clare & Anne.

Dursley Rock & Pop Choir Christmas Concert

Saturday 29th November at 6pm
St James Church, Dursley



For tickets please click this link-
<https://www.ticketebo.co.uk/dursley-rock--pop-choir/christmas-performance>

Bishop Rachel is visiting the deanery on 19th November.

The day will include time with clergy and churchwardens, as well as a school visit.

The day concludes with an open meeting to which you are all invited.

Titled: Public Faith - an evening with Bishop Rachel. A chance to ask the bishops about all kinds of things, such as prisons, same-sex marriage, Palestine-Israel, assisted dying, political divisions...

CHRISTMAS MARKET AT ST JAMES, DURSLEY

FRIDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2025

4-7PM

Tombola, Water into
Wine, Cakes,
Preserves, Raffle,
Scones, Mulled Wine

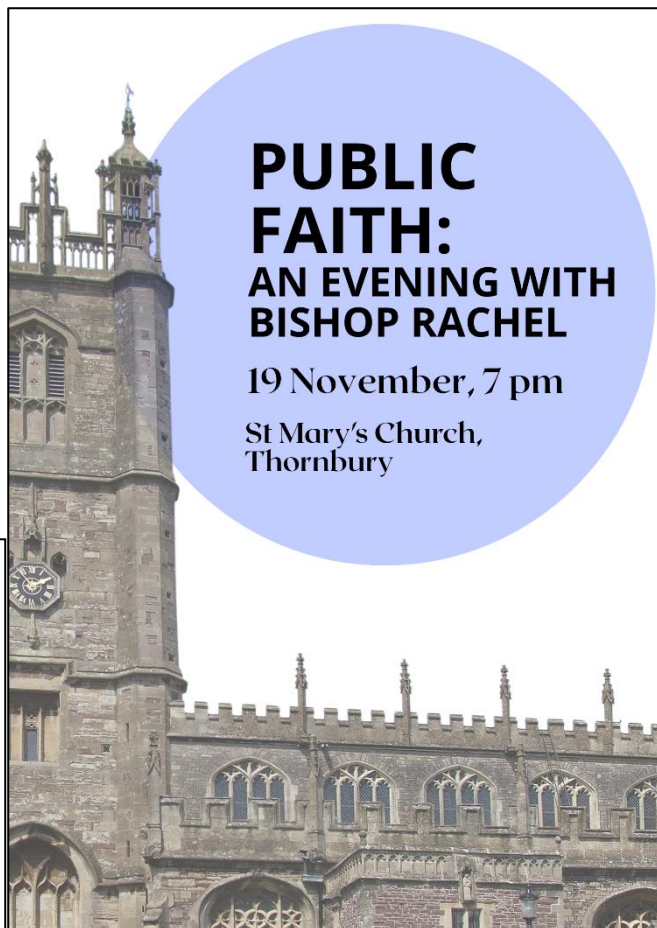
Craft stalls - Photography, Lotions,
Christmas decorations, Art, Knitted items,
Fabric creations, Flowers & wreaths,
Recycled Christmas, and much, much more.
A chance to start your Christmas shopping
locally with unique gifts.

In conjunction with Dursley's Christmas lights switch on.

PUBLIC FAITH: AN EVENING WITH BISHOP RACHEL

19 November, 7 pm

St Mary's Church,
Thornbury



Hello! I am writing on behalf of GL11 Community Hub, the only cradle to grave community organisation serving Cam, Gloucestershire, and surrounding areas. Our mission is to reduce isolation, increase employability, improve wellbeing and bring people together. With a monthly footfall of 2,125 people, 98% report improved health and wellbeing after engaging with GL11. It's fast approaching and we are preparing for Christmas. Building on a successful pilot last year, we will offer a 'build your own hamper' service, whereby people can come in and choose a selection of items to box up and take home. I am reaching out to local organisations, groups and supporters of GL11 to ask whether you are doing any kind of Christmas collection and might consider donating any Christmas items to us for this purpose. We will be offering the hampers in the week of 15th December and can arrange pickups of stock beforehand if that's needed. Items we would be looking to offer would include: - Christmas food (meats, cheeses, sides, vegetables, pudding) - Snacks and treats (chocolates, biscuits, sweets, crisps) - Toiletries (gift sets, hair and body care, candles, soaps) - Crafts/ gifts (art materials, books, small toys, kits) Thank you, Naomi Richards.



COPIOUS NOTES

INVITES YOU TO JOIN THEM IN HOLY
CROSS CHURCH, OWLPEN ON
THURSDAY 18TH DECEMBER FOR A
LIVELY CHRISTMAS CONCERT OF
MUSIC AND FESTIVE READINGS.
MULLED WINE AND MINCE PIES
MUSIC FOR ALL
DOORS OPEN AT 6PM FOR A 6.30
START, AIMING TO FINISH AT 8PM

Giles Church, Uley

Christmas Tree Festival 2025

Saturday 7th - 13th December

Come and visit the church and all the wonderfully decorated trees.