



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*

**THE BLIND REGAIN THEIR SIGHT  
THE LAME WALK  
LEPERS ARE CLEANSED  
THE DEAF HEAR  
THE DEAD ARE RAISED  
AND THE POOR HAVE THE GOOD NEWS  
PROCLAIMED TO THEM**

**Matthew 11:5**

**SERVICES - 15th December 2019 - 3rd Sunday of Advent  
John the Baptist – Candle of Peace**

**St. Paul's**

10.30am Morning Worship Neil Marshall  
And Rev'd Rob Smith

Welcome, *Joy & Pauline*, Teas: *Cathy's Group*, Sparks:/Creche: *tbc*

4.00pm Messy Christmas The Team !

**St. Tim's**

10.30pm Carols & Communion Rev'd Stuart Fisher

This morning Alex Scott is at Aldbourne supporting the wider Methodist church.

**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 this week -		
Monday 16th December	10.00am 2.00pm	House Group (Colleen Wiseman) House Group (Alex Scott)
Tuesday 17th December	9.00am 1.00pm 6.30pm 7.30pm	Morning prayers at St Paul's Christian Union, Dorcan Academy House Group Debbie Mulcock House Group (Dianne Lane)
Wednesday 18th December	8.45am 9.00am 1.15pm 6.45pm	Tea & Toast at St. Tim's Tiny Tots at St. Paul's Tiny Tots at St. Tim's Youth Club Christmas Party
Thursday 19th December	8.00pm	Footie at Dorcan Leisure centre followed by the Messenger
Friday 20th December	9.15 & 10.45pm 2.30pm	Covingham School's Christmas Service at St. Paul's St. Paul's - weekly office meeting. Picnic with Santa, St. Paul's

<b>SERVICES - 22nd December 2019 - 4th Sunday of Advent</b>		
<b>St. Paul's</b>		
No morning services		
6.00pm	United Carol Service	Rev'd Stuart Fisher And Rev'd Rob smith
Welcome, <i>tbc</i> , Teas: <i>tbc</i> , Sparks: /Creche: <i>tbc</i>		
<b>St. Timothy's</b>		
10.30am	Holy Communion	Rev'd Rob Smith

**Mid-week communion – 9:30am Thursdays:** We are now having a pause, and will be starting again in the new year on Thursday 9th January at St Paul's. Thank you to all those who come to this mid-week time of worshipping God - for your fellowship and journeying together in our faith.

**Toy services – gifts to the NSPCC. Thank you!**

Thank you to everyone in both centres for the gifts of toys and presents for the NSPCC to distribute this Christmas to those families in need. There were loads of gifts and they have been gratefully received. We pray for all the youngsters who will open those presents, and their families, that the gifts will bring some hope and light to them this Christmas.

**Who are you going to invite to services this Christmas?**

Over the next couple of weeks we are hosting a number of Christmas services where we welcome those from our community to join with us as we celebrate Christmas together. Please do think and pray who you might invite.

In particular, **next week we are holding our carol service** and this is a super opportunity for us as a church family to get to know new people and catch up with familiar faces from our neighbourhood, so **please do come along and help extend a very warm welcome to our community.**

**Prayer for all that is going on!**

We are in full swing of Christmas activities and the days are wonderfully full! Please do pray for all the Christmas activities and for good health and energy as we engage in all that is going on.

This time of year is a super time to share our faith and we pray for conversations and encounters as we share about the God in whom we trust and follow. And thank you to everyone for all that you are doing which enables the activities to happen.

**To all who have offered to help lead carols on 22nd December:**

There will be 3 opportunities to go through the music as follows - 1915 on Fri 13th for about 1.5 hours..... This should be straight after carols at Edgehill.

Sunday 15th straight after the morning service for about an hour (or less).

Sunday 22nd from 1630 until the service.

Please let me know if you can't make any, no need to make all!

Nathalie

**And ALSO WANTED**

The Monday morning Cell Group is co-ordinating the refreshments after the Carol Service and would be very grateful for donations of Mince Pies please. (Either bought or home made.)

Let Pam Wood know if you are able to help, or just bring them to the Service. Thank you.

**Picnic with Santa - Friday 20th December**

- crafts, food and games.

Tickets £1 per child

must be booked in advance.

See Debbie or Rob.

### **Time to find out more? - Exploring Christianity**

Would you like to delve deeper into your faith and explore theology with others? Do you feel you need stretching in your thinking and study? If so, you may wish to prayerfully consider joining the "Exploring Christianity" course which is being held in Swindon.

It is a course open to all and is an excellent opportunity to consider areas including prayer, spirituality, church history, Biblical studies, church, mission and ministry. This is the course which Licensed Lay Ministers attend as part of their training so please do ask Sue Morgan to share how she found the course. Unlike Sue, nobody has to do the written assignments though – unless you want to!

Each module comprises 10 sessions and there is no compulsion to attend all the modules so maybe start and see how you go? It is being hosted at St John's, Parks, on Tuesday evenings starting Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2020. If you are interested then please do pick up a leaflet, talk to Sue and I'd love to hear from you too.

*Trudie*

Please note that the next **Morning Prayers at St. Timothy's** will be on Tuesday 7th January.

**Community Centre Development Manager  
- Cheryl Pottinger:**

We are delighted to share that Cheryl has accepted our offer to the new role of Community Centre Development Manager.

Cheryl used to be the General Manager at Dorcan Leisure Centre so is very familiar and experienced in the operational and financial running of a centre and she knows the local community well. She will be a great asset to us and the community.

Cheryl starts in January, yet will be coming in for a couple of days on 17<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> December for a hand over with Chris Smith. If you're in St Paul's office those days, then please do pop in and say hello and welcome her.

**NEW YEARS EVE PARTY**

Angela and I are arranging a New Years Eve Party 8 -12pm, it's for all the Church family ages 0 -- 90 yrs.

Please bring food to share and the drink that you want to drink. We have quizzes, games and usually end with a bit of music to dance to [ if you want ].

If you haven't been before ask around to find out what it's like: it would be helpful to know numbers so please let Angela or I know if you are planning on coming.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Margaret 532849

*Thanks*

**CHRISTMAS 2019**

**THE DORCAN CHURCH**  
**St. Paul's Church Centre**  
**Covingham SN3 5BY**

**Sunday 1st December**

10.30am Advent Communion  
4pm Advent Taize Service

**Sunday 8th December**

8.45am Communion  
10.30am All Age Toy Service\*

**Sunday 15th December**

10.30am Morning Worship  
4pm Christmas Messy Church & Party tea

**Sunday 22nd December**

6pm Carols by Candlelight

**Tuesday 24th December - Christmas Eve**

4pm Christingle & Crib Service  
11.30pm Midnight Mass

**Wednesday 25th December - Christmas Day**

9am Christmas Day Communion  
10am Christmas All-Age Celebration

**ST. TIMOTHY'S**

**Liden Community Centre, SN3 6HP**

**Sunday 8th December**

10.30am Christingle & Toy Service\*

**Sunday 15th December**

10.30am Carols & Communion

**Sunday 22nd December**

10.30am Christmas Communion

\*If you would like to, please bring an unwrapped gift  
& wrapping paper donation for the NSPCC

**Many, many thanks** to all who helped to make Christmas Unwrapped happen again this year. From preparing, setting up and down, to leading activities, this was a real team effort. Every one of you is valued! The children were super and clearly enjoyed all the activities. Feedback from staff was positive. Thank you all so much for participating and for the comments/suggestions received. I intend to arrange an informal feedback meeting in the new year. Sue

**Dates for Tiny Tots St. Paul's**

last session on the 18th December returning on 8th January.

St. Paul's Tiny Tots are holding their Christmas party on 18th December and would love to welcome back our volunteers past and present. Please join us for refreshments from 9:30 to 11:00. Brenda Fisher and the team

We will be meeting in the hall at St. Paul's at 9.30am on Monday December 23rd to make **200 Christingles** ready for Christmas Eve.

Please come and help, all ages welcome. With enough helpers this will take about an hour.

Any queries, please speak to Sandra or Colleen.

All items for inclusion in the next notices should be sent to Anna Newman by **Wednesday 18th December** 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**