

UPPER THAMES NEWS

17 July 2026

This week in Upper Thames News:

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- **Morning Prayers**

Sunday 19 July - Trinity 7

- **St Sampson's**
 - 8am Holy Communion
 - **11.30am** St Sampson's Day Global Mission Service *followed by BBQ*
- **Holy Cross**
 - 10am Around the Table
 - 6pm Evensong
- **St John the Baptist**
 - 10am Holy Communion
- **Readings for Holy Cross and St John the Baptist:**
 - Isaiah 44:6-8 OR Romans 8:12-25
 - Matthew 13:24-30,36-43
- **Readings for St Sampson's:**
 - 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Church Life

- **St Sampson's Day Global Mission Service and BBQ - Reminder**

A quick reminder that our annual St Sampson's Day BBQ will take place this Sunday, following the 11:30am Global Mission Service. Please do join us for one or both events. Everyone is welcome. There's no charge for the BBQ, but you are invited to bring along a salad if you can and ***it would be helpful if you could bring your own cutlery, crockery & glasses.*** At the service we will hear about the work of our chosen charities - Compassion UK, E3 and USPG - and there will be plenty of opportunity to make a donation. A collection will be taken during the service and anything put in the plate on the welcome table that is *not* in a St Sampson's gift aid envelope, as well as any donations left on the contactless machine, will all be divided between Compassion UK and E3. There will also be a donations plate for the charities at the BBQ. So do come along - to praise God and for fun, food and fellowship, all in a good cause.



- **Help us clear Waterhay Chancel!**

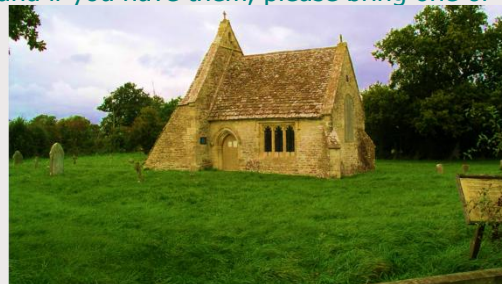
Hello everyone!

We're having our annual Chancel clear-up **THIS EVENING at 6:00pm**, and we'd really appreciate as many pairs of hands as possible.

The meadow will have been cut earlier in the day, so we just need help raking up the cuttings, tidying around the graves, and generally getting everything looking lovely for the **Chancel Church Services on Sunday 26th July**.

Up for helping? Then please come along, and if you have them, please bring one or all:

- Rake
- Garden fork/ pitch fork
- Strimmer
- Secateurs
- Garden shears



The annual cut is also an important part of looking after the wildflower meadow, helping it regenerate and continue to support local wildlife. As well as making the outdoor Chancel services lovely!

Bring a beer or your drink of choice for a well-earned sit down afterwards.

Meet us at the Chancel **6:00pm on Friday 17th July** – we'd be so grateful for any help you can give.

You can find the Chancel here if you haven't been before: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/6LiBpCSt12t7zib89>

Thank you!
George West

- **24 hours of prayer at St Sampson's Church, Cricklade, THIS WEEKEND**
Saturday 18 July at 11am until Sunday 19 July at 11am

Come and spend time with God through prayer activities for ourselves, family and friends, local community and the wider world. Please book a slot so we can cover the whole period in prayer. We are also promoting the event more widely in the local community so people can pop into church and pray during the daytime.

There are still lots of slots available and it's not too late to sign up NOW for one-hour slots (you can do as many as you like!). Note: the slots between 9pm and 8am will be in your own home. We really can recommend setting time aside to pray during the night as well as coming to the prayer room during the day – at night there are no distractions and more stillness for God to speak to you.



Sign up for a slot at <https://pray.24-7prayer.com/signup/4c1882>

Find out more from Matt and Sarah Smith, Laura Brierley and Hannah Dowson or by emailing admin@upperthames.org.uk.

- **Morning Prayers Monday 20 July on Zoom & Thursday 23 July in the Lady Chapel, St Sampson's - see end of newsletter for more details**

Concerts

- **Concert by Sister Sister TONIGHT 7pm at St Sampson's**

Tickets are now on sale for a Sister Sister concert at St Sampson's Church, Cricklade, on Friday 17 July at 7pm.

Sister Sister is a group of 4 local girls (including Paula from the Barista on the High Street in Cricklade). They will play a range of music including Reggae, pop, Motown and dance, with vocals and saxophones.

They have kindly offered to do the concert in aid of St Sampson's Church refurbishment appeal. The challenge is we haven't sold many tickets yet! Please come along - tickets are available on the door - and bring your friends. Let's make it a success!

Tickets from <https://www.ticketsource.com/st-sampsons/t-dkjljar> or Adina Grace.

It's really helpful if you can buy tickets in advance so we know numbers for the **prosecco and strawberries!**



Other Reminders

Filling Station Thursday 6 August

Dear Friends,

We have our next Filling Station session on Thursday 6 August 2026.

Please can we again, ask for your support in providing food for the hungry and the homeless in Swindon...

The following donations are requested:

- Sandwiches
- Individually wrapped biscuits
- Oranges & bananas
- Small bottles of water
- Small fruit juice cartons
- Crisps or other packets of savoury snacks

Please could these be delivered to: The Barn, 5 Abingdon Court Farm, on Thursday, 6/8/26 between 9 and 4pm. Refreshments and the company of friends from our church community will await you!

Please contact me on 07713 663821 or ruthdorothyevans@outlook.com

With sincere thanks, Ruth & Barbara 🙏

Foodbank

Malmesbury & District Foodbank Click on the [link](#) (left) 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.



July - August services

- **Sunday 26 July**

- Holy Cross
 - 8.30am Holy Communion
- Waterhay Old Chancel
 - 10am Holy Communion
 - 6.30pm Evening service

- **Sunday 2 August**

- St Sampson's
 - 8am Holy Communion
 - 6.30pm Evensong
- Ashton Keynes
 - 10am Upper Thames Worship Together

- **Sunday 9 August**

- St Sampson's
 - 10am Upper Thames Worship Together

- **Sunday 16 August**

- St Sampson's
 - 8am Holy Communion *followed by breakfast*
- St John the Baptist, Latton
 - 10am Upper Thames Worship Together

- **Sunday 23 August**

- Holy Cross
 - 8.30am Holy Communion
- All Saints, Leigh
 - 10am Upper Thames Worship Together

- **Sunday 30 August**

- St John the Baptist
 - 10am Upper Thames Worship Together

Morning Prayers



Monday Morning Prayers at 9am on Zoom - all welcome to join us

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`





St Sampson's, Cricklade
Holy Cross, Ashton Keynes
St John the Baptist, Latton
All Saints, Leigh

Parish Office, Jenner Hall, Bath Road, Cricklade, Wiltshire, SN6 6AX

Usual office opening hours:
9.30am - 12pm
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday

admin@upperthames.org.uk
website - www.upperthames.org.uk

