

UPPER THAMES NEWS

18 September 2026

This week in Upper Thames News:

- **Sunday 20 September - Trinity 16**
- **Church Life**
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 - **Holy Cross Harvest Lunch**
 - **St Sampson's Harvest Lunch**
 - **Reminder - Debbie's retirement service**
 - **St Sampson's Curry & Quiz Evening**
 - **Next week's Morning Prayers**
- **Singing events:**
 - **Angel Voices at Cricklade United Church**
 - **Handel's Messiah at St Mary's, Purton**
- **Foodbank**
- **September-October services**

Sunday 20 September - Trinity 16

- **St Sampson's**
 - 8am Holy Communion *followed by breakfast*
 - **11.30am** Harvest Morning Worship *followed by harvest lunch*
 - 6.30pm Evensong
 - **Holy Cross**
 - **11.30am** Harvest Morning Worship *followed by harvest lunch*
 - **3.30pm** Messy Church - Celebrating Harvest
 - 6pm Evensong
 - **St John the Baptist**
 - 10am Holy Communion
 - **Readings**
 - Jonah 3:10 & 4:1-end *OR* Philippians 1:21-end
 - Matthew 20:1-16
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Church Life

Alpha Course at Pattern Church

Pattern Church in Swindon are running an alpha course **starting on Wednesday 23 September**. Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that **explore the basics of the Christian faith**. Revd Jo Winson (until recently our curate) is leading the course and would love to welcome anyone from our congregations who would like to take part.

The sessions will take place on **Wednesdays for 11 weeks** and there are morning and evening sessions on offer. Each week there is food, a short video, and an opportunity to chat in a small group, where you can share your thoughts and questions.

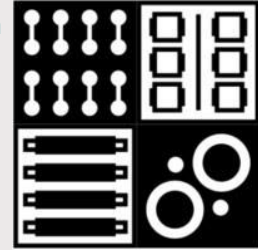
You are free to come along to one or two weeks to try it out with no commitment to the full 11 weeks.

If at any point you decide Alpha isn't for you, that's not a problem.

There's no pressure, no follow up and no charge.

Morning Alpha is at 11am with tea, coffee & pastries and we aim to finish by 12.15pm.

Evening Alpha starts at 7pm with a hot dinner and we finish by 9:15 pm latest.



For more information visit: patternchurch.org/alpha

Messy Church - Celebrating Harvest - **THIS SUNDAY 20 September**



Holy Cross Church
Ashton Keynes

Sunday Sept 20th 3.30pm – 4.30pm

Celebrating Harvest

Welcome, Wonder and Worship

messy with activities,
noisy with chatting and singing,
come and join us!



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Holy Cross Harvest Lunch

There is a simple harvest lunch after the service at Holy Cross AK to which anyone who'd like to come is welcome to join us. Tins or packets as harvest gifts are welcome too and will be given to our North Wiltshire Foodbank.



St Sampson's Harvest Lunch

Don't forget there will be a shared lunch following the Harvest service this Sunday, which starts at the later than normal time of **11:30am**. It's not too late to add you name to the list on the welcome table if you would like to come. *Where possible, please bring your own crockery and cutlery.* If you are also able to bring some food to share, that would be very welcome. If not, please do come along anyway. There is always plenty to go round and we would love to see you all there.

A reminder that Debbie's farewell and retirement service is taking place on Sunday 18 October, 3.30pm, at St Sampson's.

St Sampson's Curry & Quiz Evening

Please support our next Kavali fundraising event in aid of the Refurbishment Appeal. It's always a really fun evening with great food, quiz, raffle and company! ALL WELCOME



Morning Prayers

Monday 21 September *on Zoom* & Thursday 24 September in the Lady Chapel, St Sampson's - **more details below.**



Cricklade United Church,

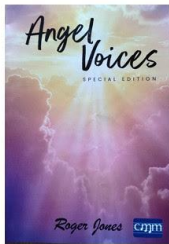
Saturday 3rd October 2026

Angel Voices

by Roger Jones

at Cricklade United Church

conducted by Annie Routley of Christian Music Ministry



Come and sing and enjoy a one day workshop.

Cost is £10 with lunch or £6 without lunch.

Timings - approx. 10.30 registration. The workshop will be followed by a performance open to the public starting at 6pm

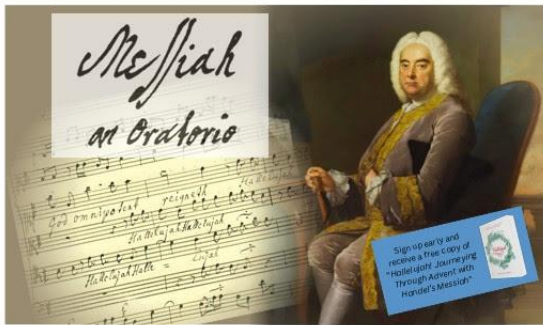
Contact: phillipa58@hotmail.com tel 01793 750556

Proceeds to Christian Music Ministries

Come and Sing Day

Come and Sing - excerpts of Handel's Messiah

Saturday 10th October 2026



Come and spend a day singing excerpts from the world's most performed oratorio, including all your favourite choruses! Enjoy a friendly, welcoming atmosphere and lots of fun. Lunch and refreshments will be provided.

£15 for the day, vocal scores available to rent.

Doors open at 10am; public workshop concert at 5:30pm.

Workshop concert free entry with retiring collection - all proceeds go to St Mary's Church, Purton

Tickets available here:



<https://rb.gy/ghxv06>

**FAITH
ALIVE**



St. Mary's Church
3 Church End, Purton
Swindon SN5 4EB



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.



September-October services

• Sunday 27 September - Trinity 17

- St Sampson's
 - 10am Holy Communion
- Holy Cross
 - 8.30am Holy Communion
- St John the Baptist
 - Morning Worship
- All Saints, Leigh
 - 5pm Harvest Service *followed by tea and cakes*

• Sunday 4 October - Trinity 18

- St Sampson's
 - 8am Holy Communion
 - 10am Morning Worship *with the music group and activities for primary school-aged children*
 - 6.30pm Evensong
- Holy Cross
 - 10am Holy Communion
- St John the Baptist
 - 10am Morning Worship

• Sunday 11 October - Trinity 19

- 10am Worship Together at St Sampson's
- 3.30pm Messy Church at Holy Cross

• Sunday 18 October - Trinity 20

- St Sampson's
 - 8am Holy Communion *followed by breakfast*
 - **NO 10am SERVICE**
 - **3.30pm Service of Thanksgiving and Farewell as Debbie retires**
- Holy Cross
 - 10am Around the Table Morning Worship
- St John the Baptist
 - 10am Holy Communion

- **Sunday 25 October - Trinity 21**

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