



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*



**SERVICES - 28th November 2021— Advent Sunday**

**St. Paul's**

10.30am	Holy Communion	Revd Trudie Wigley
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**St. Tim's**

10.30am	Holy Communion	Revd Stuart Fisher
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We will be live-streaming St. Paul's Service on the Facebook Page  
"Dorcan Church Notice Board"  
which you can find at <https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsstimothysswindon/>

**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 - 5th December 2021 — 2nd Sunday in Advent</b>		
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<b>St. Paul's</b>		
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10.30am	Holy Communion	Revd Stuart Fisher
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<b>St. Tim's</b>		
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10.30am	No Service	
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## Christmas services

Please see the separate picture for details of our Christmas services. This year you will see that we are doing things a little differently, including an outdoor carol service so we can sing safely with great gusto. We are also shortening the length of our usual Christmas eve all-age celebration at St Paul's and instead holding two focused Christingle services which will need to be pre-booked. At these services, whilst we will have candles to take home, because of the need to use our breath to extinguish flames and the known increased risk of fire to masks, we will not be lighting the Christingles and instead asking people to bring torches to shine in the darkness.

**Our toy-giving services at both St Paul's and St Tim's will be on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December** and more details will be shared next week as to where we will be giving these toys to. We are collecting new toys please and these will be given to those children and young people in need in our town.

This year we are pausing on delivering Christmas cards, although plenty of flyers will be available for us to give to others, and we will be advertising heavily on social media.

After a challenging Christmas last year, it will be good to be together this year, albeit a little differently, and we do pray that you will be able to join us as we once again hear the message of the good news of the birth of our Lord Jesus.

## **Trudie's voicemail not working**

The voicemail on Trudie's phone is currently not working and it either rings constantly if she is unable to answer, or you get the engaged tone when taking a call. Trudy is trying to sort this out but it is baffling the network operator.

In the meantime, please do email if you're having trouble getting hold of Trudy or phone the office on 435987 and Maggie and Jenny will pass a message to me. Thank you and sorry.

## **Books**

There are a number of books that have been given to us over the last year and which are looking for new homes. Please take a look at the two boxes in St Paul's chapel and take any which look useful for you. There are also some back copies of daily devotions so you can see whether these publications are something that you would find helpful. After the Christmas fayre they will be taken to a charity book shop, so do take a look before they start on a new journey!

## **New church administrator:**

It is with delight that we share that our new administrator, Maggie Johnson, has started with us. Maggie will be in the office on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday mornings and can also be contacted at [dorcan.church.office@gmail.com](mailto:dorcan.church.office@gmail.com) and 01793 435987.

Our financial situation is such that Maggie's hours are less than her predecessor Jackie. Therefore to help her prioritise and plan her work if you are looking for support please do drop her a line as there will be times she may not be able to help immediately. This is especially so on Fridays when she is supporting the preparation for Sunday services. She is enjoying getting to know us and supporting our mission and ministry and please do continue to pray for her as she settles in with us.

## Christmas CDs

The Methodist Church has produced some Christmas CDs of carols, prayers, reflections and readings. They are made particularly with those in mind who will find it difficult to get out to services this year, for whatever reason. They are available in Church so please take one and pass it on to someone you know who would appreciate it.

Stephen

## Refreshments

Please note Refreshments will be served after the 10.30 service on the 5th December.

## Scout stamps

Scout stamps on sale after the morning services, and by calling 01793 336420.

Cost 30pence, and cards delivered to Swindon and surrounding areas. Post box will be located in the foyer at St Pauls. Last date for posting December 13

Many thanks  
Diane

## Autumn Clean up

It is proposed that we clear up the leaves that have accumulated, and clear the gutters for the winter at St Paul's on Saturday 4th December from 09:00 until 12:30pm.

If you are able we would love to see you kitted out with gloves a rake and a suitable receptacle to gather the leaves into, would be useful.

Many Thanks  
John Davidson

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY  
As at November 2021**

***Sunday 21st November 2021***

4pm Ecumenical confirmation at Holy Trinity, Shaw Sunday

***Saturday 11th December 2021***

6.30pm St. Paul's Church

It's Panto Time.....oh no its not.....oh yes it is

**DICK WHITTINGTON**

Tickets available from Diane Killick after 10:30 services; Messy Church & Christmas fayre. £5 per person

***Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2021***

11am until 1.30pm St Paul's centre  
Dorcan Church Christmas Bazaar

***Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2022***

Covenant Sunday

Communion services 10:30am at St Paul's and St Tim's

***Sunday 8th May 2022***

4pm Confirmations at the Dorcan Church St Paul's at 4pm

**What's on this week.**

**Wednesday  
1st  
December**

St Paul's  
St Tim's

Tiny Tots 1pm –3pm

Tiny Tots 1.15pm—2:45pm

## **Sad church family news.**

It is with sorrow we share that two much loved and valued members of the Dorcan Church family have died in this past week.

**Rosemary Ayres:** Rosemary died on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November at Prospect Hospice. Our prayers are with her children Dawn, Tracy and John, and the whole family. Rosemary's funeral will be on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December at 1:30pm and, reflecting her wishes, will be held at Kingsdown Crematorium. All are welcome.

**Mavis Mason-Williams:** Mavis died on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> November at Fitzwarren House. Our prayers are with her son Andrew, and all the family at this time. Mavis's funeral will be on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 10:30am, following by committal at Kingsdown Crematorium at 12 noon. All are welcome. .

We will miss them both very much and this is a time of sadness and grief. Yet we give thanks to God for who they were and how our lives and God's church was blessed by them. They were faithful women of God and may Rosemary and Mavis rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

## On-line Booking system

We are in the final stages of upgrading our on-line booking system for users of St. Paul's and St. Timothy's.

There is a test version available at: [St Paul's Church & Community Centre \(staging-lemonbooking.com\)](http://st-pauls-church-and-community-centre.staging-lemonbooking.com)

Your existing log-in will work on the upgrade site but for the test site you may need to create a new one so please have a look and make a trial booking. (It won't be actioned and will be deleted once the site goes live).

.Any problems or queries the please contact [hall.bookings@dorcanchurch.org.uk](mailto:hall.bookings@dorcanchurch.org.uk).

Regards

Tony Prichard

Treasurer—Dorcan Church

## Hearts for the community



Instead of angels this year we are going to make hearts for the community. The Church of England theme this year is the “Heart of Christmas” so hearts would be very apt. They can be made in any media i.e. knitting, sewing, card, natural materials and can be painted or decorated. All that needs to be uniform is that they have ribbon or twine attached to them to be hung on a Christmas tree. They need to be approximately 6 – 8cm in size and if anyone would like a template Mari has kindly cut some for people to use. They will be available at St Pauls. If you need any further details, please contact Deb.

Many thanks for your support  
Deb Mulcock



We will be on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November 4pm -6pm. Due to Covid we will be giving families bags of craft, puzzles etc. to do at a table instead of them moving around to each activity. Food will also be given in

picnic bags. We will also be playing a couple of games. Some of our lovely congregation have volunteered to help with Messy Church, but some are unable to make this particular one. If you are able to help this time please let Deb, Hazel or Clare S know please.

Many thanks  
Deb



## Christmas Bazaar

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> of November from 11am until 1.30pm with setting up from 6pm on the Friday evening.

Donations of bottles, toiletries, cakes and books would be gratefully received and any offers of help on the day would be most welcome.

Angela

AND -I'm collecting soft toys ready for the Christmas Fayre, it's always a popular stall for young people. Please contact me if you have any that you would like to donate.

*Brenda Fisher, 07799 393845.*





## **Sachibondu**

Stratton Methodist Church has some strong links with a mission community in Sachibondu, North West Zambia. Jon & Becks Burston moved there to work in the community about 4 years ago. They have worked with and helped raise funds for the school and hospital as well as supporting the church and helping to spread the good news to members of the community, especially the young people.

Jon & Becks will be in Stratton during December. We have arranged an information evening at Stratton Methodist Church on Monday 6th December at 7pm, where they will be sharing something of their work, lives and mission in Sach and updating us on the progress being made to help the community there.

You are warmly invited to come along and share this time with us and hear how God is using them for His work in that place. If you are unable to join us, then please pray for them and the people living in Sach.

## **Book Aid**

Book Aid is a charity which collects and distributes Christian books to areas of the world where they are in short supply, primarily countries in Africa. There are collection points around the UK where the books are kept ready to be transported to warehouses, before being sorted and shipped overseas. The collector in Swindon recently had to stop doing this, and so the charity is looking for a volunteer who is willing to take this on and has a suitable storage space, e.g. an empty garage or a spare room.

Please speak to Deacon Stephen Roe if you would like to know more.

## ECO Church

Both the Methodist Church and the Church of England are committed to reducing the carbon footprint of building and our activities, recognising the climate emergency that is upon us.

As part of that, our parent denominations are encouraging all churches to take steps to reduce carbon footprint, particularly working closely with the organisation called Eco Church.

We are delighted to share that Neil Marshall has offered to be our ECO warrior here at Dorcan, encouraging and leading us into change for the sake of God's creation.

We look forward to his insight, challenge and encouragements and you'll be hearing more from him, starting today with his eco tips!

Thank you

Neil!

## ECO Tip 2

With COP26 only just over, the climate crisis weighs heavy. So we thought we'd pop a little eco tip in each news letter. An idea about something that might help. You might be already doing it, or have an alternative idea. But maybe it will prompt a thought or an action. And those on the Facebook community are welcome to discuss them and add alternatives there! Any comments - please contact Neil and Nathalie Marshall

This weeks tip is about Wrapping Paper

Did you know metallic and glittery wrapping paper isn't recyclable. If you are given it, please don't put it in the recycling. But do consider not buying it. Have you thought about reusable wrapping? People sell fabric bags that are beautiful and can be reused, but can be pricy. We all reuse gift bags many times right! And if you're anything like my family you have a collection of smoothed out reusable wrapping paper too. I've been known to buy pretty tea towels and use them to wrap gifts, so the person receiving gets a new tea towel too. Especially good for teenagers.....

Thank you

Nathalie



**Coffee Morning  
@ St Paul's Church  
Tuesday Mornings  
from 10.30 – 12 noon**

Come and support this  
community outreach initiative.

**- TEA – COFFEE – CAKE - BISCUITS - JUICE  
On Your Own? Like some company?  
Come and get to know us !**

*Cid's Café is a Church in Dorcan  
initiative serving the community*

Date for your diary  
Saturday December 11<sup>th</sup>  
St Pauls Church 6.30pm

It's Panto time.....

Jack and the Beanstalk performed at St  
Pauls.....

oh no its not.....

**IT'S DICK WHITTINGTON**

Apologies if you were expecting the giant, and fe fi fo  
thumb, but its the cat and Dick



Tickets avail- able from Diane  
Killick after 10:30 services; Messy Church & Christ-  
mas Fayre.  
and the church office when open

£5 per person

# NOTICES

All items for inclusion in the next notices should be sent by **Tuesday 23rd November** 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 instead.  
Tony Prichard and the Finance Sub Committee.