



St. Paul's Covingham
St. Timothy's, Liden
www.dorcanchurch.org.uk

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



*"You formed my innermost being, shaping my delicate inside and my intricate outside,
and you wove them all together in my mother's womb"
Psalm 139:13*

Services 31st March 2019 - 4th Sunday in Lent - Mothering Sunday

St. Pauls

8.45am Holy Communion Rev'd Andrew Wigley

10.30am Morning Worship Rev'd Rob Smith

Welcome: *Rosemary & Amy*, Teas: *Hazel & Pam*, Sunday Club: *Trudie & Hazel*,
Crèche: *None*

St. Tim's

10.30am Morning Worship Alex Scott

**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.**

What's on next week -		
Tuesday 2nd April	9.00am 10.00am 1.00pm 1.30pm 2.30pm 7.30pm	Morning prayers at St. Paul's Morning Prayers at St Tim's Christian Union, Dorcan Academy Bible Course Session 7 Lent Group at Blakeney Ave Men's Fellowship Group - Hatherley Road
Wednesday 3rd April	8.45am 9.00am 1.15pm 6.45 - 8.15	Tea & Toast - St. Tim's Tiny Tots at St. Paul's Tiny Tots at St. Tim's Mid-week Youth Club at St. Paul's
Thursday 4th April	9.30am 8.00-9pm	Holy Communion at St. Tim's Footie at Dorcan Leisure Centre, followed by the Messenger

Services - 7th April 2019 5th Sunday in Lent - Passion Sunday		
St. Paul's		
10.00am	United Holy Communion "Tea & Praise" style NB Earlier time	Rev'd Andrew Wigley
11.30am	Annual General Meeting	
Welcome: <i>Hazel & Janice</i> , Teas: <i>Sam & Janice</i> , Sunday Club: <i>Nathalie & Helen</i> , Crèche: <i>Nicki & Niki</i> .		

Advanced notice about Palm Sunday – 14th April: We are planning to do something a little different this year! We will be holding a United Service, beginning with a short time of prayer at St. Paul's at the earlier time of 10.00am, followed by a walk to Covingham shops for worship outdoors, and then sharing in communion together back at St Paul's at approximately 11.00 am. This will be for All-ages and a special time together as we start Holy week and follow our Lord's journey to the cross and glorious resurrection.

Ray and Margaret Hylton:

As we come to the end of this term, Ray and Margaret are stepping down from Tiny Tots and in:School and we extend MASSIVE thanks to them for their ministry and hard work over many, many years. These important activities have touched and connected with the lives of countless youngsters (many of whom are now all grown up!) as well as their families.

They will be hugely missed and we are grateful for their commitment, hard work and love.

On behalf of Dorcan Church we thank you both.

Tiny Tots and in:School – going forward: Thank you to everyone who has committed to supporting these ministries going forward.

In:School: Thanks to Sue stepping up to co-ordinate, the team were able to offer Easter Cracked Open at St Paul's, and Jo and the team continued working hard at Tim's. Thank you for your work and commitment to running this outreach to our schools who thoroughly enjoy coming and hearing about the Easter story.

Tiny Tots: The response to the request for more helpers in Tiny Tots at both St Paul's and St Tim's has been overwhelming – thank you! At St Tim's, Elizabeth now has new team members to support this ministry in Liden: and at St Paul's with Brenda Fisher co-ordinating and many new helpers, we are able to continue this activity!

This is great news all round and builds on the foundations of the past, taking forward the work of Ray and Margaret in the years to come.

Thank you Dorcan church!

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 11.30am Sunday 7th April 2019

We are holding our Annual General Meeting on Sunday 7th April straight after the united service which will start at the **earlier time of 10am**.

Standing for ECC: Have you ever wondered how decisions are made which guide the direction of God's church in Dorcan? The Ecumenical Church Council (ECC) is an important part of that decision making, and carries out a mixture of spiritual, legal, financial and missionary functions, and shares the responsibility of making certain decisions with the church leadership. It meets 6-8 times a year alternating between Tuesday and Wednesday nights.

It is not a committee to be on to know what's going on, but a gathering that prays and works together for the benefit of the life, ministry and mission of the church. Nor is it a committee which "rubber stamps" – issues are discussed and decisions made with prayer and in faith.

Would you like to use your gifts to serve on ECC and can you attend the majority of meetings? Please do prayerfully consider whether this is something you might be a part of, whether as an elected member, or as an officer of the church such as being a Churchwarden or Deanery Synod representative. If you need any further information then please speak to our Church warden, Diane, any member of the ministry team, or current ECC member. Nomination forms are now available in each centre.

Electoral Role Revision: The period of the revision of our electoral role has now closed and the new role is available in both centres for the next two weeks. If you have previously completed a form please check that you are on the list so any amendment can be made. If you completed a form after Friday 22nd March, your name will be added to the electoral role following the closed period which ends on the day of our AGM on 7th March 2019.

Have you thought of being confirmed?

On Sunday 12th May at 3:30pm, we shall be joining our Ecumenical friends from the West Swindon Partnership and Purton at St Mary's, Purton, for our annual confirmation service.

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 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

Chrism Eucharist at Bristol Cathedral Thursday 18th April 10:30 (Maundy Thursday):

Traditionally this service is when we share in the blessing of oils which are used in Christian initiation (e.g. baptism) and healing. However, this service is also a unique opportunity for us all to come and pray together, share in the Lord's supper and for each of us to renew our commitment to the ministries to which we have been called.

A number of the Ministry team are going, and if you would like to come too, then please contact Jackie by Wednesday 10th April so she can let the cathedral know numbers and also perhaps link people up with car lifts (Tel: 326 128).

Thank you everyone.

I have written to all of our participants in our Parish Giving, Envelope and Standing Order schemes to say "Thank you"! To everyone else your generous giving is a vital enabler of our work together as a church sustaining our widespread ministry and mission.

Last year we were able to:

- *Celebrate baptisms and communion*
- *Nurture and teach our children and young people*
- *Run Easter Cracked Open and Christmas Unwrapped for our schools*
- *Hold activities such as Tiny Tots, Messy Church and Tea and Toast*
- *Support our chosen charities: Swindon Youth for Christ, National Children's Home, Action for Children, The Poppy Appeal, Swindon Women's Aid, Turning Point, Holy Habits and The Bishop's Ordination Fund*
- *Pay our Church of England Parish Share and our Methodist Assessment in full and on time. Both of these contribute to our share of the costs of making ministry to every person living in this area.*
- *Maintain our church buildings.*
- *Complete the boxing in of the heating pipework.*
- *Renew the floor covering between the vestry and library.*
- *Renew the lighting in St. Tim's.*

All of this takes time and money, and it wouldn't have been possible without the generous contribution of our givers - you are making a real difference!

Tony Prichard (Treasurer)

Ishmael

All Age Praise Party

Rodbourne Cheney Baptist Church

11th May 2019

4.30pm-6.30pm (children) 7pm-8pm (adults)

Tickets: £5 adults & £3 children under 16.

Please see posters for further information.

Tax, Gift Aid and Insurance

The end of the 2018-9 tax year is approaching so now is the time to review your Gift Aid Declaration.

Please let me know if you no longer pay sufficient tax to cover your donation. If you do pay Income Tax and would like to Gift Aid your donation a form is available on the church website at;

http://www.dorcanchurch.org.uk/files/docs/Standing_Order_&_Gift_Aid_2016.pdf

Are you renewing your house insurance? Have a look at Ecclesiastical. (www.ecclesiastical.com/Trust130) As a celebration of 130 years of Church Insurance they are offering to make a donation of £130 to our church for each new policy.

Tony Prichard (Treasurer)

SAVE THE DATE!:

Dorcan Church
Holiday Club this year is
from **Tuesday 30th July**
- **Friday 2nd August** for
children in school years
1-6 and it is called
Mission Rescue!



Please save the date! we need lots of helpers and kids! I promise you it will be great fun!

more info - see *Rev Rob*

Community Centre Development Manager (CCDM):

ECC are pleased to share the news this week that Chris Smith, CCDM at Christ Church, will be seconded to Dorcan for the next seven months with effect from 1st April. Chris is experienced in running and developing community centres, and we are grateful for Christ Church's generosity in releasing him for 12 hours a week to support us, and also to Chris himself who first explored this as a possibility.

Chris will have a wide remit, including continuing the work which was paused in December to review the use and staffing of both centres, developing our letting business further, ensuring policies, procedures and contracts are in place, overseeing/undertaking administration, co-ordinating the wonderful team of helpers, and a lot more.

This is a great gift to us at Dorcan and we look forward to Chris joining us. Later in the year, our longer term staffing needs will become clearer and we will look to recruit then, but in the meantime we extend our warm welcome and thanks to Chris.

Trudie

All items for inclusion in the next notices should be sent to Anna Newman by **Wednesday 3rd April** Tel 695698 or email anagram673@hotmail.co.uk Thank you.
Please let me know if you would like to receive notices by email