



Welcome

Stratton Team Ministry

***Seeking, Sharing and Serving
God Together***

St. Margaret's, Stratton

Coleview

St. Mary Magdalene, South Marston

St. Leonard's, Stanton Fitzwarren

PRIEST IN CHARGE: Reverend. Elveen Mead

Church Prayer

The Lord be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us.
Help us to be a blessing to each other
and our communities that your ways
may be known among us.
Let all the people praise you, O God
let all the people praise you,
Amen



December



3 rd December		First Sunday of Advent	
St Margaret's Church	St Leonard's Church	St Mary Magdalene Church	
9:30am	9:30am	4pm	10am
Holy Communion Service	Sunday Morning Worship	Advent Carol Service	Family Christingle Service
10 th December		Second Sunday of Advent	
St Margaret's Church	St Mary Magdalene Church	St Leonard's Church	
9:30am	9:30am	11am	
Sunday Morning Worship	Holy Communion Service	Family Christingle Service	
17 th December		Third Sunday of Advent	
Coleview Community Centre	11am	Team Christmas Carol Service	
St Margaret's Church	6pm	Christmas Carols by Candlelight	
22 nd to 25 th December		Christmas Services Please See Our Other Poster	
31 st December		First Sunday of Christmas	
St Margaret's Church	10am	Sunday Morning Team Worship	

Please see our website for the most up to date information www.strattonteamministry.co.uk

We will endeavor to give as much notice as possible to any changes but that may not always be possible.



22ND DECEMBER		FRIDAY		
St Mary Magdalene Church	7pm	Christmas Carol Service		
24TH DECEMBER		CHRISTMAS EVE		
St Margaret's Church	St Mary Magdalene Church		St Leonard's Church	
11pm	5pm	9pm	3:30pm	7pm
Holy Communion Service	Crib service	Holy Communion Service	Walking Nativity	Carols by Candlelight
25TH DECEMBER		CHRISTMAS DAY		
St Margaret's Church	10am	Holy Communion Service		

Please see our website for the most up to date information www.strattonteamministry.co.uk

We will endeavor to give as much notice as possible to any changes but that may not always be possible.



Christmas Card Delivery

We need your help to let our community know what we are up to in December.

We want to deliver Christmas cards to as many houses as we can. Around Stratton, Stanton, South Marston & Coleview.

The card will have inside our services and activities also a donation code to hopefully help us to raise some much needed funds.

Can you help?

Please find the link below to sign up

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4DADAF2BA5F4C43-46301459-signup1a>

If you need any help please contact the Church office

Tel: 01793826505

Email: stmchurchoffice020@gmail.com



St Margaret's Church Service Sunday 26th November 9:30am

This year Mothers' Union have launched a new campaign to support the United Nations 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence And Domestic Abuse.

It takes place from November 25th (International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women) until 10th December (International Human Rights Day).

RISE UP against Domestic Abuse. It has the backing and support of The Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell who was present at the launch.

Churches are being encouraged to participate and more details can be found on the Mothers Union website.

We have a speaker from the Swindon Domestic Abuse support services at our service on 26th November. We look forward to welcoming Jo Eamey, who is their CEO and hearing about the amazing work they do in our area.

*June Lewis &
Ian Jones*

*Church
Wardens*



Swindon Domestic Abuse Support Service is committed to empowering and supporting victims and survivors of domestic abuse; by providing a range of flexible and accessible services that promote positive change. Using our knowledge and expertise we inform policy and raise awareness to protect and keep victims and survivors safe.

**WE BELIEVE EVERY PERSON
DESERVES THE CHOICE TO LIVE
WITH DIGNITY NOT DEPENDENCE**



16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence And Domestic Abuse

What is it?

The United Nations' 16 days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence and abuse is an annual international campaign.

It takes place from November 25th (International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women) until 10th December (International Human Rights Day)

Domestic Abuse takes many forms, it can be subtle and is nearly always hidden from view. We believe it should not remain hidden and so we speak up and campaign against this, that all can live in peace, in harmony with one another and in safety.

This year Mothers' Union have launched a new campaign:



RISE UP against Domestic Abuse.

It has the backing and support of The Archbishop of York,

Stephen Cottrell who was present at the launch.

Churches are being encouraged to participate, by regularly praying for victims, survivors and perpetrators, for putting up help posters in all buildings, toilets etc and by supporting local places of refuge and support.

Visit the central Mothers' Union website to find out more and download resources-anyone can get involved! www.mothersunion.org/riseup

A Prayer for RISE UP

God of justice, peace and compassion, we pray that all those who endure cruelty and abuse would know your presence, strength, comfort and wisdom-even in their fear, confusion and pain. We commit ourselves to **RISE UP** against domestic abuse in all its forms.

We pray,

for your compassion as we seek to **RESPOND**,

for your wisdom as we seek to be better **INFORMED**,

for your gentleness as we try to **SUPPORT**,

for your strength as we hope to **EMPOWER**,

and the mark of your Holy Spirit that **UNITES** us together

to work and **PRAY** unceasingly, until situations change, and freedom, life and love are restored to all. In your dear and powerful name, we cry out to you. Amen

Useful info, free App, phone numbers & websites

The 'Bright Sky' is a free App. It provides practical support and information on how to respond to domestic abuse. It is for anyone experiencing domestic abuse, or who is worried about someone else. Importantly, on the phone home screen, it displays as a weather app to avoid suspicion.

ANI - Victims of Domestic Abuse can access immediate help from police or pharmacy by asking for **ANI** (code for Action Needed Immediately)

National UK Domestic Abuse Helpline

Free helpline, 24/7.

Online Live chat support and British Sign Language options.

Number: 0808 2000 247

Website: <https://www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk>

National LGBT and Domestic Abuse website

<https://galop.org.uk>

Advice Line: 0808 999 5428

email help@galop.org.uk

Women's Aid - online live chat at womensaid.org.uk

email:- helpline@womensaid.org.uk

Swindon Women's Aid

Tel: 01793 610610



5th Swindon Boy's Brigade

- . Do you enjoy meeting friends?
- . Do you enjoy playing sports and games ?
- . Learning new skills ?
- . Making crafts ?
- . Taking part in events and competitions ?

We have vacancies for Boys aged 5 - 11 years.

Based at St. Margaret's Church Centre,
for nearly 50 years.

For more information

contact:- T. Daglish
5swindonbb@gmail.com

<https://boys-brigade.org.uk/join/>



**THE BOYS'
BRIGADE** 
-the adventure begins here

SATURDAY SCENE AND BUMPS & BABES CELEBRATE CHRISTINGLE



AT ST MARGARET'S CENTRE

(KENWIN CLOSE, OFF ERMIN STREET, STRATTON ST. MARGARET)

SATURDAY 9TH DECEMBER

@ 4PM

FREE!



The background features a soft-focus illustration of coffee-related items. At the top, there's a faint watermark that says 'PREMIUM COLLECTION'. Below it, several white coffee cups filled with brown liquid are visible. Interspersed among the cups are various spices: a star anise, cinnamon sticks, and vanilla beans. A banner with the words 'MEETING POINT' in a stylized, red, serif font is draped across the middle of the image. The overall color palette is warm and inviting, with browns, whites, and hints of green and yellow from the spices.

St Mary Magdalene Church South Marston

MEETING POINT

**The 'drop in' is for all members of our
community**

Come and Join Us for Coffee

In the Village Hall

10:00 - 12:00

Saturday

18th November

16th December

20th January 2024

**Enquiries or for table reservations
please call**

01793 824339

stm



St Leonard's Church Stanton

Hosts Coffee Morning now at
Stanton House Hotel

10:15am - noon

On Wednesday

20th of December 2023

Everyone Welcome



With Carols, memories and
mince pies

St Margaret's Church Stratton



at

St Margaret's Centre

Every Thursday

9:30am - 11:30am

Sundays after Church Services

Tea also available



SWINDON SCOUT POST

ONLY
35p
per stamp

ON
SALE
HERE

Scouts



PLEASE CLEARLY address
cards including **POSTCODE**
and post in the
Special Green Scout
Post Boxes.

2023

Swindon
XMAS CARD
Delivery Service



Swindon Scout Post

Samps Available at St
Margaret's Preschool,
Thursday Coffee
Morning & St Margaret's
Church Services

Only post cards in the special GREEN Scouts Post Boxes

The law says we can **ONLY** deliver Christmas Cards. **NO MONEY OR CHEQUES** should be sent through this service.

NO RESPONSIBILITY WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR VALUABLES, INCORRECTLY ADDRESSED CARDS OR ANY ADDRESSED TO AREAS OUTSIDE THOSE STATED BELOW.

POST
DELIVERY
AREAS

WE DO NOT DELIVER
OUTSIDE THESE AREAS

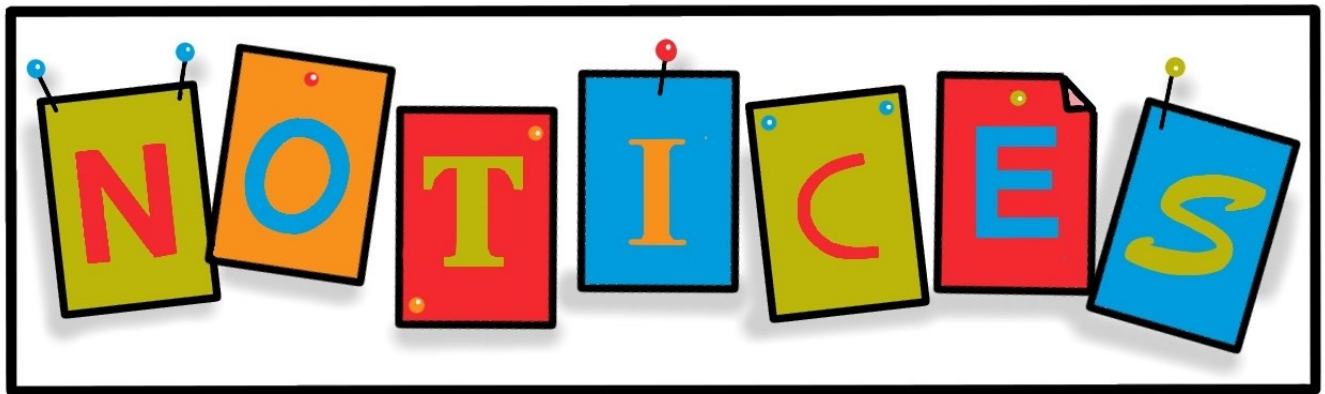
- | | | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| • Ashbury | • Burdrop | • Hampton | • Purton | • Tockenham |
| • Badbury | • Bushton | • Hannington | • Royal Wootton Bassett | • Wanborough |
| • Basset Down | • Castle Eaton | • Highworth | • Swindon | • Watchfield |
| • Bishopstone | • Chiseldon | • Hodson | • Salthrop | • Wroughton |
| • Blunsdon | • Clyffe Pypard | • Inglesham | • Sevenhampton | |
| • Broad Hinton | • Coleshill | • Latton | • Shrivenham | |
| • Broad Town | • Cricklade | • Liddington | • South Marston | |
| • Bourton | • Greatfield | • Lydiard Millicent | • Stanton Fitzwarren | |

LAST TIME FOR POSTING

4.00pm on Tuesday 12th December

Please **DO NOT USE** Scout post stamps on cards posted through **Royal Mail post boxes**.
THEY ARE NOT VALID, AND THE RECEIVER OF THE CARD WILL HAVE TO PAY A SURCHARGE.

www.swindonscouts.org.uk/post • email post@swindonscouts.org.uk



Hold the Date - Bishop of Swindon welcome service

Bishop Viv is delighted to announce that this will take place on Advent Sunday, 3 December 2023 at 6.30pm in Christ Church Swindon.

An additional service will take place in Bristol Cathedral on a later date as Neil takes up his new stall as Suffragan Bishop.

Bishop Neil will then visit many parishes over the course of 2024.

More details on the welcome service will follow in due course but please do make the date known amongst your congregation(s).

In the meantime, we pray for Neil as he prepares for his consecration on 30 November. We look forward to his episcopal ministry amongst us.

STRATTON ST MARGARET PARISH COUNCIL



FAMILY TREE PLANTING!



JOIN US ON SATURDAY 9TH DECEMBER 10AM - 12PM!



LET'S PLANT A
TREE TOGETHER!



Meet us at the subway under Swindon Road
near Matalan at Greenbridge - SN3 3SG!

Bring along family and friends to help plant a variety of saplings,
including oak and beech trees.

Join in, wrap up warm and bring a spade, gloves
and boots or wellies!



Thank you



THANK YOU!

Samaritan's Purse sends special thanks to

STRATTON TEAM MINISTRY

for packing Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts and sending love, hope and joy to precious children around the world.

Nick Cole

Nick Cole, Director of Operation Christmas Child UK

 Samaritan's Purse
INTERNATIONAL RELIEF | UNITED KINGDOM

Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse.
Franklin Graham, President | 0670 011 2002 | samaritans-purse.org.uk/occ
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Bumps & Babes

ARE YOU A NEW
OR EXPECTANT PARENT?

Register Now

forms.gle/fM4NesmSPYWTNuiC7

Come and join Stratton Team Ministry for our Bumps and Babes group on Tuesdays.

Bumps & Babes is a place for expectant parents and parents with babies (up to one year old*) to meet and chat over a coffee – sharing in the experiences of pregnancy and the joys and challenges of the early months of parenthood.

Mats and toys are available for you to play with your babies, as well as time for a few songs!

We are joined by guests each a month to share with us about subjects from weaning to breastfeeding; faith to reusable nappies!

Register for your place now via the link or complete a form on arrival – we look forward to welcoming you!

When: Tuesdays 11.15-12.15
(term time only)

Where: St Margaret's Centre,
Kenwin Close, SN3 4NY

Cost: Free

Contact Us & Useful Links



Bumpsandbabes9@gmail.com



www.strattonteamministry.co.uk/explore/kids-and-youth/bumps-babes/



Register for your place now
<https://forms.gle/fM4NesmSPYWTNuiC7>



Bumps and Babes St Margaret's Swindon

*Bumps and Babes aims to provide a safe place for younger babies to explore, therefore the group is only open to babies up to a year old or until they are very mobile - you will be responsible for your child at all times. A babies and toddlers group runs in the St Margaret's Centre on a Wednesday and Friday where there are more age-appropriate toys for toddlers. Please contact us if you have a special request.

*Our Mission: To reduce the impact of food poverty
on people in crisis in the Swindon and district area.*



THANK YOU TO

STRATTON TEAM MINISTRY

WHO PARTICIPATED IN HARVEST 2023

YOU DONATED 173.1 Kgs.

**THIS WILL HELP US GREATLY, AS WE CONTINUE HELPING PEOPLE IN
SWINDON AND SURROUNDING AREAS WHO ARE IN FOOD CRISIS.**

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR KINDNESS AND GENEROSITY.

DONATIONS - WHAT WE NEED MOST

Regular sized Tins, Jars, Bottles, Cartons or Packets of the following:

***" Potatoes; Meat; Fish; Tomatoes; Soup; Vegetables; Fruit; Puddings; Pasta
Sauce; Cereals; Small Jars of Coffee; Tea; Small Bags of Sugar; Biscuits;
1L Bottles of Squash; Washing Up Liquid; Laundry Pods; 2 in 1 Shampoo &
Conditioner; Male and Female Deodorants"***

**PLEASE NOTE: We have plentiful supplies of pasta, baked beans and
shower gel so none are needed.**



Stratton St Margaret
Parish Council

STRATTON ST MARGARET PARISH COUNCIL'S COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES!



Monday

7 - 8:30 AM
BREAKFAST CLUB
@ MEADOWCROFT CENTRE
*FOR PARENTS & CHILDREN
OF ALL SCHOOL AGES

Wednesday

3:30 - 5:30 PM
LESTO+ CLUB (AGES 10-14)
@ MEADOWCROFT CENTRE
6 - 7 PM
NEURODIVERSITY/ADDITIONAL
NEEDS YOUTH CLUB
@MEADOWCROFT CENTRE
7 - 9 PM
EVENING STREET SESSION
@ MERTON

Tuesday

3:30 - 5:30 PM
YOUTH CLUB (AGES 9-14)
@ MEADOWCROFT CENTRE
5:30 - 6:30 PM
OUT REACH SESSION
@ MEADOWCROFT

Thursday

3:30 - 5:30 PM
YOUTH CLUB (AGES 10-14)
@ MEADOWCROFT CENTRE
5:45 - 8 PM
OUT REACH SESSION
@ GRANGE/COLEVIEW



@SSMPCSWINDON



@SSMPCSWINDON

01793 823761
HERRY.RILEY@STRATTONSTMARGARET.GOV.UK

Meadowcroft Community Centre Community Groups:

Mon

Carers Cuppa -
Monday 27th 1:15-3pm

Martial Arts -
5:30-9:30pm

Tue

Swing Out Swindon -
7:30-8:30pm

Singing for Fun -
10am-12pm

Wed

Open Minds -
27th 1:15-3pm

Thur

Thursday Club
1-3:30pm

U3A Dressmaking
Group (9th&23rd) -
1-4pm

Martial Arts -
5:30-9:30pm

Fri

U3A Discussion Group -
Friday 10th 2-4pm

Older Generation Walking Club!

Friday's from midday, starting at Meadowcroft Community Hall and ending at the Beechcroft Library for a cup of tea and a natter! Monday morning's at 9am starting outside the Coleview Community Centre and ending at Costa Greenbridge, to relax and unwind!



For More Info, Please Contact Us At:
01793 823761
info@strattonstmargaret.gov.uk

Our Weekly Free Community Cafe Groups Held At Meadowcroft Community Centre - SN2 7JX:

Every Monday morning from 7am until 8:30am we have a Breakfast Club providing cereals, toast, sweet treats, fruit and drinks, for parents and children of all school ages.



Every Friday morning from 10am until 12pm we have a Community Cafe which you can chat with your neighbours and housing officers from Swindon Borough Council, over a cup of tea, coffee and biscuits, and take home surplus food from local supermarkets.



Beechcroft Library Activities:

01793 680030

beechcroft.library@strattonstmargaret.gov.uk

- Public Engagement Session - every 1st Tuesday of each month (starting November 7th) 6pm to 7pm , At Beechcroft Library!

LIBRARY



November Activities at Beechcroft Library

Stratton's
Wellness Day
Event
Saturday 18th November 2023
10am - 4pm

Thurs 2nd 10:30am - Visit by Firefighter Dan

Thurs 2nd 13:30pm - 15:30pm - Beechcroft Book Club

Tues 7th 18:00pm - 19:00pm - Public Engagement Session With Your Parish Council

Tues 7th - Sat 11th - Remembrance Day Display

Wed 8th 14:00pm - 16:00pm - Employment Support/Guidance by Pioneer Programme

Tues 14th 10:00am - 12:30pm - Cost of Living Help/Advice by Citizens Advice Bureau

Tues 14th - Fri 17th - Children's Nursery Rhyme Week

Sat 18th 10:00am - 16:00pm - Stratton's Wellness Day Event!

Sat 25th 10:30am - 13:00pm - Lego Challenge



Regular Free Activities & Group

Tues 13:30 - 15:30

Fun Art Group

Wed 10:00 - 12:00

Friendship Group

14:00 - 16:00

Tea and Tech

Thurs 10:30 - 11:15

Toddler Storytime

10:30 - 12:30

Stratton Advice Point

13:30 - 15:30

Bereavement Group

16:15 - 18:30

Family History Research

Fri 11:00 - 12:30

Knit, Sew & Natter Group

Sat 10:30 - 13:30

Chess Club & Board Games

Sat 11:00 - 11:45

* Saturday Story Time

*Saturday 4th & 18th November



SWINDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



CONCERT

Thomas: Overture Raymond

Creighton Griffiths: Concerto for Jazz Harp and Orchestra
Soloist: Ben Creighton Griffiths

Tchaikovsky: Symphony
No. 5 in E Minor Op. 64

Conductor: Malcolm Webb

Leader: Matthew Taylor

Sunday 26 November 2023

7:30pm – 9:30pm

**St Joseph's Catholic College,
Ocotal Way, Swindon SN3 3LR**

TICKETS

Available from:
www.swindonsymphonyorchestra.org.uk
or Swindon Central Library
or direct from orchestra members
£10, under 18s free

RETIRING COLLECTION IN AID OF NELSON TRUST

The Lighthouse Bookshop, Highworth.

The Lighthouse Bookshop has been on the High Street for almost 40 years, serving Highworth and the Swindon area. However, it is very likely that it will have to close before it reaches that milestone.

Unless the number of customers increase significantly over the next few months, closure is “on the cards”.

The Bookshop is very well stocked with cards for all occasions, Bibles, Christian books and a whole variety of gifts. The Christmas stock will arrive in September and will go on display in October. We will definitely be open for the Christmas period.

Please make the Lighthouse Bookshop your first port of call for everything that the Lighthouse stocks. Malcolm and Val can order for you any item that is not in stock.

Please do continue to pray for the managers and all the staff, volunteers and trustees as we continue to serve the churches of Highworth and the surrounding area.

The normal opening hours are:

Mon – Thurs 9am – 3pm.

Friday and Saturday 9am – 1pm.



Contact details: The Lighthouse Bookshop, 40 High Street, Highworth.
01793 763337, email info@lighthouse.books.plus.com

Daily Prayer

Daily Prayer is the official app to help you follow Morning, Evening and Night Prayer, wherever you are.

For every day of the year, it presents the three services in full and include Bible readings (NRSV translation), psalms, canticles and seasonal variations.

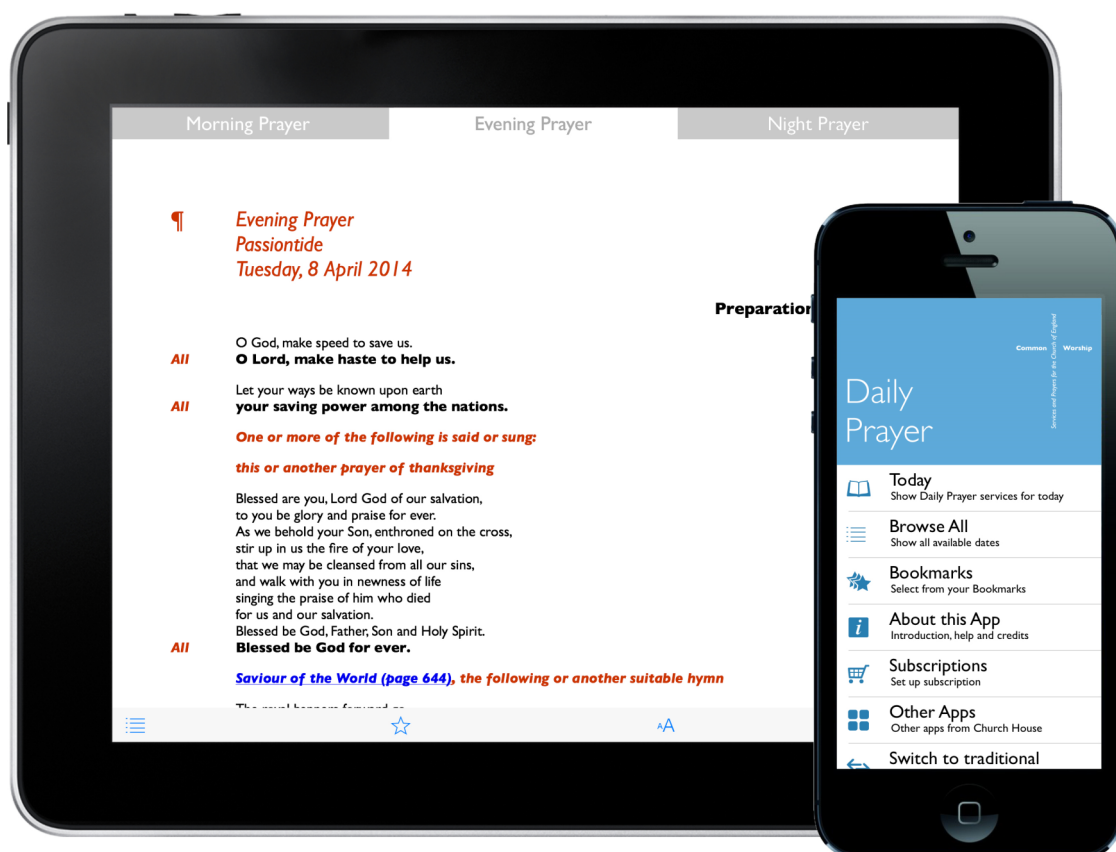
It allows you to:

- Access Morning, Evening and Night Prayer for yesterday, today and a month ahead
- Listen to full audio of Morning and Evening Prayer (Contemporary Services)
- Switch between Contemporary and Traditional formats with one click
- Find details of Feast Days, Festivals and Commemorations from the Common Worship Calendar
- Read Bible passages in full (NRSV translation) without the need for a separate Bible app

The app is compatible with smartphones and tablets (iPhone/iPad iOS 9.0+ and Android 5.1.1+).

Join the Church of England in a service of Daily Prayer

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>



Keeping in touch



'Daily Hope' is the free phone line (0800 804 8044) that you can call each day to hear an introduction, listen to a hymn followed by a reflection and prayer.



Daily Pray Find complete services for Morning, Evening and Night Prayer from the Church of England with this official Daily Prayer app. This can be found in your app store and downloaded for free.



Great News! You can now sign up to join the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) online. There is a link for this on the Giving page of our website:



**PARISH
GIVING
SCHEME**

<https://www.strattonteamministry.co.uk/giving/>

PGS is a great way to give to the work and mission of St Margaret's Church. Donations given through PGS come straight to the Church, there are no admin fees or bank charges for us to pay. 41 people have now signed up to do this - Thank you.



Stratton Team Ministry is pleased to welcome you back for Private Prayer:

St Margaret's Church will be open by appointment please call the office on 01793 826505 or email stmargaretsoffice2@btconnect.com.

St Mary Magdalene's Church will be open everyday from early morning till early evening.

St Leonard's Church will be available for private prayer by phoning Roger and Liz Hillman on 01793 762935, they will arrange with you for the building to be open at a time that can be quiet and safe.



Please Note up to date guidance from the Government and Church of England

Contacts:

Team Office: Tel: 01793 826505
email: stmchurchoffice020@gmail.com

Websites:

www.strattonteamministry.co.uk
www.southmarstonchurch.wordpress.com
www.stantonchurch.info

Facebook:

@StrattonTeamMinistry



Scan me & choose the Church for
your kind donation