

News from the Upper Thames Churches



In this week's Upper Thames news:

1. **Upper Thames Worship on Sunday 15 September - Trinity 16**
2. **Growing in Prayer course continues on Sunday - 'Praying for Others'**
3. **No Evensong at St Sampson's this Sunday**
4. **St Sampson's Harvest Celebration service - 15 September at 11.30am**
5. **Alpha Course at Pattern Church**
6. **Reminders:**
 - **Ride & Stride 2024 - tomorrow Saturday 14 September**
 - **AK Messy Church re-launch Sunday 22 September 3.30pm in Holy Cross church - could you help us on the day?**
 - **St Sampson's Church Walk - EVERYONE WELCOME - Sunday 22 September 11.10am**
7. **September - October Services**
8. **Morning Prayers**

1. Upper Thames Worship this Sunday 15 September - Trinity 16

- St Sampson's:
 - 8am Holy Communion followed by breakfast
 - **11.30am** Harvest Celebration (Morning Worship) *where we will welcome Sue Dallyn to talk about the Filling Station and Hugh Thomas to talk about the Foodbank. With harvest-themed activities for children. Bring and share lunch afterwards. More info below.*
- Holy Cross:
 - 10am Morning Worship
 - 6pm Evensong
- St John the Baptist
 - 10am Holy Communion & Baptism
- Readings:
 - [Isaiah 50:4-9a](#) OR [James 3:1-12](#)
 - [Mark 8:27-end](#)

2. Growing in Prayer this Sunday - 'Praying for Others'

Do join us for the next session in our Growing in Prayer course where we will focus on

'Praying for Others', 4.30pm - 6pm at the Vicarage (14 Bath Road).

3. No Evensong at St Sampson's this Sunday

The next Evensong at St Sampson's will take place on Sunday 2 October.

4. St Sampson's Harvest Celebration service - this Sunday 15 September at 11.30am

St Sampson's will be celebrating Harvest this year on 15 September at 11.30am followed by lunch. There will be harvest-themed activities for children during the service.

Lunch

Bring some sandwiches and we will put them all on big plates – you can either eat yours or choose someone else's if they look nicer! We will provide biscuits, coffee and tea.

Harvest Donations

We would welcome donations in aid of the Filling Station and the Foodbank.



- **Foodbank:**

Especially UHT fruit juice, UHT milk, Rice (500g - 1kg bags), chocolate/sweets, jam/marmalade, savoury biscuits, tomato ketchup / brown sauce

- **Filling Station:**

TINS (preferably with ring pulls) soup, baked beans, spaghetti, fruit, rice pudding, meat, fish.

Financial donations are also gratefully received for both the Foodbank and Filling Station. Thank you as always for your generous support!

5. Alpha course at Pattern Church

Pattern church in West Swindon, located by the outlet centre, are running an Alpha course starting on Wednesday 25 September at 11am and 7pm. Alpha is an 11 week series exploring the basics of the Christian faith. Each week there is a meal, a video and an opportunity to discuss what you think. The course starts with a taster session so if you aren't sure, you can try it out. If transport is a problem, you'd like someone to go with our you'd just like more information then please contact Matt Smith (matthewsmith@talktalk.net).

6. Reminders

- **Ride & Stride 14 September**

This year's Ride & Stride event is taking place on Saturday 14 September. Find out all about it here:

[Home Page - Ride and Stride \(ridestride.org\)](http://ridestride.org). St Sampson's

and St John the Baptist churches are both taking part and **need volunteers to take part and volunteers to church sit**. Please consider helping out to raise much needed funds. For St Sampson's contact rob@r.crow.eclipse.co.uk and for St John's phil.winfield@btinternet.com.



• **AK Messy Church re-launch Sunday 22 September 3.30pm in Holy Cross church - could you help us on the day?**

We are planning a relaunch of AK Messy Church and are praying that God will provide the resources we need but the resources most needed are people to lend



a hand on the day. Each Messy Church is based around a story (ours is when Jesus comes to tea with Zacchaeus) and all ages together talk about the story and what it means while doing an activity.

Wherever you live or worship, if you could lend a hand, Shirley or Suzi would love to hear from you.

We need people to help with:-

- Making a cuppa for adults and squash for the children.
- Taking down names of those who come.
- Sitting around a table with children and adults showing them how to do an activity and talking about how they connect with the story. We'll show you how to do it and provide "one we've made earlier".
- Helping us clear up afterwards at 4.30pm.

And please could you help us by praying that God will provide all we need and that God will nudge families to come. Thankyou

• **St Sampson's Church Walk - Sunday 22 September 11.10am - all welcome!**

Click here for a comprehensive [route guide, photos and all details](#) (pdf)

7. September - October Services

• **22 September - Trinity 17**

- St Sampson's:
 - 10am Holy Communion
- Holy Cross:
 - 8.30am Holy Communion
 - 3.30pm Messy Church
- St John the Baptist:
 - 10am Morning Worship

• **29 September - Trinity 18**

- 10am Upper Thames Worship Together at Holy Cross

• **6 October - Trinity 19**

- St Sampson's:
 - 8am Holy Communion
 - 10am Morning Worship *with the music group*
 - 6.30pm Evensong
- Holy Cross:
 - 10am Holy Communion

- St John the Baptist
 - 10am Morning Worship
- **13 October - Trinity 20**
 - 10am Upper Thames Worship Together at St Sampson's
 - 4pm Holy Cross **Harvest Celebration**
- **20 October - Trinity 21**
 - St Sampson's:
 - 8am Holy Communion *followed by breakfast*
 - 10am Morning Worship
 - 6.30pm Evensong
 - Holy Cross:
 - 10am Morning Worship
 - 6pm Evensong
 - St John the Baptist:
 - Holy Communion
- **27 October - Last after Trinity**
 - St Sampson's:
 - 10am Holy Communion
 - Holy Cross:
 - Holy Communion
 - St John the Baptist:
 - 10am Morning Worship

8. Morning Prayers

- **Monday Morning Zoom Prayers, 9am**

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75828709813?pwd=D4Pv83hi2vmw82HAcnuUfvBhIov1o.1>

Meeting ID: 758 2870 9813

Passcode: E7FipY

- **Thursday Morning Prayers at 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; we meet at 8.30am to enjoy coffee and the Iona Community's 'Wee Worship Book', and finish by 9.30am. Everyone is most welcome.

