



If you need to contact us, in the first instance
please contact the Parish Office on 01793 522832
(Monday-Friday 9am-5pm) or email
parishoffice@christchurchswindon.co.uk

with St Mary's, Commonweal Road
Providing a spiritual home and resources for the local community

Sunday 3rd August 2025
Trinity 7

Christ Church

8am 1662 Holy Communion – led by the Revd. Canon Simon Stevenette

10am All Age Worship & Baptism Welcome – led by the Revd. Canon Simon Stevenette & David Cain

Theme: 'John the Baptist (decreased so the Lord could increase)'

We welcome the families and friends of Eleanor Williamson and Jack Morley

Reading: John 1:19-34

Reader: Francis Maples

Prayers: Pauline Cain

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

Please note there is no Messy Church this month

6.30pm Holy Communion – led by the Revd. Canon Simon Stevenette

St Mary's

9am Holy Communion – led by the Revd. Moira Slack

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

Bible verse for 2025



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**

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.

Next week in and around Christ Church

Morning Prayer	9-9.30am Monday, Tuesday and Thursday Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel 7.30am Saturday Morning Prayer & Men's Breakfast 9-9.30am Wednesday & Friday virtual morning prayer Telephone: 08002605903 to join by phone Use this Passcode 694043607#
Monday 4th August	7.30pm Staff Team Meeting in the Large Meeting Room
Wednesday 6th August	10.30am Christ in Quiet <i>2pm Funeral of Anne Espley at North Wiltshire Crematorium</i> 6pm Evening Prayer 7pm Fellowship of Faith
Thursday 7th August	Community Centre cleaning - see paragraph below
Friday 8th August	Community Centre painting – see paragraph below 7pm Pilgrims of the Way at St Mary's
Regular Groups – everyone welcome	
'Treasure Together' Spiritual Reflection Group	Monday 12 noon in the Large Meeting Room
Fellowship of Faith	1 st and 3 rd Wednesday 7pm in Christ Church
Bible Encounter Group	2 nd and 4 th Wednesday 7pm in Christ Church
'Where Art Thou' Children's Art Group	Thursday 4pm Term Time only in the Garden Room
Iona Worship Group	Every 4 th Friday 11.30am at St Mary's
Pilgrims of the Way	2 nd and 3 rd Friday 7pm at St Mary's
Men's Breakfast	Every 1 st Saturday - Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel at 7.30am followed by breakfast in the Community Centre. To book breakfast please contact Mike Palmer Michael@christchurchswindon.co.uk
'Paws for Thought' Dog Walking Group	Every 1 st and 3 rd Saturday 10am starting from Christ Church

Sunday 10th August – Trinity 8

Christ Church

8am Holy Communion

10am Holy Communion

1.30pm Swindon Recital Series Concert & AGM in Christ Church

6.30pm Healing Service

St Mary's

9am Holy Communion

Anne Espley, a lifelong member of the Christ Church family and Mothers' Union member, died peacefully at home on 15th July after a long illness. Sally, Emily and Katie, her daughters, have extended an invitation to her many friends to attend her funeral at North Wiltshire Crematorium on Wednesday 6th August at 2pm.

Volunteer clean and painting days – On Thursday 7th (cleaning) & Friday 8th (painting) August we have blocked the community centre out to the public so that we can give it a really good deep clean and paint all of the rooms. We need your help at any point on those days (even if just for a couple of hours) between 9am-5pm. I propose a bring and share lunch on both days (12-1pm), so if you are available, please can you also let me know what you would be able to bring for the lunch. Please let me know which days/times if you can attend by emailing me: chris@christchurchswindon.co.uk – Many hands make light work! Thanks in advance. *Chris*

Iona Worship Group will not meet in August. We look forward to seeing you again on **Friday 26th September**. Newcomers welcome.

From Tony and Jenny Selwood - date for your diary – 27th September 2025
'On 1st October this year **Tony and Jenny Selwood** will be celebrating our 65th wedding anniversary. We were not allowed to see anyone for our 60th because of Covid, and we may not make it to our 70th so we would very much like to celebrate this year on the nearest Saturday. Which is September 27th. We invite everybody to come and have a sparkly drink and a nibble with us on that day at 35 Haydon View Road, Swindon SN25 3AT, any time from 11am onwards. We really would love to see you to remember the last 65 years. We were married in Christ Church by Canon Thomas and it has been our home for many years'.
The Christ Church floodlights will shine bright for Tony and Jenny on 1st October. We send them our warmest congratulations.

Visit of the Revd's. Guy and Ruth Donegan-Cross It was a real joy to have Guy preaching at Christ Church on 20th July and we are grateful to him for really

opening up what it means to be a Disciple of Jesus today. Guy was selling his two excellent books 'Discipleship: Start this Way, and 'Discipleship: Walk this Way'. Many members of the congregation bought copies of these books at the reduced rate from Guy and we shall be using them in the coming months. The questions which it addresses are as follows:

- Who is helping me grow as a disciple?
- Who am I helping to grow?

God grows the church. We join in with his mission. But our task is Matthew 28: 'go and make disciples of all nations...'. 'The best way to grow the church is to grow people'. 'We have seen it happen over and over. The presence of a significant number of disciples changes everything: a parish's spiritual tone, energy level, attendance, bottom line and what parishioners ask of the leaders, Disciples pray with passion, Disciples worship. Disciples love the church and serve her with energy and joy. Disciples give lavishly... Disciples care about the poor and bring about justice. Disciples take risks for the Kingdom of God'.

Every church needs to ask two questions;

- What is our plan for discipleship?
- And is it working?

To buy copies of the two books you can order them at

brfonline.org.uk/discipleship Use GUYDON20 at the checkout to get the books at reduced price.

'Christ Church, Old Town, Swindon – Stained Glass' Have you got your copy of the amazing new book produced by Mike Snow and Janet French about the stained glass in Christ Church yet? Copies are selling fast but you can still purchase one from Janet for a minimum donation of £13. All profits will go to the Stained Glass Window Repair Fund – one of our windows is in urgent need of attention!

I am looking for a very specifically experienced garden turfing person to re-turf my Swindon old town garden this autumn (Sept/Oct). Garden size approx. 40sq.m, to remove existing turf, supply topsoil and prepare, provide and lay high quality turf. Please apply to Anton @ 0759-909-5546 or email antonhitz@yahoo.co.uk

'Paws for Thought' Group – connecting dogs and their owners together

Wellness in Grace are running a new dog walking group from Christ Church starting at 10am every 1st and 3rd Saturday. Everybody welcome and there will be refreshments available afterwards. A great chance to make new 2 legged and 4 legged friends. Further information from wellnessingrace@outlook.com

Our New Events Brochure is available in the churches or view it on the website here:

<https://www.christchurchswindon.co.uk/events/eventsnewsletter>

Stay up to date with upcoming events at Christ Church and the Community Centre by signing up to our new Events News email newsletter at:

<https://mailchi.mp/c741f2489c2f/events-at-christ-church-and-the-community-centre-swindon>

Bible Reading Course Join us on alternate Wednesday evenings as we learn from Paul and Maranda in an in-depth course to make sure we get the most from God's word. The final session is on Wednesday 13th August 7pm in Christ Church. All welcome. Sign up at fellowshipoffaithoutreach@gmail.com

From Simon I came across this beautiful prayer which I found in a book called *Dear Nicholas...A Father's letter to his newly-ordained son*, written by Michael Henshall, the Bishop of Warrington in 1989.

I read out the prayer at the end of my sermon last Sunday in which he says: 'This prayer will help you never to stray far from the tough and exhilarating walk with the Lord of all Life;

Anima Christi

Soul of Christ, sanctify me
Body of Christ, save me.
Blood of Christ, refresh me
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
O good Jesu, hear me.
Within Thy wounds hide me.
Suffer me not to be separated from Thee.
From the malicious enemy defend me.
In the hour of my death call me.
And bid me come to Thee.
That with Thy Saints I may praise Thee
For ever and ever. Amen

Dates for your diary

Christ Church with St Mary's Family Weekend at Home beginning on Friday 12th September 7pm with a dramatization called 'The Beloved Son' based on Henri Nouwen's spiritual journey and challenges by Alan Harrison. This has been highly reviewed. Tickets available here:

<https://cccswindon.co.uk/events/72/details>

There will be further events throughout the weekend including talks by the Revd Robert Jordan on our theme, 'Growing in Jesus and Community', creative activities in the Community Centre or a walk on the Ridgeway on Saturday afternoon, and a fish and chip supper on Saturday evening. On Sunday 14th September we have a Celebration service at 10am in Christ Church followed by a congregational roast lunch in the Community Centre.

A brochure with full details is available in church this weekend – please pick one up and book your place.

All Saints' Day Saturday 1st November 7.30pm in Christ Church – **'The Grief Opera' by Nigel Lineacre**

For your prayers

† Mike Shurmer, John Webb, Martin Hiscock, Ann Sharpe, Pauline Cain, Ali Potter, Pippa Starr, Gordon Hudd, Neville Gray, Adrian Marsh, Roger Gibson, Junior and Sybil as they care for their baby Asher born prematurely in the John Radcliffe Hospital and all those in need of God's healing, including those undergoing long term treatment of any kind

† 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 James Cowie, Anne Espley, Catherine Morton, Dorothy Hodgson, Ann Coleborne, Barbara Browne, Richenda Milton-Daws, Bob Nicholas and all those mourning a loved one

† For peace and reconciliation in the Holy Land and Ukraine, and for those seeking justice and peace in Iran

† 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 whom we supported by our Partnership Project last year

† For Will Stevenette and Nitin Shinde as they begin their new ministries as Deacon

† For James Davies-Spratt for his formation year training to be a Lay Minister and for all those exploring Licensed Lay Ministry

† For our pastoral care for members of the congregation and wider Swindon community.

OUR CONTACT DETAILS

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

To keep in touch, visit us at: <https://linktr.ee/christchurchswindon> or <https://linktr.ee/communitycentrechristchurch>

To find out what we are doing to reduce our impact on the environment and improve biodiversity on site, visit: <https://linktr.ee/christchurchswindonecohub>

The Beloved Son

A New Play



Christ Church Swindon

Friday 12th September 7pm

Tickets £10 + 50p BF

www.cccswindon.co.uk/page/tickets

SCAN HERE



From the creators of the acclaimed Mr Darwin's Tree and Fire from Heaven comes a remarkable new play The Beloved Son.

Written and directed by
Murray Watts

Performed by
Andrew Harrison


Henri Nouwen (1932 - 1996) was a Dutch Catholic priest, psychologist and professor who reached the heights of academic success at Yale and Harvard, before abandoning everything to join the community of L'Arche Daybreak in Toronto. He became part of a life-sharing movement, seeking to make known the gifts of people with intellectual disabilities, exploring their unique talents and creating a welcoming home of friendship and belonging.

To some, Henri Nouwen put his brilliant career into reverse, risking the loss of reputation, to others his life was a prophetic challenge to church and society. The Beloved Son is a moving solo performance exploring hope and longing, family dynamics, sexual and emotional crisis and the profound insights of a man who became one of the greatest spiritual writers of the Twentieth Century.


The Return of the Prodigal Son by Rembrandt

Some of Our Fresh Expressions of Church @ Christ Church

Treasure Together
A Spiritual Reflection Group



Every Monday 12 - 1 pm
in the Large Meeting Room
Christ Church Communiity Centre



**MID-WEEK
EVENING WORSHIP**
AT CHRIST CHURCH SWINDON



JOIN US FOR A MOMENT OF PEACE
IN THE MIDDLE OF YOUR WEEK.
A SIMPLE, REFLECTIVE SERVICE
OF PRAYER, SCRIPTURE AND
FELLOWSHIP.

WEDNESDAY AT 6:00PM
JOIN US IN THE LADY CHAPEL

EVERYONE WELCOME - TAKE A
BREATH, FIND STILLNESS,
RECONNECT.

**PILGRIMS of
The Way**



EVERY 2ND & 3RD FRIDAY
7-9PM WITH
Simon Giles

**WHERE ABSOLUTELY
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

St Mary's Church.
1 Commonweal Road SN1 4LB

contact:
pilgrimsftheway@proton.me
for more information!



**Paws for
Thought
Group**



For a fun way for
dogs and owners to
meet new friends.



**Connecting Dogs and
Their Owners Together**

A new dog walking group, meeting every **1st**
and **3rd** Saturday of the month at **Christ
Church, Old Town, Swindon at 10am.**
Refreshments available afterwards.

FOR MORE INFO EMAIL:
WELLNESSINGRACE@OUTLOOK.COM



FB SCAN ME