

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

All Saints, Great Braxted

St Mary, Layer Breton with Birch

All Saints, Inworth

St Luke, Tolleshunt Knights with Tiptree

St Mary, Layer Marney

All Saints, Messing

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



**Sunday 18th January 2026,
Epiphany 2 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

Today's Services & Readings

**Isaiah 49: 1-7; Psalm 40:1-11; 1 Corinthians 1: 1-9;
John 1:29-42**

St Mary, Layer Marney

**9 am Morning Prayer *Graham Howlett*
Hymns 52, 338, 294, 439**

St Luke's, Tiptree

**9.30 am Parish Communion *Revd Liz Barnes*
Hymns 583, 15, 834, 687, 413, 669 & *Harold Toms***

All Saints', Inworth

**11.15 am Parish Communion *Revd Michael Hatchett*
Hymns 394, 244, 560, 266**

**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, 25th January 2026
Conversion of St Paul**

St Mary, Layer Marney

**9 am Holy Communion *Revd Christine Newmarch &
Wendy Borgartz***

St Luke's, Tiptree

**9.30 am Parish Communion *Revd Liz Barnes*
*Prayer ministry will be offered after the service***

All Saints', Messing

11.15 am Parish Communion *Revd Liz Barnes*

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 19th to Saturday 24th January

Mon, 9.15 am	Parent & Toddlers, St Luke's Church Hall
Mon, 7.30 pm	Bible Study on Zoom
Mon, 2 pm	Friends of St Luke's Committee Meeting, in the hall
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
Fri, 2 pm	Games Afternoon, St Luke's Church Hall Tiptree
Fri, 11.30 am	Funeral of Nina Watts, Three Counties Crematorium

Diary Dates & News

Services elsewhere in our group, this Sunday, 18th January, Layer de la Haye have Holy Communion Service at 10.30 am led by Revd Jo Wood.

Zoom Bible Study we meet this Monday, 19th January, when we will be starting a new series of sessions looking at Paul's letters to the Thessalonians. To take part contact: w.borgartz@btinternet.com

Games Afternoon, Friday 23rd January 2-4 pm, St Luke's Church Hall, Tiptree. £3 for tea and biscuits, all the games you can play and good company!

Team Council Meeting Mon 26th January 7pm, St Luke's Church Hall, Tiptree.

Marriage Preparation Day 2026, this takes place on Saturday 31st January in St Luke's Tiptree Church Hall from 9.30 am when our wedding couples register and have coffee. The sessions begin at 10 am and lunch is at 12.30 pm (TBC). Churches with couples attending are invited to send a representative to meet them around lunchtime, and are asked to contribute towards the buffet lunch. Details have been circulated, if you would like to offer a contribution, please contact thurstableteamadmin@btinternet.com

News from Tiptree Food Bank we would now really appreciate donations of toilet rolls; bottles of squash; soap; long-life milk; jam; long-life fruit; juice; toilet cleaner; washing up liquid; shampoo; 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. *Thank you to everyone who donated last week. Your generosity makes such a difference.*



News, Reminders & Looking Ahead

Lunch at the New Times, Monday 26th January, 12 noon. Cost: £14.50, just turn up, no need to book. Contact Christine for details: 01621 819166.

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 - less than 10 tickets left! Saturday 31st January, 7.30pm. Tickets £20 per person for admission, soft drinks, nibbles & the raffle (adults/16+ only). 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. On 6th March our theme is Prayer & Daniel in the lion's den. Details: 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 out more from foslbookings@gmail.com

Return to regular services at All Saints', Great Braxted: services at the Church will resume on Easter Day, 7th April at 11.15 am.

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

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

The Friends of St Luke's (FoSL) needs committee members. **FoSL** arrange social events for the church and community while fundraising for the care and maintenance of the hall (like re-surfacing the driveway). Contact Sandra to find out more: foslbookings@gmail.com

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).