



**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 parable of the wedding banquet”**

*Matthew 22:1-14*

**Services Sunday 21st May, 2017**

**St. Paul's**

10.30am Holy Communion Rev'd Trudie Wigley

1.00pm Baptism of  
Charlotte Daphne Gharu Rev'd Andrew Wigley

We welcome the friends and family of Charlotte as she is baptized today.

4.00pm Messy Church The Team !

**St. Tim's**

10.30am Morning Worship Rev'd Andrew Wigley 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.**

<b>What's on this week -</b>		
Monday 22nd May	All day 2-4pm	Swindon Clergy Residential Monday Club at St. Tim's
Tuesday 23rd May	7.30pm	Men's Fellowship Group at Wiseman Close Subject to be confirmed
Wednesday 24th May	9.00am 9.00am 1.30am 7.00pm	Tea & Toast, St Tim's Tiny Tots at St Paul's Tiny Tots at St Tim's Wedding Rehearsal
Thursday 25th May	9.30am	ASCENSION DAY Holy Communion at St.Paul's
Saturday 27th May	pm	Wedding of Georgina Pedder-Jones and David Lees, Stanton

**Last Sunday's Lunch for Christian Aid.**

Many thanks to everyone who cooked, set up, cleared away and donated - especially to our youngsters Callum, Isla, Alasdair and Grace. £237.00 was raised for Christian Aid. Deb.

<b>SERVICES Sunday 28th May 2017</b>		
<b>St. Paul's</b>		
8.45am	Holy Communion	Rev'd Stuart Fisher
10.30am	Morning Worship	Alex Scott
Welcome: <i>John &amp; Joan</i> , Teas: <i>Hazel &amp; Alison</i> , Sunday Club: <i>Cathy &amp; Nikki</i>		
<b>St. Tim's</b>		
10.30am	Morning Worship	Paul Tayler

Prayers for this week -

- Georgina and Dave as they are married next weekend
- Our children and young people, and their leaders
- Our continuing series “*Giving in Grace*” - for open hearts and minds as we continue to explore financial giving
- For honest and helpful debate and discussion in the weeks to the General election
- Those who are unwell, and those recently bereaved

## **General Election 2-17 Hustings**

Swindon Churches Together and other church groups have arranged hustings for the upcoming elections as follows to which we are all warmly welcomed and encouraged to attend:

***South Swindon:*** Organised by Swindon Churches Together.

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June at 7.30pm at Immanuel Church, Upham Road, Swindon, SN3 1DH. Doors open at 6.45pm and we invite you to write down your questions to the candidates by 7.15pm. All five candidates have confirmed that they will be at this event.

***North Swindon:*** Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May at Gorse Hill Baptist Church, SN2 1AA. More details to follow.

## **A Message from Youth Presidents Of the Methodist and URS churches, and the Church of Scotland**

The youth presidents of a number of denominations have produced a short video. Whilst aimed at the younger generations, encouraging younger people to vote, it is an encouragement to us all to get engaged and debate as we come towards the general election. Here's the link:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fP\\_njOY7PWs&feature=share](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fP_njOY7PWs&feature=share)

## **Archbishop's Pastoral Letter**

Following the recent sharing of this letter, copies are available in both centres, on the website, on our Facebook page and also from this link:

[https://www.churchofengland.org/media/3977056/electionletter\\_text.pdf](https://www.churchofengland.org/media/3977056/electionletter_text.pdf)



Today is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of our discipleship series on Sunday morning called “*Giving with Grace*”. We have already explored what we can learn about financial giving from some of the parables from Matthews gospel, and we continue this focus today and next Sunday.

Talking about money can be tricky and raise all sorts of emotions, so thank you for your grace and engagement with this discipleship series.

One of the things we did at our recent Annual General Meeting was to make a presentation on our church finances and budget and also provided a commentary. If you missed this and would like to know more, then copies of the slides and text, as well as an extract from our Annual report are still available at both centres. We continue to pray as we learn and explore together what it means to “Give in Grace”.

### **Spring Harvest 2018 – “Only the brave!” Do you want to come?**

Next year a group from Dorcan is going to Spring Harvest, and following discussions with our friends at St John’s, Haydon Wick, we are now arranging this as a joint group booking. Are you interested in coming?

The dates are 5 nights from 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> April at Minehead and the theme is “Only the Brave” – sounds fun! Cost is £239 per adult and £219 per child (under 2s free) on a self-catering basis in many 4-berth accommodation, although half/full board is available at additional cost.

Our wonderful group organisers are the lovely John and Liz Pearce so if you are interested in going and/or have questions please make contact with them on

[johnandlizpearce@gmail.com](mailto:johnandlizpearce@gmail.com). Timing is tight and numbers and bookings need to be made by the end of this month, so **please contact John and Liz by Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May** if you are thinking of coming and they can talk through options and possibilities with you.



## THY KINGDOM COME

Thy Kingdom come is a global wave of prayer, focused particularly from Ascension Day to Pentecost (25th May-4th June). Churches are encouraged to get involved and here at Dorcan we are engaging with it through the Messy Church theme this month, as well as the Sunday School for All we recently held on prayer.

In addition, other churches across Swindon are holding events to which we are invited and two are highlighted below.

We are also encouraged to “*pledge to pray*” personally and one can sign up on the website [www.thykingdomcome.global](http://www.thykingdomcome.global). The website has loads more information and resources to help us, so let’s get praying!

### **Lydiard Park Walled garden: 28<sup>th</sup> May 2-6pm**

Come and explore our interactive Prayer Stations from 2-5pm.

Bring along a picnic and share in our Celebration at 4pm.

Join our open air act of Worship at 5pm led by Revd Keith Osborn.

**St. Mary’s Church, Rodbourne Cheney : 7pm 26<sup>th</sup> - 7pm 27<sup>th</sup> May**  
24 hours of Worship and Prayer, led by a number of Swindon churches

### **Bible Study Notes:**

We now have some more UCB (United Christian Broadcasters) Bible study notes. Please do grab one at the back at both centres.

### **Preparation for Communion for children and young people:**

Some of our church family youngsters have expressed an interest in sharing in communion for the first time which is super. As a church family we welcome and rejoice in including our young people after preparation and exploration. With this in mind we will be organising three sessions, with the last session inviting all children who already receive communion to attend so we can revisit our understanding of what it is we do as a church family when we come to the communion table.

We are currently tentatively looking at Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June as the Sunday for first communion, with the last session with all children earlier in that service. The other 2 sessions will be earlier in June, likely during the week-time.

If your child has expressed an interest in receiving communion, or your child already receives communion and has not yet been on a Preparation session, please speak to Trudie.

### **Koncert for Kibera**

We raised £630.87 for Turning Point at the Koncert for Africa last Saturday.

*Tony*

**Welcome basket for The Smith family  
- Rob, Kath, Holly and Eliana:**

Rob and the family are moving into Sedgebrook on 31<sup>st</sup> May and we would like to offer them a welcome basket of goodies.

If you would like to contribute, then a box/bag will be available from next Sunday at both centres and if you are thinking of gifting anything fresh (like cakes or a meal etc.) please could you liaise with Diane Killick regarding timing.

Also, if you are thinking of including something for their children, Holly is coming up 3 and Eliana is 8 months old. With thanks.



**Loads of training opportunities!!**

We have just received the May-December 2017 training course schedule offered by Bristol Diocese and there are loads of courses offered, including how to be a welcoming church, engaging better with youngsters, understanding disabilities, understanding culture and generational issues, leading assemblies etc., as well as the ones you'd expect like safeguarding, finances and legal stuff.

There really is a huge amount of opportunity so please do look at the brochure on the noticeboard in the two centres and if you'd like to book on any then please let Jackie our administrator know  
(01793 435987 [dorcan.church.office@gmail.com](mailto:dorcan.church.office@gmail.com) )

**Churchwarden's Prayer:** Diane Killick and Viv Craig, were admitted as Churchwardens this past week and were given their "charge" as officers of the Bishop. Please do pray for Diane and Viv as they continue in their appointment for the next year.

As part of the service the newly admitted Churchwardens prayed together and below are the words. Whilst known as the "Churchwardens prayer", it is a prayer for each one of us as we live out our discipleship.

***The Churchwarden's prayer***

***I will speak out for those who have no voices.***

***I will stand up for the rights of all the oppressed.***

***I will speak truth and justice.***

***I will defend the poor and needy.***

***I will speak out for those who have no choices.***

***I will cry out for those who live without love.***

***I will show God's compassion to the crushed and broken  
in spirit.***

***I will lift up the weak in Jesus' name.***

***Amen.***

All items for inclusion in the next notices should be sent to  
Anna Newman by Thursday 25th May Tel 695698  
or e.mail [anagram673@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:anagram673@hotmail.co.uk) Thank you.  
**Please let me know if you would like to receive notices by e.mail**