



St. Paul's, Covingham
St. Timothy's, Liden
www.dorcanchurch.org.uk

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



Mathew 25 v 31-46

The Sheep and the Goats

SERVICES **Sunday 26th November 2023**
Christ the King Sunday

St. Paul's

10.30am

Morning Worship

Rev Trudie Wigley

St Tim's

10.30am

Morning Worship

LLM Paul Tayler

Please pray for our clergy as they minister to our wider Church family today 26th November, 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.

SERVICES - Sunday 3rd December 2023 Advent 1		
St Paul's		
10.30am	United Morning Worship	Deacon Stephen Roe
St Tim's		
	No Service	

Please pray for our clergy as they minister to our wider Church family today 3rd December, Alex is at Rodbourne supporting the wider Circuit.

What's On This Week		
Monday 27th November	Time	Event
St Tim's	1.00pm - 3.00pm	Christmas Unwrapped Eldene School
St Tim's	7.30pm - 9.30pm	ECC
Tuesday 28th November	Time	Event
St Tim's	9.00am - 11.30am	CID's Café Too
St Paul's	10.00am - 12.00pm	CID's Coffee Morning
St Tim's	2.00pm - 3.15pm	Prayer Meeting
St Paul's	7.45pm - 9.45pm	Bible Study & Prayer Group

What's On This Week (Continued)

Wednesday 29th November	Time	Event
St Paul's	10.00am - 11.00am	Morning Prayers
St Paul's	1.00pm - 3.00pm	Tiny Tots
St Tim's	1.00pm - 3.00pm	Tiny Tots
St Paul's	6.00pm - 7.30pm	Blaze for School year 2 - 6
St Paul's	7.30pm - 9.00pm	Youth Club for School Year 7+
Friday 1st December	Time	Event
St Tim's	10.00am - 12.00pm	Food Collective - Paul
St Tim's	1.00pm - 3.00pm	Christmas Unwrapped - Eldene School

The new Bishop of Swindon – Rt Reverend Neil Warwick

Thursday 30th November - consecration: Swindon Deanery is running a coach from Swindon to Canterbury to attend Neil's consecration at 11am. The cost will be £30 per person. Leaving from St Paul's at 6am and leaving to return at approx. 3pm. Please let Jo, the Deanery Administrator know if you would like a seat on the coach and she will send you payment details admad.swindondeanery@gmail.com or 07434696285. The service will also be live-streamed at Christ Church from 10:30am. Hot drinks will be provided. All Welcome

Sunday 3rd December 6:30pm – *Service of welcome in Swindon:* A service of welcome will be held for +Neil on Advent Sunday, 6:30pm at Christ Church, Old Town, Swindon. All are welcome as we celebrate with our new bishop.

Advent Knitalong 2023

As they did last year, Victoria Methodist Church (Bristol) will be hosting a smaller mystery Advent Knitalong.

Starting knitting on 1st December and leading up to Christmas, participants will be invited to knit a large table mat and use the accompanying reflections.

The whole pattern for the table mat, as well as the accompanying reflections will be released in one single document on Monday 27th November via email and on Facebook. There will be a suggested schedule of which rows to knit each day for those who'd like to knit along each day and finish on Christmas Eve, but of course knitters can work at their own pace.

If you would like to join the knitalong but don't do emails or Facebook I would happily print you a copy just let me know.

Angela Roe

Christmas Cards

As indicated in previous notices, Christmas cards will be available in church from Sunday the 26th November. A list of streets, with the number of houses in each, will be available. If you are able to deliver some cards, please tick off the relevant street/s and take the required number of cards. I can bring cards to anyone unable to collect them from church.

Any difficulties, please email me on lanedianne63@gmail.com or phone or text on 07810627671

Thank you in advance for your help
Dianne Lane

Christmas Toys

As in previous years we shall be having a toy service this year, and would welcome donations of new toys and books, as before.

The date for the service is to be **26th November for St Tim's** and **December 3rd for St Paul's**. Toys for younger children are usually well represented, but often items for 9-17 year olds are in short supply, especially for boys. Ben and Grace have given us some ideas for gifts for older children. They are as follows:

Puzzles/games: wooden puzzles; Rubix cube; padlock games; cards Uno; 3D jigsaws;

Books: Bear Grylls; Tim Peak; Harry Potter; Apollo 13; Martians and similar

Adult Lego; Portable chargers; Leads; Bedside clock/radio;

Scientific calculator; body spray (male & female); Make-up; Bags;

Earrings; Craft items. Also Chocolate/Xmas treats.

Gifts should not be wrapped, but rolls of wrapping paper would be gratefully received.

There are many calls on your generosity, especially at this time of year, and we hope that you can find something to spare for families who are unable to give their children the Christmas that others enjoy.

Thank you

Scout Stamps

I now have Scout stamps for sale, 35 pence each. Posters are in the centres. Post box will follow later.

Diane

Church Family Christmas Cards

Very soon many of us will be turning to think about writing Christmas cards. This year there is again the opportunity to send one card to the whole church family, particularly as we look to be an ECO church. Instead of displaying on a board, we invite you to stand your church family Christmas card on top of the Bible cupboard at St Paul's and/or on one of the tables at St Timothy's – we can then more easily see the picture and message inside. If you are giving individual cards, please can we ask that you hand them to the recipient rather than leaving out at both centres for hopeful collection? There are often a number left after Christmas that don't get to those they are addressed to which is a pity. (it will also make for happy stewards!) Thank you.

Carol Service Sunday 17 December 6.00pm at St Paul's

Please let me know if you are willing to do a reading at the Carol Service at St Paul's this year. I would also be grateful to receive any readings/poems that you would like to suggest for consideration to be included.

Stephen

Swindon Food collective

Please note that they currently have plentiful supplies of cereal, pasta, tinned soup and baked beans. This year they are asking for a mixture of food items and household goods/toiletries and list the following in particular: Cleaning cloths/anti bac wipes, household cleaners, laundry pods/power/liquid/conditioner, Wash & Go 2in1 Shampoo/Conditioner, Deodorant (male & female), toothpaste & toothbrushes, toilet rolls, toiletries (male & female), biscuits, tinned fruit, small jars of coffee, tinned potatoes; tinned meat; tinned puddings; small bags of sugar; biscuits.

New Bible study course – Romans – launch event 30th November 7pm at Pattern Church:

A new 10-week small group course has come out from the Bible Society which explores the book of Romans. The author is Andrew Ollerton and his supporting book and the content is engaging and helpful. More detail here: <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/resources/the-romans-course/>

The national launch tour is currently in progress and is coming to Swindon on November 30th at Pattern Church starting at 7pm. This will be an interactive event featuring teaching, spoken word poetry, live music and some comic touches exploring Paul's letter to the Romans using Andrew's material. If you'd like to go and explore the material tickets can be booked here:

https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/the-romans-tour-2434099?just_published=true

Congregational Meeting from 17th October – notes now available

Thank you to those able to attend the gathering last month where we continued exploring how we might structure ourselves and express our ecumenical identity in the future. At that meeting we said that we would share some notes by the end of November outlining the discussions from our time together, answering questions raised where able, and providing some more information where we could following our subsequent meeting with Archdeacon Christopher and Superintendent David Gray. These notes were circulated electronically on 16th November and there are paper copies available in both centres for those who do not receive emails.

Our next ECC meeting is on Monday 27th November and we will be looking at gathering a group to start the work of drafting a Local Ecumenical Co-operative Scheme – a formal document which will detail how we wish to express ourselves ecumenically. This work will be focused in the first quarter of next year and during that time we will look to hold another congregational meeting to explore further some of the detail of what is important to us – a task we started at this recent meeting. Therefore it will be into the new year before there is any further developments to share. **PTO**

Continued from over

In the meantime, there are three things we are all invited to do:

1. to continue in prayer;
2. to offer any other ideas on how we might address our challenges detailed in the paper
3. to think about we express our ecumenical essence practicality to ensure what is important to us continues.

Thank you for all that you have already shared and considered as we look to the future. It is not easy to consider change, especially when we value something so deeply, so thank you for your prayerful and gracious approach as we look to a path forward given the significant challenges we face.

Trudie and Stephen

Resources from October quiet day and prayer breakfast

Last month, a few of us gathered for either the Quiet Day or subsequent prayer breakfast and reflection. This was led by Rev Moira Slack and she focused on the theme "Change and Un-change" and she has kindly shared the notes she wrote from the two gatherings. These were circulated electronically on Friday 17th November and there are a few hard copies available in both centres. Thank you Moira for your preparation and leading us in these two days.

Christmas services – information:

If you are receiving this electronically, attached are our services for this Christmas. Instead of separate flyers this year, we are using our printed Christmas cards as material 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.



Answers to last week's quiz

All answers are Numbers between 1 and 5

1. How many digits on Homer Simpson's left hand = 4
2. How many Pillars of Islam = 5
3. How many engines on a Boeing 737 = 2
4. On a standard dartboard, what number is bottom dead centre = 3
5. How many deadly sins begin with 'E' = 1

This week's quiz

Connections. What connects the answers to each question below.

1. Which actress played Mary Poppins in the 1964 film?
2. Who was the first President of the USA?
3. In the 1999 version of A Christmas Carol, which Star Trek captain played Scrooge?
4. What is the name of the shepherd boy who became the second king of Israel?
5. The connection is.....

Good luck

ECO Tip

Find out if you have any unfilled cavity walls and (if yes) have them filled. This extra insulation can make a significant difference to the comfort of your home and save over 1 tonne of CO₂e.

NOTICES

All items for inclusion in the next notices should be sent by **Tuesday 28th November 2023**

to notices@dorcanchurch.org.uk

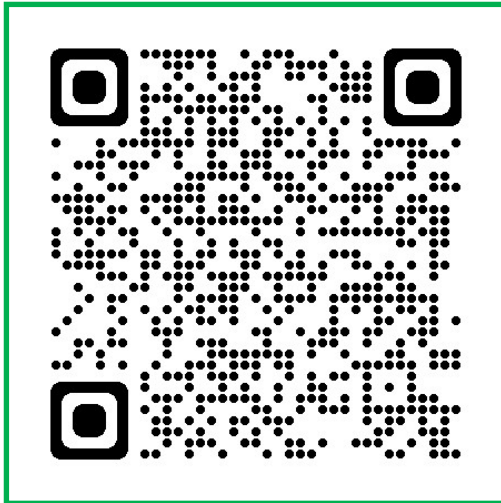
Thank you.

These notices are also available on-line at

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