



Providing a spiritual home and resources for the local community



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](mailto:parishoffice@christchurchswindon.co.uk)

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2025 – Advent 2**



### Christ Church

**8am 1662 Holy Communion – led by the Revd. Daphne Hardwick**

**10am All Age Worship & baptism welcome – led by the Team**

*We welcome the family and friends of Bonnie-Rose Harrold who was baptised last Sunday*

**Theme: ‘The Roman Centurion – Cornelius’**

**Reading: Acts 10 (paraphrased)**

**Reader: John Pryce**

**Prayers: Pauline Cain**

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

**3pm Messy Church at Bath Road Methodist Church**

**4pm Holy Communion – led by the Revd. Norma McKemey**

**Sermon: Maranda Ng**

### St Mary's

**9am Holy Communion – led by the Revd. Daphne Hardwick**

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

### Bible verse for 2026

***Please collect a card from church today and feel free to pass one on to anyone you know who would like one***



### 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.

Today we will light our second Advent Candle, which represents the Prophets.  
Please join in with the Response below:

Leader: We light this candle for all God's prophets, confronting injustice and  
restoring the dream of a world of freedom and peace.

**Response: God, as we wait for your promise, give light, give hope.**

### 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: <u>08002605903</u> to join by phone Use this Passcode <u>694043607#</u>
<b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December</b>	1pm King William Street School rehearsal for Carol Service in Christ Church
<b>Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December</b>	12 noon burial of ashes of Mary Parnell in Christ Church Burial Ground
<b>Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December</b>	10.30am Funeral of John McGhee in Christ Church <b><u>Please note there is no Christ in Quiet this week</u></b> 6.30pm Evening Prayer 7pm Bible Encounter <b>Group in the Garden Room (please note change of location for this week)</b>

<b>Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December</b>	7pm Julia's House Hospice Carol Service in Christ Church
	1.30pm burial of ashes of Vera Mansfield in Christ Church Remembrance Garden
<b>Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December</b>	10am King William Street Christmas Service in Christ Church
	1pm Lainesmead School Carol Service in Christ Church
	7.30pm Open Door 40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Christmas Concert with Open Door Choir and Kentwood Choir in Christ Church
<b>Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December</b>	9.30am Choir Experience morning followed by choir practice
	7pm The Wessex Christmas Concert in Christ Church
<b>Regular Groups – everyone welcome</b>	
<b>Partnership Messy Church</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday 3-4.30pm at Bath Road Methodist Church
<b>'Treasure Together' Spiritual Reflection Group</b>	NO MEETINGS IN DECEMBER – we will be back on Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
<b>Fellowship of Faith Bible Encounter Group</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 7pm in Christ Church
	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>'Sisters in Scripture' Young Women's Bible Study</b>	Fortnightly on Thursdays 7pm at Mackenzies Bar, Wood Street
<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>

### **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December - Advent 2**

**Christ Church**

**8am Holy Communion**

**10am Holy Communion**

**4pm Christingle**

**St Mary's**

**2.30pm Carol Service**

**(no morning service at St Mary's)**

**Update on Simon** Simon is making good progress this week. He has one more week of treatment at the Brompton Hospital. God willing the aim is for

discharge home on Friday 12 December for rest and recuperation. Thank you for your continued prayers and support. *Every blessing, Nicola*

**Michael Delapp** We are saddened to learn that Michael died suddenly two weeks ago. Michael and Marie used to be regular worshippers here at Christ Church some years ago. Please hold the family in your prayers. If you would like to attend the funeral, please let the parish office know and Carol can pass your contact details to Oonagh.

**Scout Stamps** Swindon Scouts will be at the back of Christ Church this Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December selling Scout Stamps so if you wish to purchase these please come prepared. Stamps cost 45p each and last posting date is 4pm on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December. The nearest post boxes to Christ Church/St Mary's are at the Pilgrim Centre, Central Library, Co-op on Groundwell Road or Expressions Card Shop in Old Town.

**Please remember to save your used postage stamps** and pop them in the box at the back of Christ Church. They go to raise money for the RNIB. Please leave a margin of ½" around the stamps. Huge thanks to Angela Wirdnam for coordinating this for us for so many years.

**Need some more Christmas cards?** Christine Senior will be selling packs of cards of the Lady Chapel window Virgin Mary and the Child Jesus, on behalf of The Friends of Christ Church after the 10am service this Sunday. Six cards for £5 (cash only)

**We're preparing for our Christmas Eve Crib Service** and need your help to bring the nativity to life! If you have good-quality nativity costumes, stripy or white pillowcases or sheets, lace, gold cord, or furry material for sheep and cattle costumes, please consider donating them. Anything you can contribute can be brought to the Parish Office. Your generosity will help us create beautiful costumes for our children and make this special service truly memorable. *Many thanks, Daphne*

### **Your Morning To Sing – Choir Taster Morning**

Come and join us at Christ Church, Old Town, Swindon, on **Saturday 13th December, 9.30–11.30 am** for a free Choir Taster Morning. Step into the choir

stalls beneath the magnificent East Window and experience the joy of singing carols and simple songs in parts, accompanied by our beautiful pipe organ. No experience is needed — just enthusiasm and curiosity! All ages are welcome, and light refreshments will be provided. For more information, email Tim at [musicdirector@christchurchswindon.co.uk](mailto:musicdirector@christchurchswindon.co.uk) or call him on **07387 290323**.

### ✨**Don't Be Alone This Christmas – Join Us for Christmas Day Dinner**✨🌲

Christmas can be a joyful time, but for many it can also feel isolating. At Christ Church, we believe no one should have to spend Christmas Day alone. That's why we are delighted to invite anyone who would appreciate some company to our Christmas Day Dinner at the Christ Church Community Centre.

**On 25th December**, from **12 noon to 3:30pm**, guests will be welcomed into a warm, festive atmosphere to enjoy a **delicious three-course Christmas meal**. The afternoon will also include Christmas carols, conversation, plenty of laughter, and the chance to watch **The King's Speech** together. It's a wonderful opportunity to meet new people, share the joy of the season, and experience community at its best.

Whether you're feeling isolated or simply prefer to spend the day in company, **you are warmly invited**.

**We are also looking for a few more volunteers** to help the day run smoothly. We need **several drivers** who can collect guests and take them home afterwards. If you are able to offer a little of your time on Christmas Day, it would make a real difference.

**To reserve your place**, please call **01793 267500** or email [chris@christchurchswindon.co.uk](mailto:chris@christchurchswindon.co.uk). The suggested donation is **£10**, but everyone is welcome regardless of ability to contribute.

This event is supported by **DSNY Wealth Planning**, whose generosity helps us ensure that Christmas Day is a time of connection and joy for all.

If you or someone you know would benefit from a warm meal and a friendly atmosphere this Christmas, please join us. You will be made very welcome

## Upcoming Events at Christ Church and the Community Centre

Our latest Events brochure is available online now. View it here:

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

Never miss any of our great events by signing up to our Events Newsletter email at: <https://mailchi.mp/c741f2489c2f/events-at-christ-church-and-the-community-centre-swindon>

## Partnership News

[www.sotpc.org.uk](http://www.sotpc.org.uk)

### New Year's Day Partnership Ramble, Thursday 1 January 2026

All are welcome to join the traditional New Year's Day ramble – usual arrangements. Meet at Christ Church car park in time to start walking at 2.00 p.m. We walk via Newport Street, Signal Way, west along the old railway track as far as Beavan's Bridge over the canal, and back. 4 1/2 miles total, easy pace. Please wear warm clothing and suitable footwear (trainers are fine). We toast the New Year on the bridge. Return to Christ Church, by 4.30 pm, where all are invited for tea and mince pies in the Community Centre @ Christ Church. *Walk leader is Daniel Pitt – home 521732, mobile – 07834 704350*

## For your prayers

† Mike Shurmer, John Webb, Martin Hiscock, Ann Sharpe, Ali Potter, Neville Gray, Manda Shinde, Simon Stevenette, Barbara Sheppard, Joel Sales, Kaf Smith, Gordon Hudd, John Cross, Elizabeth Hogg 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 Paul Simpson-McGregor, Mary Parnell, Stella Howarth, John McGhee, Michael Delapp, Vera Mansfield, Pamela 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 pastoral care for members of the congregation and wider Swindon community.



**Christmas is coming - A taster of some services  
in the next couple of weeks**

**Christingle Service  
in Christ Church**

**Sunday 14th December 4pm**

*'Come Share the Light with us'*

The Children's Society

**Carol Service**

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December  
2.30pm**

St Mary's Church  
Commonweal Road  
Swindon SN1 4LB

Led by  
the Revds.  
David Day  
&  
Moira Slack

**ALL WELCOME**

Organist:  
the Revd.  
Geoffrey Glead

Mayor of Swindon is delighted to invite you to a

**CHRISTMAS  
CAROL  
CELEBRATION**

Wednesday, 17th December  
4 p.m.  
SBC Civic Chamber  
Euclid St, SN1 2JH

Join us for Tea and Mince Pies  
Christmas Jumpers Welcome

**Organ  
Recital**

Tim Eyles,  
Director  
of Music

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 1pm  
in Christ Church**

Music by Bach, Pachelbel,  
Buxtehude, Peeters and others  
and featuring Widor's "Toccata"

Relax and unwind with some beautiful  
Advent and Christmas music

**RETIRING COLLECTION TO SUPPORT  
THE WORK OF CHRIST CHURCH**

**A Traditional Service  
of Lessons & Carols**

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December 6.30pm  
in Christ Church**

led by the Revd. Norma McKemey

Address: Beth Trendell,  
Swindon Borough Council Fostering Team

Organist: Tim Eyles  
Conductor: Katrine Reimers  
followed by refreshments

**Crib Service**

**Christmas Eve 4pm  
in Christ Church**

Join us as we bring  
the Nativity Story to life!

You are welcome to come dressed as a character  
from the Nativity Story

## OUR CONTACT DETAILS

Staff Team	For pastoral enquiries please contact the Parish Office in the first instance Staff Team: <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 Comms and Fundraising	Steve Cox: <a href="mailto:communications@christchurchswindon.co.uk">communications@christchurchswindon.co.uk</a>	
Gifts /Donations	Stephen Grosvenor, Gift Aid Secretary: <a href="mailto:stephen@christchurchswindon.co.uk">stephen@christchurchswindon.co.uk</a> Paul Ng, Treasurer: <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/christchurchswindonecohub>

