

## Thy Kingdom Come: 10<sup>th</sup> May – 20<sup>th</sup> May 2018

Jesus Christ is the Saviour of the World. He brings us hope. We thank God that we have an Archbishop who believes that completely.

Last year, the Justin Welby launched *Thy Kingdom Come* to help Christians internationally to share that hope by sharing Jesus with those we know. This was a truly global initiative, with countries right across the world joining in. Once again this year, Archbishop Justin is encouraging us to pray "Thy Kingdom Come" so that we are renewed in our witness to Christ. This has been the theme of our current sermon series which will come to a conclusion on May 20, the last day of *Thy Kingdom Come*.

The Archbishop is asking churches to pray specifically that people might come to know Jesus Christ. He is encouraging us to do that as individuals, and to find a way to do it in our communities.

**Churches Coming Together:** Prayer cannot be separated from evangelism. They are two sides of the same coin. St Mary's Rodbourne Cheney will be the focus of our prayer in this part of Swindon. Just as last year, St Mary's will be open for 24 hours of prayer beginning at **7 PM on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May**, and continuing right through until **7 PM on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May**. Prayer will be taking place at all times during that 24 hours, including the middle of the night. Bishop Lee writes, "I very much hope your parish can make the most of this moment ...and join together across the churches in a global wave of prayer."

There is some practical guidance on sharing your faith in the form of two short videos which we should be looking at in our home groups as part of the current series. Raymond will be speaking on Sunday about one initiative we will be running in September and October, making use of the new opportunities brought to us by being part of the new and wider parish.



## Church Prayer Meeting

The next church prayer meeting will be held **in church on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May from 8pm to 9pm** and will be led by Bill Hunt and the Rother Close Home Group. Will you spare just one hour to come together as a church to pray?



## Photo Opportunity

**Big Ask I Know:** If you are able to join us for a photograph this afternoon at 2:20 PM, then the team that is going to Uganda will be outside the church, having cycled here from Bristol.



**How is Andrew?** At the time of writing he is in pain and sleeping badly. Nothing else would have kept him away from the APCM. We look forward to his receiving radiotherapy which should make life easier. Unfortunately, this can only be done in Oxford which necessitates long journeys. In spite of all this, he is still responding to emails, writing cheques, sending out letters, and no doubt keeping the accounts up to date!

**APCM:** Congratulations to **Mike Crosby, Carol Nichol, Tony Njoroje, Alan Rees and Tom Vandamme** who were all elected to PCC on Monday evening.

A big thank you to **Rod Mortimer** for agreeing to stand for a single year along with Sharon, as our churchwarden.

## There will need to be big changes in 2019.

The meeting was saddened to learn that Andrew Dean will be stepping down from his role as treasurer at the APCM in 2019. Sadly ill health prevented him from coming to this year's meeting. It is Andrew's aim to bring together a Treasury Team over the next few months in order to make sure that we have people in place who can take on the role of treasurer which he has held for so long and with such distinction. At the same time, we will need to appoint a new churchwarden at next year's APCM.

Raymond took the image of a relay race as his theme this year. We are very grateful to Rod for being willing to complete another lap as churchwarden. It has really helped us out of a difficulty. But the time has come for some of our most faithful people to pass on the baton to the next set of leaders.



**Resourcing Church.** For commercial reasons, we are still not able to announce the actual venue for this new venture in Swindon. However, we expect to be able to do that within the next few weeks. Setting up the Bristol and the Swindon Resourcing churches has been an enormously ambitious and costly enterprise. It will run into millions over the next five years. The money will come from the Church of England's Strategic Development Fund. The aim is to create two entirely new churches, using leaders trained at Holy Trinity Brompton.

In Bristol, this means that a redundant building in the heart of the old city will be brought back into operation. They expect to start worship services there during the summer. In Swindon, a brand-new building will be purchased. The aim was always to buy an unmissable iconic building and then to fully resource the work of ministry. There will be ordained clergy and assistants, training curates, paid administrators, salaried youth workers and music leaders. They will be free from deanery or diocesan responsibilities, and will focus only on building the church. The aim is to build a weekly church attendance of around 400 people within five years. It will be a centre for evangelism, worship, teaching and work with young people.

**How will that affect us?** We look forward with a mixture of excitement and a little trepidation. If this takes all happens as planned, the Church of England in Swindon will find itself in a different place. We don't want to let fear hinder us. If the kingdom of God grows, it will benefit all the churches here and raise the spiritual temperature of our town.

**Prayers:** We continue to pray for **Andrew and Jean** as Andrew makes the difficult journey to Oxford for radiotherapy; pray that he will find his pain is reduced so that he can get a good night's sleep. We will need to **pray for a successor** to him now that we know he will not be standing as treasurer in 2019. **Lyndsey Mason** will say farewell to her mother Beryl, at a funeral service on Tuesday. We remember the whole family. For **Rod** who takes up the reins of churchwarden and for **Sharon** who continues in that role.

**Archbishop Justin** has huge responsibilities to the global Anglican church as well as facing many issues here at home. We pray for his own spiritual life that he might feel the power and strength of God in his life.



# Sunday May 6 2018

Mon 7th	9.30-11.30am	Pram Club
Wed 9th	1.00-3.00pm <b>8-9pm</b>	Craft Club <b>Church Prayer Meeting</b>
Fri 11th	10.30am-1.30pm	Rock Café

Please pray for our church family	
Mon 7th	Faure & Louise Breytenbach
Tue 8th	Ian Bridge
Wed 9th	Allan & Cathy Brown & Sophie
Thurs 10	Peter & Grace Burrett
Fri 11th	Richard and Christine Burston
Sat 12th	Susanna Calle Martin and famly
Sun 13	Donald & Daphne Carter

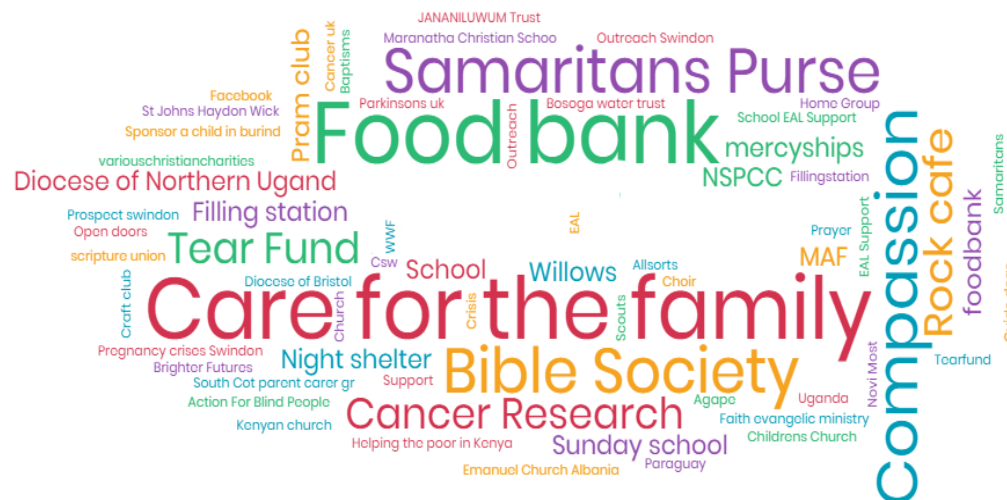
**Save the Date**

**Sunday School Picnic**

**1pm Sunday 22nd July**  
**Sunday School Picnic**  
**Lydiard Park**

Services Next Week			
13th May	9am	Holy Communion 1662	Raymond Adams
	11am	All Age Service	Raymond Adams

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



***“Let my deeds outrun my words”***

Time	Service	Preacher	Readings
9.00am	Holy Communion	Raymond Adams	Psalm 139: 1-18 Mark 8: 27-30
11.00am	Morning Praise	Raymond Adams	Psalm 139: 1-18 Mark 8: 27-30