

Contacts

(01380 unless stated)

Rector	Vacant		
Curate	Gerry Lynch LLM		
Parish Administrator	Catherine Brown		724389
Licensed Lay Ministers	Chris Cox		728716
Churchwardens	Peter Crofts		725740
	Jane Scorer		720168
	Bob Simpson		725728
Hon. Treasurer	Becky Edgington		722680
PCC Secretary	Liz Overthrow		722404
Electoral Roll Officer	Catherine Brown		724389
Organist	Chris Totney	01672	562886
Bell Ringers	St John's: Liz Merritt		726767
	St Mary's: Barry Osborn		725389
Flower Guild	Heather Blyth		724347
Parish Magazine Distribution	Peter Crofts		725740
Parish Magazine Editor	Catherine Brown		724389
Mothers' Union	Juliet Bazeley		829610
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Representatives on Churches Together in Devizes			
David Evans			721527
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Devizes St John & St Mary

PARISH MAGAZINE



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If you would like to read this magazine electronically, please go to this page on our website:

<http://www.stjohnwithstmary.org.uk/about-us/church-life/overview-of-church-life>

and follow the link.

Bible readings for January

1	Num. 6.22-end Gal.4.4-7 Luke 2.15-21	16	Heb. 4.12-end Mark 2.13-17
2	1 John 2.22-28 John 1.19-28	17	1 Sam. 3.1-10 Rev. 5.1-10 John 1.43-end
3	Jer. 31.7-14 Eph. 1.3-14 John 1.1-9, 10-18	18	Heb. 5.1-10 Mark 2.18-22
4	1 John 3.7-10 John 1.35-42	19	Heb. 6.10-end Mark 2.23-end
5	1 John 3.11-21 John 1.43-end	20	Heb. 7.1-3, 15-17 Mark 3.1-6
6	Isa. 60.1-6, Eph. 3.1-12 Matt. 2.1-12	21	Heb. 7.25-8.6 Mark 3.7-12
7	1 John 3.22-4.6 Matt. 4.12-17, 23-end	22	Heb. 8.6-end Mark 3.13-19
8	1 John 4.7-10 Mark 6.34-44	23	Heb. 9.2-3,11-14 Mark 3.20-21
9	1 John 4.11-18 Mark 6.45-52	24	Gen. 14.17-20 Rev. 19.6-10 John 2.1-11
10	Gen. 1.1-5 Acts 19.1-7 Mark 1.4-11	25	Jer. 1.4-10 Acts 9.1-22 Matt. 19.27-end
11	Heb. 1.1-6 Mark 1.14-20	26	Heb. 10.1-10 Mark 3.31-end
12	Heb. 2.5-12 Mark 1.21-28	27	Heb. 10.11-18 Mark 4.1-20
13	Heb. 2.14-end Mark 1.29-39	28	Heb. 10.19-25 Mark 4.21.25
14	Heb. 3.7-14 Mark 1.40-end	29	Heb. 10.32-end Mark 4.26-34
15	Heb. 4.1-5, 11 Mark 2.1-12	30	Heb. 11.1-2,9-19 Mark 4.35-end
		19	31 Duet. 18.15-20 Rev. 12.1-5a Mark 1.21-28

Psalms for January

1	8
2	98.1-4
3	147.13-21
4	98.1,8-end
5	100
6	72.1-9, 10-15
7	2.7-end
8	72.1-8
9	72.1, 10-13
10	29
11	97.1-2,6-10
12	8
13	105.1-9
14	95.1, 8-end
15	78.3-8
16	19.7-end
17	139.1-5, 12-18
18	110.1-4
19	111
20	110.1-4
21	40.7-10, 17-end
22	85.7-end
23	47.1-8
24	128
25	67
26	40.1-4, 7-10
27	110.1-4
28	24.1-6
29	37.3-6, 40-end
30	Luke 1.69-73
31	111

PCC Membership as at APCM—25th October 2020

Clergy: Gerry Lynch

Churchwardens

Jane Scorer (Lay Vice Chair)

Bob Simpson

Peter Crofts

Deanery Synod

Catherine Brown

David Evans

Peter Crofts

Members

Judy Bridger

Becky Edgington (Treas.)

Richard Evans (Churchwarden Emeritus)

Alan Martin (H & S)

Liz Overthrow (Sec.)

Karen Pugh

Stephanie Williams

Co-opted

Chris Cox (L.L.M.)

Why was Jesus Baptised?

January is the month of Epiphany – that is, revelation, the unveiling of something that had been hidden. Epiphanies can occur at any time: unforeseen, but life-changing and world-changing. Living in faith means being open to those surprises. So a religion of epiphany is the opposite of one where we think we know it all already.

The revelation of Jesus Christ is really his whole life and death and resurrection; it is his continuing beauty and challenge in the world and the Church. But celebration of his epiphany has traditionally been focussed on three stories from the gospels, recalled each year after Christmas in the season of Epiphany.

These three are the journey and worship of the wise men at Bethlehem (from St Matthew's Gospel); the baptism of Jesus at the river Jordan (Matthew, Mark and Luke); and transformation of water into wine at Cana (St John's Gospel). In the western Church there has tended to be a focus on the Bethlehem story, which has inspired many enticing legends and lavish pictures. But the second event at the Jordan is actually much more significant, as well as being indisputably historical.

Jesus' baptism by John caused some embarrassment to the early Church. Their Lord was proclaimed as the sinless one, indeed the one who takes away sin. So what was he doing undergoing 'a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins'? Presumably because of this embarrassment, John's Gospel omits the baptism altogether, while Matthew adds an obscure dialogue between Jesus and John trying to make sense of Jesus' submission. Mark's account – which we hear in church this year on the Feast of Christ's Baptism (10 January) – is the starkest:

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptised by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven: 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

This seems a very secret epiphany. Here's this great fervent mass of people by the river, seeking purification and new life at the hands of the wild desert prophet. John had fiercely warned people to flee from divine wrath and warned too of a more powerful prophet, who will baptise not just with water but with Spirit and fire.

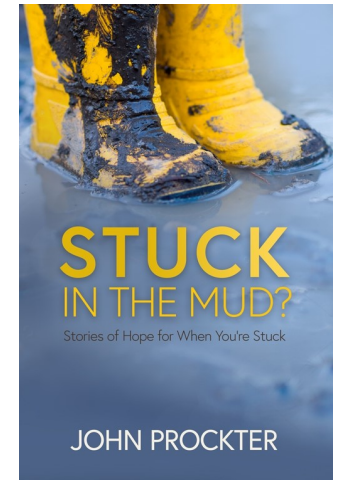


Book Review

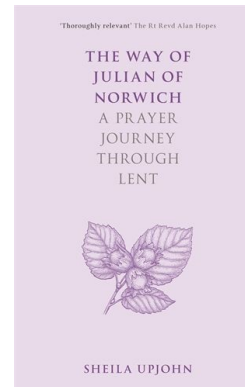
Stuck in the Mud – Stories of Hope when You're Stuck By John Prockter, Monarch, £8.99

Framed around 12 real-life sticking points in John Prockter's life, this book offers us hope in a faithful God and a pathway through difficult times. John encourages us to engage with Scripture in a new and inspiring way, allowing Jesus to bring the freedom we all need to live our lives authentically.

It may be a helpful guide for those struggling with the ups and downs of discipleship.



The Way of Julian of Norwich – a Prayer Journey through Lent By Sheila Upjohn, SPCK, £7.99



Sheila Upjohn explores the 'Revelations of Divine Love' alongside passages from Scripture. She reveals how Julian's fresh perspectives on sin and judgement, anger and forgiveness, the Incarnation and the crucifixion can challenge and enlighten us, six hundred years later, in a world so badly in need of the assurance of God's unconditional love.

This inspirational book by Sheila Upjohn serves as a guide to Julian of Norwich that will deepen the reader's prayer life during Lent and throughout the year.

Upjohn transports the reader back to the middle ages in this book about 'Revelations of Divine Love' and Julian of Norwich to give a deeper understanding of Julian who was so often perceived as an outsider.

A Scientist's Letter to the UK Church: Power, love and self-control

I want to share a message of hope that Christians in the sciences around the world can bring to the church. Dr Francis Collins, who leads medical research in the US, spoke earlier in the pandemic about his faith and his hope in God to help us through this time. He expressed the grief that so many are experiencing, described an intensity of scientific work he has never experienced before, and shared his conviction that he is in exactly the right place just now - serving God with science. He is holding on tight to the words of Paul in 2 Timothy 1:7, 'for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.'

Power

In 2 Timothy the apostle Paul encourages his friend to 'fan into flame the gift of God' that is in him. I am thankful that scientists like Francis are using their own particular talents to understand this virus, and to help prevent or treat infection. The things they discover are not just useful, but at times they can also display the beauty and wonder of God's creation.

Love

A scientist shows their love for God, for people and for the rest of creation through their work in the lab. One scientist described his experiences to me: "I study God's fingerprints in His creation to learn more of Him and the world He placed us in and to learn how we should take care of it and each other...I pray for inspiration and insight into how His creation works...and that He provides the opportunities to give the glory to Him."

Self-Control

It is largely our own and others' selfish actions that can turn one animal's friendly virus into our own species' personal nightmare. Thankfully Jesus' suffering, death and resurrection are the solution to evil. Our ultimate and certain hope is that one day all Creation will be renewed. We can also have hope for today, that God is with us in our suffering. When we respond in positive ways to painful events, that is evidence that Jesus is alive and working in our lives.

Science will not solve all our problems, but with God's help and wisdom we can use the tools of science to serve him and love others. Let's pray together for the strength to cope, and for an end to this pandemic.

by Dr Ruth M Bancewicz, who is Church Engagement Director at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge.

And, incognito in that mass of people, here is the one that John had announced. The carpenter's son from Galilee simply joins the queue of penitents. He is immersed in the crowd – and then, with the others, immersed in the water.

The Father is 'well pleased', not in spite of Jesus' joining in the rite of repentance, but precisely because the Son of God is immersed in the mass of people; immersed in the sinfulness of the world; immersed in the water of new birth. He is not above us or beyond us, but with us, in our flesh and in our world.

In which case, this heavenly voice, this epiphany, cannot be for Jesus alone. It ripples through the crowd. So that in our mass of humanity, in our own sin, in our baptism in his name, in our commitment to right living and in our hope for the world, we can rejoice that we too are sons and daughters of the holy God. Members of the Body of the Son, fed by his life, adopted as God's children – and alert to new surprises, to more epiphanies.

Christopher Burdon



Services in January - correct at time of printing maybe subject to cancellation due to COVID 19 restrictions

All services are at St John's, Long Street

Sunday 3rd January – Second Sunday of Christmas

10.30am Parish Communion

Monday 4th January - 5.00pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday 6th January - 8.30am Morning Prayer

Sunday 10th January – The Baptism of Christ

10.30am Parish Communion

Monday 11th January—5.00pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday 13th January - 8.30am Morning Prayer

Sunday 17th January – The Second Sunday after Epiphany

10.30am Parish Communion

Monday 18th January—5.00pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday 20th January— 8.30am Morning Prayer

Sunday 24th January – The Third Sunday after Epiphany

10.30am Parish Communion

Monday 25th January—5.00pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday 27th January—8.30am Morning Prayer

Sunday 31st January – Septuagesima (The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany)

10.30am Parish Communion

- 21 One of Zophar's eleven sons (1 Chronicles 7:36) (4)
- 22 For example, London, Paris, Rome (8)
- 23 United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel (1,1,1,1)

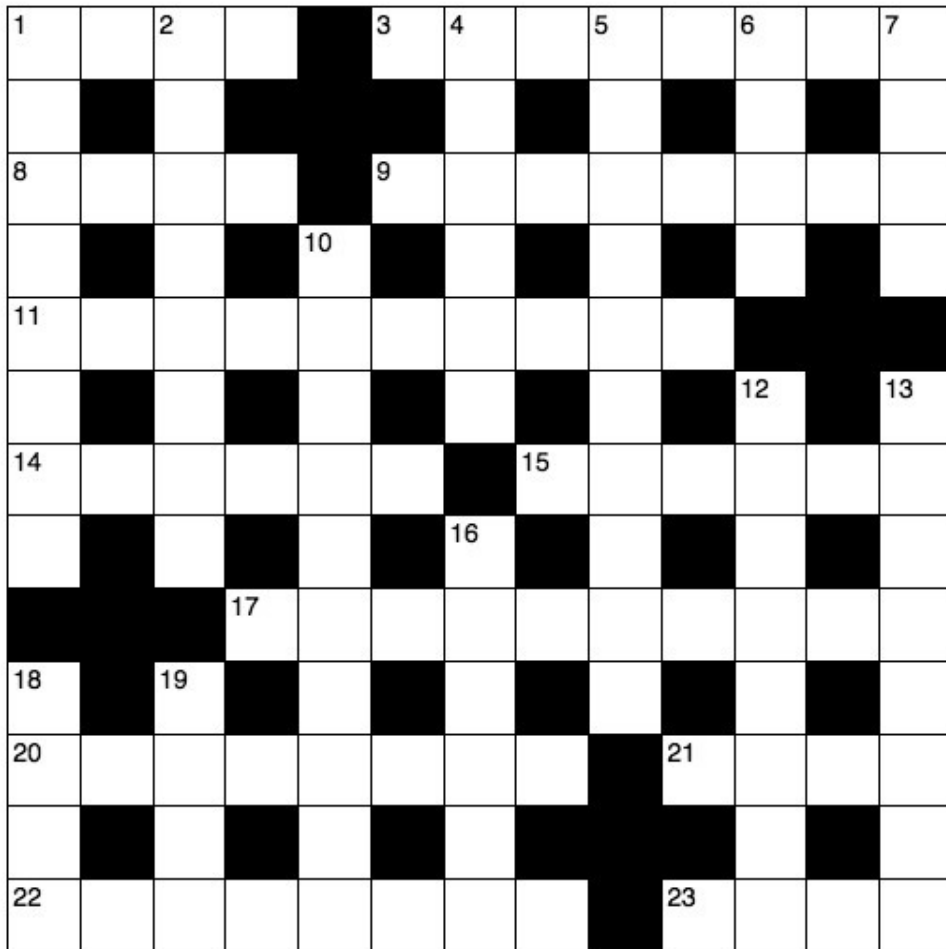
Down

- 1 Favourite church activity: Fellowship round a — — — (3,2,3)
- 2 Divinely bestowed powers or talents (8)
- 4 Pile together (1 Thessalonians 2:16) (4,2)
- 5 Commanded to justify (John 8:13) (10)
- 6 Timothy's grandmother (2 Timothy 1:5) (4)
- 7 Killed (Psalm 78:34) (4)
- 10 One of Graham Kendrick's best-known songs, — — King (3,7)
- 12 Indecency (Mark 7:22) (8)
- 13 Unceasing (Jeremiah 15:18) (8)
- 16 He prophesied 'the abomination that causes desolation' (Matthew 24:15) (6)
- 18 British Board of Film Classification (1,1,1,1)
- 19 Pans (anag.) (4)



...Rodney, I've been meaning to have a word with you about your carbon footprint!

ACROSS: 1, Cock, 3, Shackles, 8, Play, 9, Paradise, 11, Faithfully, 14, Emesh, 15, Unseen, 17, Ar-mageddon, 20, Benjamin, 21, Bert, 22, Capitals, 23, USPG.
DOWN: 1, Cup of tea, 2, Charisma, 4, Heap up, 5, Challenged, 6, Lois, 7, Slew, 10, The Servant, 12, Lewdness, 13, Unending, 16, Daniel, 18, BBFC, 19, Snap.



Across

- 1 'Again Peter denied it, and at that moment a — began to crow' (John 18:27) (4)
- 3 Fetters (Job 33:11) (8)
- 8 Perform on a musical instrument (1 Samuel 16:23) (4)
- 9 Paul describes it as 'the third heaven' (2 Corinthians 12:2-4) (8)
- 11 Loyally (Deuteronomy 11:13) (10)
- 14 Hens? Me? (anag.) (6)
- 15 Not visible (Matthew 6:6) (6)
- 17 Predicted site of the final great battle (Revelation 16:16) (10)
- 20 Jacob's youngest son (Genesis 35:18) (8)

The Fourth Gift

The fourth gift they had was
 Wisdom,
 The one they needed for themselves
 And the world.

Wisdom
 To leave the familiar
 In search of a new security
 More precious than the gifts they gave.

Wisdom
 To discover, in the starlit child,
 A significance above
 Gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Wisdom
 And the eyes of faith
 To receive God's showing
 Of His Son.

The gifts we read about
 Were three,
 But the fourth gift they had was
 Wisdom.

By Daphne Kitching



Prayer Cycle



2020

**The Lord calls us to do justly, love mercy and walk humbly
with God**

- Micah 6:8

27th – Peter and Penny Goodliffe, Christopher Joseph and Tim Lacey-Hulbert
The Foodbank its volunteers, staff, users and those who donate to them

28th - Richard and Yzanne Hallett, Diana Jones and Marianne Jones
Those who are caring for the sick and dying within our Parish

29th - John and Victoria Heaton Renshaw, John and Sandra Hoadley
Within our Parish: those who are to be baptised

30th - Mark, Diana and Belinda Harrison, Patricia and Michael Holtham, John and Julia Twentyman
Those who are to be vulnerable within our Parish

31st – **In the Devizes Deanery Wave of Prayer: Potterne, Worton and Marsden, Seend, Bulkington and Poulshot, Bromham and Rowde, Chittoe and Sandy Lane. Residents and staff in the care homes in the Deanery Within Churches Together, Devizes: The Religious Society of Friends; being good stewards of the environment, and the Work of Sustainable Devizes. Mike and Ros Benson, and Andrew Stevens John and Julia Twentyman, David and Soraya Pegden**
Within our Parish all Breweries

January's Year's Mind

09/01/2020 Ray Taylor

13/01/2019 Diana Heath (Mollie)

15/01/2017 Dennis Tullet

19/01/2011 Ted Simms

19/01/2012 Tony Goldsmith

20/01/1999 Alfred Raymond Thorne

24/01/2015 Clifford Ellison

26/01/2001 Betty McClelland

27/01/2015 Peggy Allen

29/01/2010 Sylvia Moulard

31/01/2009 Catherine Geeson

19th – Mary Edward-Jones and Elizabeth Ellis, Rosemary Milne-Day and Anny Mulder-Nomen

*All Residents and Visitors of Pinetum Close
Within our Parish all Recreational Clubs and Societies*

20th - Anna Ellison and Richard Evans, Patrick and Anne Miller, Martin Houghton

All Emergency Services with our Parish

21st – Carie and David Evans, Susan and Christopher Miles, Shirley Wright and Victoria Young

All Residential Homes, Almshouses and Sheltered Accommodation within our Parish

The homeless within our Parish and the work of Open Doors

22nd – Within Our Parish: Our Bishops, Archdeacons, Our Clergy and Our Lay Worship Leaders.

Alan and Sally Field, Mike McClelland and Liz Merritt, Sian and Lauren Wiltshire

The Museum, The Theatre, The Cinema within our Parish

23rd – Simon and Trudy Fisher, Susan and Henry McDowell, John Walter and Claudia Williams

*Devizes Town Council; its staff and Councillors
Those who are to be married within our Parish*

24th – In the Devizes Deanery Wave of Prayer: Devizes St John and St Mary, Devizes St Peter, Southbroom

**St James, Churches together in Devizes
Within Churches Together, Devizes: Saint Andrews Church, for Nurturing Children and young people, for all who work and study in our local schools: School Chaplaincy and church engagement, including Open the Book.**

Gail Foster, Angela and Andrew Maclachlan, Alison, Robert and Chloe Hanna

All Voluntary Organisations within our Parish and those who are mourning

25th – Richard and Jennifer Fry, Alan and Nita Martin,

Those who need a friend within our Parish

26th – Elizabeth Gibb and Thelma Gittins, Eleanor Mahoney and Carole Mapp

Those who are afraid within our Parish

1st – Pam and Sarah Annis, Sue and Terence Tovey, Catherine Woodruff, John Yard

All Residents and Visitors of Albert Terrace, Bridewell Street, Hare and Hounds Street, Sutton Place and Tylees Court

Those who are frightened in our Parish

2nd - Gwendoline Ardley and Richard Barron, Catherine Tarrant and Chris Totney

All Residents and Visitors of Broadleas Road, Broadleas Close, Broadleas Crescent, Broadleas Park

Within our Parish all Medical and Dental Practices

Society of Friends; being good stewards of the environment, and the Work of Sustainable Devizes.

3rd – In the Devizes Deanery Wave of Prayer: Potterne, Worton and Marsden, Seend, Bulkington and Poulshot, Bromham and Rowde, Chittoe and Sandy Lane. Residents and staff in the care homes in the Deanery

Within Churches Together, Devizes: The Religious being good stewards of the environment, and the Work of Sustainable Devizes.

Mike and Ros Benson, and Andrew Stevens

All Residents and Visitors of Castle Court, Castle Grounds, Castle Lane

Within our Parish all Retail Businesses

4th - Stephen and Amanda Bradley, Sarah and Robin Stevens

All Residents and Visitors of New Park Street, New Park Road, Chantry Court, Snuff Court, Snuff Street, Couch Lane and Commercial Road

Within our Parish all Commercial Businesses and those who are lonely

5th - Judy Bridger and Georgina Burge, Charles and Diana Slater.

All Residents and Visitors of Hillworth Road, Hillworth Gardens, Charles Morrison Close, John Rennie Close, The Moorlands, Pinetum Close and Westview Crescent

Within our Parish all Market Stalls and Stall Holders

6th – Catherine, Ian and Jessica Brown, Bob Simpson and Marlene Wright

All Residents and Visitors of Downlands Road, Fruitfields, Woodland Way, Drews Pond Lane and Orchard Close

7th – Arthur and Margaret Bunyard, Susan Schorah
*All Residents and Visitors of Northgate Street, Northgate
Gardens, Elcombe Gardens, St Joseph's Place
Within our Parish all Pubs*

8th – Ray Burton and Gill Cadogan, Christopher Rogers and
Jamie Schneider
*All Residents and Visitors of High Street and Wine Street
Within our Parish: Our Churchyard Group and also those who
are out of work*

9th - James Carey and Stephanie Williams, Karen Pugh and Kit
Bliss
*All Residents and Visitors of Long Street, Lansdowne Terrace,
Morris Lane and The Ark
Within our Parish all Banks and Building Societies.*

10th - **In the Devizes Deanery Wave of Prayer: Bishops
Cannings and Etchilhampton, All Cannings, Chirton and
Patney, Marden, Wilsford, Urchfont with Stert. All
Pupils, staff and Governors in the schools in the
Deanery
Within Churches Together, Devizes: The Church of Our
Lady; growing confidence in faith; introductory courses;
Alpha, Pilgrim and ongoing study, home groups.
Deborah and Colvin Chamberlain, Penny Price Jones and
Ian Richards**
*All Residents and Visitors of London Road
All Restaurants within our Parish
Within Our Parish: Our Bishops, Archdeacons, Our
Clergy and Our Lay Worship Leaders.*

11th – John and Florence Chapman, Marjie and Robin Pook,
Jane and Tony Scorer
*All Residents and Visitors of Station Road, Moyne Close, The
Sidings, Great Western Way and West Ridge
Within our Parish all Coffee Shops*

12th - Alice Cleland and Veronica Cleverley, Lyn Payne and
Jonathan Petty
*All Residents and Visitors of Maryport Street, Monday Market
Street and Sidmouth Street
Within our Parish all Tea Shops*

13th – Angela and Peter Coles, Barry and Janice Payne, Mary
Tynsall and Bob Walker
*All Residents and Visitors of Potterne Road, Wick Lane, The
Fairway and Queens Road
Within our Parish all Supermarkets*

14th – Jonathan Cook and Chris Cox, Elizabeth Paddon and
David Palmer, Rosemary and John Hawthorne
All Residents and Visitors of Southbroom Road

15th - Peter Crofts and Mary Dainty, Roy and Liz Overthrow.
*All Residents and Visitors of Sedgfield Gardens, Victoria
Road, St Mary's Gardens, St James' Gardens and Henman
Close
Within our Parish Our Churchwardens and PCC*

16th – Pam Davies and Faith Davis, Jeff Ody and Juliet
Oxenham
*All Residents and Visitors of St Johns Street and St Johns
Court and Alley
Within our Parish all Building Firms*

17th – **In the Devizes Deanery Wave of Prayer: Bratton,
Edington and Imber, Erlestoke and Coulston,
Lavington, Cheverells and Easterton and Erlestoke
Prison Chaplaincy
Within Churches Together, Devizes: The Rock
Community Church: Championing Social Justice; The
Work of Devizes Opendoors; Devizes Foodbank; Police
Chaplaincy; Alabaré; and those supporting Syrian
Refugees.
Chris and John Dexter, Fiona and Julian Nicholson,
Sheila Hurst
and Audrey Hutton**
*All Residents and Visitors of Hartmoor Road, Hartmoor
Close,
Cornwall Crescent, Hartfield, Hartfield Close and Old
Park
Within our Parish all Charity Shops and all those who
are out of work*

18th – Julian and Becky Edgington, Christine Nichols and
Marion O'Brien
All Residents and Visitors of The Market Place and The Brittox