



# Sunday September 18, 2022

Please pray for our church family	
Mon	Joan Titcombe
Tue	Barbara Tonkin
Wed	David Tunley & family
Thurs	Tom & Heather Vandamme & family
Fri	Bernadette Walman
Sat	Edna Webb
Sun	Jan Welham & Gary

**Prayers**

**For Lesley Mead** as she recovers from a very serious fracture

**For Isaac King** who has fractured his ankle.

**For Denise Rees' dad** in S Africa who has undergone the trauma of a double amputation this week

**For the youth weekend** on the Trinity Lightship in 7 days time.

**For the staff at Fellowship Afloat** who will share their own faith and hope in Christ.

**For the young people** on our *Considering Confirmation Course*

## PCC and The Energy Crisis

Following a huge bill earlier in the year, we are going to have to take the whole issue of saving energy very seriously this winter. PCC discussed what we action we might take both in the short term and the long term.

David Rudland had arranged for an analysis of the building. We learned that we are losing a third of our heat through our windows.

PCC and ROCK café are discussing the possibility of providing a Warm Space this winter. A nice warm room and a cup of coffee could make a great deal of difference to people in the area.



**We grieve, but not as those  
who have no hope.**

Services for Next Sunday			
Sept 25th	9am	Holy Communion	Raymond Adams
Trinity 15	11am	Morning Praise	Raymond Adams

Time	Service	Sermon	Readings
9.00 am	Morning Prayer	Raymond Adams	2 Corinthians 4.16-5.4
11.00am	Holy Communion	The Bishop of Bristol	John 6.35-40

## Harvest — Families Under Pressure

Last year, we supported **The Filling Station** exclusively as *Swindon Food Collective* told us they were well supplied with food. *That is not the case this year.*

The **cost of living crisis** has left the *Food Collective* more dependent on Harvest Festivals than ever before. But, equally, we are strong supporters of *The Filling Station* and do not want to neglect them. We want to help both this year.



So we are **getting in early**, asking you to do your best to accumulate as many of the following items as you possibly can before **October 11th**.

**Tins of beans or spaghetti** + **Tins of meat or fish** + **Tins of soup** + **Biscuits**  
+ **Tinned Potatoes** + **Tinned puddings** + **Small Jars of Coffee** + **Tinned Fruit**

## How to Read The Book of Revelation

We are **suspending our sermon series for this week**. Last week, we started by thinking about how to read Revelation, remembering that it is first and foremost a book of symbols. You can catch up with the sermon on our YouTube channel.



Seeing this sign does not mean that you should expect to see a ten year old girl leading a six year old boy. It tells us that at 9am and 3 pm you need to be very cautious or you could end up running over a child. The figures we meet in *Revelation* symbolise a wide variety of spiritual realities. Ali Wiltshire is just starting a new home group which will be studying the book alongside the sermon series. If you would like to join in, she would love to hear from you.

## Hong Kong Welcome Course No. 2

**Hong Kongers are passionate about technology.** **Gabriel Wong**, who spoke last Sunday, was in the photographic business in Hong Kong. He has put together a video about the welcome course which we shall show at the start of the service.

It is really difficult to say who benefitted most from the course — the Hong Kongers or the Swindonians! Volunteers for the next course are welcome.



## Bishop Viv's Visit

Today we welcome our diocesan bishop, **Bishop Viv**, to St Johns. Her visit comes the day before the funeral of the Queen so our service will reflect that. There are special prayers for this period of mourning, and we have incorporated them in the service this morning.



If you would like to sign the Church of England book of condolence online, it is available at

<https://www.churchofengland.org/remembering-her-majesty-queen>

Or you can sign in person at the North Swindon library

**Bishop Viv is currently leading the diocese** in the *Transforming Church*. Together initiative. We will hear more about this in the months to come, and can definitely say that the future is going to look different from the past.

## Young People in St John's

Next week we have **twenty one young people and eight adults** going on the *Trinity Lightship* for the first time since COVID. Looking at the vertigo-inducing, high-wire activities from last time, it is clearly not a trip for the faint-hearted.

We also had **twelve students of Secondary School age** at our first *Considering Confirmation* course last Sunday evening. We will be following the *Youth Alpha* course, while adding more teaching about the meaning of Holy Communion.



**Liz Gardner is stepping down** from the overall children's work leadership role. We will celebrate her hard work after the youth weekend. Watch this space!

We are **delighted to say Heather Vandamme** has agreed to take over. We will introduce Heather, in her new role, at the same service.

**Do you know anyone who is not receiving their bulletin electronically on a Friday? Sharon can sort that for them.**