

## Sodbury Vale Benefice

**22<sup>nd</sup> December**  
**Fourth Sunday of Advent,**  
*lots of changes to the usual pattern!*

9.30am	Said Communion <i>Revd Chris Butler</i>	Chipping Sodbury
11.15am	Carol Service <i>Revd Jane Jones-Williams</i>	Horton
3.00pm	Carol Service	Old Sodbury
7.00pm	Carol Service <i>Revd Jane Jones-Williams</i>	Chipping Sodbury

### Readings

Micah 5: 2 – 5a  
 Luke 1: 39 - 45

*If you are reading virtually,* The first of the **Benefice Carol Services** will be at Little Sodbury on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. On Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> Horton will have theirs at 11.15am, and Chipping Sodbury at 7pm. This year the **Carol service in Old Sodbury** is a village wide event, also on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, it will start at 3pm with Carols in the church until 3.45 followed by a lantern procession to the village green whilst singing carols. From 4pm - 4.30pm Mince pies, hot chocolates and mulled wines will be served with a Christmas sing-a-long to welcome a very special guest and friends!

### Christmas Services

<b>Christmas Eve</b>	Old Sodbury	3pm	Crib Service <i>Revd Chris Butler and Karen Hunter</i>
	Chipping Sodbury	3pm	Christingle <i>Revd Jane JW and Revd Catherine C</i>
	Chipping Sodbury	4.30pm	Christingle <i>Revd Jane JW and Tania Manners</i>
	Horton	6pm	First Communion of Christmas <i>Revd Chris Butler</i>
	Chipping Sodbury	11.30pm	First Communion of Christmas <i>Revd Chris Butler and Revd Colin Lunt</i>
<b>Christmas Day</b>	Chipping Sodbury	9.30am	Christmas Communion <i>Revd Chris Butler and Revd Jane JW</i>
	Old Sodbury	11.15am	Christmas Communion <i>Revd Chris Butler and Revd Jane JW</i>

In Chipping Sodbury Church we will again be utilising a display board for us all to write a single **Christmas Card and Message to our Church Friends**, if you'd like to add a card to this display the board will be up in the next few days.

**Crib Fest 2024.** Again a huge thank you to all who helped at the Crib Fest. We thought you would like to hear a little about the stats and reactions. Firstly, the feedback we have had has been overwhelmingly positive, people loved the Cribs, the crafts and the teas. For many it is the start of their Christmas celebrations, and it is wonderful that the Nativity and therefore Christ was at the centre of those. We welcomed more than 2000 visitors to the Crib Fest, and were able to invite nearly 200 children from local schools. The schools in particular have expressed their thanks at being able to come along and take part in the festival. Thanks to people's generosity we also made just over £5000, which is a wonderful byproduct of such an amazing event. The Crib Fest committee will be having a washup meeting in January and if you have any comments/thoughts or would like to join the team, please do let us know.

**Epiphany Quiet Morning** on Saturday 11 January. It's a time for stillness and reflection following the busyness of the Christmas season, but also to contemplate on the year ahead, the different challenges and opportunities each of the churches in Sodbury Vale Benefice are looking at, and to pray for God's guidance. It starts at 10am in the Church Centre, finishing at lunchtime, as we invite everyone to bring a packed lunch and spend time together before departing.

**The Benefice Office** will be closed from Midday on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December until Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> January. May I take this opportunity to thank everyone for all their help and support over the last year and wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

<b>29<sup>th</sup> December</b> <b>The First Sunday of Christmas</b>		
10.30am	Benefice Communion <i>Revd Chris Mason</i>	Little Sodbury
<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> January</b>		
10.00am	Holy Communion <i>Revd Chris Butler</i>	Church Centre

<b>Contacts</b>	
Churchwardens	
at CS	Paul Jones-Williams 07980 240103 and Anne Vickers 01454 850942
at OS	Richard Purdom 07340 242990 and Joy Fussell 01454 314074
at LS	Linda Hurst 01454319183 and Brenda Cordy 07767 076985
at Horton	Tina Hildick-Smith 01454 320380
Rector	Revd Chris Butler, 07985 708707, <a href="mailto:rectorchris@svbcofe.org.uk">rectorchris@svbcofe.org.uk</a>
Assoc. Priest	Revd Jane Jones-Williams 07498 878164, <a href="mailto:revjanejw@gmail.com">revjanejw@gmail.com</a>
Church Office	Michelle Jenkins 01454 325160, <a href="mailto:sodburyvalebenefice@gmail.com">sodburyvalebenefice@gmail.com</a> , usually working Monday (in office), Tuesday (at home) and Thursday (in office) mornings 9am to Noon.