

## Contact Information:

The Partnership office is open:

**Monday, Thursday & Friday** 9:00 – 12:00pm  
**Tuesday** 8.30 – 11.30am  
**Wednesday** 1.00 – 4.00pm

There will always be an up to date message on the Partnership Office telephone giving any changes.

The office number is 01793 874221. The office e-mail is:  
[wspartnershipoffice@gmail.com](mailto:wspartnershipoffice@gmail.com)

**To publicise any News or Events in the next edition of In Partnership covering December, please send them to the office no later than 18 November.**

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# In Partnership November 2016



## My Annual Report 2015-16

Almost exactly a year ago, I formally joined the West Swindon Partnership as an Associate Minister. What does that mean?

I was at Highworth & Blunsdon [ *with Sevenhampton, Inglesham and Hannington*] as a curate, I had come to West Swindon [where I live] to help out in May'15 and after a bit of paper-work and a not insignificant amount of discernment and prayer it was decided [*and I was pleased about*] that our Partnership is where I belonged.

The year has been a fruitful journey; by which I mean that not all has been as I would have hoped and much has been great; yet all has been fruitful. My failure to qualify to walk with the British Military Contingent at the 100<sup>th</sup> Nijmegen Marches in July this year was a disappointment, but it provided a new opportunity; one of supporting the 800 or so members of the contingent, who were walking.

I joined the Mothers' Union. We led choral evensong last year at St Mary's for the St John Society [*the first Choral Evensong for many years*]. Another operation [my 11<sup>th</sup>] on my vocal cords prevented me from singing as much as I love to; yet the silence that ensued, has enabled me just to be myself and to spend more of my time in silence. This was enhanced by my week retreat at "Sheldon" [*near Teignmouth, Devon*], where I really was able just to "be" and not be required to "do", nor to "speak" [*unless I wanted to ... eg conversations with some locals down the local pub*]. I could go on, but I won't. There is not enough paper to accommodate, what I might want to say. Need-less-to-say, I have found the year spiritually fulfilling, uplifting, friendship-enhancing and it has opened doors to new learning opportunities and new experiences. For this and for the incredible support you have all given me; "Thank you". Every one of you is very special.

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Having just completed a month, throughout our partnership; following the life and experiences of Moses, through Exodus and part of Numbers, we have been able to glimpse a bit of Moses' own journey. He, like many of us, had doubts. Doubts about his ability to follow God's wishes and doubts about, whether the others [the Israelites] would even accept him as someone, who had been given authority by God. Even, when they had escaped from their slavery in Egypt, they started to doubt Moses and Aaron and even started to doubt what God was doing for them. Some thought that it would have been better to

## FROM THE REGISTERS

### Baptisms

02 October 2016 Harrison James Whittaker

### Weddings

08 October 2016 Scott John Pyper and Laura Emily Courtney

### Funerals

20 October 2016 Mavis June Newman

## PRAYERS

Please pray for:-

Unaccompanied refugee children travelling from Calais to the UK

Emerge

Schools work

### Compassionate Father

You are Sovereign. Your plans and timing are not always easy for us to understand, but we trust you and know that you love us and only want good things for us.

At this time of Remembering, when so many are so sad, thank you for giving your only Son, Jesus, so that if we believe and trust in Him we have the promise of eternal life and re-union with all who loved Him too. We choose to believe and trust, in Jesus' name. Amen.

*By Daphne Kitching*

### WILTSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST RIDE AND STRIDE – 2016

A big THANK YOU TO WENDY DEVERELL for organising the Ride and Stride at the beginning of September 2016. Also to all who either rode bicycles, walked around Swindon, or provided hospitality, and all those friends and families who donated money as sponsorship to the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust. We have raised over £1,800.00, of which half will return to St Mary's for the Building Fund.

## World's Largest Nativity

Bible Society and Calne Town Council are delighted to announce that plans are now well underway to enable a Guinness World Records™ title attempt to take place right in the heart of Calne for the most living figures in a Nativity scene.

Bible Society, is the event's main sponsor this year!

The current world record was broken in Utah in December 2014 when they had 1,039 people participating in a nativity scene. This year we plan to break the record and have around 2,000 people dressed in full costume participating in a nativity scene in Calne.

The Guinness World Record requirement is to have as many people as possible dressed in full costume – an angel, shepherd or king, participating in a nativity scene for 30minutes.

### Details

Date: Saturday 3 December

Time: 6pm-8pm

Venue: Calne Town Centre

## Synod Quiet Day

Led by Revd. Sian Collins

Saturday 03 December 2016

Whitchurch URC (BS14 0PT)

10.30am – 3.00pm

Cost £5

The day costs £5.00 per person\*

There are limited places so early booking is advised. After 14th November it may be worth phoning the Synod Office to check if places are still available . Please call 01823 275470 with any booking queries. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided throughout the day; but please bring your own packed lunch.

\*We want everyone who wishes to be able to attend , if the cost is difficult for you there are funds that can help. Please contact Sue Henderson 01225 767793 or email: sue@suehenderson.co.uk

have stayed back in Egypt as slaves; at least they got proper food and a place to lay their heads at night.

As we have been travelling with Moses on his journey, it has reminded me about my own. Not just this last year, but through my whole life. The ups and downs ... where I felt that everyone was against me ... and the times when I was euphoric about something. Two psalms spring to mind: **Psalm 139** ... *God has known me throughout my life and is there to support and guide me at all times. When I need support, He is there ... when I get a bit big for my boots ... he is there to guide me, back to where I need to be ...* and, **Psalm 78** ... summarising the relationship between the Israelites and God during that journey from Egypt to the Promised land.

I'm going to finish by suggesting, that if you do nothing else, please do read those two **Psalms** [using which-ever version of the bible you wish] ... reading them aloud to yourself *or in groups* ... but listen to, what has been written [*ie what is being said*]. At worship, there is often a tendency [*with me at least*], once the reading has been announced, to start looking for the reading in our bibles, and by the time we've found it, it's half way through and we haven't really engaged with the reader. From "The Song of Moses" ... *Great and marvellous are Your deeds Oh, Lord God Almighty ♦ Just and true are Your ways ... Oh, King of the Ages ♦ Who shall not fear, oh Lord And glorify Your name ♦ For You alone are Holy ♦ All nations will come and worship before You, Lord ♦ Your righteous ways have been revealed ♦ You alone are Holy.*

Revd Trevor Day

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## Sea Changed

By Kate Nicholas, Authentic, £9.99

A moving story of one woman's search for God. After catching glimpses of God in many cultures along the way, Kate finally found God and her life was transformed. Despite a highly successful journalistic career, she felt there was a disconnect between her work and faith, which eventually led her to work for the charity World Vision where she is now the Chief Communications Officer. Kate has had some personal battles to face, including the loss of both her parents, the loss of a baby, and debilitating ME. She has recently battled breast cancer, and is now healed.

## Regular activities

2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday each month	
<b>Messy Church</b>	13 November 4 - 5:30pm @ Shaw
Every Monday	
<b>After School Youth Group</b> Contact Claire Camm 07981951381	3:30 – 6:00pm @ Holy Trinity Shaw
Every Tuesday	
<b>Bell Ringing</b>	7-9pm St Mary's Bell Tower
2nd Wednesday of each month	
<b>Mothers Union</b> Contact Doreen Henderson 07434377587	09 November 2pm @ St Mary's Stable Room
Every Thursday	
<b>Toothill Tinies</b>	10 -11:30am @ Toothill



**Mothers' UNION**  
Christian care for families

### Mothers Union 2.00pm – 4.00pm Stable Room at St Mary's Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November

There is normally a short service with a Speaker and then a chat with tea/coffee. The Speaker today will be Rev Trevor Day talking on Nijmegen Walk. For further details please contact the Branch Leader Doreen Henderson: Tel: 01793 871190 or 07434377587

## Alternative Remembrance Service

Swindon Quakers will be holding an Alternative Remembrance Service for people of all faiths and none on Sunday 6th November 2016 2.30pm Quaker Meeting House, 79 Eastcott Hill, Swindon

We will commemorate the victims of war, those who minister to them and all peacemakers, in an hour's quiet music and readings, wrapped in silence. We hope you will add a leaf of remembrance, prayer or dedication to our Peace Tree.

There will be tea and time to talk afterwards.

## Wisdom House- Care for the Family

**Tuesday 8th November 7.30 -10pm**  
**Freshbrook church, SN5 8NU.**

"At The Wisdom House you get the chance to spend an evening with Rob Parsons as he unpacks some of the life lessons he has learnt from old and young alike, plus a few he has learnt the hard way! Bring your friends and neighbours. With inspiring teaching, stories to touch your heart and time to laugh together, any minute of this evening could change your life... forever." For details or tickets £6 each go to [www.careforthefamily.org.uk/wisdomhouselive](http://www.careforthefamily.org.uk/wisdomhouselive)

## Rise Theatre- White Rabbit

**18 November 2016**  
**7.30 9.30pm**  
**Holy Rood Church**  
**Groundwell Road**

The Youth Ministry team are delighted to welcome the professional Christian theatre company RISE Theatre, who will be performing their original play 'White Rabbit' 'White Rabbit' is a beautifully crafted allegory brought to life by RISE Theatre's exciting, imaginative performance style. Be prepared to laugh, cry and engage in life's adventure in this unforgettable Christian play about two world weary adults who discover what it means to dream and believe again. Watch the trailer at [www.risetheatre.co.uk](http://www.risetheatre.co.uk)

For booking information please contact Anna on 01793 522062

## RESCUING CHRISTIANS FROM DANGER

Through Operation Safe Havens, Barnabas Fund is rescuing Christians in danger in Syria and Iraq, bringing them to countries where they can live and worship in peace and safety.

We have now brought 675 Syrian and Iraqi Christians from peril in their home countries to five secure and safe countries: Australia, Brazil, Canada, the Czech Republic and Poland. Many more are due to make the trip in the coming months. Threats and

intimidation, kidnap, violence, murder, pressure to convert to Islam – these are the situations which drive Christians from Syria and Iraq to ask to be re-settled in faraway safe regions of the world. One of the first Iraqi Christians to be rescued was a man who was known to be on a list of people targeted for kidnap; he had to flee. Now settled in the Czech Republic with his family, he is learning the Czech language so that he can use his IT skills to support his wife and two daughters.

The receiving governments grant visas. Local churches welcome the new arrivals, care for them, and help them to learn the language and find work. Barnabas Fund fills the gaps by covering whatever else is needed – primarily the airfares and other travel costs, such as temporary accommodation en route.

Every situation is different. In Australia the government gives financial support for basic living costs on arrival. In the Czech Republic, this is provided by a Czech Christian charity. But in Canada and Poland, it was Barnabas Fund's Operation Safe Havens that provided these needs.

Barnabas seeks to serve and support each Christian family according to their own choices about their location and their future.

- we support Christians who want to remain in their own home despite danger and persecutions.
- we support Christians seeking safety elsewhere in their own country as Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).
- we support Christians who become refugees in neighbouring countries of the Middle East.
- we support Christians who have decided they must escape the instability and anti-Christian hostility of the region and settle in another part of the world.

Barnabas Fund is continuing to work hard with governments to find safe havens for many more who are fleeing anti-Christian persecution and the genocide being waged by Islamic State. Please pray for more visas to be granted.

If you would like to donate to Barnabus Fund please go to [www.barnabusfund.org/donate](http://www.barnabusfund.org/donate)

## West Swindon Church Partnership Confirmation Service

**Wednesday 23rd November**  
**Holy Trinity, Shaw**

Our next confirmation service is planned to be held in Holy Trinity, Shaw at 7.30pm. It is an opportunity for those, who have not yet made their commitment to become full members of our churches to join us on that special evening in November. For further information contact Rev Trevor Day. [Trevor.Day@btinternet.com](mailto:Trevor.Day@btinternet.com)

## Toothill Church Heating

After much research and asking for quotes and discussions over the last six years to find an efficient and workable solution to the heating problem of Toothill Church we eventually were forced to make a decision by the fact that one of our boilers after its annual service was declared unusable.

This meant that the one existing boiler would not be able to cope and was itself ready for the scrapheap.

We contacted the contractor who had given us a good quote for new boiler and associated works to be done and arranged a week for them to carry out the work. Over the week of the 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> of October they arrived and replaced the two boilers with one which will be much more efficient; replaced the main pump various parts of the piping as well as flushing through the radiators. The gang were very friendly and accommodating to our needs and gave us no interruption to the daily running of the church. Admittedly we chose the week with the least activities so as to minimise any disruption.

The result is now we have a nice warm church although we have not yet had any real cold weather. But phase one is now complete. So welcome to our cosy church.

## Planned Giving

The costs of ministry are going up and the Diocese are having to request churches to give more. This is a significant increase on our current amount, so we are asking you all to prayerfully consider the amount you give whether by standing order or envelope (or just in the collection) and decide whether it is time to review the amount you give and whether this could be increased.

## Emerge Youth Update – Autumn Term 2016

We have had a great start to the term with our Monday and Saturday groups and I have very much felt God's blessing over us. Two new young people have joined us on Mondays and hopefully will also attend Saturdays after Christmas.

So far we have been busy doing Autumn-inspired crafts, such as leaf printing and making beautiful clay-leaf bowls (see photos on our board!) We have also enjoyed making delicious bread rolls, mini pizza wraps and chocolate cupcakes. Our discussion times have focussed on the themes of 'Change' and 'Harvest'. The children have thought about the changes that occur in the natural world in Autumn, linking those to personal changes and how we cope with these. We have thought about 'Harvest' and what that means to us, which we all agreed was 'thankfulness'.

We watched a very powerful Tearfund video and saw what harvest has been like for many African farmers – not much to be thankful for sadly. This led us to think about how we could help them and we decided to participate in Tearfund's annual 'Big Bake' which we held at Shaw on 17 October. The young people prepared for the event by baking, giving out invitations and setting up everything ready for our guests. It was a really lovely occasion where we welcomed the families of our children plus some guests from our churches – it was good to see everyone mingling and having fun together. We even had a visit from Mary Berry (aka Angela) who came to judge the cake decorating competitions which 25 people took part in.

We raised a total of £73.00 for Tearfund which will fund a good meal every day for a child for 14 months. Next term we will be preparing for Christmas including following Gayle's Advent Trail in the church. Lots to look forward to!



At Saturday Club we have said 'goodbye' to Brandon and Tyler who have been with us for 3 years and have now moved up to sixth form at Uplands; we're glad that Spencer (aged 19) has asked to stay on and train to become a Volunteer Helper. This will be great for his further development as it has been for others in the past.

The season of Advent offers us the gift of a short time to reflect. A few weeks in our busy schedules for some honest self examination. Maybe some feedback from a spouse or partner might help? (maybe not!) Maybe a session with a Christian we respect or a spiritual director if we have one might move us on.

I've spent too much time in my life blaming others. Slowly I am learning that more often than not it's me that needs to take responsibility.

Think about it...

+Mike

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## Could you come to the rescue of a refugee child?

A campaign has been launched in Swindon to find caring people who could give refugee children a home.

Following the Government's recent commitment to help more unaccompanied asylum seeking children from other European countries resettle in the UK, Swindon Borough Council has agreed to try and assist with this pressing need.

The children may have been separated from their parents by war, while others have been orphaned. They are predominately teenage boys displaced from countries such as Eritrea, Afghanistan, Iran and Syria. Extremely vulnerable, many of them have experienced trauma and being at serious risk of exploitation, sexual violence, disease and cold in their current situation.

Age, sexuality, marital status and whether or not you have children of your own are no barrier to becoming a supported lodgings carer.

Carers receive free full training and ongoing support, as well as payment and allowances to help cover their time and expenses. Placements vary in duration from a few months to several years. Please spread the word and if you are interested call 01793 464329 or email [fosteringrecruitment@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:fosteringrecruitment@swindon.gov.uk)

## Come and Sing Handel's Messiah in Swindon

Christ Church, Swindon

Saturday 12 November 7.00pm

Tickets £10 for Singers and Audience

For more information to take part or to be in the audience contact

Kath Danswan: [kath.danswan@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:kath.danswan@tiscali.co.uk)

## Sour Grapes and my need to blame

### The season of Advent is almost upon us again.

I have to say that the older I get, the more I have come to value the Church's penitential seasons. For they offer an opportunity to take personal stock in terms of our spiritual journey. Am I becoming more like Christ? Are old habits that die so hard still tripping me up?

One of the things I am learning is when I have to take responsibility and when responsibility belongs to someone else. I fear it's a lifetime challenge. I think it's so hard for us because of the consistent need many of us have to justify our behaviour, not least our bad behaviour! Indeed, the wise of this world understand this.

Today our culture tends to want to find someone else to blame:

"It's not my fault – it was my parents that made me like this."

"It's the Government's fault."

"He started it..."

In Old Testament times, for a period of their history, the Jewish people found themselves in exile. Removed from the land God had promised them and in a foreign country, morale was low and in an effort to explain their predicament a proverb had arisen amongst them.

"The parents eat sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? In trying to find an answer as to why they were in exile, they came up with this. In other words, our plight is not our fault, but the fault of our forefathers. "Not me, guv."

God's response to this is worryingly clear, "As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, you will no longer quote this proverb in Israel." The reason? "For the soul that sins shall surely die."

In other words, don't play the blame game – take responsibility for your behaviour.

As Advent approaches maybe we need to reflect on this. What's going wrong in my life that I need to take responsibility for? It could be host of things, but worry about the things that you could name that need to change in you. In other words, take responsibility.

God blesses our honest attempts to seek his help. Indeed, he has offered the help of the Holy Spirit to assist us in the process of change. But that process will not begin until we have worked out where we need to take responsibility.

Last week our group of 8 young people began preparing for our Christmas Show (on Sat 17<sup>th</sup> December) with Tasha, Sam and Gayle who will be leading the drama, music and movement elements. These monthly Saturday clubs are always lovely sessions and the young people really enjoy participating in the above activities as well as games and cookery/craft. It's great to see the young people develop in confidence and ability through these sessions and also watch them making friends and working together – skills which for many of them do not come easily.

If you're interested to see what we get up to at either Monday or Saturday sessions, please do get in touch - you'd be very welcome.

**Monday Club** – every week in term time 4.30-6.30pm

**Saturday Club** – monthly 1.30-4.30pm Sat 26<sup>th</sup> Nov; Sat 17<sup>th</sup> Dec.

Remix (Tuesday night youth club) has not been running this term as we have been having a break to review the group and decide how to go forward with it. More news on this to follow in next Partnership News.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP US

We would love as many people as possible from across our partnership of Churches to be involved in this exciting missionary project! Some of us work across all the 3 groups (well only Claire actually!) Some of us volunteer for a couple and some just one group; some are regular helpers, some maybe just once a term/month. Whatever time people are able to offer is fine – we all have different commitments and abilities. Could you offer help in ...

- Serving refreshments/washing up at a session
- Setting up tables & equipment at a session
- Helping at occasional fundraising events
- Making cakes/craft items to sell at above
- Praying for specific young people and our volunteer team (we need lots of prayer)
- Giving financially
- Helping in office
- Helping run a craft/sport/discussion

Please do get in touch with me if you are interested in any of the above opportunities or if you just want to come and visit us.

Many thanks

Claire (07981951381) [clairecamm1@gmail.com](mailto:clairecamm1@gmail.com) & Tasha, Mavis, Lily, Lindsay, Sam, Rebecca, Gayle, Norris, Ruth, Jackie

## Remembrance – 100 years after the Somme

Remembrance Day this year will have a special significance. Almost exactly a century after the Battle of the Somme finally came to its inconclusive end (18<sup>th</sup> November) we shall once again be remembering all those who have lost their lives in war, or had their lives blighted by its consequences.

The unbelievable slaughter of the Somme – more than a million men were killed or wounded – made it perhaps the bloodiest battle of human history. The incessant bombardment of heavy artillery, the suicidal waves of attack by unprotected soldiers, the introduction, a few months from its close, of the first tanks in battle all contributed to the vast number of casualties, but so did the pointless efforts of both sides to break what was in fact a five month stalemate. This was a battle nobody won but a million men lost.

This year we shall once again make our prayers for peace and our reflective remembrance against a back-drop of a world that is stubbornly inclined to think that problems can be solved by fighting over them. In the Middle East and in parts of Africa there are still too many who believe that guns and bombs can solve things, when all the evidence of history is that they can't.

Today, a hundred years after the Battle of the Somme, historians still can't decide what the Great War was actually about. And the arrival of the Second World War in 1939 tells us that whatever anyone thought it was, five years of sickening killing had not settled it.

'We will remember them', we say. Surely the finest remembrance would be a world without violence. It still seems a long way off.



## 01 November - All Saints' Day the feast day of all the redeemed

All Saints, or All Hallows, is the feast of all the redeemed, known and unknown, who are now in heaven. When the English Reformation took place, the number of saints in the calendar was drastically reduced, with the result that All Saints' Day stood out with a prominence that it had never had before.

This feast day first began in the East, perhaps as early as the 5th century, as commemorating 'the martyrs of the whole world'. A Northern English 9th century calendar named All Hallows as a principal feast, and such it has remained. Down the centuries devotional writers have seen in it the fulfilment of Pentecost and indeed of Christ's redemptive sacrifice and resurrection.

The saints do not belong to any religious tradition, and their lives and witness to Christ can be appreciated by all Christians. Richard Baxter, writing in the 17th century, wrote the following:

He wants not friends that hath thy love,  
And made converse and walk with thee,  
And with thy saints here and above,  
With whom for ever I must be...

As for my friends, they are not lost;  
The several vessels of thy fleet,  
Though parted now, by tempests tost,  
Shall safely in thy haven meet....

The heavenly hosts, world without end,  
Shall be my company above;  
And thou, my best and surest Friend,  
Who shall divide me from thy love?\*

1,255 ancient English churches were dedicated to All Saints - a number only surpassed by those dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

\*(Maurice Frost (ed.), *Historical Companion to Hymns Ancient and Modern* (London: Clowes, 1962), no. 274, verses 1,3,6.

## Make a good Will gesture to be proud of

Nobody likes to think about dying, but it seems that in the UK we are particularly bad about confronting its inevitability.

So Will Aid is a charity drive that targets the huge amount of Britons who haven't yet made a Will. For the month of November, it offers you the chance to make a basic Will with a solicitor – and donate a small sum to charity in exchange for the service.

A Will tells your loved ones two very important things in the event of your death: who should have your money, property and possessions; and who will be in charge of following the instructions you leave - your executor. Without this information, the law decides how your estate is passed on – and this may not be in line with your wishes!

Since being founded in 1988, Will Aid has enabled legal firms to raise over £17 million for nine of the UK's favourite charities: ActionAid, Age UK, British Red Cross, Christian Aid, NSPCC, Save the Children, Sightsavers, SCIAF (Scotland) and Trocaire (N. Ireland).

At the same time, the campaign has encouraged and helped thousands of people to write their Will. So if you do not have a Will and think it is time you did, visit [www.willaid.org.uk](http://www.willaid.org.uk)

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## Holding a fireworks party on Bonfire Night?

If you are planning to set off fireworks at home on Bonfire Night, you may wish to review the Fireworks Code, to help keep you and your family and guests safe....

- Only buy fireworks marked BS 7114.
- Don't drink alcohol if you are the one setting off fireworks.
- Keep fireworks in a closed box.
- Follow the instructions on each firework.
- Light at arm's length, using a taper.
- Stand well back.
- Never go near a firework that has been lit. Even if it hasn't gone off, it could still explode.
- Never put fireworks in your pocket or throw them.
- Always supervise children around fireworks.
- Light sparklers one at a time and wear gloves.
- Never give sparklers to a child under five.
- Keep pets indoors

## Operation Christmas Child 2016

Samaritan's Purse is the World's largest children's Christmas project through Operation Christmas Child. In partnership with churches worldwide it shows God's love to needy children in a tangible way.

Each child receives a shoebox as an unconditional gift based on need, regardless of their background or religion and this will be most likely the only Christmas gift they will get.

St Mary's is taking part in this Christian outreach again this year and details on Gift Suggestions and How to Fill your Shoebox is on a leaflets at the back of the Church. Please take one and join other church members in this worthwhile project.

If you have any questions and for more information, contact **Jean Brock** either in church or on **Swindon 539456**

## The Advent Sleepout Challenge

The Advent Sleepout Challenge is a national, sponsored event to help marginalised people in England transform their lives and communities through the work of Church Urban Fund.

During Advent, people all over England are being invited to take the Christmas story as inspiration to create their own Advent 'stable' and give up a night of comfort; sleeping out with friends, families, church groups, clubs and community groups.

The Advent Sleepout Challenge is described as "a great way to do something really special during the build up to Christmas." More info at: [www.sleepoutchallenge.org.uk/about/](http://www.sleepoutchallenge.org.uk/about/)

## Wednesday 16th November

**7.30pm - 9pm**

**Freshbrook Church**

The Christian Institute is holding a meeting at Freshbrook Church, Worsley Road, Swindon, SN5 8NU. The theme is 'Being salt and light in God's world.' The aim of the evening is 'Simple and powerful ideas to help you make a stand for the truth.' Hear the latest news on: Ashers Baking Co, Gospel Freedom and Named Person. For more information about the evening or the Christian Institute you can contact them on 0191 281 5664, [www.christian.org.uk](http://www.christian.org.uk)

For information about the venue contact the church office on 873050.

## Church Services in the Partnership St Mary's Lydiard Tregoze

Date	Time	Form
06 November	10:00am	Communion
06 November	2:00pm	Memorial Service
13 November	10:00am	Family Service with Parade
13 November	10.45am	Remembrance @ Hook
20 November	10:00am	Family Service
20 November	3.30pm	Close Field of Remembrance
27 November	10:30am	Partnership Service at HTS

### Holy Trinity Shaw

Date	Time	Form
06 Nov ember	10:30am	Communion/God.com/SS
13 November	10:30am	Remembrance Day
13 November	4:00pm	Messy Church
20 November	10:30am	Morning Service
27 November	10:30am	Partnership Service at HTS
27 November	4:00pm	TAIZE Partnership Prayer and Praise
<b>8.45am Morning Prayer on Fridays during term time.</b>		

### Toothill

Date	Time	Form
06 Nov ember	10:30am	All Age Service
08 November	11:30am	Midweek Worship
13 November	10:30am	Remembrance Day Parade
20 November	10:30am	Communion
23 November	11:30am	Midweek Worship with Communion
27 November	10:30am	Partnership Service at HTS

### Westlea

Date	Time	Form
06 Nov ember	10:00am	Morning Service
13 November	10:00am	Family Service
20 November	10:00am	Communion
27 November	10:30am	Partnership Service at HTS

## Memorial Service

Being held at

**St Mary's Church  
Lydiard Tregoze**

on

**Sunday 06 November**

at

**2.00pm**

A thanksgiving service which will give you the opportunity to remember a loved one.

Refreshments will be served afterwards.



## The RBL Field of Remembrance Lydiard Park

We will be doing our usual 2 minutes at 2 with prayer, a short reading, the Last Post, Silence and Reveille each day from the 11th to the 20th of November.

On Remembrance Sunday, the Congregation of St Mary's will have a Parade Service at 10.00am in the Church followed by Act of Remembrance in the Walled Garden at 10.45am and on Sunday 20 November we will be closing the Field at 3.30pm with prayers for the Royal British Legion and the Park.

## Swindon Deanery Reaching Younger Generations Commissioning Service

**Sunday 27 November 2016**

**St John's Church, Haydon Wick, SN25 4QP**

**3.00pm**

Swindon Deanery is committing 2017 to prioritise on, pray for and engage more effectively with the younger generations. To launch the occasion the Bishop of Swindon is inviting all who work with children, young people and families to a commissioning service. The event will be a unique opportunity for all churches in the deanery to gather together in worship and prayer to acknowledge, affirm and bless the leaders and helpers who faithfully serve children, young people and families in their churches and communities.