



St. Paul's Covingham  
St. Timothy's, Liden  
[www.dorcanchurch.org.uk](http://www.dorcanchurch.org.uk)

*Transforming lives and communities  
Knowing Jesus and making Him known*



*"I am the vine; you are the branches.  
If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit.  
Apart from me you can do nothing"  
John 15:5*

**Services - 29th April - 5th Sunday of Easter  
Annual General Meeting**

Please note earlier start of **10.00am** (NOT 10.30am)

**St. Paul's**

**10.00am** United Holy Communion Rev'd Trudie Wigley  
With commissioning of church link team & Alex Scott

Welcome: *Joy & Angie*, Teas: *Cathy & Friends*,  
Ignite: *Deb*, Sunday Club: *Mary*, Creche: *None*

11.30am Annual General Meeting

**Welcome to the Dorcan Church.  
If you are new, we would love to get to know you better.  
Please speak to the Minister or to one of the Stewards.**

**Commissioning of Church Link team.**

In our united service today we will be commissioning all those who serve as church links. Each person in the Church family has a church link person, and their purpose is to uphold you in prayer and to be a point of contact if you would like a listening ear. This is an important way of showing our love and support for each other, and this care is one of the four strands in our vision of Building God's house (Outreach, Discipleship, Care and Community).

We look forward to commissioning and praying for our church link team, as well as formally expressing our thanks for all that they do for us.

**What's on next week -**

Monday 30th April	7.00pm	Parenting Course
Tuesday 1st May	9-9.45am Lunchtime	Morning Prayers - St. Paul's meeting room Dorcan Academy Christian Union
Wednesday 2nd May	8.45am 9.00am 1.30pm	Tea & Toast, St. Tim's Tiny Tots at St. Paul's Tiny Tots at St. Tim's
Thursday 3rd May	9.30am 8-9.00pm	Holy Communion, St Tim's Footie at Dorcan Leisure Centre, followed by the Messenger

## Services - 6th May - 6th Sunday of Easter

### St. Paul's

9.30am	Christian Aid breakfast	
10.30am	Sunday School for All	Rev'ds Trudie & Andrew Wigley & Rob Smith
Welcome: <i>Joan &amp; John</i> , Teas: TBC, Ignite: <i>Deb</i> , Sunday Club: <i>Mary &amp; others</i> , Creche: <i>Margaret &amp; Judy</i>		
12.15pm	Uganda sponsored bike ride arrives	
4.00pm	Tea and Praise	Rev'd Andrew Wigley

### St. Tim's

10.30am	Holy Communion	Rev'd Stuart Fisher
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Ignite are

holding a

**breakfast**

on Sunday May 6th at 9.30am

in aid of Christian Aid.

Usual fayre of Bacon Rolls, pastries, fruit etc.

Please generously support us!

Amber and Deb

**Sunday School for all – next week!**  
**With Christian Aid breakfast from 9:30am**

We will be looking at the book of James which is full of hard-hitting robust, no-nonsense practical stuff. It was the theme at Spring harvest this year and we thought it would be a good idea to share some of the teaching and learning. James is a short book so ahead of SS4A how about putting some time aside with a cuppa to take a read? It won't take more than 30 minutes or so. Look forward to seeing you on the 6<sup>th</sup> May.

**Gift Day**

Thank you for engaging and responding to the gift Day last Sunday. Next week we will share our collective response as gifts are still kindly being received. If you would like to respond and haven't already done so here is how to do so:

- Envelopes: these are available at our United Service today at ~St. Paul's and have the words "Dorcan Church Gift Day" on the outside. These are different envelopes to those which some of you will use for your regular giving. Inside each envelope will be a slip of paper which you are encouraged to complete if you are a tax payer so that tax Gift Aid can be claimed on your offering. This tax back makes a huge difference to our income. Our treasurer, Tony Prichard, is the only person who is aware of our personal giving and all information is kept in the strictest confidence by him.
- Electronically: if you would prefer to make an electronic transfer then please mark the bank reference "Gift Day 2018". Account details are available from Tony.
- Regular giving: If you would like to amend your regular giving going forward, please do so either through your envelope giving, amending your standing order, or changing your direct debit transfer by contacting the Parish Giving Scheme directly. The direct debit giving scheme was new last year and has a number of helpful features for both the church and the giver, so please do consider switching to this scheme. Full details are available from Tony.

**If you are new to Dorcan you may not be aware that we focused on a discipleship series last year called *Giving in Grace*. The letters and brochures which supported us as we reviewed our financial giving are available for you today. Please do pick up a copy as they share some thoughts and reflections on our response to God's provision and generosity, as well as outlining how we spend the financial resources we are gifted with in the Dorcan Church.**

Thank you for your prayerful consideration surrounding this year's gift Day and for engaging as we explored the parable of the Widow's mite. We will share more next week.



Join the

Global

**Wave of Prayer  
10-20th May 2018  
Ascension to Pentecostv**

This is a fast-growing yearly wave of prayer from Ascension Day to Pentecost, encouraging Christians around the world to pray as one for people to know Jesus Christ.

The website at <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/> is full of different ideas for individuals, churches and groups to pray and at Dorcan we are again joining in with this wave of prayer. Here's how, so do come and join us !

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2:30pm Church family afternoon  
at Barbury Castle**

Come and join together as the Dorcan church family at Barbury castle for fun together and a time of prayer for our town as we overlook our home of Swindon from the hill. Come with your kites, outdoor games, dogs, cakes to share and hot flasks !

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 9am Morning Prayer at St Paul's** Come and join us for our regular weekly prayers.

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May 4pm Messy Church at St Paul's** We will be exploring what prayer is and different ways to pray. Come and join us for some fun and creative ideas as we explore prayer followed by fellowship over supper.

**#Pledge2Pray**

## **Diocesan Young people visiting Uganda – can you help?**

In July/August this year a group of young people are visiting Uganda as part our Diocesan link. The young people come from various areas of the diocese, including one from Pinehurst in Swindon, and many have never been abroad before. They will be visiting and working alongside vulnerable young men and women in Kampala, staying in homes with Ugandan families, both in an urban area and then in a rural area (where they probably will not recognise the toilets and won't have running water). In the rural area they will meet with young men and women in secondary school education and spend time learning alongside them.

They are asking for our support in a number of ways as follows. Might you be able to help please?

1. ***Sponsoring their bike ride on 5/6<sup>th</sup> May to raise funds.*** They need to raise the remaining £8k and have a giving page where you can also find out more about the trip. <https://bit.ly/2FDB4YR>
2. ***Pray for them.*** You can find our more about the visit and who they are on the diocesan website at <https://bit.ly/2Hqu2Zg>
3. ***Organising a brief lunch for them on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May*** when they stop at St Paul's on their bike journey. They will be arriving around 12:15pm just as we finish Sunday school for all, and leaving at around 1:20pm. They have asked whether we might be able to provide a light lunch (soup or maybe pasta) and cold drinks in the hall for around 10 people? Are you able to help with this please?

This is an exciting opportunity for these young people and I hope that we are able to support both them and the visit as part of our ongoing link with our friends from Uganda. **If you are able to provide a lunch please could you let Trudie know?** (326128). Many thanks!

**Confirmation - have you thought of being confirmed?**

On Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June at 4pm, we shall be hosting the ecumenical confirmation service, and our friends from the West Swindon Partnership will be joining us. Confirmation is an important part in our Christian journey and can take on a different significance to different people – for some confirmation is a way of affirming their faith for themselves which was promised on their behalf when they were baptized as infants; for others it is part of the process of baptism when older; for some they approach it as the time they would like to start sharing in communion, and for others it marks their commitment to membership of the church and particularly denomination. And for many people it is a combination of all these and more!

**Is confirmation something you might like to consider as part of your Christian journey?**

Or do you know someone you would like to encourage to think about taking this next step? Please do think and pray about the possibility of confirmation, and if you would like to find out more and what it's all about then please do speak with any member of the ministry team.

We'd love to talk with you in confidence and explore further.

*Trudie*

### **St Tim's Plant Sale**

Unfortunately we have found it impossible to hold the above event this year.

Too many other events going on in the Church and due to such a late spring we have too few plants to offer !

Sarah

### **Card Making Class**

The next class is Saturday May 12th  
9.30am - 12 noon in the Playgroup Room.

This is a small group meeting every three months taught by Claire Curtis. We learn new skills and make 3 cards. The cost is £10, of which £4 is used for a charity/church, chosen by the group.

If you would like to join us or need more information, contact me.

Money and names to me by Saturday, May 5th.

Sandra

All items for inclusion in the next notices should be sent to Anna Newman by **Wednesday 2nd May**. Tel 695698 or email [anagram673@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:anagram673@hotmail.co.uk) Thank you.  
**Please let me know if you would like to receive notices by email**