



Swindon Old Town Partnership of Churches

Christ Church with St Mary's Registered charity no. 1134032

www.christchurchswindon.co.uk



21st February 2010 – Lent 1

Readings: for 9.30am. Deuteronomy 26.1-11 (page 188 of the pew bible). Romans 10.8b-13 (page 156 at the back of the pew bible). Luke 4.1-13 (page 58 at the back of the new bible).

For 8am and 9am: Leviticus 19.1,2, 11-18 (page 110 of the pew bible). Luke 19.1-10 (page 79 at the back of the pew bible).

Today at Christ Church

8am: Holy Communion led by Revd Geoff Gleed.

9.30am: Family Holy Communion led by Revd Paul Rush.

Sermon: Revd Jo Northey. **Hymns: 190, 343, 503.**

Responsorial psalm 91: May the Lord bless you, may he lay his hand upon you, and keep you as the apple of his eye: - may his love protect you, may he guard you from all evil, and Jesus be the Way you travel by – there are 3 verses. Anthem: Steal away (arr. Barnard). **Voluntary:** Ramoth (Mansel Thomas). **Reading:** Sylvia Kitching. **Prayers:** Peter Jones.

11.30am: Searchlight led by Daphne Hardwick.

6.30pm: Choral Evensong led by Carol Simmons. **Readings:** Jonah 3 (page 875); Luke 18.9-14 (page 78). **Hymns: 565, 732, 114. Choir introit:** View me Lord (Lloyd). Tomkins responses.

Canticles: Daniel Purcell. **Anthem:** Kyrie (Victoria).

Voluntary: Prelude in B minor BWV544 (JS Bach).

At St Mary's: 9am Holy Communion led by Revd Geoff Gleed.

Parish Bible verse for 2010:

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. *Romans 8 .28*

Our Vision: *Connecting The Community With Christ.*

We are committed to: 1. *Jesus & His Teaching;* 2. *Caring For God's World;* 3. *Respecting & Helping Each Other.*

Exciting opportunity to discuss a new vision for the Christ Church site: the PCC invite all members of the congregation to join them for 2 open meetings on Sat 27 Feb 10-12noon or Sun 28th 7.30pm-9.30pm. This will allow plenty of time to hear about the vision and possibilities of reordering, to respond to the questions of the congregation, have discussion and enjoy delicious cakes and biscuits. Please pass the word around and we look forward to coming together and sharing our reactions and fears about the opportunities that lie before us as a congregation.

Confirmation: classes will begin on March 7th in readiness for our partnership confirmation service on Sunday 2nd May 10.30am in Christ Church when Bp Mike Hill will be joining our partnership clergy. Please take a bright yellow leaflet from the back of church or talk with Simon.

Christ Church Curry Club; Our next curry night will be on Friday 5 March 2010 at 7.30. We shall be going to Biplob's in Wood Street. If you would like to come please contact Nicola Grosvenor on nicola.grosvenor@ntlworld.com or 341034. So that she can make sure we have enough places booked.

Christian Aid (CA): Supporters and volunteers are invited to a speech about CA work in Kenya by Ed McGregor on 8th March from 7pm. The venue is Emmanuel United Reformed Church, 81 High Street, Haydon Wick, SN25 1HU. Admission is free - although donations will be welcome. Join the CA volunteer team this year. Call Steve (Tel. 495026) for more information.

Operation Ezra: helping persecuted Christians. 'Open Doors' is supporting Operation Ezra and asks us to donate any unwanted items of gold or silver in all shapes and sizes to raise finance "*Their neighbours assisted them with articles of silver and gold*" *Ezra 1.6*. Details of how to donate (including secure, free postage) are available at the back of the Church. Please see the poster too showing the 50 countries where persecution is the worst, and prayer booklets. *Martin and Celia Lee*.

George Netto's funeral is to be held on Friday 26th February 11.15am at Holy Rood Church. Please remember Kath and her family in your prayers.

The big question: Simon, Nicola and the children will combine a weekend with John in Abingdon with appearing on the Big Questions with Nicky Campbell BBC 1 on Sunday at 10am. This is coming from Wychwood Girls' School in Oxford. The questions being discussed this

week include; “Should church be more fun?”; “Effective policing” and “Care for the Elderly”. Please remember us in your prayers this morning – you can catch the programme on BBC1 i-player.

Exciting opportunities: Last Saturday week Nicola typed “Clergy Exchanges” into Google, and one exchange came up! It is 60 miles from Ray & Joan Low in Westborough, Massachusetts – a town of about 18,000. Everything fell into place and with the full support of Bishop Lee, Area Dean Rob Burles, Standing committee and Staff team we will travel as a family to the USA for 5 weeks leaving on Monday 26th July (our 24th wedding anniversary) and returning on Tuesday 31st August in time to welcome Thomas back from Vanuatu on 1st September. The Revd Bill and Gayle Martin will be living in our vicarage from Thursday 29th July-Friday 27th August. Bill will take part in 3 Sunday services – further details in due course. It will be the first time that we’ve flown with our children and this trip will enable us to sample the American way of life and to learn from the Episcopal Church in the USA. I will take some services at St Stephen’s in Westborough and we hope to share a service with Ray in his old church in Scituate on 29th August.

The Confidential Anonymous Income Survey For 2011: next Sunday we will be asking you to provide, **anonymously**, details of your income – please come prepared with the amount of your individual annual or weekly income, so you can complete the survey form. This is for the diocese so they can gauge what our share contribution should be. Thank you.

Weekday services: Morning Prayer: Monday–Saturday 9am.

Evening prayer: Monday & Thursday 5pm.

Matins–Wednesday 10.30am

This week: Wed 24th 7.30pm Lent Course at Immanuel. **Thur 25th 1pm-2pm** MU wave of prayer in the Lady Chapel – all welcome. **Sat 27th 10-12noon** Presentation on the new vision for Christ Church.

Services for Next Sunday 28th February – 2nd Sunday of Lent.

At Christ Church: 8am: Holy Communion. **9.30am:** Family Holy Communion. **11.30am:** Searchlight. **6.30pm:** Common Worship Evening Prayer. **At St Mary’s: 9am:** Morning Prayer.

To Get in Touch for any reason (STD 01793)

Vicar: The Revd Simon Stevenette, Christ Church Vicarage, 26 Cricklade Street, Swindon, SN1 3HG. Tel: 529166. simon.stevenette@tiscali.co.uk. Day-off Friday.

Curate: The Revd Jo Northey, 58 Upham Road, Swindon SN1 3DN. Tel: 521296.
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PCC Treasurer: Ian Walters. Tel: 07774 518 585 email: ianwalters21@sky.com

For Advice or Information on Gift Aid and Regular Giving Methods please contact Stephen Grosvenor Gift Aid Secretary on 341034. **All in confidence.**

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Christ Church Web Site: www.christchurchswindon.co.uk.

Partnership Web Site: www.swindon-otpc.org.uk

Partnership co-ordinator: Louise Walker, 11 Dartmoor Close, SN5 9ZR. 876555.
walker11@dartmoor.fsnet.co.uk

A Time Of Turning Round- a prayer used by Jo on Ash Wednesday

Truly dust we are, and to dust we shall return;
and truly yours we are, and to you we shall return.
Help this to be a time of turning round and beginning again.
Through the forty days of Lent, help us follow you
and to find you: in the discipline of praying
and in the drudgery of caring -
in whatever we deny ourselves,
and whatever we set ourselves to learn or do.
Help us to discover you
in our loneliness and in community,
in our emptiness and our fulfilment,
in our sadness and our laughter.
Help us to find you when we ourselves are lost.
Help us to follow you on the journey to Jerusalem
to the waving palms of the people's hope,
to their rejection, to the cross and empty tomb.
Help us to perceive new growth amid the ashes of the old.
Help us, carrying your cross, to be signs of your Kingdom. AMEN
© *Eggs and Ashes, a Wild Goose book by Jan Such Pickard*

Those In Need Of God's Healing: Trevor Brigden, Clive Carter, Barbara Charlwood, Diana Craifer, Barbara Codd, David Cummings, John D'Avila, Phyl Dyer, Aila English, Betty Griffiths, Edith Haddrell, Zak Hobbs, Pat Lawrence, David Leadbeater, Martin Lee, Audrey Maslin, Jean Mountney, Sally Pearce, Sue Rush, Cilla Slipper, Neil Thomas. **For those who are lonely, anxious and depressed that they would receive comfort, strength and support.**

The friends & family of George Netto, who has recently died.
For those who continue to mourn and remember all whose anniversaries fall at this time.

The Lacock Messiah: Sat 24th April in St Cyriac's Church, Lacock. You are invited (for a payment of £15) to join in singing the Messiah under the direction of Nigel Perrin. Further details: 01225 702941:

lacockmessiah@googlemail.com

Wednesday 24th March 7pm: Commonweal Spring Concert in Christ Church featuring Christ Church Choir and Lethbridge School Drum Circle. Tickets £3.50 from Parish office.

Easter ramble: On Easter Eve, Sat 3 April, a walk to Marlborough is planned. Bacon butties at Christ Church Leisure Centre 8-9am, leave at 10am. A leisurely pace, route to be decided, and shorter options will be available. Bring packed lunch, we may have supper in Marlborough. Return by bus. Details nearer the time from Caroline/Daniel Pitt 521732.