

UPPER THAMES NEWS

24 April 2026

This week in Upper Thames News:

- **Services this Sunday 26 April - Easter 4**
- **Filling Station**
- **St Sampson's:**
 - **Tower Tours**
 - **Church Fete**
- **Come & Sing practice series**
- Reminders
 - Revd Sharon's Licensing service
 - Cross for St Sampson's Widhill aisle
 - Re-visiting our ministers' sermons
 - Malmesbury & District Foodbank
- **May services**
- **Morning Prayers**

Sunday 26 April - Easter 4

- St Sampson's
 - 10am Holy Communion
- Holy Cross
 - 8.30am Holy Communion
- St John the Baptist
 - 10am Morning Worship

Filling Station Thursday 21 May

Dear Friends,

Our next Filling Station session is coming up in a month's time.

Please can we ask for your continued support and generosity, for this worthwhile cause...

Food for the evening of 21 May is the main priority. We would be grateful to receive offers of the following:

- loaves of sandwiches
- individually wrapped biscuits
- oranges and bananas
- small bottles/ cartons of fruit juice and water

In addition, toilet rolls and tins with ring-pulls are welcomed, because these are offered to those who are homeless or sofa surfing.

Barbara and I look forward to seeing you on the 21 May, when you drop donations off at 5 Abingdon Court Farm, between 9am and 1.30pm.
(Please note shortened opening hours, on this occasion!).

We hope you will be able to pop in for a cup of tea and a chat. Your friendship and the fellowship we enjoy together, is a valued part of this endeavour.
All good wishes

Ruth & Barbara 🙏

St Sampson's Tower Tours & Church Fete

- **Tower Tours - starting 23 May - refreshments needed see below poster**



st sampson's Church
Tower Open
Saturday
23 May, 6 June, 5 Sept
2pm-4pm

Enjoy the wonderful views of
Cricklade and beyond

Please make a donation in aid of the refurbishment
Drinks and cakes available.
Note: weather dependent. There are 120 steps.
Proper shoes required. Minimum age: 8.

St Sampson's Church Appeal
Cricklade Community Trust & Parish

Tower Tour Refreshments

Cakes needed for tower tour refreshments.

Please sign form in church if you are able to provide any or contact Sharon Smith 751375

sharonjsmith54@hotmail.com for the first tower tour Saturday 23 May.

- **St Sampson's Church Fete – Saturday 5 September 2-4pm**

Please let us know if you can help on a stall and with set up/clear away. We need lots of volunteers to help make this day a success – in terms of fundraising but also as an enjoyable community event! Closer to the time we will be looking for donations of tombola prizes, bottles (empty and full for the bottle stall), books and cakes.

Thank you so much for your support. Please speak to Adina Grace or Sharon Smith about helping out at the fete or email sarahsmithhooper@gmail.com



Come & Sing - series of short practices

For those booked onto our Come & Sing event - if you haven't sung Rutter's Requiem or Fauré's 'Cantique de Jean Racine' before, or would like a refresher, we will be running half hour practices at **St Sampson's from 7-7.30pm on the following Fridays: 24 April; 1 May; 8 May; 15 May; 22 May; 29 May**. We don't have many scores available yet, so do bring your own if you have them.

Reminders.....

- **Revd Sharon's licencing service**

Tidenham Parish Church would like to know how many people from Upper Thames plan on joining them for Sharon's licencing service on **Sunday 3 May at 3pm**. Please add your name to the list on the welcome table at St Sampson's, Holy Cross and St John the Baptist if you would like to go and also, whether or not you need or can offer anyone a lift. Alternatively you can email the parish office - admin@upperthames.org.uk

- **Cross for the Widhill aisle at St Sampson's**

As a result of conversations with a number of you, from this Sunday we will be experimenting with a wooden cross in the Widhill Aisle. It will hang in front of the curtain behind the altar. Please do let either the church wardens or the ministry team know what you think when you've seen it.

- **Re-visiting our ministers' sermons**

If you have found that something our ministers have said in their sermons has been helpful to you and you would like to re-visit those words, they would be delighted to send you a copy of their script. Please free to ask.

- **Malmesbury & District Foodbank**

Click on the **link** above for a pdf with more information on where you can drop off food in Cricklade, Ashton Keynes and Latton. Click on the **logo** for the Foodbank homepage.



May services

- **Sunday 3 May**

- St Sampson's
 - 8am Holy Communion
 - **10am Morning Worship** including baptism - *with the music group and children's activities*
 - 6.30pm Evensong
- Holy Cross
 - 10am Holy Communion

- St John the Baptist
 - 10am Morning Worship
- **Sunday 10 May**
 - 10am Worship Together at St Sampson's
- **Thursday 14 May - Ascension Day**
 - 8.45am Holy Communion at St Sampson's - *tea, coffee and biscuits at 8.30am*
- **Sunday 17 May**
 - St Sampson's
 - 8am Holy Communion followed by breakfast
 - 10am Morning Worship - Christian Aid service with Cricklade United Church
 - 6.30pm Evensong
 - Holy Cross
 - 10am Around the Table
 - 6pm Evensong
 - St John the Baptist
 - 10am Holy Communion
- **Sunday 24 May - Pentecost**
 - St Sampson's
 - 10am Upper Thames Holy Communion with prayers for healing
 - Holy Cross
 - 8.30am Holy Communion
- **Sunday 31 May**
 - 10am Worship Together at All Saints, Leigh

Morning Prayers

- **Monday Morning Prayers at 9am on Zoom - all welcome**

We are a small group who meet on Zoom for 40 minutes at 9am on Monday mornings to read, pray and socialise following a Wild Goose Wee Worship format. New members would be very welcome.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/77713838432?pwd=AzDJt5p8Rs3WxmbjI3sSFVEEMFpAuF.1>

Meeting ID: 777 1383 8432

Passcode: 1FLvt0

- **Thursday Morning Prayers in the Lady Chapel in St Sampson's**

Everyone is welcome and we'd love new people to join us. There are usually about 7 - 10 of us in number and we meet at 8.30am to enjoy coffee and the Iona Community's 'Wee Worship Book', and finish by 9.30am.

Church opening times

- **St Sampson's:** every day, 9am – 3pm
- **Holy Cross:** Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, 10am - 4pm
- **St John the Baptist Latton:** Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, 10am - 4pm

What3Words locations for our churches *(for use on the What3Words app)*

- St Sampson's: `unopposed.remotest.raft`
- Holy Cross (entrance to car park): `ideals.conga.flushes`
- St John the Baptist: `roadways.handwriting.trample`
- All Saints: `powers.party.zinc`
- Waterhay (Old Chancel): `leaky.refrained.marketing`

