

# News from the Upper Thames Churches



In this week's Upper Thames news on 11 April:

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## 1. Palm Sunday - 13 April

- **Upper Thames Worship Together** *in St Sampson's school hall*
- **Reading:**
  - [Luke 19:29-40](#)

## 2. Palm Sunday "Gift Day"

As well as celebrating Palm Sunday at our benefice Worship Together service, we are having a "Gift Day" for two charities we have agreed to support. You can visit their websites – [Compassion UK](#) and [E3](#). Laura Brierley is our rep for Compassion UK and Sarah Smith actually works for E3 so we have close connections there. Here is the latest [Compassion UK report \(PDF\)](#).

It is terribly easy to become insular, not least because many people are just not engaging with the news just now because it is so bleak! Our news is also very 'shouty' and skewed towards Western politics; all over the world there are needy places and situations of which we hear very little. However, there are good news stories, needs being met by faithful people giving generously to make things happen locally with those who have so little. This is one of our

chances to support those in need a long way away, recognising our own riches and sharing freely what God has given.

Do join us for this service and come prepared to give to the charities – whatever we collect will be shared 50-50.

*Debbie*

### 3. Reminders

- **Final Lent Talk Friday this evening, 11 April 7.30pm at St Sampson's school**

Our final talk will be by Lisa Potts. Lisa was awarded the George Medal after protecting her young pupils from a Machete attack - click here for a short video: [Lisa Potts News Report VT.mp4](#)



- **Concert by the Wessex Male Voice Choir in aid of the St Sampson's Church Fund - Saturday 26 April**

**St Sampson's Church**  
**FUNDRAISING CONCERT**  
**Saturday 26th April 2025 at 7.30pm**

**THE WESSEX** An award winning male choir,  
singing from a wide repertoire drawn from  
pop, folk, musicals and sacred songs.

**St Sampson's Church, Bath Road**  
**Cricklade, Wiltshire SN6 6AX**

Tickets £15.00 (u-16 £7.50) from [TheWessex.org.uk/tickets](http://TheWessex.org.uk/tickets)  
or Helen Dixon on 01793 759123 [helendixonmail@gmail.com](mailto:helendixonmail@gmail.com)  
or Adina Grace on 01793 380583 [janda.grace447@outlook.com](mailto:janda.grace447@outlook.com)

- **Messy Church - Sunday 27 April**

If you can lend a hand with serving refreshments or on activities tables please speak to Shirley in person or on 07980 548844.



- **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. April Services**

**St Sampson's services are back in the church from Good Friday (18 April) onwards**

- **Friday 18 April - Good Friday**

- 2pm-3pm Final Hour service

- **Sunday 20 April - Easter Day**

- St Sampson's:
  - 8am Holy Communion (*no breakfast*)
  - 10am Holy Communion
  - 6.30pm Evensong
- Holy Cross:
  - 10am Easter service
  - 6pm Evensong *at Harbert's Cottage*

- St John the Baptist:
  - 11.15am Holy Communion
- All Saints, Leigh
  - 11.30am Holy Communion

• **Sunday 27 April - Easter 2**

- St Sampson's:
  - 10am Holy Communion
- Holy Cross:
  - 8am Holy Communion
  - 3.30pm Messy Church
- St John the Baptist:
  - 10am Morning Worship

**5. Morning Prayers**

• **Monday Morning Zoom Prayers, 9am - 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/79134196612?pwd=0b8fDtH3jho0hwJfaSmdU3cAqCHHhU.1>

Meeting ID: 791 3419 6612

Passcode: xG0QAI

• **Thursday Morning Prayers at St Sampson's**

We are back in the church from next Thursday 10 April. 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.

**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