

# UPPER THAMES NEWS

19 June 2026

This week in Upper Thames News:

- **Sunday 21 June - Trinity 3**
- **NEW**
  - **Concert by Sister Sister at St Sampson's on Friday 17 July**
  - **Wiltshire Living Churchyards and Cemeteries Project Annual Seminar 2026 (WLCCP) - Saturday 11 July**
- **Church Life Reminders**
  - Digging Deeper into John's Gospel continues on Monday 22nd
  - 24 hours of Prayer at St Sampson's 18-19 July
- **Concerts**
  - Sister Sister at St Sampson's on Friday 17 July
  - Siren Sisters at Holy Cross 26 June
  - Choral Concert at St Sampson's on 27 June
  - Ave Vocal Ensemble at St Sampson's Sunday 12 July
- **Foodbank Reminder**
- **June-July services**
- **Morning Prayers**

## Sunday 21 June - Trinity 3

- St Sampson's
  - 8am Holy Communion *followed by breakfast*
  - 10am Morning Worship *with the music group*
  - 6.30pm Evensong
- Holy Cross
  - 10am Around the Table
  - 6pm Evensong
- St John the Baptist
  - 10am Holy Communion
- Readings:
  - [Jeremiah 20:7-13](#) **OR** [Romans 6:1b-11](#)
  - [Matthew 10:24-39](#)

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## NEW

### Concert by Sister Sister on Friday 17 July at St Sampson's

See 'Concerts' section below for more details.

### Wiltshire Living Churchyards and Cemeteries Project Annual Seminar 2026 (WLCCP) - Sat 11 July

Invitation to the Annual Seminar:

*Dear Friend(s)*

*It is with great pleasure that I am sending you the programme for the 2026 Annual Seminar of the Wiltshire LCCP. This year, we are delighted to be hosted by St Margaret's church, Stratton St Margaret, Swindon; this project is a large one, with a massive, vibrant wildlife churchyard space and well worth a visit.*

*We have a great group of speakers for you this year - Mark Preece, an experienced beekeeper, who is sharing his expertise on how to attract bees to the churchyard, Chris Sperring M.B.E. from the Hawk and Owl Trust, to talk about these amazing birds, and Belinda Martin, Environment and Sustainability officer from the Bristol diocese, to give out our certificates and to talk about Ecochurch.*

*Refreshments and lunch are provided (please let us know if you have any dietary requirements) and I do hope that you can join us for what promises to be a very interesting day.*

*With very best wishes from Liz Cullen*

Contact email address: [lacj24@icloud.com](mailto:lacj24@icloud.com)

**Please click here for the programme for the day (pdf):** [Wiltshire LCCP Seminar Programme](#)

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## Church Life Reminders:

### Digging Deeper into John's Gospel continues on Monday 22nd at 10am



Meeting God in Jesus from John's Gospel. In the big room at The Vicarage Bath Rd, **10am**

**on 22 June and 10.30am on 20 June and 6 July.**

John's Gospel tells us about Jesus & our deepest selves.

We will explore these themes (more detail later):

1. **Desire – "What are you looking for?"**
2. **Home – "Where are you staying?"**
3. **Being disciples today - these 3; learning, praying, loving**

John's Gospel is so rich in content, we can only begin to scratch the surface, but it will be so worth it. Do come along and we can dig deeper together into some of the key passages of this rather different Gospel. We hope our digging together will be as the book on which our digging is based is described "a masterclass Bible study and a rich group experience", "An amazing journey into the heart of God".



*Do contact Shirley if you'd like to know more and let her know if you're planning to come.*

## **24 hours of prayer at St Sampson's Church, Cricklade**

- **Saturday 18 July at 11am until Sunday 19 July at 11am**

Talk and listen to God through prayer activities for ourselves, family and friends, local community and the wider world.

- A 24-7 prayer space
- Come and spend time with God
- Open to anyone
- Explore different prayer zones around the Church, using words, art, music, activities, silence and more to talk and listen to God.



You are invited to sign up for one hour slots (you can do as many as you like!) so we can cover the whole time in prayer. We also invite people to pop into church when they like. Note: the slots between 10pm and 7am will be in your own home.

- **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.

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## **Concerts**

- **Concert by Sister Sister on Friday 17 July at St Sampson's**  
Tickets now on sale for a Sister Sister concert at St Sampson's Church, Cricklade, on Friday 17 July at 7pm. See Concerts section for more details.

Sister Sister is a group of 4 local girls (including Paula from the Barista) playing a range of music including Reggae, pop, Motown and dance, with vocals and saxophones.

**All proceeds to St Sampson's Church refurbishment appeal.**

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



- **Siren Sisters on Friday 26 June at Holy Cross**

**AK ASHTON KEYNES FESTIVAL**

**“Sing & Tonic”**

*A harmonious musical evening  
at The Holy Cross Church*

**Siren Sisters**  
“united in voice”



We are delighted to be organising an Ashton Keynes Festival fundraising event, with all proceeds going to the Holy Cross Church, Ashton Keynes.

Come along and enjoy an evening of musical entertainment; songs performed by an all-female group, the Siren Sisters, accompanied by pianist, Richard Sutcliffe.

Doors Open at 7.00pm (starts 7.30pm) Friday June 26th, 2026, at the Holy Cross Church, Ashton Keynes, SN6 6QR.

A bar will be available, serving alcohol and soft drinks throughout the evening.

Tickets £5.00 per person.

Tickets can be purchased online at [www.ashtonkeynesfestival.net](http://www.ashtonkeynesfestival.net)  
Or at the Ashton Keynes Village Hall every Tuesday morning between 10am and 12.00 noon. Or ask any member of the Siren Sisters

[www.ashtonkeynesfestival.net](http://www.ashtonkeynesfestival.net)

- **Choral concert on Saturday 27 June 5pm at St Sampson's**

This concert comes at the end of our Come & Sing day. The singers will be

accompanied by organ, cello, flute and oboe.

Beautiful choral music with instrumental accompaniment in the atmospheric setting of St Sampson's Church

# Rutter's Requiem

Plus Fauré's Cantique de Jean Racine

*Directed by Mark Lee, Director of Music at Bristol Cathedral*

**27th June 2026 at 5pm**  
St Sampson's Church, Cricklade

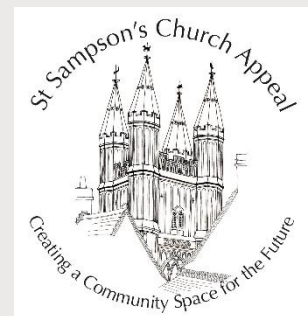
Tickets available on the door or by scanning the QR code

**£12** (to include a glass of wine/soft drink)

**Please join us to raise funds for the St Sampson's Church Appeal.**

Tickets can be bought on the door or in advance on the TicketSource website:

<https://www.ticketsource.com/whats-on/cricklade/st-sampsons-church/concert-requiem-john-rutter-plus-cantique-de-jean-racine-gabriel-faure/2026-06-27/17:00/t-aaaxyaj>



- **AVE Vocal Ensemble on Sunday 12 July at St Sampson's**

**AVE** Avebury Vocal ENSEMBLE

Conductor: Peter Tims  
Organist: Simon Dinsdale

## Summer at Sea

Stanford Songs of the Sea

plus music celebrating the sea and anniversaries of Wesley & Britten

Sunday  
12<sup>th</sup> July 2026  
7.00 pm

St. Sampson's Church  
Cricklade  
SN6 6AT

Tickets £12 on the door & online  
under 18s free

[www.aveburyvocal.org](http://www.aveburyvocal.org)

## Foodbank Reminder

**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.



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## June-July services

- **Sunday 28 June**
  - St Sampson's
    - 10am Holy Communion
  - Holy Cross
    - 8.30am Holy Communion
  - St John the Baptist
    - 10am Morning Worship
  
- **Sunday 5 July**
  - St Sampson's
    - 8am Holy Communion
    - 10am Morning Worship *with the music group and activities for primary aged children*
    - 6.30pm Evensong
  - Holy Cross
    - 10am Holy Communion
  - St John the Baptist
    - 10am Morning Worship
  
- **Sunday 12 July**
  - 10am Worship Together at St Sampson's
  
- **Sunday 19 July**
  - St Sampson's
    - 8am Holy Communion
    - 11.30 St Sampson's Day Morning Worship and Global Gift Day *followed by BBQ*
    - 6.30pm Evensong
  - Holy Cross
    - 10am Around the Table
    - 6pm Evensong
  - St John the Baptist
    - 10am Holy Communion

- **Sunday 26 July**
  - Waterhay Old Chancel
    - 10am Holy Communion
    - 6.30pm Evening service
  - Holy Cross
    - 8.30am Holy Communion

## 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

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## 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`





Upper  
Thames  
Churches

*Overflowing with God's Love*