

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

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2025**  
**Trinity 8**

**Christ Church**

**8am Holy Communion – led by the Revd. Norma McKemey & the Revd. Nitin Shinde**

**10am Holy Communion – led by the Revd. Moira Slack**

**Sermon: the Revd. Norma McKemey**

**Theme: 'Ready and Waiting'**

**Readings: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16; Luke 12: 32-40**

**Reader: Ally Giles**

**Prayers: Anthony Slack**

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

**1.30pm Swindon Recital Series concert & AGM in Christ Church**

**6.30pm Healing Service – led by the Revd. Moira Slack**

**St Mary's**

**9am Holy Communion – led by Revd. Norma McKemey**

[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

<b>Morning Prayer</b>	9-9.30am Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel 9-9.30am Wednesday & Friday virtual morning prayer Telephone: <a href="tel:08002605903">08002605903</a> to join by phone Use this Passcode <a href="#">694043607#</a>
<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> August</b>	7.30pm All Age Worship Planning Meeting at the Vicarage
<b>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> August</b>	11am burial of ashes of James Cowie in Christ Church Burial Ground
<b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> August</b>	10.30am Christ in Quiet <b>6.30pm*</b> Evening Prayer <b>* please note new start time</b> 7pm Bible Encounter Group
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> August</b>	7pm Pilgrims of the Way at St Mary's
<b>Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> August</b>	4.30-6pm Bell ringing practice – Swindon Branch
<b>Regular Groups – everyone welcome</b>	
<b>'Treasure Together' Spiritual Reflection Group</b>	Monday 12 noon in the Large Meeting Room
<b>Fellowship of Faith</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 7pm in Christ Church
<b>Bible Encounter Group</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday 7pm in Christ Church
<b>'Where Art Thou' Children's Art Group</b>	Thursday 4pm <b>Term Time only</b> in the Garden Room
<b>Iona Worship Group</b>	Every 4 <sup>th</sup> Friday 11.30am at St Mary's
<b>Pilgrims of the Way</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday 7pm at St Mary's
<b>Men's Breakfast</b>	Every 1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday - Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel at 7.30am followed by breakfast in the Community Centre. <b>To book breakfast please contact Mike Palmer</b> <a href="mailto:Michael@christchurchswindon.co.uk">Michael@christchurchswindon.co.uk</a>
<b>'Paws for Thought' Dog Walking Group</b>	Every 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday 10am starting from Christ Church

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August – Trinity 9**

**Christ Church**

**8am Holy Communion**

**10am Informal Holy Communion**

**6.30pm Evensong**

**St Mary's**

**9am Holy Communion**

**Thank you - volunteer clean and painting days** A big **THANK YOU** to everyone who came and helped with the cleaning and painting of the Community Centre on Thursday and Friday this week, or kept the volunteers fed and watered with sandwiches, coffee and cake. There was a great team spirit, and we got a lot done – windows were cleaned, floors scrubbed, loos descaled, walls painted and much more. I hope all our users will agree that the centre looks much better for having had a refresh. *Chris*

**Evening Prayer** will now be at **6.30pm** from this Wednesday onwards. All welcome

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

**From Tony and Jenny Selwood - date for your diary – 27<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

‘On 1<sup>st</sup> October this year **Tony and Jenny Selwood** will be celebrating our 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. We were not allowed to see anyone for our 60<sup>th</sup> because of Covid, and we may not make it to our 70<sup>th</sup> so we would very much like to celebrate this year on the nearest Saturday. Which is September 27<sup>th</sup>. 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 1<sup>st</sup> October. We send them our warmest congratulations.

**The Friends of Christ Church**

By joining The Friends of Christ Church, you can help us to maintain and improve the building and its environs for the future, just as past generations have done to make it what it is today. It offers the chance to get involved practically and socially and an opportunity to influence future developments at Christ Church with St Marys especially at our AGM.

Membership includes

- Receiving our annual newsletter

- Have free entry to our annual lecture
- Have access to educational tours plus other one-off activities
- Have the option to propose future projects
- Receive 10% off individual building/ hall hire
- Receive 10% off event tickets for Christ Church and Community Centre (not group bookings)
- Help preserve, maintain and improve the building and its environs for the future - new ideas always welcome

In addition, refreshments can be organised for deceased members' funerals if held on Christ Church site. (Costs passed to family).

#### Membership Fees:

Annual Single: £10

Annual Family: £20 – family membership includes 2 adults and dependents up to the age of 18.

Life: £125

If you are interested in joining The Friends, please email the Membership Secretary [sec.focc@gmail.com](mailto:sec.focc@gmail.com) or complete the application form available in the church and return to the Parish Office.

#### **Ride and Stride – Volunteers Needed!**


This year's Ride and Stride is happening on Saturday 13th September, from 10am to 6pm, in support of Wiltshire's historic churches — and we need some friendly faces to welcome participants at Christ Church and St Mary's.

Can you spare half an hour or more on the day to help? Even a short shift makes a big difference.

Free jelly babies for all volunteers!

If you can help, please contact:

Jennifer Miles

 07952 875994

 [jenniannemiles@gmail.com](mailto:jenniannemiles@gmail.com)

**Visit of the Revd's. Guy and Ruth Donegan-Cross** It was a real joy to have Guy preaching at Christ Church on 20<sup>th</sup> 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

<http://www.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](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:wellnessingrace@outlook.com)

**Our Latest 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>

### From Simon - Please pray for the Taizé Community in France

This week Edward and Hugo are visiting the Taizé Community in France , a place where I discerned my calling to Christian ministry in the summer of 1981. Please do pray for the community of Brothers and for the 2000 young people gathered from all over Europe and the world as they share this week together.

This is a prayer from the Prior, Br Matthew:

Jesus, Light of the World, give light to the depths of our hearts.

If the shadows and the darkness gain the upper hand in us,

Help us always to turn towards you, you alone.

And then, like your friends on the mountain of Transfiguration,

We understand that it is you,

God's well-beloved Son, who will speak to us.

You will give us the words that can transform our lives.

Amen

You can access daily worship from the Taize Community on their website

[https://www.taize.fr/en\\_rubrique43.html](https://www.taize.fr/en_rubrique43.html)

### Dates for your diary

**Christ Church with St Mary's Family Weekend at Home** beginning on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> 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 14<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> November 7.30pm in Christ Church – **'The Grief Opera' by Nigel Lineacre** Tickets are just £10 + 50p BF, and are on sale now at:

<https://cccswindon.co.uk/events/74/details>

### 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, Catherine Morton, Dorothy Hodgson, Ann Coleborne, Barbara Browne 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 Deacons

† For James Davies-Spratt as he prepares for licensing as a Lay Minister on 11<sup>th</sup> October, and Maranda NG as she looks forward to her formation year, and for all those exploring Licensed Lay Ministry

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

**The Beloved Son**  
A New Play

**Christ Church Swindon**  
Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September 7pm  
Tickets £10 + 50p BF

[www.cccswindon.co.uk/page/tickets](http://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.

## OUR CONTACT DETAILS

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



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**Tickets only £10 + 50p booking fee**

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**[cccswindon.co.uk/page/tickets](https://cccswindon.co.uk/page/tickets)**



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