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

The Thurstable & Winstree Team Ministry

Sunday 29th November 2026
Advent Sunday



Today's Services

St Luke's, Tiptree

9.30 am Advent Sunday Carol Service for the Benefice, with Holy Communion *Revd Liz Barnes*

friends from all churches are welcome to join us

11.30 pm Baptism of Darcie, Thomas and Dottie



Sunday Morning Resources ***you can find sermons, readings & intercessions for this week as well as opening times for our churches here:*** thurstablewinstreechurches.org

Please see over page for events & notices for the coming weeks

Sunday 6th December 2026
Second Sunday of Advent

St Mary, Layer Marney

9 am Morning Prayer *Graham Howlett*

St Luke's, Tiptree

9.30 am Family Communion *Revd Christine Newmarch*
3 pm Christingle Service



All Saints', Inworth

11.15 am Matins *Harold Toms*

Advent Diary Dates 2026



Nativity Play, in the church at St Mary Layer Marney and in the Barn of Layer Marney Tower Wednesday 17th December at 5.30 pm

Parish Communion with Archdeacon Ruth, Sunday 13th December at St Luke's, 9.30 am - everyone welcome

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

We are The Heathland Parishes, part of the new larger Blackwater Benefice with the Waterside, Beacon and Roman Road Parishes.

Regular Diary Dates for this week, Monday 30th November to Saturday 5th December

Mon 9.15 am	**Parent & Toddlers, St Luke's Church Hall**
Mon, 7.30 pm	**Bible Study on Zoom '*Walking backwards to Advent*' to join us contact Wendy: w.borgartz@btinternet.com**
Wed, 10 am	**Layer Breton Church Pop-up Coffee Shop, open until 11.30 am**; *with collection for Tiptree Foodbank*
Thu 9 am	**Morning Prayer, at St Luke's Tiptree**
Thu 10 am	**Holy Communion at St Luke's** *join us for coffee at The New Times afterwards*
Thu, 10 am	**Layer Marney Art Club, meets in the church**
Thu 10.30 am	**Funeral of Sally Hunt, Maldon Fields Crematorium**
Thu 2-4 pm	**Tiptree Foodbank open, at the URC in Chapel Road**
Fri, 3pm to 5 pm	**Messy Church, at St Luke's – *Advent & the Prophets. Please note our earlier finish time, for School Bazaar***
Sat, 7.30 pm	**Celebration of Christmas, Tiptree Choral at St Luke's. Fantasia on Christmas Carols. *Tickets £15.***

Diary Dates & News

Services elsewhere, Sunday 29th November: **Worship Together, Holy Communion for Advent Sunday**, 10.30 am at Layer de la Haye *Revd Jo Wood.* **Roman Road Churches Advent Carol Service**, 4 pm at Copford Church with Cantus Firmus Choir. *Everyone is welcome to our services across the Benefice.*

Messing Church Christmas Light switch on, Sunday 29th November at 4.45 pm, with music from the Harmonettes and festive refreshments.

The funeral of Sally Anne Hunt will be held at Maldon Fields at 10.30 am on Thursday 3rd December, followed by refreshments at Rosemary Court. She was a faithful member of St Luke's congregation, all are welcome to attend.

As Christmas draws near, Tiptree Foodbank would welcome donations of Christmas treats for our clients: tinned salmon, tinned ham, savory snacks & festive biscuits; also this week: multi-purpose cleaning spray & toilet cleaner. Please note *that we are unable to accept any food containing even the slightest trace of alcohol*. Donations can be left in the tub by the checkouts at Asda, in the yellow box just inside the door of St Luke's Church or can be brought to Tiptree United Reformed Church in Chapel Road, 2-4pm on Thursdays.

News, Reminders & Looking Ahead

Safeguarding Audit of our Diocese by ineqe, please remember to complete your survey by Sunday 8th Sun December ineqe.com/churchofengland/chelmsford/

Messy Church for December, children with their parents/carers are invited to join us at St Luke's in the hall on 4th December from 3 pm, finishing in time for **St Luke's School Winter Fair** next door by 5 pm.

Christmas Coffee Morning, 10 am to 1 pm Saturday 12th December in the hall at St Luke's. Stalls include crafts, jams, toys, jewellery, Christmas wreaths, local books: *The Tiptree Chicken, Charlie the Cat & Elaine Bamford's History books.* Tombola, Coffee, Cake & Bacon Rolls. ***Free entry – FoSL fundraiser.*** **Contributions of Raffle Prizes & bottle tombola** may be given to Sheila Gunson at church or Christine Hall in the Church Office. *Thank you.*

Maldon Orchestra Christmas Concert, 2.30 pm Sunday 13th December at St Luke's with full orchestra, Colin on vocals and audience carols. Tickets Adults £10 & free for under 16s. To book you can use Ticketsource: www.ticketsource.com/maldon-orchestra/sounds-of-christmas/2026-12-13/14:30/t-yzpgzxd or contact foslbookings@gmail.com *(interval refreshments for a donation).*

Dates this term for St Luke's Parent & Toddlers, our last session before Christmas will be on Monday 14th December. *New helpers always needed, contact Wendy or Penni to find out more, at St Luke's.*

Christmas Lunch at the New Times, Tiptree is on **Monday December 21st** to book or find out and more details contact Revd Christine Eaton, 01621 819166 christine.gorringe@btinternet.com

Tuesday 5th January: Suicide Awareness Training - morning workshop Mind have received some by Colchester City Council to deliver some free sessions of their Suicide Awareness workshop throughout the area to the local community, including at St Luke's Church Hall, Tiptree. If you would like to know more please call 01206 764600 or email: training@mnessexmind.org

Get in Touch with us – Contact Details:

While we are in vacancy please contact Revd Liz Barnes, Associate Priest - liz_barnes@sky.com Tel: 0162 1 333027 Day off - Monday

News sheet & Team Administrator, Christine Hall: thurstableteamadmin@btinternet.com Days of work: usually 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 from 10 am to 12.30 pm on Tuesday mornings (by appointment only) & Thursdays. The office number is 01621 819557** (with voicemail).

St Luke's Hall bookings: Gareth Williams, 07857 632603 hall.stlukestiptree@btinternet.com