



St. Paul's, Covingham  
 St. Timothy's, Liden  
[www.dorcanchurch.org.uk](http://www.dorcanchurch.org.uk)

*Transforming lives and communities  
 Knowing Jesus and making Him known*



<b>SERVICES</b>		<b>Sunday 22nd December 2024 Advent 4</b>
<b>St Paul's</b>		
10.30am	No Services	
6.00pm	Carol Service	Rev Trudie Wigley
<b>St Tim's</b>		
10.30am	Christmas Communion with Carols	Rev Moira Slack

Please pray for our clergy as they minister to our wider Church family today 22nd December, Stephen is at Stratton supporting the wider circuit

**Welcome to the Dorcan Church.  
 If you are new, we would love to get to know you better.  
 Please speak to the Minister or to one of the Stewards.**

<b>SERVICES - Sunday 29th December</b>		
<b>St Paul's</b>		
10.30am	No Service	
<b>St Tim's</b>		
10.30am	United Morning Worship	Alex Scott

<b>What's On This Week</b>		
<b>Tuesday 24th December</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>
St Tim's	3.00pm - Christingle	Rev Trudie Wigley & Deacon Stephen Roe & Team
St Paul's	4.30pm - Christingle	Rev Trudie Wigley & Deacon Stephen Roe & Team
St Paul's	11.30pm - Midnight Mass with Communion	Rev Stuart Fisher
<b>Wednesday 25th December</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>
St Paul's	10.00am - All Age Service & Communion	Rev Trudie Wigley

### **Christmas services – information:**

If you are receiving this electronically, attached are our services for this Christmas. We are using our printed Christmas cards as flyers to give out detailing our services, as well as using them for our usual door to door delivery. Please do sign up to help with delivery (see separate email), and also take a card for yourself and one for someone you would like to personally invite to come and worship with us this Christmas.

### **Carol Service - Mince Pies**

Donations of mince pies and cakes for the St Paul's 6pm Carol Service on Sunday 22nd December, can be brought to church before the Carol Service

Thank you

Mari Wheatley

### **Toy Appeal**

Thank you to everyone who gave toys and gifts to the toy appeal again this year.

We were able to provide three main presents, two stocking fillers, a family game or puzzle, a book and a soft toy to more than 160 children, 66 families in all. They were all so very grateful and touched by your generosity.

Thank you

Dianne and Sandra

## **Happy Christmas to all the Church Family from the Ministers**

We would like to wish everyone a blessed and Happy Christmas. Thank you for your support, and all that you do in the Dorcan Church, the community and your work places as we reach out to others and share the Good news of Jesus.

Thank you too for your kind cards of good wishes.

And we pray for a peaceful Christmas for you, your family and friends, as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and join in with the song of the angels.

Emmanuel – God is with us.

Happy Christmas!

## **Old Testament...in a nutshell. Saturday 25th January 2025 9:30-5pm St Mary's, Purton**

The Old Testament can be hard to understand and difficult to navigate. This day together is a journey through the Old Testament to see God's word through the "big picture". The day will be fun and memorable and is designed to inspire and equip our faith. Flyers are available in the churches to find out more. If you would like to attend the day, please book online at [www.bible.org.uk](http://www.bible.org.uk) There is a cost of £14 which includes a soup lunch.

## **A Christmas gift from our Church family - thank you!**

One of our Church family has been busy being creative and is blessing us with some Christmas gifts. As you leave services at both churches over the next couple of weeks, please do take one! Their love and encouragement in making these gifts for us is appreciated and we shout out a massive THANK YOU to our secret angel in the Dorcan Church!

## **Rhythm of Life – exploring spiritual traditions throughout 2025**

New resources have just been released this week by Bristol Diocese to explore different spiritual traditions and practices. Each month there is a taster of the many different types of Christian spirituality, and these can be accessed online through videos and other resources, which you will find at [Rhythm of Life - Diocese of Bristol](#) (there is also a QR code to access the webpage in the flyers – see below). In addition, there is also a session called “bring and share” each month over zoom on Thursday evenings for an hour – this is a chance to share and discuss together. The resources can be explored on our own or with others, yet it’s often easier to sustain a rhythm of life with others as part of a community, so why not link up with others and journey together? **If you’re part of a small group, maybe consider using some of the resources in your gathering?**

There is more information in flyers that you’ll find in both centres and we have been provided with one for each person. You’ll see in there that there is a general introduction on zoom on 2nd January 2025 at 7pm, repeated at 8:30pm. There is a QR code on the booklets to give the link to Eventbrite to book up, or you alternatively can go onto Eventbrite here: [Rhythm of Life: Bring & Share Tickets, Multiple Dates | Eventbrite](#). The good news is that the sessions will be repeated again in 2026, so we can start the journey of the rhythm of life at any time. It looks a good thing to be a part of, so do pick up some information and consider joining the journey into 2025.

### **Christmas Offerings:**

At our Carol and Christingle services this year, our offerings will be going to the following two children’s charities – The Children’s Society and Action for Children.

There is also an opportunity to give electronically to these causes through our usual church account, with the “Christmas offering”. Thank you for your generosity as we support the ministry and mission of these two charities.

## **Christmas Angels**

A HUGE thank you to all who knitted, sewed and crafted the angels and candles for the community this year. This is the most we have ever had to put out!! A special thank you goes to Pauline who made nearly 200 - you are amazing!!

Thanks also goes to those who bagged, tagged and put out around our Estates so early in the morning!!

Nikki, Hazel and Deb



## **Electronic Notices :-**

Should you receive a paper copy of the weekly notices and your circumstances have changed whereby you can receive them electronically, please get in touch with your email address and I will add you to the mailing list.

[notices@dorcanchurch.org.uk](mailto:notices@dorcanchurch.org.uk)

## **Confirmation: Are you interested in being confirmed?**

Confirmation is a special service where we “confirm” the promises made when we are baptised. If you were baptised as a child, your parents and godparents would have made these promises on your behalf. At a confirmation service, we make these promises of faith anew for ourselves, supported by friends and family and the local Christian community. Are you interested in exploring possible confirmation and would like to talk about it? If so, please do have a chat with Trudie, Stephen or Stuart.

## **Alpha Course opportunity: If you're interested, or can help with practicalities (see below) please grab Stephen or Trudie**

Alpha is a series of sessions that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith over 11 weeks. Each session has food, a short video and a chat at the end where you can share your thoughts and questions, and there is no charge. A group of seven of us are joining with Pattern Church's Alpha course starting Wednesday evenings from 7.00pm - 9.15pm on 15<sup>th</sup> January and there is plenty of room for others to join if you are interested. The idea is that we will host our own Dorcan Church table and any chat would be between ourselves, with either Stephen or Trudie on the table too. Lifts can be provided. If at any point you decide that Alpha isn't for you, that is not a problem at all – there is really no pressure at all. If you are interested, then please do grab Trudie or Stephen for more information.

## **Can you help - being a helper on the night or by providing cakes?**

- **Helpers:** When we join Pattern Church we will have our own Dorcan table which Stephen and/or Trudie will be leading. However, it would be good to have a helper on the table too, to support with practicalities on the night. Might you be able to help on some of the evenings please?
- **Cake bakers:** - Each church attending is asked to bring cakes to share. Are you able to support by providing some cakes for Wednesday evenings now and again please?



## Answers to last week's quiz

### Christmas

1. 'Anthony Hopkins was the narrator of which Jim Carrey Christmas film? = **The Grinch who stole Christmas**
2. Charles Dickens is said to have considered the names Little Larry, and Puny Pete for which character? = **Tiny Tim (A Christmas Carol)**
3. How many points does a snowflake have? = **6**
4. In pantomime, what is Aladdin's surname? = **Twankey (His mother was Widow Twankey)**
5. In the 12 days of Christmas, how many lords were leaping? = **Ten**

## This weeks quiz

### Christmas

1. From which town did the Grinch steal Christmas?
2. Gwyl San Steffan is the name for 26th December (St Stephen's Day or Boxing Day) in which country?
3. How many courses are there traditionally in a Ukrainian Christmas Eve supper?
4. How many gifts are given in total in the song The Twelve Days of Christmas?
5. How many points does a snowflake have?

Good luck

## ECO Tip

Celebrate the joy of Jesus coming to be with us. Wonder at his incarnating, He embraced being human, vulnerable and very much part of the creation that He made to restore it all back into peace with God.



# NOTICES

All items for inclusion in the next notices should be sent by **Tuesday 24th December 2024**

to [notices@dorcanchurch.org.uk](mailto:notices@dorcanchurch.org.uk)

Thank you.

These notices are also available on-line at

[www.dorcanchurch.org.uk/latest\\_notices](http://www.dorcanchurch.org.uk/latest_notices)

Previous editions are also available at:

[Dorcan Church Weekly Notices](#)



You will have noticed we no longer pass the offering basket round.

Scan this QR code with your mobile phone to make your offering.

Tony Prichard and the Finance Sub Committee