

Contact Information:

The Partnership office is open:

Monday, Tuesday, Friday	9:00 – 1:00pm
Wednesday	1.00 – 4.00pm
Thursday	Closed

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

To publicise any News or Events in the next edition of In Partnership covering July/August, please send them to the office no later than 18 June.

The address for correspondence is:
The Partnership Office, Holy Trinity Church, Shaw Village Centre,
SWINDON, SN5 5PY.

The editor's e-mail address is: wspartnershipoffice@gmail.com

The Partnership web site is <http://www.wswinlyd.org.uk>

Partnership Team Minister: Revd Capt Clive Deverell
Email: clive.deverell@btinternet.com Tel: 01793 877111
(Anglican Priest and Authorised to Serve in the Methodist Church)

Associate Minister: Revd Trevor Day
Email: Trevor.Day@btinternet.com Tel: 01793 875373 or
Mobile: 07918 125826
(Anglican Priest)

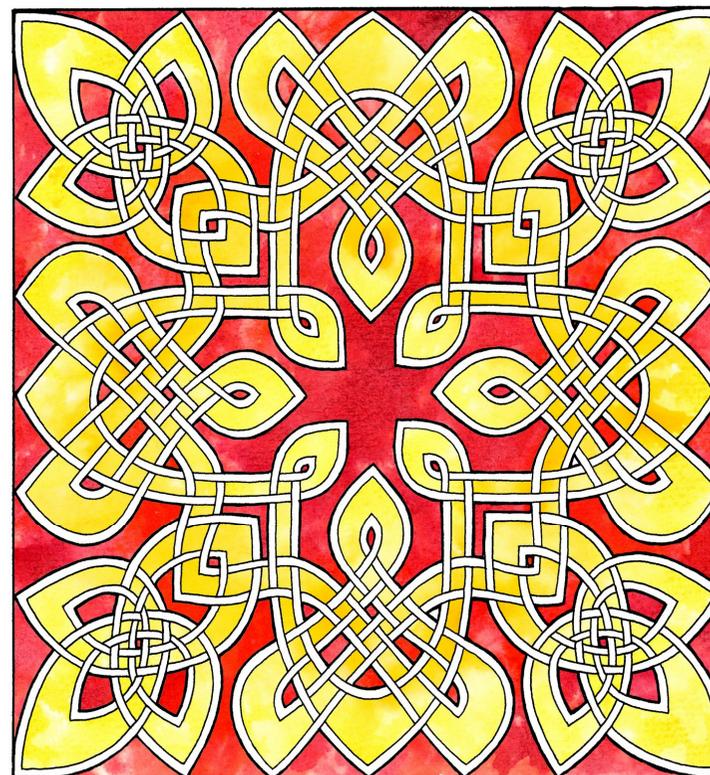
Partnership Youth Worker: Claire Camm
Email: clairecamm1@gmail.com Tel: 07981 951381

Partnership Primary Age Schools Worker: Gayle Bryon
Email: gayleschoolswork@gmail.com



In Partnership June 2017

Looking outwards and growing together



A good story

Do you recognise the following story?

A son has been given a kingdom to inherit and look after but told by his Father that he must stay within certain boundaries the Father sets. Not understanding that the Father does this out of love for him, the son gives into temptation and believes the lies of a jealous enemy which lead him to explore the 'forbidden territory'. This experience would have resulted in his death, but for the dangerous rescue mission performed by his Father – who himself dies in the act.

Following this, the son (who believes there is no way back for him to his former position of honour) runs away; distancing himself from all that belonged to him and seeks a new way of life in unfamiliar territory. The life he now lives is without purpose, meaning or concern for others. The call of his destiny as the Father's son lies dormant within him, until one day a messenger from his former home arrives to remind him of his calling and to let him know that all is forgiven. He is told that he can now return and take up his rightful inheritance in the Father's Kingdom – indeed he must. After much encouragement and support, the son decides to return; upon which he has to confront and defeat his 'demons' of fear and guilt once and for all before he finally assumes his place in the kingdom.

Can you guess what the story is? Perhaps the story of Adam's Fall in the garden of Eden through to Christ's redemption of all mankind, fought and won in the Garden of Gethsemane? Is it our story as sinful, redeemed men and women of Christ? Yes it is both these, but did you know that this is also the story line of 'The Lion King', the popular Disney film and subsequently West End musical? I had not realised this (although I watched it with my children in the 1990's) until just recently when we began to use it with our 'emerge' special needs youth groups in the partnership leading up to Easter. What a wonderful way to explore the Christian narrative!

This is what I love about being a Youth Missioner: I am constantly being challenged to seek new ways of sharing the story of our faith relevantly with the young people; and in so doing I find my own understanding renewed and refreshed. The Holy Spirit is constantly moving and leading us to see and understand Jesus' love in new ways.

FROM THE REGISTERS

Thanksgiving

14 May 2017 Sebastian Alexander Young

28 May 2017 Lena Olari Keil

Wedding

20 May 2017 Rhys Peter Clifford Owen and Jordan Sian Demi Edwards

PRAYERS

Please pray for:

All those who are candidates to be members of parliament

The Lion King event on 10 June

St Marys Anglican Rodbourne Cheney Week beginning 04.06.2017

Emmanuel URC Week beginning 11.06.17

St Andrews Moredon Methodist Church Week beginning 18.06.17

St Marys Roman Catholic Rodbourne Cheney Week beginning 25.06.17

Thank you

Thank you to so many for the wonderful weekend celebrating 40 years playing the organ in Toothill. A lovely Saturday afternoon of Cake and Music with Friends then Flowers, a Certificate and Prayer with more Friends in Church on Sunday, and lots of encouraging email and facebook messages.

You have blessed me so much.

Nicola

ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL

An Evening of Music and Poetry

Presented by

Strictly Recorders & Wentworth Voices



St Mary's Church Lydiard Park

Saturday 15th July 2017 at 7.30pm

Tickets £5 available on the door

All proceeds for St Mary's Church Conservation Project

Jesus used stories (parables) all the time in his ministry to teach spiritual truths in ways which his listeners could relate to and understand. As Christians we are called to share the riches of God's love in Jesus with those who don't know him; perhaps we could try using stories we know from film, books, TV or the news.

On Saturday June 10th you can come and see a performance of 'The Lion King' which some of our young people have been working on this term – you may even meet Jesus!

Thanks for your prayers

Claire

emerge
Saturday Club
presents....

THE LION KING

Sat June 10th 4pm-5pm
Shaw Church

Come & sing-a-long with us & feel
the magic!

Refreshments

Tickets £1.00 on the door
Proceeds to Guide Dogs for the
Blind

Regular activities

2 nd Sunday each month	
Messy Church	11 June 4 - 5:30pm @ Shaw
Every Monday	
After School Youth Group Contact Claire Camm 07981951381	3:30 – 6:00pm @ Holy Trinity Shaw
Every Tuesday	
Bell Ringing	7-9pm St Mary's Bell Tower
2nd Wednesday of each month	
Mothers Union Contact Jean Brock 01793 539456	14 June 2pm @ St Mary's Stable Room
Every Thursday	
Toothill Tinies	10 -11:30am @ Toothill

Thursday 27th July 10-3pm.

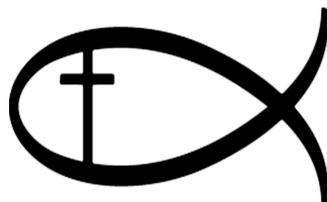
'The Ichthus Trail' an Activity Day for Primary Aged Children at St Mary's Church on Thursday 27th July 10-3pm.

We will need a wonderful team of volunteers to work with the children. Please let me know if you are able to help.

Please pray for this fun and exciting day.

With kindest regards

Gayle



Christian Vision For Men

The Gathering 2017
Lynt Farm SN6 7QZ
From £86 per person
23rd – 25th June 2017

Bookings are now being taken for The Gathering (Christian Vision for Men) to be held 23rd – 25th June 2017. The comedian, Tim Vine, will be in attendance this year alongside Graham Kendrick and many other well-known names.

To Book call 01246 452483

Salome

Salome is a streamed NT (National theatre) Live to Cineworld cinemas on Thursday 22nd June 19.00hrs. If you have never been to a live streaming at the cinema it is well worth doing.

You can buy tickets from Cineworld, or on line at www.cineworld.co.uk

This play is described as -

The story has been told before, but never like this. An occupied desert nation, a radical from the wilderness on hunger strike, a girl whose mysterious dance will change the course of the world.

This charged retelling turns the infamous biblical tale on its head, placing the girl we call Salome at the centre of a revolution. Internationally acclaimed theatre director Yael Farber (Les Blancs) draws on multiple accounts to create her urgent, hypnotic production which will be broadcast live from the stage of the national theatre.

New Wine

United 2017: Week 1 - £150

Saturday 22 July 2017 9:00 to Friday 28 July 2017 23:00
Royal Bath a & West Showground, Shepton Mallet

United 2017: Week 2 - £150

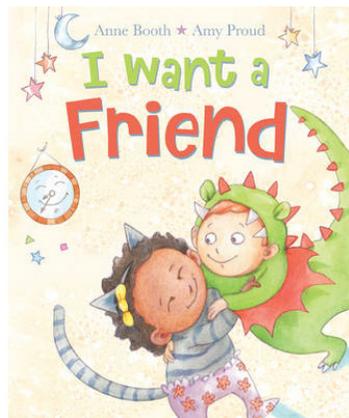
Sunday 30 July 2017 9:00 to Saturday 05 August 2017 23:00
Royal Bath a & West Showground, Shepton Mallet

Day tickets are available, for more information please visit www.new-wine.org/united17

I Want a Friend

By Anne Booth, Amy Proud, Lion
Children's, £6.99

'I want a friend,' said Arthur, 'I want a friend right now. I want to make one RIGHT AWAY. But I am not sure how.' Join Arthur at nursery school in his determined search for a friend - could he dig a hole to trap one, or catch one in a net? His ideas don't seem to be going to plan, but then Lily appears and he is soon having lots of fun and playtime adventures! Bouncy rhymes and hilarious illustrations make this first experiences tale about friendship an enchanting read for youngsters.



Election Hustings

Thursday 01 June 2017
Immanuel Church Upham Road, SN3 1DH
7.30pm – 9.00pm

Do you want to find out what your parliamentary candidates think? Or ask them a question?

A question time for South Swindon candidates will be held on Thursday 1st June at Immanuel Church Upham Road, SN3 1DH; doors open at 6.45pm; hustings start at 7.30pm – 9.00pm. Questions will be invited in writing as people arrive and should be received by 7.15pm.

Tony Vino

Live at St Augustine's

Saturday 17 June at 6.30pm
St Augustine's Church, Summers Street, Rodbourne.
Tickets: £15 (Children £5)

Includes a welcome drink/canapes, buffet and five raffle tickets
Further drinks will be available on the night for a donation.
Tickets from the church, by calling 07776 458278 or by reservation at
www.staugustines-swindon.co.uk.

Proceeds towards the St Augustine's Church Restoration Fund

Strawberry Tea

St Mary's Church Lydiard Tregoze

Every Sunday afternoon
04 June - 02 July 2017

Venue: St Mary's Stable Room and outside
Time: 2.00 - 4.30pm
Cost: £3.00 or 2 for £5.00

**Join us for tea and strawberry scones,
and enjoy the summer sunshine
at St Mary's on these afternoons.**

Please contact Partnership Office on
01793 874221 for more details

West Swindon and Lydiard Tregoze Church Partnership

4 June Pentecost a day that changed history

People call it 'Whitsun' because once upon a time it was a day for wearing white and going on church processions. The church, however, calls it 'Pentecost' and it's on June 4th this year. It is a crucial date in the Church calendar – in some ways the birthday of Christianity as we know it.

After the crucifixion the followers of Jesus took to meeting in an 'upper room' in Jerusalem, with the doors locked 'for fear of the Jewish authorities'. It was here that the risen Christ appeared to them several times, as well as on a few occasions in other locations when they ventured out. Eventually He told them that He was 'going back to the Father', but that they should stay in the city until they received the spiritual resources to do the job for which He had called them – to take His message to the world. They did as they were told, about 120 men and women, Luke tells us, including the mother of Jesus.

Then it happened, on the Jewish feast of *Shavuot*, which was 50 days after the Passover. Pentecost was a spiritual experience which transformed their lives. Emboldened, they emerged from the upper room and started preaching on the city streets. They continued to do so even when ordered to stop. What had happened to bring about this transformation? The answer was two words: Holy Spirit. If that sounds very elusive and vague, think of it in its basic meaning in the Greek of the New Testament: Breath – the very source of life itself, the most precious gift of God. At Pentecost the handful of believers were brought to new life because the Holy Spirit of God breathed upon them. The Church was born. Two thousand people were baptised. Wimps became witnesses!

Late for church

A little girl, dressed in her Sunday best, was running as fast as she could, trying not to be late for church. As she ran she prayed, "*Dear Lord, please don't let me be late! Dear Lord, please don't let me be late!*"

While she was running and praying, she tripped on a curb and fell, getting her clothes dirty and tearing her dress. She got up, brushed herself off, and started running again. As she ran she once again began to pray, "*Dear Lord, please don't let me be late...But please don't shove me either!*"



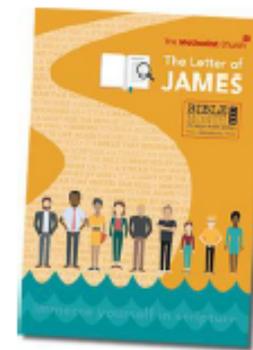
Upper Thames Methodist Circuit

BIBLE MONTH

2017

30 days with James

— #BibleMonth —



Join a concerted study in
our churches over 30 days:

Sunday 11th June
to **Sunday 2nd July**

Celebrating our 999 service

The 999 emergency service was introduced 80 years ago this month – on 30th June 1937, in the London area only.

It was the first service of its kind in the world, and a notice in the *Evening News* suggested that the public should use it only if "the man in the flat next to yours is murdering his wife, or you have seen a heavily masked cat burglar peering round the stack pipe of the local bank building".

For less urgent matters, such as a lorry coming to rest in their garden, people were advised to "just call up the local police".

The first call resulted in the arrest of a would-be burglar, but not all were so serious. Of 1336 calls made in the first week, 91 were prank calls.

One of the more unexpected results of the 999 service was its effect on telephone switch-rooms, where a "raucous buzzer" sounded when someone dialled 999. It was reported that "a few of the girls found the situation too much and had to be carried out".

Despite that, 999 was a big success, but it wasn't until after World War Two that it reached most other parts of the UK. It became available to the entire country only when all the telephone exchanges were automated in 1976.

The idea for an emergency number came after operators couldn't be reached to alert the fire brigade to a fire that killed five women in London's Wimpole Street in 1935. The number 999 was chosen because it was easy to dial, even in the dark, on old-style phones. The US waited until 1968 to introduce its own emergency number, 911.

More than half of genuine 999 calls ask for police assistance. The next most requested is the ambulance service, followed by the fire brigade and, finally, the coastguard.

Some churches have used the idea of an emergency service for people in need of various kinds of help – though in those cases the number 999 is replaced by a series of Scriptural references.



To

The Parishes and Chaplaincies of the Church of England

The General Election, June 8th 2017

The season of Easter invites us to celebrate and to renew our love of God and our love of neighbour, our trust and hope in God and in each other. In the midst of a frantic and sometimes fraught election campaign, our first obligation as Christians is to pray for those standing for office, and to continue to pray for those who are elected. We recognise the enormous responsibilities and the vast complexity of the issues that our political leaders face. We are constantly reminded of the personal costs and burdens carried by those in political life and by their families.

Our second obligation as Christians at these times is to set aside apathy and cynicism and to participate, and encourage others to do the same. At a practical level that could mean putting on a hustings event for candidates, volunteering for a candidate, or simply making sure to vote on Thursday 8th June. The Christian virtues of love, trust and hope should guide and judge our actions, as well as the actions and policies of all those who are seeking election to the House of Commons and to lead our country.

This election is being contested against the backdrop of deep and profound questions of identity. Opportunities to renew and reimagine our shared values as a country and a United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland only come around every few generations. We are in such a time.

Our Christian heritage, our current choices and our obligations to future generations and to God's world will all play a shaping role. If our shared British values are to carry the weight of where we now stand and the challenges ahead of us, they must have at their core, cohesion, courage and stability.

Cohesion is what holds us together. The United Kingdom, when at its best, has been represented by a sense not only of living for ourselves, but by a deeper concern for the weak, poor and marginalised, and for the common good. At home that includes education for all, the need for urgent and serious solutions to our housing challenges, the importance of creating communities as well as buildings, and a confident and flourishing health service that gives support to all - especially the vulnerable - not least at the beginning and end of life. Abroad it is seen in many ways, including the 0.7% aid commitment, properly applied in imaginative ways, standing up for those suffering persecution on grounds of faith, and our current leading on campaigns against slavery, trafficking, and sexual violence in conflicts.

Courage, which includes aspiration, competition and ambition, should guide us into trading agreements that, if they are effective and just, will also reduce the drivers for mass movements of peoples. We must affirm our capacity to be an outward looking and generous country, with

To: The Parishes and Chaplaincies of the Church of England (Continued)

distinctive contributions to peacebuilding, development, the environment and welcoming the stranger in need. Our economic and financial systems at home and abroad should aim to be engines of innovation, not simply traders for their own account. The need for a just economy is clear, but there is also the relatively new and influential area of 'just finance', and there are dangers of an economy over-reliant on debt, which risks crushing those who take on too much. Courage also demands a radical approach to education, so that the historic failures of technical training and the over-emphasis on purely academic subjects are rebalanced, growing productivity and tackling with vigour the exclusion of the poorest groups from future economic life.

Stability, an ancient and Benedictine virtue, is about living well with change. Stable communities will be skilled in reconciliation, resilient in setbacks and diligent in sustainability, particularly in relation to the environment. They will be ones in which we can be collectively a nation of 'glad and generous hearts'. To our concern for housing, health and education as foundations for a good society, we add marriage, the family and the household as foundational communities, which should be nurtured and supported as such, not just for the benefit of their members, but as a blessing for the whole of society.

Contemporary politics needs to re-evaluate the importance of religious belief. The assumptions of secularism are not a reliable guide to the way the world works, nor will they enable us to understand the place of faith in other people's lives. Parishes and Chaplaincies of the Church of England serve people of all faiths and none. Their contribution and that of other denominations and faiths to the well-being of the nation is immense – schools, food banks, social support, childcare among many others – and is freely offered. But the role of faith in society is not just measured in terms of service-delivery.

The new Parliament, if it is to take religious freedom seriously, must treat as an essential task the improvement of religious literacy. More immediately, if we aspire to a politics of maturity and generosity, then the religious faith of any election candidate should not be treated by opponents as a vulnerability to be exploited. We look forward to a media and political climate where all candidates can feel confident that they can be open about the impact of their faith on their vocation to public service.

Religious belief is the well-spring for the virtues and practices that make for good individuals, strong relationships and flourishing communities. In Britain, these embedded virtues are not unique to Christians, but they have their roots in the Christian history of our four nations. If treated as partners in the project of serving the country, the churches – and other faiths – have much to contribute to a deep understanding and outworking of the common good.

Political responses to the problems of religiously-motivated violence and extremism, at home and overseas, must also recognise that solutions will not be found simply in further secularisation of the public realm. Mainstream religious communities have a central role to play; whilst extremist narratives require compelling counter-narratives that have a strong theological and ideological foundation.

Cohesion, courage and stability are all needed in our response to the continuing national conversation about migration and refugees. Offering a generous and hospitable welcome to refugees and migrants is a vital expression of our common humanity, but it is not without cost and we should not be deaf to the legitimate concerns that have been expressed about the scale of population flows and the differential impact it has on different parts of society. The pressures of integration must be shared more equitably.

Just as a Wiltshire word of wisdom rolled in and out of my thinking, so Jesus' parables invited his listeners to reappraise their attitudes and assumptions, particularly in relation to the way in which Jesus lived out his teaching. For the early Christian community, this embodiment of man and message came together as they recognised that Jesus was not simply the bearer of a word of wisdom from God – he was The Word and The Wisdom of God - the Word made flesh as the opening to John's gospel describes Jesus. It is a wisdom which met suspicion, derision and rejection from the outset. Yet wisdom is proved right by her actions. I wonder who said that.

Read Bishop Lee's full article at www.bristol.anglican.org

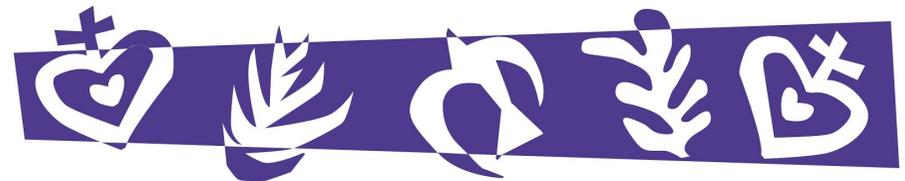
11 June Trinity Sunday

takes place this month (11th June), yet the idea of One God in three Persons is not easy to get our heads around. CS Lewis was right in saying that we have to understand the doctrine in relational terms. So why is the Trinity so important for us?

First, the Trinity provides us with a model of community. God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit relate to one another in love and work together to accomplish God's purpose in the world. At His baptism, Jesus the Son is obedient to His Father's purpose, who declares His approval and the Spirit anoints Jesus for ministry.

Secondly, we find our mission in the Trinity. As the Father sent His Son into the world, so Jesus sends us out to do the Father's work, equipped by the Spirit of God.

All three persons of the Godhead are at work in our lives and church, as well as in the world around. If we live with a renewed awareness of the Trinity, our spiritual lives will take on a new vitality and urgency.



The Bishop of Swindon, the Rt Revd Lee Rayfield, on wisdom for living

There is an early morning radio show which I tune into that has a daily feature called 'Wiltshire Words of Wisdom'. The item involves a listener sharing a favourite and pithy guide for life.

Words of wisdom, whether from Wiltshire or elsewhere, are essentially proverbs or axioms which capture reflections on life which have stood the test of time. They can prove significant reference points for good decision-making.

Jesus of Nazareth was a master of proverb and axiom, sprinkling them liberally in his speaking and teaching. But Jesus also used parables, a related but rather different animal. Phrases associated with Jesus' parables have not only entered our vocabulary but our collective imagination in The Good Samaritan and The Prodigal Son, to name two. He used parables to cast fresh light on attitudes and behaviours. The most memorable were simple stories which left his hearers turning over the meaning in their heads or reacting strongly because they understood it too well. "Go figure" was the watchword.

One of my favourite parables is about workers in a vineyard (Matthew 20). Jesus tells of a landowner sending out the foreman to gather labourers from the marketplace at the beginning of the day; they are told they will receive a day's wages (a denarius) for their work. At various times during the day the foreman is told to round up some more workers with the promise they will be paid whatever is right. As everyone queues to receive their wage, the first group is labourers who have worked for only one hour. Remarkably they are given a full day's pay, raising the expectations of the others as to what they will receive. Yet every person in each group gets the same - a denarius - no matter how long they had worked. As you might imagine this did not go down well with the workers who had toiled all day. In response to grumbling the vineyard owner pointed out he had paid what he promised and it was his prerogative to be generous.

This parable can generate heat today; imagine what shop stewards would say in a comparable situation! Nevertheless, it invites reflection on the way generosity can provoke dissension and hostility rather than be rejoiced over.

These deep virtues and practices – love, trust and hope, cohesion, courage and stability - are not the preserve of any one political party or worldview, but go to the heart of who we are as a country in all of its diversity. An election campaign, a Parliament and a Government that hold to these virtues give us a firm foundation on which to live well together, for the common good.

We keep in our prayers all those who are standing in this election and are deeply grateful for their commitment to public service. All of us as Christians, in holding fast to the vision of abundant life, should be open to the call to renounce cynicism, to engage prayerfully with the candidates and issues in this election and by doing so to participate together fully in the life of our communities.

In the Name of our Risen Lord,

Fr Nick Carter: Benedict Eboreuensis

Clive asked for this letter to be published, although we are a Partnership with other denominations, it was felt important to include this.



"It's most kind of the church to donate these things but I wish they'd check there wasn't anything left inside, first!"

Church Services in the Partnership St Mary's Lydiard Tregoze

Date	Time	Form
04 June	10:00am	Partnership Pentecost Service followed by Baptism
11 June	10:00am	Communion followed by Baptism
18 June	10:00am	Family Service
25 June	10:00am	Communion followed by Baptism
25 June	5:00pm	Partnership Prayer and Praise

Toothill

Date	Time	Form
04 June	10:00am	Partnership Pentecost Service at St Mary's
Weds 07 June	11:30am	Midweek Worship
11 June	10:30am	Communion
Weds 14 June	11:30am	Midweek Communion
18 June	10:30am	Morning Service
Weds 21 June	11:30am	Midweek Worship
25 June	10:30am	Morning Service
Weds 28 June	11:30am	Midweek Communion

Westlea

Date	Time	Form
04 June	10:00am	Partnership Pentecost Service at St Mary's
11 June	10:00am	Family Service
18 June	10:00am	Communion
25 June	10:00am	All Age Service

Holy Trinity Shaw

Date	Time	Form
04 June	10:00am	Partnership Pentecost Service at St Mary's
11 June	10:30am	All Age Service
11 June	4:00pm	Messy Church
18 June	10:30am	MS & God.com/JC
25 June	10:30am	All Age followed by Baptism
8.45am Morning Prayer on Fridays during term time.		

Ecumenical Joint Confirmation

Thursday 15 June 2017

Ecumenical Confirmation and
Public Affirmation of Faith Service
will take place at
**7.00pm at
Toothill Church**

Please call Clive on 01793 877111 for more information



Partnership Prayer and Praise Sunday 25 June 2017

*Fellowship time 4.15pm in the Stable Room
Refreshments will be available before the service at*

St Mary's Lydiard Tregoze 5.00pm

**“Hymns and Songs inspired by St Paul's 1st letter
to the Church in Corinth”**

All are Welcome

This is an opportunity to Pray and Praise together