

Weekly News sheet for The Heathland Parishes, we are made up 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 30th November 2025, Advent Sunday



Today's Services & Readings

Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44

St Luke's, Tiptree

9.30 am Parish Communion

Rev'd Liz Barnes

Hymns 500, 699, 246, 722, 785, 449

All Saints', Messing

4.45 pm The lighting of the Christmas Tree

Anne Wild

St Mary, Layer Breton with Birch

6 pm Advent Carol Service

Rev'd Christine Newmarch

Hymns - see the special order of service with St Luke's Church Choir

All Saints', Feering

10 am Joint Holy Communion, for the Roman Road Parishes

All Welcome

Rev'd Simon Garwood

St Peter's, Goldhanger

10 am Benefice Service for the Waterside & Beacon Parishes

Everyone welcome to join us

Rev'd Jo Wood

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 & our weekly notices for the coming week

Next Sunday's Services, 7th December 2025 Second Sunday of Advent

St Mary, Layer Marney

9 am Morning Prayer

Graham Howlett

St Luke's, Tiptree

9.30 am Family Communion

Rev'd Christine Newmarch

4 pm Christingle Service

Wendy Borgartz



St John the Baptist, Layer de la Haye

10.30 am All-age Worship

Rev'd Jo Wood &

Family Service Team

All Saints', Inworth

11.15 am Matins

Harold Toms

Lead-up to Christmas services 2025

Nativity, at St Mary Layer Marney and in the Barn at Layer Marney Tower

Wednesday 17th December at 5.30 pm

Parish Communion with Archdeacon Ruth, Sunday 14th December at St Luke's, 9.30 am, everyone welcome

For Carol Services, see over page



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, Mon 1st to Sat 6th December

Wed 10 am Layer Breton Pop-up Coffee Shop at the Church. We are open until 11.30 am; with collection for Tiptree Foodbank
Thur 11 am Coffee Morning at Donkey & Buskins, Layer de la Haye
Thur 2 pm JB Tots in the Queen Elizabeth Hall, Layer de la Haye
Fri 3 pm Messy Church, join as soon as you can after school
Sat 7.30 pm Tiptree Choral Society Christmas Celebration of John Rutter at St Luke's. Tickets from 07961 212687

St Luke's Tiptree, regular weekly events:

Morning Prayer, 9 am on Thursdays – everyone welcome, please join us

Mon 9.15 am Parent & Toddler; Mon 7.30 pm Bible Study on Zoom;
Wed 7.30 pm St Luke's Choir Practice; Thur 10 am Holy Communion, followed by coffee at The New Times; Thur 2-4 pm Tiptree Food-bank open at Tiptree URC, Chapel Road

Diary Dates & News

The Lighting of the Christmas Tree, Messing this Sunday 30th Nov, 4.45 pm at the church. With singing from Octavia, Santa, mulled wine & nibbles.

Advent Carol Service at Layer Breton this Sunday, 30th November at 6 pm, led by Revd Christine Newmarch and with St Luke's Church Choir. We will have festive refreshments after the service. *Come and join us - we will be holding services on months with a 5th Sunday at this new time of 6 pm, everyone welcome.*

Advent Bible Study Group, Mondays at 7.30 pm. Our Advent course is looking at Bishop Guli's book 'Listening to the Music of the Soul'. If you are interested in joining us on Zoom on Monday nights, please contact Wendy Borgartz on w.borgartz@btinternet.com for the link.

Tiptree Food Bank are now collecting Christmas Treats and would welcome donations of: tinned salmon, tinned ham, savoury snacks, hot chocolate, mince pies, cake, fancy biscuits, chocolates/selection packs, jam/chutney by Sunday 14th December at latest. *Thank you all for your generosity, it really makes a difference. NB we are unable to accept anything containing alcohol, and please ensure items have a shelf life of January at least.*

Contributions can be taken to: ASDA, St Luke's Church 9 am-4 pm daily or the Foodbank at the United Reformed Church, Thurs 2-4 pm. *Thank to everyone who donated in the past week - your support is much appreciated.*



News, Reminders & Looking Ahead

Carol Services 2025

Sunday 21st December, 11.15 am at Great Braxted
(our last service of 2025, do join us)

Sunday 21st December, 4 pm at Layer de la Haye

Sunday 21st December, 4 pm at Tiptree

Sunday 21st December, 4.30 pm at Messing

Wednesday 24th December, 6.30 pm at Inworth

Look out for details on our website: thurstablewinstreechurches.org

Christmas Tree Festival, St Mary's Kelvedon, Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th December, 11 am to 5 pm. Come and see the decorated trees and look for the 12 knitted angels hidden in the church. Delicious refreshments.

St Luke's Christmas Trees, following the Christmas bazaar there will be a Remembrance Tree in the church provided by Eustace King & Birkin during Advent and Christmas, and a second tree kindly donated by Wilkin & Sons.

Join our Friends of St Luke's Committee! – new members from the church and our hall community are needed to join the committee of the Friends of St Luke's. We raise funds for the continued upgrading and refurbishment of the hall, a wonderful resource for the church & village. To find out more contact Sandra: foslbookings@gmail.com or see one of the churchwardens.

We are The Heathland Parishes, our churches of All Saints' Great Braxted, All Saints' Inworth, All Saints' Messing, St Luke's Tiptree, St Mary Layer Breton with Birch & St Mary Layer Marney now form this group. Also as part of the new larger Blackwater Benefice, of which we are part, there are three other clusters called the Waterside, Beacon and Roman Road Parishes.

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 are all on Facebook, also look out for our friends at Layer de la Haye, Copford & Easthorpe