

Weekly News sheet for The Heathland Parishes, we are the churches of:

All Saints, Great Braxted

St Luke, Tolleshunt Knights with Tiptree

St Mary, Layer Breton with Birch

St Mary, Layer Marney

All Saints, Inworth

All Saints, Messing

To be a transforming presence in our community, open and welcoming to all and serving all



Sunday 11th January 2026, Baptism of Christ

Today's Services & Readings

Isaiah 42: 1-9; Psalm 29; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3.13-end

St Mary, Layer Marney Plough Sunday

9 am Holy Communion *Revd Liz Barnes*
Hymns 55, 56, 58, 480

St Luke's, Tiptree

9.30 am Café Church *Café Church Team*
we meet in the hall for a light breakfast, activities
and worship



Photo by Jeremy-yap-
199222 Unsplash

All Saints', Messing

11.15 am Morning Worship *Anne Wild*
Hymns 193, 541, 451, 464

Sunday Morning Resources you can find sermons, readings &
intercessions for this week on the Homepage of our website:
thurstablewinstreechurches.org

Weekday Opening Times of The Heathland Parish Churches – details of
times when we are open for private prayer & visitors may be found on
the Thurstable & Winstree Churches website, click on 'Our Churches' on
the far right of the Homepage: thurstablewinstreechurches.org

See over page for events & weekly notices for the next two weeks

Next Sunday's Services, 18th January 2026 Epiphany 2



St Mary, Layer Marney

9 am Morning Prayer

Graham Howlett

St Luke's, Tiptree

9.30 am Parish Communion

*Revd Liz Barnes
& Harold Toms*

All Saints', Inworth

11.15 am Parish Communion

Revd Michael Hatchett

Special Services at Layer Marney

We have coming up our Candlemas service with Celebration of Baptism
on Sunday 1st February at 3 pm & and our Celebration of Marriage
Service on Sunday 15th February at 3 pm

Date for your diary:

Our joint Ash Wednesday Holy Communion, will be held at
St Mary, Layer Breton on 18th February at 7.30 pm.

To Receive the Weekly News Sheet by E-mail please contact the Team
Administrator, Christine Hall: thurstableteamadmin@btinternet.com
If you are on the mailing list and no longer wish to receive the news sheet, please
let Christine know - we are happy to help.

Church Diary for the week Monday 12th to Saturday 17th January

Mon, 9.15 am	Parent & Toddler, St Luke's Tiptree - Church Hall
Mon, 8 pm	Evening Prayer at Tolleshunt Knights Monastery for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
Tue, 2 pm	Funeral of Monica Tanti, at St Luke's
Wed, 10 am	Coffee Morning, at Messing Village Hall. Tea, coffee, cake & chat. Come along! <i>Donations to church funds</i>
Wed, 7.30 pm	St Luke's & Gt Braxted PCC meeting in the hall
Wed, 7.30 pm	Choir Practice, at St Luke's Tiptree
Thu, 9 am	Morning Prayer, at St Luke's Tiptree
Thu, 10 am	Holy Communion at St Luke's, followed by coffee at the New Times – <i>people from all churches welcome</i>
Thu, 2-4 pm	Tiptree Foodbank open, at the URC Chapel Road

Diary Dates & News

Services elsewhere in our group, this Sunday 11th January Layer de la Haye have Holy Communion Service at 10.30 am, led by Revd Andrew Vince.

Sunday 11th January – deadline for Feb/March contributions to Open Door, please send these to Martin the Editor: m.borgartz@btinternet.com

Evening Prayer for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, we are all invited to join Archimandrite Peter and the brethren of Tolleshunt Knights Monastery this Monday, 12th January 2025 at 8 pm. They will be delighted to welcome everyone who would like to come; and if you haven't visited the Monastery before it is a wonderful opportunity to see their new chapel.

Zoom Bible Study we next meet on Monday 19th January, when we will be starting a new series of sessions looking at Paul's letters to the Thessalonians. No session on 12th January, when members may like to join the Monastery for Evening Prayer. Contact: w.borgartz@btinternet.com

Games Afternoon, Friday 23rd January 2-4 pm, St Luke's Church Hall, Tiptree.

News from Tiptree Food Bank we have been kept busy over Christmas and New Year delivering emergency food parcels to people in need. 
We now are in need of: long-life semi-skimmed milk; long-life fruit juice; laundry detergent; toilet cleaner; washing up liquid; cleaning cloths. **These can be taken to:** the donation tub at ASDA, left in the yellow box just inside St Luke's Church 9 am to 4 pm daily, or the Foodbank at the United Reformed Church Thurs 2-4 pm. *Your support is greatly appreciated - thank you!*

News, Reminders & Looking Ahead

Lunch at the New Times, next one: Monday 26th January, 12 noon. Cost: £14.50, just turn up, no need to book.

Tiptree Housegroups at Jenny & Christine's, we are taking a short break and will reconvene on the first Tuesday of Lent, 24th February at 10 am.

Barndance in Copford School hall, Saturday 31st January, 7.30pm. Tickets £20 per person includes admission, soft drinks, nibbles & the raffle (adults/16+ only). Numbers are limited, contact annewhistler2766@gmail.com Money raised is for Copford Church & The British Heart Foundation.

Messy Church dates for Spring 2026, children with their parents/carers are invited to join us for Messy Church at St Luke's from 3pm to 5.30 pm on Friday 6th February, when our theme is Candlemas, & 6th March (theme: prayer and Daniel in the lion's den). More details from thurstableteamadmin@btinternet.com

Beetle Drive at St Luke's, the Friends of St Luke's have arranged a beetle drive on Saturday 21st February, 2 – 4 pm. Tickets will be £5 each, tea/coffee and biscuits included. Find our more from foslbookings@gmail.com

Looking for something new to do in Tiptree for 2026? two Church Hall Groups are looking for volunteers:

The Friends of St Luke's (FoSL) needs committee members. FoSL arrange fundraising social events for the church and community, for the continued care and refurbishment of the hall including the current re-surfacing of the driveway. Contact Sandra to find our more: foslbookings@gmail.com

Helpers/leaders from the church or community are also needed for our lively Parent & Toddler Group for it to be able to continue into 2027. To find our more please contact Christine Hall thurstableteamadmin@btinternet.com or see the churchwardens. *Please help us if you can.*

Get in Touch – our Contact details:

While we are in vacancy please contact Revd Liz Barnes, Associate Priest - liz_barnes@sky.com Tel: 01621 333027. Day off - Mon

News sheet & Team Administrator, Christine Hall: thurstableteamadmin@btinternet.com Days of work: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, available for phone enquiries from 10 am to 12.30 pm on the mobile: 07421 078981 (with voicemail). Available in St Luke's Church Office on Tuesday mornings by appointment only & Thursdays from 10 am to 12.30 pm. The office number is 01621 819557 (with voicemail).

St Luke's Hall bookings: Gareth Williams, 01621 818069 hall.stlukestiptree@btinternet.com

 Find us on Facebook: Layer Marney & Tiptree Churches and St Luke's Church Hall