



with St Mary's, Commonweal Road

Providing a spiritual home and resources for the local community

Sunday 21st April 2024 – 4th Sunday of Easter

8am Holy Communion – led by the Revd. Norma McKemey

10am Informal Holy Communion – led by the Revd. Simon Stevenette

Preacher: The Revd. Norma McKemey

Bible Readings: Acts 4: 5-12; John 10: 11-18

Theme: 'The Good Shepherd'

Reader: Ally Stanton

Prayers: Simon Giles

[Download an order of service so you can follow and join in](#)

12 noon Holy Baptism – the Revd. Daphne Hardwick

We welcome the families and friends of Olympia Rae Lewis and Jude Thomas Matthews

6.30pm Evensong – led by the Revd. Canon Simon Stevenette

St Mary's

9am Holy Communion – led by the Revd. David Day

Prayers: Anna Tuersley

[Download our monthly Service Poster for April](#)

Bible verse for 2024



Our vision - To be Christ's Church in the community

Our mission: By proclaiming Christ through teaching and example:

- By welcoming and serving all through hospitality.
- By encouraging people to find God through worship, faith, and prayer.
- By providing a spiritual home and resources for the local community.
- By transforming Swindon and beyond with God's hope and compassion.

Our values: We will do this with humility, grace, and respect, listening prayerfully to God and our neighbours.

Please pray this prayer each day if you can as we trust God for growth over this coming year:

Our Prayer for Growth

God of mission, who alone brings growth to your church,
Send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning,
Wisdom to our actions and power to our witness.

Help all our Partnership churches to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you and in service to our Swindon Community.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Thank you gratefully, God bless us all. *Simon*

Next week in Christ Church

9-9.30am Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday Morning Prayer
in the Lady Chapel

9-9.30am Wednesday & Friday virtual morning prayer

Telephone: 08002605903 to join by phone

Use this Passcode 694043607#

Monday 22nd April

12 noon 'Treasure Together' Spiritual Reflection Group

Wednesday 24th April

10.30am Christ in Quiet – all welcome

7pm Bible Encounter Group - all welcome

Friday 26th April

11am Iona Worship Group at St Mary's

Sunday 28th April – Easter 5

8am Holy Communion

10am Holy Communion

11.30am Annual Parochial Church Meeting

6.30pm Informal Evening Worship

St Mary's

9am Informal Holy Communion

Faith Alive Vocal Ensemble Choral Concert

Sunday 28th April 5pm

at St. Sampson's Church in Cricklade.

Free entry with a retiring collection in aid of Swindon Prospect Hospice

Annual Revision of the Christ Church and St Mary's Electoral Roll

Every year as part of the annual church meeting, we review and update all the names on our church electoral roll. This year the review starts at the end of March and will be complete by mid-April. A list of all currently registered Electoral Roll members (Names only) will be available at the back of the Church during the review period.

What do you need to do?

1. Already on the Electoral Roll

If you are already on the Church Electoral Roll and are happy to remain on it, you need to take no further action.

2. You want to join the Electoral Roll

There are several benefits to joining the Electoral Roll:

- You can stand for election to the Parish Church Council (PCC)
- You can attend the Annual Parochial Council Meeting (APCM)
- You can participate in the voting at the APCM (next meeting on 28th April)

To be entered on the Electoral Roll:

- You must be over 16.
- You must be baptised.
- You must have attended a Church of England church in the parish for at least the last six months.

If you wish to be entered on the Electoral Roll please complete one of the applications for Enrolment available at the back of the church and return it to the Parish Office ASAP

Names of all those on the Electoral Roll on 27th March 2024 are displayed in both churches – please check your entry and let the Parish Office know of any discrepancies – thank you

Notice of Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting and Election of Churchwardens

Our 2024 APCM will take place in Christ Church on Sunday 28th April 2024 at 11.30am. Anyone who is on the Church Electoral Roll may attend and vote. There will be an election of Churchwardens at this meeting – there are vacancies for two churchwardens this year. There are also two vacancies for PCC Trustees. If you would be interested in standing for election, please speak with Simon or contact the Parish Office. The 2023 Annual Report and Accounts are now available on the Christ Church website. If you require a hard copy, please contact the Parish Office.

Simon's Extended Development Study Leave

Nicola and I are very grateful to Christ Church PCC and our ministerial staff team for their financial, practical and spiritual support which enables us to look forward to my Extended Development Study Leave from Wednesday 1st May – Sunday 1st September with confidence, expectation and joy. We have a lot to process, pray, prepare and plan as we look to the future with God's guidance. We are enormously grateful to God for all the spiritual fruit we have seen over the last 4 years since Covid. We are excited about the next phase of our ministry at Christ Church and have put in an Expression of Interest to receive a Curate in 2025 to Bishop's Staff this last week. This is on top of the Expression of Interest we have for a Growing Faith Chaplain supporting our work with children and young people in schools and the relationship we have with them and their families in their homes. Please remember all this in your prayers.

Thank you gratefully

Simon

Every Day Faith Saturday 11th May

Please do whatever you can to support the Bristol Diocesan Everyday Faith course on Saturday 11th May 10am-3.30pm at the Pattern church Swindon exploring how churches can equip people to live as disciples making connections between our faith and everyday life.

The main speaker is Steve Rouse from LICC, the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity.

He is an excellent speaker. I am delighted that James Spratt-Davies and Simon Giles will be speaking at the conference bringing insights from Fellowship of Faith.

It would be great to have a good crowd to cheer them on

Here is the link to book a free place: [Everyday Faith. Together](#)

Simon

King William Street Church of England Academy

Please remember our church school community, the staff and Governors as we prepare for the interviews for our new school Headteacher which take place this coming Wednesday and Thursday. We are conscious that we are building on strong foundations and we thank God for all Margaret Clarke has given as our inspiring Head over the last 15 years. Please pray that we would know God's guidance as we look to the future in the light of our school motto:

At King William Street CE Primary School, we are "Listening to the past, guiding towards the future." As a Church of England school, we have rooted our new vision in a Biblical verse: 'I have good plans for you. I will give you hope and a good future.' Jeremiah 29:11

Thank you gratefully

Simon Stevenette and Anthony Slack, Foundation School Governors

Healing Prayer Ministry at Christ Church with St Mary's

'Christian Healing is Jesus Christ meeting us at our point of need'. It is the greatest privilege for us to pray with you for healing and wholeness on a daily basis whenever or wherever we are asked. Part of this is mentioning people by name in our public Sunday services. We would like to reinstate our previous policy that this

is for a 3-week period. We will then take the names off for the foreseeable future.

We are aware that many of our number are living with long-term medical conditions which are covered in the weekly general intercessory petition. *For those who are lonely, anxious or depressed, those living with long-term medical conditions or mental health issues and all who care for them, that they would all receive strength, support and peace.*

Our healing prayer team also meet once a month to pray at length for people and we also have regular opportunities for healing prayer in our morning and evening worship. Please keep us in touch with how you are doing and how we can support you spiritually.

May God bless us all and fill us with his healing grace and strength guiding all of our healing ministry in Jesus' name through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Simon Stevenette, on behalf of the Staff team and Healing Prayer Team.

PRAY for Swindon 2024

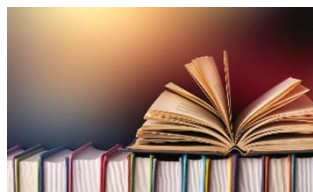
It was a great joy for Nicola and I to join with 82 church leaders in Swindon for the Good News For Swindon supper gathering on Thursday evening at Gateway Church. We look forward to welcoming Christians from across our borough to Christ church Swindon on the eve of Pentecost on Saturday 18th May 7.30-8.30pm. Toast will be leading the worship. We want to gather in the name of God in prayer to respond to the Scriptures for encouragement, passionate to see Jesus' kingdom come and his love and healing encountered in Swindon. It promises to be a very special evening. All welcome. *Simon*

Old Town Partnership Confirmation

We are looking forward to our Partnership Confirmation service this year which will be on Sunday 13th October 10am at Bath Road Methodist Church. Preparation will begin in the summer. Please let Simon or the Parish Office know if you are interested in being confirmed or renewing your Baptism vows. We are delighted that Bishiop Neil will preach and will confirm along with Rach, following her ordination on 30th June and Robert will lead. We thank God for all that Rach and Robert have shared at Christ Church this last week. God bless our Partnership and our mission project for Swindon Youth for Christ and Swindon Street Pastors, our Partnership Messy Church and those who will be confirmed on 13th October.

Thanks *Simon*

More new titles available to borrow from the Parish Office Library



We now have copies available to borrow of:
The Message- the Bible in Contemporary English, and
The Inclusive Bible – the first Egalitarian Translation.

Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to borrow a book

Old Town Partnership News

PARTNERSHIP PROJECT 2024 – raising monies for Swindon Youth for Christ and Swindon Street Pastors – please pick up a leaflet from the Church and please consider prayerfully how you can help.

The Filling Station

Bath Road Methodist Church supports The Filling Station, a local homeless project run by the Swindon churches. We make sandwiches on a rota basis and we are next making them on Thursday 25 April. We need volunteers to make loaves of sandwiches which we collect from you and deliver to the station that evening. If you would like to help, please let Louise Walker (07746038965) or Gill Stannard know. If you would like to help but are unable to make sandwiches, we also need financial contributions as we supply bread, biscuits, milk, fruit and other essentials so any donations would be gratefully received. Thank you in advance for your support. *Gill & Louise*

Immanuel Tea Service: Our next Tea Service will be Sunday 28th April, from 4-5pm. Celebrating God's wonderful creation. We will be singing hymns all about God's creation, as well as sharing tea, cake, and an hour of excellent company! Come along and bring a friend or two!

GAZA

Children's Clothes Memorial

Women of Swindon are leading an initiative to lay down thousands of sets of children's clothing to honour the daily increasing death toll of innocent children in Gaza.

More than 11,500 children have been killed in Gaza as well as those Israeli children killed on Oct 7th.

Donations of children's clothes (ages: newborn -16) are welcomed by 28th April.

Please drop off any donations to "The Hub" - bottom of Regent St (SN1 1BA) or to the Swindon Mosque in Broad Street

Sunday 28th April 6.30pm **in Christ Church** – Informal Evening Worship led by the Revd. Moira Slack - all welcome.

Skittles Evening

On Friday 10th May, 2024 a Skittles Evening will take place at The Woodshaw Inn, Wootton Bassett. . The evening will include hot food as well as of course the skittles. £15 per person. In addition to it being a social event we would also like to raise money for the Partnership Project for 2024, which is raising money for Swindon Youth for Christ and the Swindon Street Pastors. A bucket will be available on the night for donations.

Advance notice

Summer Sing-a-Long Sunday 11th August 2024 at 4:00pm at **Immanuel** URC. This will be an event sponsoring the Partnership Project. So please reserve the date, and let people know.

The music will be accompanied by:

Pipe organ - Two Pianos - Flutes - Bass Guitar and hopefully drums.

More information nearer the time.



www.sotpc.org.uk

Christian Aid Week 2024

It will be Christian Aid Week from 12th to 18th May and we need some volunteers to deliver the envelopes. Delivery-only envelopes are a simple, contact-free way to collect donations from your local community without the need to knock and collect. You can do this while walking the dog, out with the children or just having a stroll in the spring sunshine (when we get some) Please let me know if you are able to help. Mike Palmer 01793 635112 michael@christchurchswindon.co.uk

Christian Aid Speaker

St. Michael's Church, Highworth is hosting a speaker from Christian Aid in the run-up to Christian Aid Week. This will be at the 10.15am service on 28th April 2024. You are invited to join us to learn about the work of Christian Aid among the most vulnerable people of the world. Peter Croton, Highworth C. A. Committee.

PURTON CHRISTIAN AID QUIZ

The nationally renowned annual Purton Christian Aid Quiz (as highlighted at the recent Christian Aid Changemakers Conference) is now available. To get a copy which will guarantee hours of frustration and fun for just £2, in aid of Christian Aid's essential work, please speak to either George or Dorothy Kennedy or contact them on 01793 772589 or email georgekennedy62@gmail.com. Completed quizzes have to be completed and returned to Libbie Sheppard in Purton by Friday 10th May, so there is plenty of time!



7 days, so many ways

New – Christ Church Lunch Club

Started on Monday 15th April 12 noon – 2pm in the Community Centre and now weekly. Cost £6 per week to include the main course and pudding. It is essential to book and confirm meal choices in advance to Linda at 07836 501110.

Upcoming Events at Christ Church

11th Old Town Beer & Cider Festival



It's our 11th year and we hope it will be the best one yet.

After the success of last year, we will be again running over 4 days.

On Thursday 9th May we will open the festival with our comedy evening. Keep an eye out for comic announcements in due course.

Tickets for the comedy event NOW on SALE!

Saturday 11th May in the afternoon there will be meet the brewer sessions with a chance for you to meet a few of our local breweries, grill them and try some of their ale.

On the Saturday evening (5pm onwards), there will be live music from excellent local bands, Sweet Nightingale, The Lost Hills, Driftwood, and the return of the fabulous What the Pluck who put on such a great performance last year. We are also delighted to confirm that SALOS Musical Theatre company will be hosting an evening of songs from musicals to close our festival on the Sunday evening. Come along and enjoy the sing-along. The ticket price includes all drinks and snacks for this one.

Tickets for Thursday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday NOW on SALE!

<https://cccswindon.co.uk/events/20/details>

For your prayers

- † Mike Shurmer, John and Chris Webb, Sara Tye, baby Samuel Raeburn, Betty Ricketts and all those in need of God's healing
- † For those who are lonely, anxious, and depressed; those living with long-term medical conditions or mental health issues and all who care for them, that they would all receive strength, support, and peace
- † For the families and friends of Molly Secret, Sheila Wollen, Beryl Parsons and all those mourning a loved one
- † For Amber and Carl Sharpe who were married in Christ Church on 21st April 2023
- † For Olympia and Jude who will be baptised on Sunday
- † That Christ Church with St Mary's will be known, especially this Eastertide, as a community where God is present, worshipped and adored
- † For all those being interviewed for the post of Head at King William Street our Church of England School this week.
- † For all those who came to our Jazz and Soul festival and for the joy we share in our festivals. We thank God for Chris, Jenny, Steve and Carol and the wonderful team of volunteers who make it possible.
- † We thank God for all that is happening at our Community Centre, now 10 years old
- † For all those who have lost their lives, been injured, and kidnapped in Israel and Gaza, especially the children and those affected by events here in Swindon
- † For peace and reconciliation in the Holy Land and Ukraine
- † For those who are seeking justice and peace in Iran
- † For God's blessing and guidance on our new Bristol Diocesan Strategy Transforming Church Together
- † For the growth of discipleship and Christian vocation throughout our community and especially through Fellowship of Faith, Home Groups, Bible Encounter and our developing daytime Christian activities especially for Treasure Together, continuing this Monday at 12 noon
- † For our chosen charities to support this year - Willows Counselling Service, Swindon Humanitarian Aid Partnership, and for Swindon Youth for Christ and Swindon Street Pastors who are being supported by our Partnership Project

OUR CONTACT DETAILS

Vicar Staff Team	<u>Revd Canon Simon Stevenette</u> <u>simon@christchurchswindon.co.uk</u> <u>Staff Team</u> <u>staffteam@christchurchswindon.co.uk</u>	Tel. 529166
Parish Administrator / Clerk Christ Church Assistant	Carol Simmons <u>parishoffice@christchurchswindon.co.uk</u> Steve Cox <u>communications@christchurchswindon.co.uk</u>	Tel. 522832
Gifts /Donations	<u>Stephen Grosvenor</u> Gift Aid <u>stephen@christchurchswindon.co.uk</u> <u>Paul Ng</u> <u>treasurer@christchurchswindon.co.uk</u> Different ways to support us: https://linktr.ee/supportchristchurchswindon	Stephen Tel. 07885 217077
Community Centre @ Christ Church	Chris - 07582 305760 Jenny - 07312 083949 email - <u>ccoperations@christchurchswindon.co.uk</u>	Tel. 617237

To keep in touch, visit us at:

<https://linktr.ee/christchurchswindon>
<https://linktr.ee/communitycentrechristchurch>

Sign up for our newsletter at: <https://mailchi.mp/d41c4f43106c/signup>

THU 9TH - SUN 12TH MAY 2024

OLD TOWN BEER & CIDER FESTIVAL

11TH ANNUAL



Christ Church
Swindon

45+ Beers & 30 Ciders

THURS 9TH (7PM-11PM) - £TBC COMEDY NIGHT

On Thursday 9th May we will open the festival with our comedy evening. Keep an eye out for comic announcements in due course. Prices TBC

SAT 11TH (5PM-10PM) - £10 LIVE MUSIC

Includes live music, festival glass, festival guide & first drink free

FRI 10TH (6PM-11PM) - £15 BEER & CIDER FESTIVAL

Includes entry, festival glass, festival guide and 2 free drinks

SUN 12TH (6PM-9PM) - £6/£12 SALOS MUSICALS CONCERT

All drinks and snacks throughout the evening included



FOODFOR THOUGHT.
Outside Catering

SAT 11TH (12NOON-10PM) - £15 BEER & CIDER FESTIVAL

Includes entry, festival glass, festival guide and 2 free drinks

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE
ON THUR, FRI, AND SAT



Los Gatos



Tickets available from 1st March

Online or from various locations in Old Town including:
**The Hop Inn, Magnum Wineshop, The Beehive and
The Community Centre @ Christchurch**

www.oldtownbeerfestival.com
01793 617237

OLD TOWN BEER FESTIVAL COMEDY NIGHT

SWINDON OLD TOWN
COMEDY CLUB

CHRIST CHURCH, OLD TOWN, SN1 3HG



HEADLINER - FIONA ALLEN

As seen on: SMACK THE PONY, MOCK THE WEEK, ALAN PARTRIDGE
8 OUT OF 10 CATS, NEVER MIND THE BUZZCOCKS, THE FRANK SKINNER SHOW

WITH: JONATHAN ELSTON "A COMIC WITH INCREDIBLE TALENT" - THE GUARDIAN
+ IAN MACDONALD | MC & HOST SAM MICHAEL

THURS MAY 9TH

8PM SHOW START

DOORS OPEN FROM 6PM

for Food/Drink (Fish & Chips Available Until 8pm)

TICKETS £12 (Includes ENTRY + 1st DRINK)

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT: www.OLDTOWNBEERFESTIVAL.COM



SCAN ME

OLD TOWN BEER & CIDER FESTIVAL

11th Beer
Festival



Christ Church
Swindon

LIVE MUSIC NIGHT

SAT MAY 11TH
5-10PM



SWEET NIGHTINGALE

FIRST UP

BEAUTIFUL HARMONIES
AND MUSIC FOR YOUR
INNER SONGBIRD



WHAT THE PLUCK?

RETURNING

HIGHLY ENTERTAINING
UKULELE BAND



THE LOST HILLS

FEATURING

GREAT MUSIC YOU KNOW
AND LOVE



DRIFTWOOD

INTRODUCING

COUNTRY &
WESTERN

TICKETS £10

includes a festival glass, festival guide, first drink
and live music from local bands. Buy online or
from various locations in Old Town including: The
Hop Inn, Magnum Wineshop, The Beehive and The
Community Centre @ Christchurch

www.oldtownbeerfestival.com 01793 617237



The High Sheriff of Wiltshire
presents
**A Charity Concert for
Rotary Swindon Cares**

Featuring

Swing Birds



**Saturday 1st June 2024 at 7.30pm
At Christ Church, Old Town, Swindon**

**Tickets £20 per person including a Reception after the concert or £10 for Concert only.
Available from Christ Church Parish Office / rotarynicky@nickyalberry.co.uk**

Kindly supported by



Recorded by

**BBC
WILTSHIRE**

CHARITY DOG FUN RUN!

Sat 15th June

10:30am - 3:00pm
Christ Church, Old Town

A family fun day (for dogs and their humans!)

Competitive Race

11:00am start
5km distance

The Fun Run

11:15am start
2km distance

Tickets To Join The Race:

Adults: £6 | Children: £4
Family (Upto 5): £15

BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW:
bit.ly/dog-fun-run

Family entertainment,
refreshments and
dog show after the race!

Raising funds for the Community Centre
@ Christ Church's 10th Anniversary

In partnership with the Young Entrepreneurs From Nova Hreod Academy



Christ Church
Swindon

