

# News from the Upper Thames Churches

## In this week's Upper Thames news:

1. Sunday 29 June - Trinity 2
2. Cricklade Open Gardens
3. Reminders: *this weekend*
  - Pray for Spree
  - Concert: "The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace" by Karl Jenkins at St Sampson's
  - 543 *part 2*
  - Help shape the future of the Diocese of Bristol
  - Talk by local author Carole Britton
  - Foodbank shopping list
4. July services
5. Morning Prayers - \*new Zoom link for Monday mornings
6. Church opening times

## 1. Sunday 29 June - Trinity 2

### • At Holy Cross:

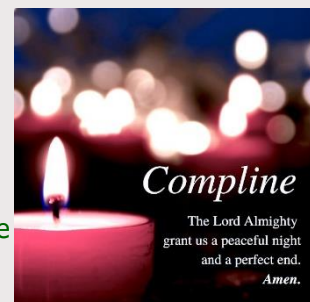
- **10am Worship Together with Communion** as we celebrate together, sing some well-known hymns, pray for the world and its needs and hear how our faith transforms our daily lives.

Reading:

- [John 3:1-16](#)

- **5pm Compline**

What better way to end a busy weekend (whether you've been to the AK Festival or not) than to be in the beauty and quiet of Holy Cross church to enjoy our service of Compline, or Night Prayer, the words of which are from the monastic tradition and have been spoken or sung over many centuries. With quiet and reflective words and music, including singing from the Siren Sisters, there's no better way to complete the 2025 AK village festival than "*The Lord almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end*".





## 2. Cricklade Open Gardens

Approximately 24 gardens will be open on **Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th, 1pm - 5pm**, in aid of Cricklade Open Door and the St Sampson's Church refurbishment. Programmes are available in advance from the Cricklade Town Council Offices (map of gardens in Town Council window), or in any of the gardens on the day.

Programmes will give one person access to all gardens and are £7.50 per person (children under 16 free).

Teas will be available at Alkerton House on the High Street and Hailstone Stables, Stones Lane.

## 3. Reminders:

### • THIS WEEKEND:

#### ○ Pray for Spree

*Prayers for Spree 2025*

27-29<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2025, EXETER SHOWGROUND

Spree SW is a Christian festival for 8-17 year olds. There will be accessible morning and evening talks, as well a whole host of fun activities including a funfair, rock climbing, sports and workshops. This year NWMA will be taking c. 17 young people from the mission area, and we are seeking your prayers for them.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

- Confidence for any young people who are still on the fence about coming on the trip
- Good weather
- Good health
- Safety
- Great friendships to develop on the leaders' team and among the young people
- Functioning and reliable equipment
- Great moods and great memories
- For our young people to encounter Jesus in a new way

*Thank you for praying!*

SPREE

NWMA YOUTH

**CONCERT: "The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace" by Karl Jenkins - Saturday**

### 28 June 5pm at St Sampson's

This Concert is in aid of the St Sampson's Church Appeal. Orchestral accompaniment of organ, trumpets, cello, flute, piccolo & percussion. Conducted by Mark Lee, Music Director of Bristol Cathedral.

Tickets £7 (including a glass of wine or a soft drink) - available on the door or on the TicketSource website (a 59p booking fee will apply on TicketSource).

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whats-on/cricklade/st-sampsons-church/concert-the-armed-man-a-mass-for-peace-by-karl-jenkins/e-ajkbyg>



#### • 543 part 2

Many of us participated in the short series of meetings called 543+1, (*called 543 because 5 people, meet for (4) 3 sessions*) and we are now offering 543 part 2 as a sequel. You don't have to have done 543+1, and everyone is invited to join a group if you would like to. Just three sessions (please come for all 3 sessions). We will be exploring:

- ~ what we cherish in our Christian lives
- ~ what we can't live without
- ~ how we nourish our Christian lives and how we can go deeper in that
- ~ how we might flourish by enabling our faith to spread further, thus having a greater impact in our lives in the world.

There are spaces in these current groups:  
Mondays 4pm June 30th and July 7th and 14th  
Wednesdays 7.30pm July 9th, 16th and 30th  
Tuesdays 7.30pm July 8th 15th and 29th

Do get in touch with Debbie or Shirley if you'd like to join one of the groups or sign up on the sheet in St Sampson's.

#### • Help shape the future of the Diocese of Bristol

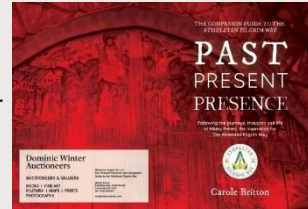
As you know, Bishop Viv will retire this September and we will need a new Bishop of Bristol. The Vacancy in See Committee is seeking views from across the diocese to help shape the future of our church and we are all invited to complete a short online survey and share our thoughts on the qualities and vision we need in our next bishop: [Public consultation on the appointment of our next Diocesan Bishop](#)

#### • Talk by Local Author

Carole Britton will be giving a talk at 6pm on Friday 18 July at St Sampson's on her new book **"Past, Present, Presence"**.

The book is the **companion Guide to the Athelstan Pilgrim Way**, the next section of which opens in September (more news on that in due course). This new

section includes Cricklade, Ashton Keynes, Latton and The Leigh and their churches. The book is a journey through the life, legacy and words of "part-time hermit" and former Didmarton resident **Hilary Peters**. Her contemplative life and writing inspired the vision of a local pilgrimage which could be experienced by all - and so began the creation of The Athelstan Pilgrim Way.



- **Foodbank Shopping List**

Please leave donations of food and toiletries in the box at the back of St Sampson's Church. Donations are collected on Monday mornings.

#### 4. July Services

- **Sunday 6 July - Trinity 3**

- St Sampson's
  - 8am Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion
  - 10am Morning Worship *with the music group*
  - 6.30pm Evensong
- Holy Cross:
  - 10am Holy Communion
- St John the Baptist
  - 10am Morning Worship

- **Sunday 13 July - Trinity 4**

- 10am Worship Together *at St Sampson's*

- **Sunday 20 July - Trinity 5**

- St Sampson's
  - 8am Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion
  - 11.30am Service for St Sampson's Day *followed by lunch*
  - 6.30pm Evensong
- Holy Cross
  - 10am Morning Worship
  - 6pm Evensong
- St John the Baptist
  - 10am Holy Communion

- **Sunday 27 July - Trinity 6**

- **Holy Cross**
  - 8.30am BCP Holy Communion
- **Upper Thames services at WATERHAY**
  - 10am Morning Service
  - 6.30pm Evening Service

#### 5. Morning Prayers

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

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 St Sampson's Lady Chapel**

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.

**6. Church opening times**

- St Sampson's: every day, 9.30am – 3.30pm
- Holy Cross: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, 10am - 4pm
- St John the Baptist Latton: Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, 10am - 4pm