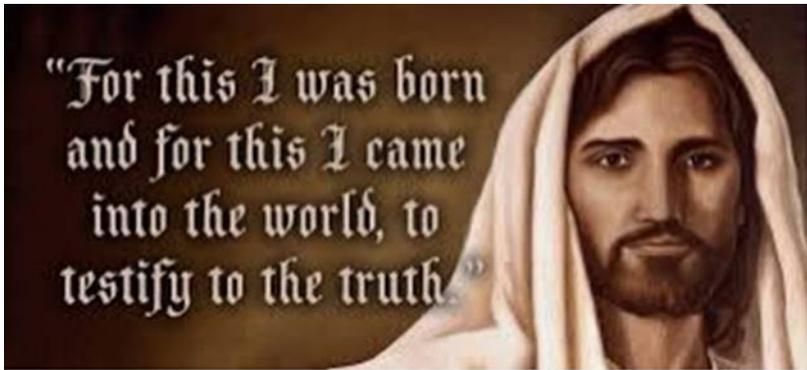




St. Paul's, Covingham
St. Timothy's, Liden
www.dorcanchurch.org.uk

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

Christ the King



SERVICES - 21st November 2021

St. Paul's

8:45 am	Holy Communion	Revd Trudie Wigley
10:30 am	Morning Worship	Deacon Stephen Roe

St. Tim's

10.30am	No Service	
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We will be live-streaming St. Paul's Service on the Facebook Page "Dorcan Church Notice Board" which you can find at <https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsstimothysswindon/>

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.

SERVICES - 28th. November 2021 — Advent Sunday

St. Paul's

10.30am	Holy Communion	Revd Trudie Wigley
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St. Tim's

10.30am	Holy Communion	Revd Stuart Fisher
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Christmas services

Please see the separate sheet for details of our Christmas services. This year you will see that we are doing things a little differently, including an outdoor carol service so we can sing safely with great gusto. We are also shortening the length of our usual Christmas eve all-age celebration at St Paul's and instead holding two focused Christingle services which will need to be pre-booked. At these services, whilst we will have candles to take home, because of the need to use our breath to extinguish flames and the known increased risk of fire to masks, we will not be lighting the Christingles and instead asking people to bring torches to shine in the darkness.

This year we are pausing on delivering Christmas cards, although plenty of flyers will be available for us to give to others, and we will be advertising heavily on social media.

After a challenging Christmas last year, it will be good to be together this year, albeit a little differently, and we do pray that you will be able to join us as we once again hear the message of the good news of the birth of our Lord Jesus.

New church administrator

It is with delight that we share that our new administrator, Maggie Johnson, started with us this week. She is looking forward to getting to know us and please do pray for her as she settles in. Maggie will be in the office on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday mornings and can also be contacted at

dorcan.church.office@gmail.com and 01793 435987.

Trudie's voicemail not working

The voicemail on Trudie's phone is currently not working and it either rings constantly if she is unable to answer, or you get the engaged tone when taking a call. Trudy is trying to sort this out but it is baffling the network operator.

In the meantime, please do email if you're having trouble getting hold of Trudy or phone the office on 435987 and Maggie and Jenny will pass a message to me. Thank you and sorry.

Books

There are a number of books that have been given to us over the last year and which are looking for new homes. Please take a look at the two boxes in St Paul's chapel and take any which look useful for you. There are also some back copies of daily devotions so you can see whether these publications are something that you would find helpful. After the Christmas fayre they will be taken to a charity book shop, so do take a look before they start on a new journey!

Trudie stepping down as Swindon Area Dean

Following my recent election as Chair of the House of Clergy for the Diocese, I have resigned as Area Dean of Swindon. Whilst it is a privilege to have been elected it is with a heavy heart that I am standing down as I have a heart for our town, yet realistically I cannot do both. And of course, above all my prime focus and first love is serving this wonderful church of Dorcan and the community with you all.

I realise that this new role I have been elected to is not always easy to explain! In essence it has three strands: firstly, as the senior elected clergy person of the synod governance who is involved in shaping the direction of the diocese with the bishop and her team; secondly, representing the clergy across the diocese; and thirdly a national role as a link between national church and the diocese. There is therefore less day-to-day responsibility as there has been as Area Dean which I do welcome. It is an honour to undertake this role, and yet I realise I have much to learn so your prayers would be appreciated.

Thank you.

Christmas Unwrapped

Thank you to those who have offered to help.

Sadly, after much deliberation it has proved too difficult to organise this year. There are a number of factors, including so much uncertainty re Covid issues.

The Monday home group has very kindly offered to purchase Bible Society Christmas booklets for all the Y4's in the schools in the parish as they did last year. They were well received by the schools.

We look forward to the opportunity to invite the schools again soon and are praying that this will be possible for Easter Cracked open.

Watch this space!

Sue Morgans and Jo Bush

Scout stamps

Scout stamps on sale after the morning services, and by calling 01793 336420.

Cost 30pence, and cards delivered to Swindon and surrounding areas. Post box will be located in the foyer at St Pauls. Last date for posting December 13

Many thanks
Diane

Autumn Clean up

It is proposed that we clear up the leaves that have accumulated, and clear the gutters for the winter at St Paul's on Saturday 4th December from 09:00 until 12:30pm.

If you are able we would love to see you kitted out with gloves a rake and a suitable receptacle to gather the leaves into, would be useful.

Many Thanks
John Davidson

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
As at November 2021**

Sunday 21st November 2021

4pm Ecumenical confirmation at Holy Trinity, Shaw Sunday

Saturday 11th December 2021

6.30pm St. Paul's Church

It's Panto Time.....oh no its not.....oh yes it is

JACK & THE BEANSTALK

Tickets available from Diane Killick after 10:30 services; Messy Church & Christmas fayre. £5 per person

Saturday 27th November 2021

11am until 1.30pm St Paul's centre
Dorcan Church Christmas Bazaar

Sunday 23rd January 2022

Covenant Sunday

Communion services 10:30am at St Paul's and St Tim's

Sunday 8th May 2022

4pm Confirmations at the Dorcan Church St Paul's at 4pm

What's on this week.

Wednesday 24th November	St Paul's	Tiny Tots 1pm –3pm
	St Tim's	Tiny Tots 1pm—3pm

Rosemary Ayres

It is with sadness that we share that Rosemary passed away on Monday 14th November at the Prospect hospice. She will be greatly missed by so many.

At this time we hold in our love and prayers her children Dawn, Tracy and John and all her family and friends.

We will share more information on funeral arrangements in due course.

May Rosemary, our friend and sister in Christ, rest in peace and rise In glory.

Update on our Administrative vacancies!

ECC secretary

Thank you to Albertine Davies and Jenny Poole who have offered to take minutes for our ECC meetings – we are grateful. We are still looking to cover the other aspects of ECC secretary so please do consider whether this is you. As a church we are keen to work in teams, so that responsibilities are shared amongst supportive colleagues so please do continue to pray as to whether you might be part of this team, or whether there is someone you might be prompted to approach. Thank you.

Book Aid

Book Aid is a charity which collects and distributes Christian books to areas of the world where they are in short supply, primarily countries in Africa. There are collection points around the UK where the books are kept ready to be transported to warehouses, before being sorted and shipped overseas. The collector in Swindon recently had to stop doing this, and so the charity is looking for a volunteer who is willing to take this on and has a suitable storage space, e.g. an empty garage or a spare room.

Please speak to Deacon Stephen Roe if you would like to know more.

On-line Booking system

We are in the final stages of upgrading our on-line booking system for users of St. Paul's and St. Timothy's.

There is a test version available at: [St Paul's Church & Community Centre \(staging-lemonbooking.com\)](http://st-pauls-church-and-community-centre.staging-lemonbooking.com)

Your existing log-in will work on the upgrade site but for the test site you will need to create a new one so please have a look and make a trial booking. (It won't be actioned and will be deleted once the site goes live).

.Any problems or queries the please contact hall.bookings@dorcanchurch.org.uk.

Regards

Tony Prichard

Treasurer—Dorcan Church

Hearts for the community



Instead of angels this year we are going to make hearts for the community. The Church of England theme this year is the “Heart of Christmas” so hearts would be very apt. They can be made in any media i.e. knitting, sewing, card, natural materials and can be painted or decorated. All that needs to be uniform is that they have ribbon or twine attached to them to be hung on a Christmas tree. They need to be approximately 6 – 8cm in size and if anyone would like a template Mari has kindly cut some for people to use. They will be available at St Pauls. If you need any further details, please contact Deb.

Many thanks for your support
Deb Mulcock



We will be on Sunday 28th November 4pm-6pm. Due to Covid we will be giving families bags of craft, puzzles etc. to do at a table instead of them moving around to each activity. Food will also be given in picnic bags. We

will also be playing a couple of games. Some of our lovely congregation have volunteered to help with Messy Church, but some are unable to make this particular one. If you are able to help this time please let Deb, Hazel or Clare S know please.

Many thanks
Deb



Christmas Bazaar

Saturday 27th of November from 11am until 1.30pm with setting up from 6pm on the Friday evening.

Donations of bottles, toiletries, cakes and books would be gratefully received and any offers of help on the day would be most welcome.

Angela

AND -I'm collecting soft toys ready for the Christmas Fayre, it's always a popular stall for young people. Please contact me If you have any that you would like to donate.

Brenda Fisher, 07799 393845.



ECO Church

Both the Methodist Church and the Church of England are committed to reducing the carbon footprint of building and our activities, recognising the climate emergency that is upon us.

As part of that, our parent denominations are encouraging all churches to take steps to reduce carbon footprint, particularly working closely with the organisation called Eco Church.

We are delighted to share that Neil Marshall has offered to be our ECO warrior here at Dorcan, encouraging and leading us into change for the sake of God's creation.

We look forward to his insight, challenge and encouragements and you'll be hearing more from him, starting today with his eco tips!

Thank you

Neil!

ECO Tip 1

With COP26 only just over, the climate crisis weighs heavy. So we thought we'd pop a little eco tip in each news letter. An idea about something that might help. You might be already doing it, or have an alternative idea. But maybe it will prompt a thought or an action. And those on the Facebook community are welcome to discuss them and add alternatives there! Any comments - please contact Neil and Nathalie Marshall

This weeks tip is about Spring bulbs.....

Spring bulbs – It's not too late to plant some spring bulbs. If you are going to, why not consider purchasing pollinator friendly varieties to help look after our bees and butterflies. Crocuses, Grape hyacinths (Muscari), Aliums and winter aconites will all help the eco system which in turn will help your other plants. If you have no garden, some can go in pots to cheer up your front door step early in the new year. If you have the space – there's still time to plant certain varieties of garlic too.

Thank you

Nathalie



**Coffee Morning
@ St Paul's Church
Tuesday Mornings
from 10.30 – 12 noon**

Come and support this
community outreach initiative.

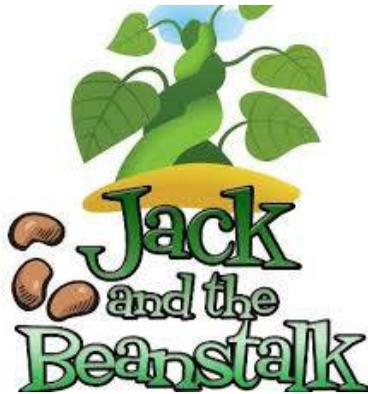
**- TEA – COFFEE – CAKE - BISCUITS - JUICE
On Your Own? Like some company?
Come and get to know us !**

*Cid's Café is a Church in Dorcan
initiative serving the community*

Date for your diary

Saturday December 11th
St Pauls Church 6.30pm

It's Panto time.....
oh no its not.....
oh yes it is



Tickets available from Diane Killick after 10:30
services; Messy Church & Christmas Fayre.
£5 per person

NOTICES

All items for inclusion in the next notices should be sent by **Tuesday 23rd November** to notices@dorcanchurch.org.uk
Thank you.

These notices are also available on-line at www.dorcanchurch.org.uk/latest_notices
Previous editions are also available at: [Dorcan Church Weekly Notices](#)



You will have noticed we no longer pass the offering basket round. Scan this QR code with your mobile phone to make your offering instead. Tony Prichard and the Finance Sub Committee.