

Swindon Resourcing Church (Part Two)

Since last week's announcement about the Resourcing Church coming to Swindon, (see last week's bulletin) people have been asking questions like, "Does Swindon really need another church?". "Why is Holy Trinity Brompton interested in coming here?" "Is this not just going to make our task more difficult?" When this was announced to the Swindon clergy, many had the same kind of questions.

I guess the most common concern is, "Is this not going to affect my Church negatively?" The answer in some cases may well be "Yes", at least to begin with. Let's take a look at some statistics first of all.

Here are the results of a survey of six Resourcing Churches. They answer two basic questions often asked.

Where are the attendees going to come from?

Transfer from a Local Church	32%
New Churchgoers	24%
Moved into the Area	21%
Returned to Church	18%
The Plant Team Itself	5%



How old are the average attendees?

0 to 10	15%
11 to 17	8%
18 to 29	30% (compared to 6% nationally)
30 to 44	27%
45 to 64	13%
65+	7%

A Challenging Task: The task of the Swindon Resourcing Church is inevitably going to be more difficult than that of the Bristol church plant. If we are aiming for 30% of the congregation to be in the age category 18 to 29, then a city with two large universities is going to be in a very different position from a town with none. You only have to think of the number of young people who will be pouring into Bristol this September, delighted to find a new Holy Trinity Brompton church plant. Bristol aims to be ready to receive these students by opening in September. Because there is no such issue for the Swindon church, Revd Joel Sales aims to open just before Christmas 2018.

A Harvest of Leaders: One of strengths of Resourcing churches is their capacity to produce leaders. They produce a significant number of ordinands (people training for the ordained ministry) and that is one of our biggest requirements as a national church for the future. Even if we meet all our expectations, because of a huge retirement bulge, by 2025 there will be considerably fewer clergy around than there are today. It is a pressing issue both for our Bishops and our General Synod.

HTB and St Helen's Bishopsgate have between them produced over 40 vocations in the last 10 years, and their church plants have produced even more.

(contd from page 2) There is much to be done before Christmas, but do please keep Joel and his team in your prayers. We want God to overcome our anxieties and grow His Kingdom.

The final total! The Jar of Grace 2017 appeal has now closed! **The final total was £4,336 (including Gift-Aid tax refunds) from 82 Jars/Donations**, a magnificent increase of £805 compared with £3,531 from 73 Jars/Donations last year. The 2018 Jar of Grace appeal will be launched on Harvest Sunday in October but a number of people keep their Jar of Grace going throughout the year in thankfulness to God for His provision of all our needs. Jars of Grace can be brought back for counting at any time. **Grateful thanks are due to Tony and Jill Nash for all the counting and banking of Jar of Grace monies which they did again this year.**



Renewal of Giving

If you have not yet received a **Renewal of Giving 2018** pack, please speak to Raymond or Sharon and they will make sure you get one. Thank you to those who have already responded. If you haven't yet sent your Promise Card back to Andrew, please pray about your response and either send the card back to Andrew in the envelope provided, or you can reply by e-mail to andrew-jeandean@ntlworld.com

The Church Electoral Roll will be revised between Sunday 18th February and Wednesday 11th April. If you are a regular worshipper with us we would love to have you on the Electoral Roll. For more details and an application form, please contact Sharon Mortimer, Tel: 724231 or sharonmortimer1@ntlworld.com. If you are already a member of the Electoral Roll, but have changed your address and/or phone number since the last review, please let Sharon know so that she can make sure that we have your correct details.

Two Job Vacancies

The Bible Society are looking for a **Programme Office Administrator**. Location: Swindon/Bristol UK Salary: £21,400 – 24,700 Full-time: 37.5 hours per week.

Cirencester Ashcroft Church (Methodist / URC) is looking to appoint a **layworker** in the near future. If you would like more details about either of these positions please let Catherine know and she will send full details.

The Real Easter

Egg Would you like to buy Fair Trade chocolate Easter Eggs this year? Please see Mary Southgate or ring 520973.



e mail mary@lumel.co.uk. or put your name on the list on the church table in the foyer. They are £3.99.

An Ecclesiastical give-away

To celebrate its 130th Anniversary of insuring Anglican churches, the Ecclesiastical (who insure our church at St. John's) is offering to donate £130 to our church each time a new home insurance policy is taken out by someone in our church family with the Ecclesiastical during 2018. So when your home insurance policy is due for renewal, why not obtain a quote from the Ecclesiastical? To take advantage of this offer visit www.ecclesiastical.com/Trust130 or call **0800 783 0130 and quote TRUST130**. For further information, see the poster on the noticeboard in the foyer or speak to our treasurer, **Andrew, on 01793 725526**.



Prayers: **Christine Shurey** has received the results of her hospital tests. We pray for the treatment that will now be given to her in the weeks and months ahead. Continue to pray for **Andrew** after his operation. **Brian and Susan Sweetman** as Brian recovers from a mini stroke. Pray for all those who have to live with the tension of the demands of Sunday working conflicting with their desire to worship.

Mon 19th	9.30am 2.00pm	Pram Club Homegroup in Quiet Room
Tues 20th	8pm 8pm	Homegroup at 20 Furlong Close Homegroup at 27 Garraways Wootton Bassett
Wed 21st	1.00-3.00pm 7.30pm	Craft Club in Church Room Homegroup at 17 Rother Close
Fri 23rd	10.30-1.30pm	Rock Café



**Holy Communion at James Wilks House is at
3pm on Wednesday 21st February. All Welcome.**

Please pray for our church family

Mon 19th	Oldi & Lara Morava & family
Tue 20th	Gareth & Ade Morris
Wed 21st	Rod & Sharon Mortimer & family
Thurs 22nd	Trevor & Linda Morton-Holmes
Fri 23rd	Tony & Jill Nash
Sat 24th	Pat & Dave Newman
Sun 25th	Abraham & Esther (Ngeru) & family

Prayer Meeting

The next church Prayer Meeting will be **held in church on**

Tuesday 6th March 2018, from 8pm to 9pm, and will be led by the **Royal Wootton Bassett** home group.

Please join with us for just one hour as we come together to pray.

Services Next Week

Sunday	9am	Holy Communion	Peter Fletcher
25th Feb	11am	Holy Communion	Peter Fletcher

Parish Office Email: parishoffice@stjohnshaydonwick.org.uk or Telephone 726000. All items for the bulletin to the office in writing by first thing on Wednesday. Thank you.

St John's Haydon Wick

Sunday, February 18th 2018

1st of Lent



“Praying and Sleeping”

Time	Service	Preacher	Readings
9.00am	Morning Praise	Simon Robertson	Psalms 31: 9-18 Matthew 26: 36-46
11.00am	Morning Praise	Simon Robertson	Psalms 31: 9-18 Matthew 26: 36-46