

DISCOVER YOUR GIFTS

Do you know what spiritual gift God has given you? The Network course will be running two parallel streams this autumn, both in St Michael's Chancel, the evening one has started but there is still time to register for the daytime on which will run 12:30pm-2:30pm on **Tuesdays October 6th and 20th and November 3rd**.

Contact Arthur or Lynn Woo or Rosie Castle to register.

St Michael's finances

If you have read the latest magazine you will see that a report was given at the PCC meeting that the Bristol diocese budget has an expected deficit of £24k. Here at St Michaels we also have forecast a loss and ours is expected to be about £4000. Obviously, in these difficult economic times we all looking at what we spend and what we are able to give. But we should also be looking at the good gifts we have been given by God and how to use them to his glory. **Ann Crowley**



Week beginning Sunday 27th September 2009

WHO IS MY NEIGHBOUR?

At our 10.00am service we welcome Richard Belsham Project Manager of the Swindon Food Bank who has chosen the parable of the Good Samaritan for our bible reading.

I wonder how this would be reported in the media to-day

Have a go Hero, Foreigner helps complete stranger

Earlier today a man travelling to Jericho was robbed and seriously injured; Police are trying to trace two men thought to be a Priest and a Lawyer who are known to have been on the road about the time of the incident but did not stop to give assistance. Mr X was assisted at the site of the robbery by Mr Samaritan, a stranger to this country, who gave first-aid and helped him to a nearby Inn where they contacted the police. Mr X, who had no medical insurance, is now recovering in a private hospital at the expense of Mr Samaritan.

Mr X said 'I thought I was going to die, when those other men just looked at me and walked on. I really didn't expect this chap to stop, I mean if a Priest didn't help you, you wouldn't expect a Foreigner to! - certainly not one from there'.

While both the Police and the Paramedics praised Mr Samaritan for his actions they pointed out that you can never be too careful and may well endanger yourself and others by acting in this way.

The parable of the Good Samaritan was told by Jesus in answer to the question 'Who is my neighbour'. It's easy to love your neighbour in a town like Highworth where with very few exceptions everybody is law abiding and community spirited. But how do we do with strangers? Do we offer help to the homeless, those who we suspect of drug or drink abuse, or do we just expect the Government, the Council or perhaps the Church to do it for us. Do we give willingly to support charities working to help these people, are we willing to go without something in order to help or do we just give as little as possible so we can be seen to have given?

Lesley Page

Our readings today are

8am Hebrews 1: 1-4, 2. 5-12 (pew bible p1201) Mark 10: 2-16 (pew bible p1014)
10am Luke 10:25-37 (pew bible page 1042)

Please join us for refreshments after our services 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

PRAYING FOR THE BENEFICE

This week we pray for those who live in

The Archers, Arran Way, Barra Close, Beech Grove, Biddell Springs,
and for all who work on the Blackworth Industrial Estate

PRAYER

Eternal God

You crown the year with your goodness and you give to us the fruits of the earth in their season:

Grant that we may use them to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own wellbeing

Place within us a reverence for all that you give us,

And make us generous and wise stewards of all the good things we enjoy

Through Jesus Christ,

Amen

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER...

...all those who are sick or troubled, praying especially for

Lorna Bowie, Val Cox, Andrew Crowley, Gwen Drew, Hilary Fortnam, Kim Fulgoni, Joan Furlonger, Peter Gibbs, Syd Huband, Janet Livall, Keith Lodwick, Carole Richmond, Julia Riggs, Betty Taber

...all those who are recently bereaved, praying especially for those who love and miss

Joyce Corrigan, Rose Giles, John Manners, Monica Marshall, Joyce Ryder

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) - Rosie Castle, tel 01793-762702 or email to stmichaelshighworth@offices.orangehome.co.uk

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

www.stmichaelshighworth.co.uk

SERVICES TODAY, Sunday 4th October 2009, Trinity 17

Highworth	8.00am	Holy Communion CW, Allan Bucknall
	9.00am	Parish Breakfast, Church Room - all are welcome
	10.00am	Family Harvest Worship, Lesley Page/Richard Belsham
	2.30pm	BCP & T, Holy Communion and tea, Geoff Sowden/Esmé Buller
	4.30pm	All Age Harvest Communion, Geoff Sowden/Bella Fasham
	7.00pm	Informal Worship, Arthur Woo
Sevenhampton	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP, Arthur Woo
Hannington	10.30am	Holy Communion CW, Arthur Woo
Blunsdon	10.00am	Holy Communion, John Rees/Kathryn Dack

SERVICES NEXT WEEK, Sunday 11th October 2009, Trinity 18

Highworth	8.00am	Holy Communion BCP, Arthur Woo/Alan & Pauline Ashmore
	10.00am	Family Communion, Arthur Woo/Alan and Pauline Ashmore
	4.00pm	T-Time Service, Katie James/Alan and Pauline Ashmore
	7.00pm	Informal Worship, Arthur Woo
Hannington	6.00pm	Harvest Worship, Geoff Sowden
Blunsdon	8.00am	Holy Communion BCP, Rev Dr Richard Armitage
	10.00am	Family Worship, Jane Ockwell
	6.30pm	Evensong, Kathryn Dack
Grove Hill	7.30pm	Evening Service, Helen Weaver

**COMMUNION
IN THE LIGHT OF SWINE FLU**

While swine flu remains in our community wine will be distributed in the bread/wafer placed into the recipient's hands. I am sure everyone will understand the reasons for the adoption of this practice.

Geoff

HOLY COMMUNION BCP+T

The service of BCP+T this afternoon, Sunday 4th October, will be Holy Communion (BCP). Please note that the service will start at 2.30pm.

Offers of help with food, serving or transport will be gratefully received by Esmé Buller.

TODAY we welcome members of the Scout & Guide movements to our Harvest Services.

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Mon 5 th	9.30am	Prayer time in church - all are welcome
	9.30am	Watercolour Group in the Church Room until 3.00pm
	10.00am	Ministry Team Meeting, Church Office
Tue 6 th	9.30am	Pilates in the Church Room
	10.00am	Tuesday Morning Fellowship, 40 Bydemill Gdns (Lynn)
	12.30pm	Network Course in the Chancel till 2.30pm
	8.00pm	ICC Prayers at The Bridge led by HCC
Wed 7 th	9.30am	Music Bugs in the Church Room
	9.30am	Little Fishes in the chancel and Cullerne Room
	10.00am	Holy Communion, St Leonard's Blunsdon
	7.00pm	Pilates in the Church Room
	8.00pm	Wednesday Fellowship, 26 Priory Green (Wendy)
Thu 8 th	10.00am	'One Only' in the Church Room
	11.15am	Eastrop Harvest in Church
	7.30pm	Bellringing practice, Bell Tower
Fri 9 th	7.00pm	Choir Practice
	7.30pm	Autumn Entertainment with 'Encore' at St Michael's Hall
Sat 10 th	10.00am	Coffee Morning and bulletin folding, Church Room
Sun 11 th	12.30pm	'Lent' Lunch for Burkina Faso in the Church Room

PARISH BREAKFAST - will be served today, between the 8am and 10am services, in the Church Room. All are welcome!

NEXT SUNDAY 11th October Pauline and Alan Ashmore will be with us at all our services.

There will be a dedicated collection for flood relief in Burkina Faso at all services, and there will be specific GiftAid envelopes available.

There will also be a '**LENT**' LUNCH in aid of Burkina Faso flood relief in the Church Room at 12.30pm on the same day.

Rosie Castle

ST MICHAEL'S HARVEST SERVICES

At our 10.00am service today we welcome Richard Belsham, Project Manager of SWINDON FOOD BANK and his wife Sandra. This Christian charity serves the people of Swindon at a time when their lives are in crisis. Over the past few years we have supported many third world charities and missionary out reach but at this time of financial difficulties so near to home it is good to reach out to our neighbours in the Swindon area. During the service there will be an opportunity to bring your gifts up, if you would prefer to remain seated please put your gifts in the Shopping Trolleys at the cross aisle.

Everybody is feeling the 'pinch' but one or two extra purchase by you will mean a lot to a family with nothing. There is also a need for financial support and there are Gift Aid forms available in Church and a retiring collection will be taken for the work of the Swindon Food Bank. Please pick up a leaflet or log on to www.swindonfoodbank.co.uk which will also show you many other ways in which you can help.

Lesley Page

THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE INVITES YOU TO

AN AUTUMN ENTERTAINMENT

AT ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH HALL
FRIDAY 9TH OCTOBER 2009 FROM 7.30PM
TICKETS £6.00

**COLD BUFFET SUPPER
MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT by 'ENCORE'
RAFFLE**

Paté, cheese and assorted breads with
homemade chutney, salads, nibbles
Fruit Punch (bring your own wine), Tea/Coffee
and Petit-fours/mints
Tickets from Rosie in the office or Julia Bishop

Bulletin copy (including inserts/flyers if required) to Lesley Uzzell by 6pm Thursdays: tel. 765050, email weeklybulletin@stmichaelshighworth.co.uk