



## CONNECTED

**Week Beginning Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2021**

*It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery. Galatians 5:1*



### **Youth Work Update**

One of the challenges we face coming out of a year of lockdowns is reconnection. As a part of God's wider church St Swithin's have been called to love one another - as Jesus says, "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." An essential part to this is community.

Last week we launched an evening Youth Club in the crypt. Our aim is to create an inviting space for our young people to connect during the week over food and games. We had Giant Jenga and Spikeball to name a few!

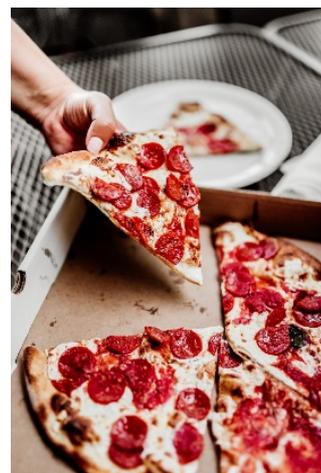
We also want this to be a space where our youth can bring their homework, as well as their questions about faith and life, since we know the impact that unplanned and unstructured conversations can have when being led by the Spirit. "The wind blows where it wishes," (John 3:8).

Additionally, this would be a space for our youth to invite their friends! Over the past few months we've been exploring Mission and Evangelism, and have looked at the simple invitation of "Come and see," (John 1:46). What better way to invite young people within the parish to come into our church building and begin to explore who Jesus is!

This is something that we are going to start small, but we have big hopes, and can pray big prayers, because we have a big God. We invite you to join us!

If you want to know more do get it touch.

Yein & Em





## News

**Welcome to today's service.** We continue to meet in person and online. Please remember to book (and cancel if necessary!) your place via the website.

**Welcome.** Hello! My name is Ben Coulter, and I'm an ordinand (trainee vicar) at Trinity College Bristol. I'm very happy to be joining you at St Swithin's for the month of June on a part time placement.



I have just finished my fourth year at Trinity, but have decided to delay the start of my curacy to finish my PhD research. I will be heading to Aberdeen in the Autumn to spend the year there, to be part of a rather (by the sounds of it!) exciting theological research community as I finish writing my thesis, and to be near my brother who lives nearby. My research is on the theologian Karl Barth and I am writing about the theme of humility in his work.

I will be around hopefully on most Sundays and during some events during the week – please do come and say hi!



**Garden Tea** Come and join us for time together over cake and refreshments in the church garden on **26<sup>th</sup> June or 14<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> August** at **4pm**. Reserve your space at [stswithinswalcot.org.uk](http://stswithinswalcot.org.uk)



**St Andrew's School Nursery** are holding a **Teddy Bear's Picnic on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> June, 4-5pm**. Ideal opportunity to take your pre-school aged children if you're thinking of applying for a September Nursery place. Contact the school Office to book your place for the picnic [enquiries@standrewsbath.bwmat.org](mailto:enquiries@standrewsbath.bwmat.org)

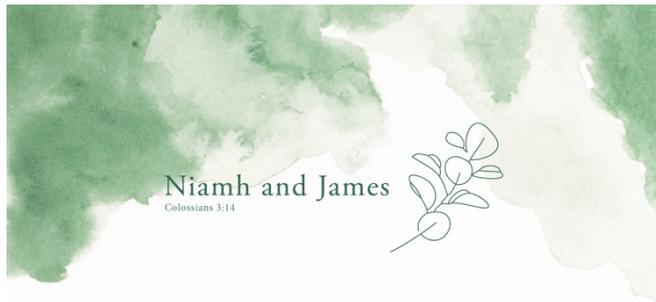
**We have a new date for our Newcomers Tea - Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> June.** If you are relatively new to the church and would like to come, do speak to Tim or Fran for more details.

**Back to Church BBQ Celebration,** Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> July, 12noon to 4pm. Come and enjoy some excellent BBQ food, have a dance or catch up with friends. Live music with French Connection Jazz band. Do sign up to come (at the back of church) or email Melanie [mjworthan200@gmail.com](mailto:mjworthan200@gmail.com). Contributions of salads or desserts most welcome!



## Dear St Swithin's church family,

We would like to say a huge thank you for all the kind messages and cards, as well as gifts, gift vouchers and financial gifts (which will go towards a belated honeymoon). It was so generous and unexpected! There is a thank you card in the pipeline. We're sorry it's not arrived yet! We are currently waiting for the official photographs to make that happen.



Thank you also for those who contributed to the day in various ways and for everyone who joined us on the day and prayed for us in the lead up (more than 500 people have now watched the livestream). We had a wonderful day, with plenty of freedom to roam and enjoy the North Coast in Northern Ireland and to have a bit more focus around the ceremony and that opportunity to pray, worship and open God's word with everyone as we celebrated.

Looking forward to this next chapter together as part of St Swithin's. Much love and gratitude,

Niamh and James



## Please Pray

- For all those continuing to spend much of their time at home, whilst many of us are able to be out and about so much more. We pray for patience and a growing sense of God's presence and peace.
- For the government, scientists and advisors as crucial discussions take place over these coming days and weeks as we move forward in this pandemic. We pray for God's wisdom and that right decisions will be made.
- We pray especially for our neighbours in Walcot Street as they continue to run their businesses in these challenging times.
- We continue to pray for all those around the world who need to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ. We pray especially for all our Mission Partners in their work in different countries. And we pray for ourselves that we may have boldness in our conversations with friends, family, colleagues and neighbours.



Don't forget we have our **St Swithin's Prayer Chain** for those occasions when you need immediate prayer support. Please contact Brian May 01225 313903 or 07974 387782 and he will pass your prayer request on through the chains.