

Contact Information

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Tel: 01793-979304, Email: upper.thames.office@gmail.com

Upper Thames Website: www.upperthames.org.uk.

For information about all churches in our Upper Thames group
(Cricklade, Ashton Keynes, Latton and Leigh)

Weddings and Baptisms

You can book for weddings and christenings by visiting the church
Website at [http:// www.upperthames.org.uk/bookings/](http://www.upperthames.org.uk/bookings/).
For any queries please contact the Parish Office.

If you would like something put into the newsletter or on the St
Sampson's Facebook page, please contact:

Phil Bradley Tel: 01793-226350 Email: philipjbradley@me.com

**The deadline for the April issue is Friday 16 March.
If you wish to receive this church newsletter electronically
please send email to upper.thames.office@gmail.com**

ST SAMPSON'S CHURCH, CRICKLADE

"Making a Difference"

A Spirit-filled church full of prayer,
that accepts the Bible as truth,
worships God from within the heart,
and shares the Good News of Jesus Christ



Newsletter March 2018

Sunday 4th March	3rd Sunday of Lent 8am BCP Holy Communion 10am Communion Service 3pm Sung Evensong 4pm Informal Worship
Sunday 11th March	Mothering Sunday 8am BCP Holy Communion <i>followed by breakfast</i> 10am Upper Thames Group Service 4pm Informal Worship 6:30pm Evensong
Sunday 18th March	5th Sunday of Lent 8am BCP Holy Communion 10am Communion Service 12pm Baptism 4pm Informal Worship 6:30pm Something Different
Sunday 25th March	Palm Sunday 8am BCP Holy Communion 10am Morning Worship 12:15pm Baptism 4pm Informal Worship 6:30pm Sung Compline
Holy Week	
26th March	7pm Compline
28th March	7pm Compline
29th March (Maundy Thursday)	7pm Maundy Thursday Service – Eucharist
30th March (Good Friday)	10am Family Service 11am Walk of Witness – Start at St Sampsons 2pm Final Hour

Please join us for coffee after both the 10am and 4pm services. Vibe and S Club,
for youth and children, meet during 4pm services.

Holy Communion every Wednesday 10am (Heberden House on 14th March)

Annual Church Meeting – 9th April 7:45pm in the Church Building

The St Sampson's Church APCM (Annual Meeting) is changing time and venue to enable a more sociable atmosphere and provide space to talk to people about the future direction that we believe God is taking our church.

We have vacancies to join the Parochial Church Council where major decisions are made for all aspects of our church life – would you be interested in getting involved? We have many other opportunities to be part of the team in serving God and each other, which will be presented at this meeting.

The APCM will start with the business side of things (elections of churchwardens, PCC members and other posts), and then there will be a brief presentation by the Vicar about growing our church under God's guidance. After this there will be opportunities to ask questions over refreshments (including wine) and discuss the opportunities that will be laid out on a couple of tables, along with people able to talk about them.

Please do come and support your church. All are welcome.

Notices

Are You Interested in Doing The Alpha Course?

Shane Taylor, one of our Lent Speakers who was a hardened criminal that became a Christian, spoke about the impact that the Alpha Course had on him, and on many others that he has subsequently shared it with.

The Alpha Course runs over an 8-10 week period and covers Jesus, the Holy Spirit, what faith is, how to pray and read the Bible, and many other aspects of Christianity. Anyone can come along no matter how much or little you know.

The next course will be held in the evening sometime after Easter and will consist of a meal to start with followed by a 30-minute video presentation and then discussion in an informal atmosphere.

Please let me know if you would be interested in doing this course, or have any questions about it. Why not invite a friend or a neighbour? Please contact Phil Bradley on 01793-226350 or philipjbradley@me.com.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The GDPR is a European regulation intended to strengthen data protection for all individuals within the EU, and give control back to them over their personal data.

In order to comply with these new regulations we will need you to give consent for emails from St Sampson's including the monthly newssheet, prayer network emails and other emails about services and events. We will be asking you to fill out a form for your consent so we can hold your personal information and send

you communications by email and SMS (in the future!),

We will be giving out forms soon. If you don't fill out a form, we will no longer be able to send you those communications by email after 25 May 2018 (when the regulations come into effect). We are also taking the opportunity to set up a church database so that all the contact details we keep are kept securely.

24 hour prayer event

Prayer underpins all that we do as a Church and as we seek to experience the Holy Spirit at work in our Church, I've had a nudge from God to organise a 24 hour prayer event at St Sampson's. It's an opportunity for us to step out in faith, trust God and commit to Him the plans and priorities that we believe He has given to us for this year and beyond. It may sound like a huge undertaking, but many other churches have seen the amazing difference it can make to church life and it will ramp up our corporate prayer life as we pray for our Church, community and local people and organisations.

If you feel excited by this idea, I'd love to know so I can form a small team of people to take this idea forward, listen to God and make a plan. Sarah Smith, sarahsmith@talktalk.net T: 01793 751366

Coffee Morning ~ Thursday 29th March 10:30am

Everyone is welcome to come along for a coffee and a chat at Reanne's home, Oakridge, Bath Road (3 doors right of the Vicarage) on Thursday, 29th March. Please feel free to bring a friend.

Forthcoming Events

Lent Talks – please see leaflets or Upper Thames Group website

All talks to be held in St Sampson's Church, arrive by 7:30pm for a 7.45 pm start. PLEASE BOOK ASAP SO THAT WE KNOW NUMBERS FOR CATERING.

Mon 5th March,	Brian Gault
Thurs 15th March,	Steve Murray.
Mon 23rd April,	Andy Haynes (rescheduled from 1st March)

These events are ticketed. To order your tickets contact Graham Light on 01793 752671(day), 01793 759181(eve) or via email lightg@hotmail.co.uk

St Sampson's Church Celebration Weekend – 7th/8th July

The event of the year where we will be hosting live contemporary worship music, relevant and exciting talks, time for socialising, time to learn in groups, and most importantly, opportunities to connect with God through his Holy Spirit and take the next step in our journey of faith
