

The Bible Course

The Bible Course has gone extremely well in its first week. Our aim is to try to keep all our groups in step with each other all the way through, bearing in mind that there are two prayer meetings in the middle. The first will be February 6 and the second March 6. We would love you to join us for those evenings in the Quiet Room to put into prayer the things we have been learning.

If you miss a week, please do remember that there are other groups meeting on Monday afternoons, and Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, so it should be possible for you to join in with another group. You will be made welcome wherever you go.

This coming week, we begin with the story of the Bible starting with Genesis and the early books of the Old Testament.

The Quiet Room was full on Wednesday, so there will always be a course in there for those who are not regular members of a home group.

The Bible Course



African Worship

On Sunday, February 10, we hope to have our own morning of African worship. Grace Njoroje will be bringing a team together to give us a taste of Africa at the 11am service that day. It will be a day of AGE Worship, so a great opportunity for adults and children to get together, and learn new songs - not necessarily in English! We look forward to it.



50 years Together Bristol diocese and the church in Uganda are celebrating this year's which has lasted for no less than 50 years. We received new direction when Chris Dobson, who many of us have met, arrived in Bristol to take up a post here. Chris was born in Uganda and knows the country extremely well. Hundreds of people from Bristol have visited Uganda and vice versa. This year, we intend to bring across "Uganda Fire", who will be involved in a week of worship and mission in



SWINDON FOOD COLLECTIVE: January 2019

We've had the following update from the Swindon Food Collective:

What was previously known as Swindon Food Bank is now operating as "Swindon Food Collective". This is a new charity which has continued to feed and support people in crisis in the Swindon area, despite a difficult year. We are independent, registered with the Charity Commission, with no connection to any other organisation. We are run almost wholly by volunteers, with only one paid member of staff. We have distributed food to >2800 people in the last six months, and demand is increasing month on month.

If you would like to learn more about our work, or would like to volunteer or donate, either on an occasional or regular basis, please see any of our volunteers in your church/village. We can be contacted on our website: www.swindonfoodcollective.org Also on Facebook and Twitter. Our donation boxes for food/toiletries are in the usual supermarket. Julie Bond



New Electoral Roll

This year, according to the Church of England Representation Rules, all Churches are required to prepare a New Electoral Roll. This means that everyone wishing to be on St. John's Electoral roll, whether they are on the current roll or not, needs to complete an application form. Forms will be available from our **Electoral Roll Officer, Sharon Mortimer** from Sunday 17th February and must be returned to her by Wednesday 10th April at the very latest. You can contact Sharon by phone, 724231, or by email, sharonmortimer1@ntlworld.com if you have any questions.



The "Orphanage" Business

Cracking Down on Abuse: Radio 4 last week transmitted a programme from Uganda. The Ugandan Government has taken the lead in the closing down "orphanages" which fraudulently extract money from churches and charitable organisations across the world. Many children in these institutions have parents, who have been promised an education for their children. It rarely materialises.

The Ugandan Government intends to close no less than 569 fraudulent orphanages which exist largely to make money for those who run them. It has also drawn up a list of those homes which meet its standards. We were pleased to see that the Sanyu Babies Home featured in the first category. In other words, it had achieved the highest standard. This will no doubt come as good news to those who have spent time there, and donated to its ongoing work.

What about the future? The closure of 569 homes will mean massive upheaval for many children. Most, we hope, will be returning to their families. But, there will be others who have no family to go back to.

We thank God that the Ugandan Government has not simply ignored this issue. However, it is easier to close down than to build up. We pray for the many children who will be looking forward to the future with anxiety. We hope to learn more from our friends in Luweero.

Coffee Afternoon

Tuesday 29th January 2—4pm in the church lounge.
Bring a friend, all welcome for a catch up over a cuppa.




Prayers: **Sue Branch** is now in Forest Ward in SWIC in GWH. She is likely to be there for a little while. We pray for Sue as she recovers her mobility and also **Ted**, as he regularly visits her. John Hodkinson last week told us the background to Sarah's sepsis. The latest news is not good: "**Sarah** has reacted badly to the ECMO being removed, her blood pressure has increased significantly and she had another bleed. It's looking likely now that she will have to have a certain number of fingers and toes removed as they are dead and black." Please pray for her future quality of life for her. Please continue to pray for **Cathy Sheldrake** as her mobility has been restricted because of severe pain in her knees. **Eileen Arkley** was admitted to hospital yesterday (Linnet ward) with pneumonia although is already feeling much better.

Mon 28th	9.30-11.30am 2pm 7.30pm	Pram Club Home group in the Quiet Room PCC in the Quiet Room
Tues 29th	2-4pm 8pm 8pm	Coffee Afternoon in the Lounge Area Home group at 20 Furlong Close Home group at Purton (prev. Garraways RWB group)
Wed 30th	1-3pm 7.30pm 7.30pm	Craft Club in Church Room Home group at 17 Rother Close The Bible Course in the Quiet Room
Fri 1st	10.30-1.30pm	Rock Cafe

Please pray for our church family	
Mon 28th	Serena Robertson
Tue 29th	Simon & Sally Robertson
Wed 30th	Lucy Robertson
Thurs 31st	David & Jo Rudland & Emily
Fri 1st	Yvonne Rumble and Ivor
Sat 2nd	Mabel Russell now in care
Sun 3rd	Amos & Elvira Sabling

Coffee at 9am:

If you could help by serving on the coffee rota at 9am please let Catherine know.



Services Next Week			
3rd Feb	9am 11am	Holy Communion Morning Praise	Raymond Adams Raymond Adams

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



Sunday Jan 27

4th of Epiphany



"Take Ten"

Time	Service	Preacher	Readings
9.00am	Holy Communion	Raymond Adams	Acts 11: 19-30 Mark 12: 41-44
11.00am	Morning Praise	Raymond Adams	Acts 11: 19-30 Mark 12: 41-44