



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

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

Sunday 20th September

15th Sunday after Trinity - Proper 20



Matthew 20:16

SERVICES	
Sunday 20th September 10:30am St Paul's	
Holy Communion	Rev Stuart Fisher
This will be live-streamed on Dorcan Church Notice Board Facebook page	
Sunday 27th September 10:30am St Paul's	
Harvest celebration	Rev Andrew Wigley

**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.**

Collect

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

or

Lord God, defend your Church from all false teaching and give to your people knowledge of your truth, that we may enjoy eternal life, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

NEWS:

Harvest Festival – Sunday 27th September

Next week is our harvest celebration and we look forward to praising God for his provision and thankfulness. This year the practicalities around Covid means we are not able to make our usual donations of food and supplies, however there will be the opportunity to still support our usual charities through financial giving. ECC would like to continue to support our usual three charities – Swindon Food Collective, Big Breakfast and Women's Aid – and there will be a basket for offering as you leave the chapel next week. Thank you for your continuing support of the amazing work of these charities this Harvest.

Gift Day 2020 – thank you! In our service last week we gave MASSIVE thank you for this year’s gift day. Our offering was an outstanding £5,500 and as Tony shared is the greatest gift day offering ever. Thank you so much to you all, especially in this difficult time. Our finances are being carefully navigated at the moment and to say this financial giving is helpful is an immense understatement! Thank you.

Whilst the focus on our annual gift day is our financial steward, this is an opportunity to thank you all for all your giving in many other ways. We are an active church with many activities as part of our mission and ministry and it wouldn’t happen without the whole body of Christ pulling together – that’s us! The last 6 months have been particularly trying with Covid and will continue to be tricky for a while, yet the giving of yourselves in time, skills, energy, enthusiasm etc. means that we continue to be church in this community in a time of great uncertainty. Thank you for all that you give!

Rob Smith Rob was licensed to St Mary’s with St Francis, and St James, in Lockleaze this week. Rob and the family start a new chapter in their ministry together, so please do pray for him, Kath, Holly and Eliana as they continue to settle into their home and a new community. We miss him and his ministry here, yet he goes with our love and support knowing his passion for bringing others to know Jesus will be a great blessing to his new community. May God bless the Smith family!

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – here we go again!

Sunday 18th October 2020

Due to the government's directive to close our church buildings earlier this year, our AGM for the year 1Jan-31Dec 2019 was unable to take place. However we do need to pick this up again and it is a requirement that it is completed by the end of next month. Therefore we will be meeting for a very short AGM after the service on Sunday 18th October. "Normal" timescales will resume with another AGM covering the period 1Jan-31Dec 2020

Electoral Role revision – We are required to open the electoral role for revision once more so if you missed the deadline earlier this year for your name to be added or are new then please so pick up a form from St Paul's or by emailing Barbara Wilcox our electoral role officer (b.wilcox89@ntlworld.com). Barbara will also be able to help if you're unsure whether you are on the role or not! The revision will close on Saturday 3rd October, and from Sunday 4th October a revised list will be displayed at St Paul's as we are legally required to do

By being on the electoral role it means that you can vote for the officers of the Dorcan church, stand for Ecumenical Church Council and speak at the annual meeting. **However, most importantly, it is a significant way of showing your membership of The Dorcan church.** Do consider joining the roll if you are not currently on it.

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 across different evenings during the week. 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 God's 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 will be available from next week at St Paul's.

Ride+Stride 2020

I completed the Ride+ Stride last Saturday, in aid of the Dorcan Church, and Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust, visiting 44 Churches in total, and cycling 55 miles, overall, in Swindon, Wroughton, Chiseldon,, Liddington, Wanborough, Hinton Parva, Bishopstone, Bourton, Sevenhampton, Highworth, Hannington, Stanton Fitzwarren, and South Marston.

Thank you so much to all who have sponsored me.

If anyone would still like to donate, then the Just Giving page remains open,

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/John-Davidson17>

or donations may be put in an envelope clearly marked Ride and Stride, cheques should be made payable to Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust, please indicate clearly if you are able to apply Gift Aid to your donation, and include your name initials, and Post code..

Thank You. ***John Davidson***

All items for inclusion in the next notices should be sent to
Anna Newman by Wednesday 23rd September.
Tel: 695698 or email anagram673@hotmail.co.uk. Thank you.
Please let me know if you would like to receive notices by email.