



Providing a spiritual home and resources for the local community

The Parish Office is now closed. You can leave a message on 01793 522832 or email

parishoffice@christchurchswindon.co.uk and Carol will respond after 5th January. Thank you for your understanding

DOUBLE EDITION



Wishing everyone a Peaceful and Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year



Sunday 28th December 2025 – Christmas 1

Christ Church

8am Holy Communion – led by the Revd. David Day

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

Sermon: Ailsa Palmer

Theme: ‘And yet, hope’

Readings: Isaiah 63: 7-9; Matthew 2:13-end

Reader: Anthony Slack

Prayers: Judith Hawkins

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

4pm Informal Evening Worship – led by James Davies-Spratt

St Mary's

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

[Download our monthly Service Poster](#)

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.

Week commencing 29th December

Morning Prayer	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>
Monday 29th December	<i>12.30pm Requiem Mass for the Revd. Canon Alastair Stevenson in St Mark's Church – please see paragraph below for further information.</i>
Wednesday 31st December – New Year's Eve	10.30am Christ in Quiet 6.30pm Evening Prayer 7pm Fellowship of Faith 11pm Watchnight Service with Holy Communion – led by the Revd. David Day & James Davies-Spratt. Sermon: the Revd. Nitin Shinde If you can't be with us you can join us via our YouTube channel here: https://www.youtube.com/live/Mjz_dYPr8aY?si=cdiEUVcw54x2YJTi
Thursday 1st January – New Year's Day	Partnership New Year's Day Ramble leaving from Christ Church at 2pm – <i>please see paragraph below for further information.</i>
Saturday 3rd January	7.30am Morning Prayer & Men's Breakfast

Sunday 4th January 2026 – Epiphany Sunday

Christ Church

8am 1662 Holy Communion – led by the Revd. David Day

10am Epiphany All Age Worship – led by the Team

Theme: ‘A Gift for Everyone’

Readings: Isaiah 60: 1-6; Matthew 2:1-12

Reader: Helen Hartnell

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

4pm Holy Communion – led by the Revd. Norma McKemey & the Revd. Nitin Shinde

St Mary's

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

Week commencing 5th January

Morning Prayer	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>
Monday 5th January	2pm funeral of Martin Hiscock in Christ Church 3pm Treasure Together in the Large Meeting Room 7.3pm Staff Team Meeting in the Large Meeting Room
Wednesday 6th January	10.30am Christ in Quiet 6.30pm Evening Prayer 7pm Fellowship of Faith
Friday 9th January	7pm Pilgrims of the Way at St Mary's

Regular Groups – everyone welcome

Partnership Messy Church	1 st Sunday 3-4.30pm at Bath Road Methodist Church
‘Treasure Together’ Spiritual Reflection Group	Returns on Monday 5 th January 2026 3pm 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

Sunday 11th January – Epiphany 1

Christ Church

8am Holy Communion

10am Holy Communion

4pm Healing Service

St Mary's

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

The Parish Office is now closed and will re-open on Monday 5th January. The next News Sheet will be published on Friday 9th January.

For urgent pastoral needs while the office is closed, please speak with a minister at any service.

Swindon's Vue Cinema, Greenbridge Retail & Leisure Park, Swindon SN3 3SQ is showing The King of Kings (PG) daily at 10am from Boxing Day until New Year's Day.

Tickets are from just £2.49 when booked online. (£1 extra at box office)

The trailer can be seen at:

suscotland.org.uk/what-we-do/resources/collection/the-king-of-kings/

A helpful review can be found here:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jkap02GpLPE>

A Full Peal will be attempted on the Christ Church Bells on Saturday 3rd January from 10am, by a visiting band of ringers. If successful, this will last for around 3.5 hours. We wish them success.

The Stained-Glass window in the South Aisle has been repaired and will be reinstalled on Thursday 8th and Friday 9th January. We can't wait to see it restored to its former glory!

Canon Alastair Stevenson's Requiem Mass will be at St Mark's Church, Swindon on Monday 29th December at 12.30pm, followed by a celebration of his life at Kingsdown Crematorium at 2.15pm. All who knew him are welcome at either or both services. Please continue to hold Margaret and the family in your prayers.

Martin Hiscock's funeral is on Monday 5th January 2026 at 2pm in Christ Church. Please pray for Wendy and for Martin's family and friends at this time.

St Michael's youth and families worker

St Michael's Highworth with St Leonard's Broad Blunsdon are recruiting for a church youth and families worker. Full details can be found here

<https://www.stmichaelshighworth.co.uk/jobs>

Closing date: 23rd January 2026

New Testament in a Nutshell – St Mary's Purton 31st January 10am-4.30pm

The New Testament is well known; however, the context can often be missed. Relax and enjoy the journey as an experienced guide encourages you to see God's Word through the 'Big Picture'. Our fun and memorable sessions will help you learn with such clarity you'll be able to retell the whole Storyline to a friend. We will also do our best to inspire and equip you to keep digging deeper.

St Mary's Church, Church End, Purton, SN5 4EB cost £19 (£14 before 24/12) including workbook and bread and soup lunch. Free for children 11-18 if accompanied by an adult.

Book at www.Bible.org.uk or from Ian Tweedie-Smith 01793 770077

vicarage@tweediesmith.co.uk

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

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, Ann Sharpe, Ali Potter, Neville Gray, Manda Shinde, Simon Stevenette, Barbara Sheppard, Joel Sales, Kaf Smith, Gordon Hudd, John Cross, Elizabeth Hogg, Emilia Shaw and all those in need of God's healing, including those undergoing long term treatment of any kind.

† Stuart & Lucy who were married in Christ Church on Tuesday, and their son Pippin who was baptised

† 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 Martin Hiscock, Alastair Stevenson, Roger Salter, baby Oscar Simms 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.



OUR CONTACT DETAILS

Staff Team	For pastoral enquiries please contact the Parish Office in the first instance Staff Team: staffteam@christchurchswindon.co.uk	
Parish Administrator / Clerk	Carol Simmons: parishoffice@christchurchswindon.co.uk	Tel. 522832
Christ Church Comms and Fundraising	Steve Cox: communications@christchurchswindon.co.uk	
Gifts /Donations	Stephen Grosvenor, Gift Aid Secretary: stephen@christchurchswindon.co.uk Paul Ng, Treasurer: 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>





Watchnight Service in Christ Church

New Year's Eve 11pm

Join us as we welcome
the New Year together

*...go out into the darkness,
and put your hand into
the hand of God...*

James Booth
PHOTOGRAPHY