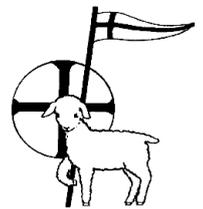


St John the Baptist Church, Tisbury

reflecting Jesus Christ



Sunday 25th January 2026

The Conversion of Paul

Today's Services

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

Priest: The Revd Tim Hillier

9.30am Parish Communion

President and Preacher: The Revd Sarah Wood-Roe, Chaplain to the Bishop of Salisbury

Setting: *Leighton* in D

Introit: O come ye servants of the Lord *Tye*

Processional Hymn: 155 We sing the glorious conquest

Gradual Psalm: 67 (*words overleaf*)

Gospel Acclamation & Sentence for a saint's day *Daniel Ficarra / Stuart Robinson*

Gradual hymn: 376 I heard the voice of Jesus say

During Communion: Be thou my vision *Bob Chilcott*

Final hymn: 197 For all the saints (verses 1, 2, 4, 8)

Organ Voluntary: Paeon *Kenneth Leighton*

Services during the week

Holy Communion is celebrated at 10.00am on Wednesdays (CW) in St Andrew's Chapel. Do join us!

Attendance at **Holy Communion on Fridays** at 8.00am has been declining steadily over the years. The decision has now been taken to discontinue this service.

Next Sunday, 1st February

Candlemas

9.30am All-Age Service

Led by Canon Judy Anderson

In Memoriam

The funeral of **Roger Tilley** will take place at St George's Church, Fovant, at 11.00am on Wednesday 28th January. Please pray for Julia at this time of loss.

Details of the funeral of **Felicity Corp** will be notified when known. Please pray for her brother, John, as he mourns.

For your prayers

In our linked diocese of Cueibet, South Sudan, please pray for the whole Christian community as they begin the new year, and in particular for the School Committee as they oversee the latest stage of the new School building as it nears completion. Please pray too for former Bishop Elijah as he helps them and for Archbishop Alapayoh as he looks to the future leadership of the Diocese.

Please pray for all affected by extreme weather around the world, and for those in this country struggling with winter conditions.

A prayer for peace:

God of all nations, we lift before you the places torn by conflict and fear. Bring calm where there is chaos, dialogue where there is division, and healing where there is hurt. May leaders act with wisdom, and communities choose the path of peace.

As we advertise again for a Rector to lead the Upper Nadder Benefice, please pray that God will put it into the heart of the priest he would send to us to apply for the post.



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The Collect for the Conversion of Paul

Almighty God, who caused the light of the gospel to shine throughout the world through the preaching of your servant Saint Paul: grant that we who celebrate his wonderful conversion may follow him in bearing witness to your truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The First Reading: Acts 9.1-22

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.' The men who were travelling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, 'Ananias.' He answered, 'Here I am, Lord.' The Lord said to him, 'Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.' But Ananias answered, 'Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.' But the Lord said to him, 'Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.' So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.' And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, 'He is the Son of God.' All who heard him were amazed and said, 'Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem among those who invoked this name? And has he not come here for the purpose of bringing them bound before the chief priests?' Saul became increasingly more powerful and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Messiah.

The Gradual Psalm

- 1 God be gracious to us and bless us : and make his face to shine upon us,
- 2 That your way may be known upon earth : your saving power among all nations.
- 3 *Let the peoples praise you, O God : let all the peoples praise you.*
- 4 O let the nations rejoice and be glad :
for you will judge the peoples righteously and govern the nations upon earth.
- 5 *Let the peoples praise you, O God : let all the peoples praise you.*
- 6 Then shall the earth bring forth her increase : and God, our own God, will bless us.
- 7 God will bless us : and all the ends of the earth shall fear him.

Glory to the Father and to the Son ; and to the Holy Spirit
As it was in the beginning, is now ; and shall be for ever. Amen.

The Gospel: Matthew 19.27-end

Peter said to Jesus, 'Look, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man is seated on the throne of his glory, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and will inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.'

Thank you!

Thank you very much to those of you who have returned Advent boxes for the Salisbury Hospice Charity. The sum of £143.54 was collected, plus at least one donation sent direct to the hospice.