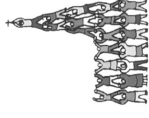


**SERVICES TODAY, Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, Sunday before Advent**

Highworth 8.00am Holy Communion BCP, Geoff Sowden/Jean Ashton  
 10.00am Parish Communion, Geoff Sowden/Jean Ashton  
 (Children's Groups meet today)  
 6.00pm Informal Worship, tba  
 10.30am Morning Worship, Charles Kirke  
 Blunsdon 8.00am Holy Communion BCP, Rev Dr Richard Armitage  
 10.00am Family Worship & baptism, John Rees/Jane Ockwell/Katherine Dack

**SERVICES NEXT WEEK, Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November, Advent Sunday**

Highworth 8.00am Holy Communion CW, John Rees/Phil Bradley  
 10.00am Morning Worship, Geoff Sowden/Phil Bradley/Rob Stewart  
 (Children's Groups meet today)  
 4.00pm Christingle Service, Geoff Sowden/Arthur Woo  
 Blunsdon 10.00am Family Worship, John Rees/Arthur Woo



The Social Committee will be holding their

**CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING**

in the Church Room on 6<sup>th</sup> December, 10am-12.00.  
 Drinks plus hot sausage rolls or mince pies, raffle, cake stall (including Christmas puddings and home made chutney) and a gift stall. Offers of cakes and gifts to Rosie or Lesley P. We look forward to seeing you there.



**CAN YOU HELP US HELP CHRISTIAN AID?**

A collection to support the work of Christian Aid will be made at Tesco's supermarket, Ocotall Way, Swindon on Saturday, 6/12/08 from 09.00 to 17.00. If you can spare an hour or two on that day please contact us or Helen Thomas. Alternatively please support the collection when you do your shopping.

Thank-you. **Tricia & Peter Croton**

**WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK**

Mon 24<sup>th</sup> 9.30am Prayers in church  
 10.00am Ministry Team Meeting, Church Office  
 9.30am & 1.00pm Watercolour Group in Church Room  
 7.00pm HCS rehearsal in church  
 Tue 25<sup>th</sup> 9.30am Pilates, Church Room  
 2.00pm Magazine Working Party, Cullerne Room  
 7.45pm ICC, Methodist Church  
 8.00pm Tuesday 1 Fellowship, 5 The Willows (contact Allan)  
 Wed 26<sup>th</sup> 9.30am Music Bugs, Church Room  
 9.30am Little Fishes, Cullerne Room/chancel  
 7.00pm Pilates, Church Room  
 8.00pm Baptism Preparation, Vicarage  
 Thu 27<sup>th</sup> 10.00am Holy Communion, Warneford Chapel in Church, with MU  
 10.40am Mothers' Union, Church Room  
 12.00noon Thanksgiving for Carole Gesman in church  
 7.00pm Network course, Church Room (see below)  
 7.30pm Bellingring Practice, Bell Tower  
 Fri 28<sup>th</sup> 7.00pm Choir Practice  
 7.00pm Yofs in Church Room  
 Sat 29<sup>th</sup> 10.00am Coffee Morning and bulletin folding, Church Room  
 3.30pm Church Room booked for private hire till 5.00pm

**Interested in a daytime homegroup?**

Two new groups meeting for bible study, fellowship and prayer are starting:

- Just started Monday mornings 10am-12noon, a group with a play area for children. Venue varies. Please contact **Bella Fasham**

- Starting in the new year with day and venue to be agreed. Please contact **Lynn Woo.**

**MOTHERS' UNION**

MU meets on Thursday, starting with Holy Communion in Church at 10.00am. After the service, we will go to the Church Room for coffee, and to hear our speaker, Mary Kent. Her talk is entitled Ladies of the Bible, illustrated with a flower arrangement. Everyone is welcome.

**Changes to St Michael's 10.00am Sunday Morning Children's Clubs**

There is now a new structure for Sunday Children's Clubs. This is for a trial period until Christmas, and has been brought about due to the lack of children's leaders. Current rotas will continue until Christmas, with the Busy Bees rota operating for Discoverers and the Explorers one for Explorers. During the 10.00am service the following groups will run: **Busy Bees** 0-3yrs - this will simply be a crèche in the South Transept (to the right of the church at the front). In this area parents remain fully responsible for their own children. **Discoverers** 3-6yrs (pre-school to end of Yr 1) - meet in the Church Room - please leave church with leaders through the main South door (by the font). **Explorers** 6-10 yrs (Yr 2 - Yr 6) - meet in the Cullerne Room, please leave church through the door at the front by the organ.

**We request please that traffic through the Cullerne Room be kept to a minimum during Sunday Club times, as the older children now meeting there have prayer and discussion times. We appreciate that the route to the toilets is through the Cullerne Room - if possible please use the Chancel door to keep interruptions minimal.**

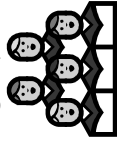
### YOBZ AND BIG BREKKY NOOZI

Just to remind all young people in years 6 up that big brekky is on EVERY week at 9am in the bridge whatever the service in Church so come along and have great grub, fun, worship and games in a great environment. It is free as we put in a contribution from the youth budget but donations are welcome if you want! On the first Sunday of the month we do it a bit differently as we meet in the Church Room to share breakfast and fellowship and make friends with our wider church family.

Following the Big Brekky, Yobz will be in Church for the All Age Service on the first Sunday of the month and for the Communion Service on the second Sunday. For the remaining Sundays they will stay in The Bridge for study/worship.

### THE CHORAL SOCIETY CHRISTMAS

**CONCERT** will be held in St Michael's Church on **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December** at 7.30pm. The programme includes works by John Rutter and JS Bach as well as carols for choir and audience. Tickets £7 (children free) from Lighthouse Bookshop, or on the door. Please support your local choral group! **Anne Hinton**



### PRAYING FOR THE BENEFICE

This week we pray for those living in Grove Hill, Grove Orchard, Hanover House, Henley Drive, Home Farm, for those who live in Hannington village, and for all who live or work at Grove Hill Nursing Home

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...

*...all those who are sick or troubled, praying especially for*  
Yvonne Beck, Lorna Bowie, Bob Bromberg, Beryl and Eric Brown, Esmé Buller, Leonard Cheesley, Val Cox, Andrew Crowley,  
Arthur Francis, Peter Gibbs, Syd Huband, Peggy King, Netta Porter, Fred Rockall, Mick Sellar, Betty Taber  
*...those who are recently bereaved,*

### PRAYER

You are the king of glory, O Christ,  
You are the everlasting Son of the Father  
May your kingdom come in us on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Come, Lord, rule in our hearts.  
Come, Lord, rule in our homes.  
Come, Lord, rule in our lives.  
Come, Lord, transform your people, rule in our hearts and claim us as part of your kingdom  
**Amen**

### **Parish of Highworth, with Sevenhampton & Inglesham - who to contact**

All Ministry Enquiries - Rev Geoff Sowden (day off Friday) telephone 01793-765554

Church Office (Administration/General Enquiries) - tel 01793-762702 or

email to [stmichaelshighworth@offices.orangehome.co.uk](mailto:stmichaelshighworth@offices.orangehome.co.uk)

Youth Ministry Enquiries - telephone 07983-507349 (day off Saturday)

[www.stmichaelshighworth.co.uk](http://www.stmichaelshighworth.co.uk)



### **Week beginning Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2008**

**"Together in the Church, God's people"**

**Ephesians 1:15-23**

Paul repeatedly emphasises that God's amazing plan is ultimately to bring everything in the universe - and by implication everyone - together under the headship of Christ. We, the people of God in this place at this time, are all part of that plan: the way we lead our lives is part of that fulfilment. God calls each of us to share in his plan by consciously placing everything in our lives into his control. By doing that we open our hearts as well as our minds to his power working in us and through us.

From his prison cell in Rome Paul writes of his persistent prayer for the people of God, the Church. He prays for

- \* The spirit of wisdom - the heightening of our faculties so that we may think more clearly and deeply - and revelation so that we can have a fuller relationship with God.
  - \* the Church to have a new realisation of the power of God - "the working of his mighty strength" - shown through the resurrection of Christ from the dead and his ascension into heaven.
  - \* the Church to have assurance of the Christian message of hope that when Christ comes again all will be well.
  - \* the Church's understanding that nothing and no-one is superior to our Lord and wonderful Saviour, Jesus Christ, for he is our Head.
- With the power of his Holy Spirit working through us we are to be the Body of Christ, working together to put our faith into loving action to others.

**Jean Ashton**

### **Our readings today are**

Matthew 25:31-46 (pew bible p995)

Ephesians 1:15-23 (pew bible p1173)

Please join us for refreshments after the 10am service today

If you prefer not to take alcohol, alcohol-free wine is available at our communion services - please take a pink card from a steward and ensure it is visible as you come for communion