





**Introduction from the Rev’d Ness Whiffin, Team Vicar**

In this Booklet you will find a variety of events,

together with details of Sunday Services and Prayer through the week across the Benefice.

Throughout the entire history of Christianity,

we witness the faithful who have gone before us

as pilgrims on a spiritual journey.

In that same manner we too are pilgrims,

constantly searching to deepen our faith.

I invite you to join in the journey.

To get the most benefit out of the time spent together in groups, some background reading will help; other events don’t require this and you’re welcome to just come along and

participate as you wish.

It’s always the case though that the more we invest

in a group, the more we get out of it - and we’re able to help others on their faith journey.

If you’re planning on attending a group please contact the relevant person leading as detailed in the Booklet, so we know to expect you. Should financial concern inhibit your attending any of the courses where a book needs to be purchased, please let me know; assistance is available.   
  
Feedback is always welcomed so please tell us about your experiences of attending an event.

Thank you to all who are helping lead sessions during 2019.

Without their expertise and enthusiasm,

usually offered voluntarily, very little of this would be possible.

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**Prayer during the Week**

**The Daily Office in St Mary the Virgin Witney**

Every morning at 9 am (except Sundays)

Every evening at 5.30 pm

[](https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwjMvNXLr5TcAhUFK1AKHUXiBNkQjRx6BAgBEAU&url=https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prayer&psig=AOvVaw3gOviuoTJ68SwBvhhY2U3e&ust=1531306529541434)

**Silent Prayer**

A short reading followed by silent meditation.

All welcome; refreshments served afterwards

**When:** Wednesdays 4.30 – 5 pm

**Where:** Winchester Room

**Contact**: Esther Partridge 01993 864926

**Midweek Eucharist**

[](https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwiJnrXj4N3eAhWNZ1AKHQIfDqYQjRx6BAgBEAU&url=https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eucharist&psig=AOvVaw0rkt69fQF2DjDZH5MyZUh6&ust=1542623981223205)

**Tuesday**

11.00 am Holy Trinity Woodgreen

**Wednesday**

10 am St Kenelm’s Minster Lovell

(first Wednesday of the month only)

11 am St Mary the Virgin

(weekly)

**Thursday**

10 am on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays in

Middletown Grange Care Home Hailey

alternating with the 2nd & 4th Thursdays in

St John’s Hailey

**1st Saturday of the month**

10 am in St Mary the Virgin

*Refreshments are usually served*

*following each Midweek Eucharist*

**Mental Health and Spirituality with Dr Andrew Clark**

This will be an opportunity to explore some of ways in

which suffering, and in particular psychological suffering,

can be viewed and worked with within the context

of our spiritual journeys.

Andrew Clark worked for 30 years as a psychiatrist

and psychotherapist in the NHS and retired in 2017.

Since then he has trained as a Spiritual Director

and has led training events for clergy on Mental Health.

**When:** Saturday 9th March 2019, 10.30 – 12.30

**Where:** Winchester Room

**Contact**: Rev’d Ness Whiffin

**Prayer Breakfast**

This takes place on an intermittent basis,

usually Wednesday mornings, 8 – 8.45 am.

Please add your contact details to the

Prayer Breakfast list in St Mary the Virgin and we will let you know the date, time and venue of the next gathering.

**Prayer Shawls**

The Prayer Shawl Ministry Group meets on the

first Thursday afternoon of each month.

The knitters pray at the beginning and end of each meeting.

Completed shawls are blessed and then given to

those in need of comfort or support.

**Where:** 7 Grangers Place

**Contact:** Georgina Evans if you would like to join this group on 01993 706942

[](https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwiUk-3bs5TcAhXQalAKHU5wCg4QjRx6BAgBEAU&url=https://inside.bolton.ac.uk/2017/09/19/academic-writing-retreats/&psig=AOvVaw1ifu1QFLRMlRKOtRgy0Eor&ust=1531307638794272)

**CTiW Quiet days** *(Churches Together in Witney)*

Rev’d Joy Hance leads three Quiet Days a year usually

during Advent, Lent and on Ascension Day.

**Where:** The Congregational Church.

Please refer to the CTiW website via

‘Witney Churches Together’ or look out for the

individual posters on Church Notice Boards.



**Three courses for Lent**

‘[**From Now On: Hope and Redemption in The Greatest Showman**’ by Rachel Mann](https://www.amazon.co.uk/Now-Course-Redemption-Greatest-Showman/dp/023253392X)

**When**: Thursdays at 7.30 pm:

28th Feb, 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th March & 4th April

**Where:** TBC

**Contact:** Rev’d Ross Meikle

ross@witneyparish.org.uk

**Bishop Steven’s course on Colossians**

**When:** Thursdays at 4pm:

28th Feb, 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th March & 4th April

**Where:** Winchester Room

**Contact:** Rev’d Toby Wright

**Watch, Reflect, Discuss**

The 6-part series ‘Broken’

presents vignettes of life in a parish in northern England. Compelling actor Sean Bean plays the part of Fr Michael;

we witness the challenges of his public ministry

and the traumas of his private life.

Together with watching the series we are using

Paula Gooder’s resource for

discussion and reflection.

Not suitable for children: rated as 15

**When:** Tuesdays 2.30 – 4.30 pm:

26th Feb, 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th March & 2nd April

**Where:** 16 Moorland Road

**Contact:** Rev’d Joy Hance [joy@witneyparish.org.uk](mailto:joy@witneyparish.org.uk)

*This course will be limited to 10 attendees*

**Lent book**

**Songs of the Spirit** by Megan Daffern (Pub. SPCK)

Recommended reading

for any who are unable to get to a group.

[](https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwiuyPrqs5TcAhVKbVAKHVU1DwIQjRx6BAgBEAU&url=https://www.thriveglobal.com/stories/19872-6-hidden-gem-retreats-to-ignite-your-creativity-in-2018&psig=AOvVaw1ifu1QFLRMlRKOtRgy0Eor&ust=1531307638794272)

**Benefice Retreat**

There will be a Benefice Retreat 20th – 22nd November.

This offers a wonderful opportunity for several days

away from our usual routines,

in a local Convent to devote time to

contemplation, prayer, reading, discussions,

relaxation and silence.

**Contact:** Rev’d Ness Whiffin

**Joy: the sign and seal of the Holy Spirit**

**When:** Monday 24th June, 7.00pm

**Where:** St Kenelm’s Minster Lovell

**Contact:** Rev’d Toby Wright

[](https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwj2x6PpuOXeAhWP3KQKHZ1iBsgQjRx6BAgBEAU&url=https://stbpitt.com/bereavement-support-group-starting-thursday-june-14/&psig=AOvVaw2eArB14otYcCLWGVFYfnfW&ust=1542888239475011)

**Bereavement group**

A group for those who have lost a child,

meeting twice a year for food and fellowship.

**When:** Tuesday May 7th & Monday October 21st at 7.30pm

**Where:** Partridge House, 25 Clare Place

**Contact:** Rev’d Ness Whiffin

**Workshop:** **Table talk**

This nationally recognised initiative helps people to talk about issues which we often avoid.

**When:** Tuesday 22nd January 8 pm

**Where:** Upstairs in the Como Lounge High Street

**Contact:** Rev’d Tim Partridge

on 01993 864926

**Intercessors’ Training**

Would you like to feel more confident

in writing Intercessions for our Sunday Services?

Come and join members of the Ministry Team

for an evening of training and inspiration.

This is for anyone new to Intercessions,

as well as a refresher for the more experienced.

**When**: January 31st 7.30 – 9 pm

**Where:** St John’s Hailey

**Contact:** Rev’d Ness Whiffin & Rev’d Joanna Collicutt

**Live reading** **of a book of the Bible**

Come and hear one of the (shorter) books of the Bible

and discover the impact of hearing it in its entirety.

**When:** June 4th at 6.30 pm

**Where:** St Kenelm’s Minster Lovell

**Contact**: Rev’d Ross Meikle

ross@witneyparish.org.uk

**Bible in a Year**

This group started in September 2018 and

is continuing until the end of August 2019.

We are using the ‘NIV Bible in one Year’ (Ed. Hodder & Stoughton). Why not join us part way through?

We meet once a month for tea, cake and discussion

followed by Lectio Divina.

**When:** Usually the first Monday of the month

4.15 pm – 5.15 pm

**Where:** Winchester Room

**Contact:** Rev’d Ness Whiffin

[](https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwjE3oCgtZTcAhUHKFAKHTVICd4QjRx6BAgBEAU&url=https://unlockingthebible.org/2016/11/22-prayers-bible-reading/&psig=AOvVaw12uDoWAMWXm8TutzxUbDLN&ust=1531308003284444)

**Confirmation Course**

This course is open to anyone wanting to explore their Baptism promises but is

***essential for anyone who is wishing to be confirmed.***

**When:** Tuesday 3-4 pm June 11th,18th, 25th, July 2nd, 9th 16th

**Where:** Partridge House,25 Clare Place

**Contact:** Rev’d Ness Whiffin



**The 2019 Deanery Confirmation Service is on**

**Sunday 8th September at 10.45 at St. Mary the Virgin with Bishop Colin presiding. This Service marks the close of our 775 celebrations.**

**Film nights**

Opportunities to engage with Bible stories

as depicted on screen.

Suitable for everyone.

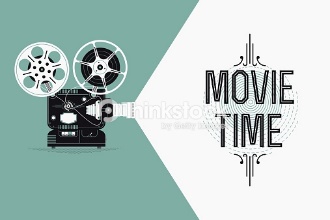
Bring your own Popcorn! Soft drinks provided.

**When:** Fridays at 6.15 pm

Feb 1st, May 24th, Sep 20th, Dec 13th

**Where:** Winchester Room

**Contact**: Rev’d Ross Meikle [ross@witneyparish.org.uk](mailto:ross@witneyparish.org.uk)

[](https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwjL253Ps-XeAhXDJlAKHSARA60QjRx6BAgBEAU&url=http://www.thinkstockphotos.in/image/stock-illustration-movie-entertainment-simple-concept/466536770&psig=AOvVaw1U1qTrXpL3uTVp6-Nh4s7s&ust=1542886797793873)

[](https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwjc8b2OtOXeAhVSPFAKHRRRAFoQjRx6BAgBEAU&url=https://www.purleybaptist.org/Groups/294310/Children.aspx&psig=AOvVaw29S4OS8APs2forwZbrTGQg&ust=1542886979645191)

**For Children**

For age 7+ we offer regular preparation sessions for

**First Communion** and an ‘**Introduction to the Bible’**

with a parent / guardian present.

If your child would like to attend either of these

courses, please register your interest with the Curate and dates will be arranged for Sunday afternoons.

**Contact**: Rev’d Ross Meikle [ross@witneyparish.org.uk](mailto:ross@witneyparish.org.uk)

**Good Friday at St John’s Hailey**

Lots of great craft activities for children

**When**: Friday 19th April 10 – 11.45 am

**Where:** St John’s Hailey

**Contact:** Sue Drew on 01993 702624

**Family-Friendly Retreat Day**

A welcome to all to explore stories and spirituality,

with opportunities to play and pray together

and grow closer to God.

**When:** Saturday July 13th 10 - 4 pm

**Where**: St Kenelm’s Church and grounds Minster Lovell

**Contact:** Rev’d Ross Meikle [ross@witneyparish.org.uk](mailto:ross@witneyparish.org.uk)

**Acorns**

This group caters for Parents, Grandparents, Carers

and children under the age of 5.

We offer a listening ear, and an opportunity for the adults

to relax and chat between themselves,

whilst the children play.

Craft, toys, snacks, songs.

**When:** Thursday mornings,9.45 – 11.15, term time

**Where:** Holy Trinity Woodgreen

**Contact**: Esther Partridge 01993 864926



**Come and See!**

Visit the Manger and read about the Nativity stories

**When:** All day every day throughout December and January

(except during Service times)

**Where:** St John’s Hailey

**Contact:** Rev’d Ness Whiffin

**Young Disciples**

A group for secondary school students to engage with faith and the world through teaching prayer and fun.

**When:** Sundays 6.30 – 8 pm

**Where**: 11 Oakfield Place

**Hosted by:** Rev’d Ross Meikle and Kayleigh Lucas  
[ross@witneyparish.org.uk](mailto:ross@witneyparish.org.uk)

**Faith with spice**

Men’s beer and curry nights on a Sunday evening at a local curry house, often with a guest speaker

27th Jan, 17th Mar, 12th May, 30th June, 1st Sep, 20th Oct

The 8th December is joint with Women’s group.

**Contact:** [ross@witneyparish.org.uk](mailto:ross@witneyparish.org.uk)



**Women’s group**

A group for women in their 20s to 40s (or young at heart).

We meet on a Sunday evening for various events from fellowship to spirituality, food and drink.

13th Jan, 10th Feb, 10th Mar, 14th Apr, 19th May, 23rd Jun,   
22nd Sep, 27th Oct

The 8th December is joint with Faith with Spice.

**Contact:** [kayleigh@witneyparish.org.uk](mailto:kayleigh@witneyparish.org.uk)

**Booklet Study: Prayer and my personality by Ian Williams**

A look at different styles of prayer and

how they fit with differing personalities.

It would help if you are able to do a

Myers Briggs personality test beforehand.

**When:** Wednesdays at 2.30 pm October 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd

**Where:** 54 Thorney Leys

**Contact:** Rev’d Tim Partridge on 01993 864926

**What is Prayer?**

A time to talk and share insights and experiences

of prayer in its many forms

**When:** 1st October 7.30 pm

**Where:** St Kenelm’s, Minster Lovell

**Contact:** Rev’d Ness Whiffin

**Dementia Awareness**For pastoral visitors and others who may be interested.

**Facilitator:** Martin Whiffin

**When:** Saturday Sept 28th 10 – 12 noon

**Where:** Winchester room

**Contact:** Michelle Bailey-Wells

**Godly Play**

Often facilitated for all ages together,

this introductory session is for adults only.

Godly Play is an approach to Christian nurture.

Facilitated by Rev’ds Sally Wright & Joanna Collicutt

**When:** Thursday October 10th 10am-12pm.

**Where:** TBC

**Contact:** Rev’d Sally Wright 01993 704441

[](https://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=https://centerlinenewmedia.com/content/previews/1918_preview_lg.jpg&imgrefurl=https://centerlinenewmedia.com/product/1918/Advent-Candles-Christ-Candle&docid=nPwaXKhmtM2bCM&tbnid=Tcn0QdgJLFJM0M:&vet=10ahUKEwjzo5PK9LvYAhUGM8AKHbYoDjsQMwjCASguMC4..i&w=640&h=360&bih=453&biw=1093&q=5%20candles&ved=0ahUKEwjzo5PK9LvYAhUGM8AKHbYoDjsQMwjCASguMC4&iact=mrc&uact=8)

**Advent Study Group**

**‘A More Christ Like Church for the sake of God’s world’**

**When:** Mondays, 7.30 – 9 pm

Nov 25th, Dec 2nd, 9th, 16th

**Where:** Holy Trinity Woodgreen

**Contact:** Rev’d Ross Meikle [ross@witneyparish.org.uk](mailto:ross@witneyparish.org.uk)



**Prayers for the land we call holy**

Based on a Litany used in St George’s Cathedral, Jerusalem

**When:** 5 – 5.25 pm on the following dates:

Jan 17th, Feb 14th, March 10th, April 14th, May 16th, June 13th,

July 25th, Sep 26th, Oct 24th, Nov 28th, Dec 19th.

**Where:** St George’s Chapel, St Mary the Virgin

**Contact:** Rev’d Ness Whiffin

**Music as worship and prayer**

An invitation to listen prayerfully to recordings of

**Mahler’s Symphony No. 2 ‘The Resurrection’**

on Sunday 19th May at 2.30 pm

**and Bruckner’s Symphony No. 7**

on Saturday 28th September at 2.30 pm

**Where:** Partridge House,25 Clare Place

**Contact**: Rev’d Ness Whiffin

**Personal Discipleship Plan**

Using the acrostic of ‘called’ we address questions

such as ‘listening - where am I being guided to

gain experience or insights’ and ‘discipleship - how am I deepening my daily spiritual life’?   
With a trained 1-1 mentor to guide you through a personal plan, this is a great opportunity to consider commitment to the Christian life.   
In addition to 1-1 time, there’s optional group ‘Firepit’ sessions on the following dates in the

Winchester room:

Wednesday 30th January 7pm

Tuesday 26th February 3pm

Wednesday 27th March 7pm

Tuesday 23rd April 3pm

**Contact:** Rev’d Toby Wright

**Mercy and Kindness**

A series of explorations of our calling during 2019

**Session 1:** 23rd Jan 7.30 pm

Mercy and Kindness l – an introduction

**Session 2**: 30th Apr 7.30 pm

Mercy and Kindness ll – art & music

**Session 3:** 21st May 7.30 pm

Mercy and Kindness lll – where next?

**Where:** Winchester Room

**Contact:** Rev’d Toby Wright

**Israel’s Prophets: Telling the truth – fearlessly**

**When:** Thursdays 2.30 – 4 pm

**Session 1** Nathan and Micaiah ben Imlah, October 31st

**Session 2** Amos, November 14th

**Session 3** Hosea, November 28th

**Where:** Holy Trinity Woodgreen

**Contact:** Rev’d Martin Peirce [martin@witneyparish.org.uk](mailto:martin@witneyparish.org.uk)



**Seniors’ Lunches**

A two-course hot meal most especially for the more senior members of our communities, giving an opportunity to chat and catch up, followed by a short Talk.

**When:** 4th Wednesday of the month, 12-3 pm

**Where:** Winchester room **Cost:** £3

Contact: Rev’d Joy Hance [joy@witneyparish.org.uk](mailto:joy@witneyparish.org.uk)

**Vocations and Discernment**

**Life is for Giving: A Toolkit for exploring your calling**

using a resource by Jo Bailey Wells and Andy Rider

**When:** Thursdays 7.30 – 9 pm,

May 2nd, July 4th, Sep 5th, Nov 7th

**Where**: Partridge House, 25 Clare Place

**If interested, contact:**

Rev’ds Ness Whiffin or Toby Wright for an initial discussion

**Contacts, addresses & resources**

Rev’d Ness Whiffin [ness@witneyparish.org.uk](mailto:ness@witneyparish.org.uk) 07774 524756

Rev’d Toby Wright [rector@witneyparish.org.uk](mailto:rector@witneyparish.org.uk) 01993 704441

Parish Administrator Michelle Bailey-Wells 01993 779492

St Mary the Virgin, Church Green, Witney OX28 4AW

St John the Evangelist, Middletown, Hailey OX29 9UF

St John the Baptist, Main Road, Curbridge OX29 7NU

Holy Trinity, 9 Woodgreen, Witney OX28 1DF

St Kenelm’s, Old Minster Lovell, Witney OX29

St Andrew’s Book Shop, 31 High Street, Witney OX28 6HP, 01993 709429

Community of St Mary the Virgin, Denchworth Road, Wantage Oxon OX12 9AU

Community of St Clare, St Mary’s Convent, 178 Wroslyn Road, Freeland Oxon OX29 8AJ