



### **WHAT'S COMING UP**

#### **Lent course starting 27 Feb**

A four-week joint All Saints/Trinity Lent course *Jesus' journey to the Cross* will be taking place on Fridays 2 – 3.30 pm in the Perry Room at All Saints: 27 February, 13 March, 20 March and 27 March.

We will be following Jesus' journey to the Cross looking at the temptations, the events of Holy Week, Jesus' trials and the events at the Cross itself. All are welcome - just bring a Bible. Further details from Revd Carol Hamilton-Foyn at [carol\\_foyn@icloud.com](mailto:carol_foyn@icloud.com).

#### **Stations of the Cross**

These will be held at St Michael and All Angels Church on Tuesday evenings at 7 pm (for about 40 minutes) on 3, 10, 17 March; these will be lay led. If you park in Park Road or Crescent, come in to get a parking permit, otherwise the parking is free in the surrounding streets.



#### **Back to 35**

Abingdon Baptist Church invites all to join us on the first and third Thursdays of the month:

- 5 March - Sonja Matthews from Abingdon Museum gives a talk on famous Oxfordshire
- 19 March - Bring your own CD
- 2 April - Quiz and hot cross buns

Doors open at 10 am and the talk is from 10.30 to 11.30 am. Tea, coffee and home-made cake available. Entry £1. Limited parking.

#### **World Day of Prayer**

This year the World Day of Prayer takes place on Friday 6 March 2026 at St Edmund's Church, 2.30 pm. The service has been prepared by the Christian women of Nigeria and the theme is 'I will give you rest, come' from Matthew 11:28 – 30. The service shares the stories of four Nigerian women who inspire us to work towards a world without injustice, insecurity, marginalisation, religious persecution, poverty and despair. We will join a great wave of prayer that encircles the globe, all praying with and for the country and people of Nigeria. All welcome. Refreshments will follow the service.



### **Quiet Garden Day**

A Quiet Garden Day will take place at Aston Tirrold and Upthorpe Village Hall, Thorpe Street, Aston Upthorpe, Didcot OX11 2EQ on Saturday 7 March 2026, 10 am - 4 pm. Josie Midwinter leads on a Lenten theme. Refreshments are provided, but please bring a packed lunch. A donation of £10 would be welcome. If you plan to attend, please email [atquietgardendays@gmail.com](mailto:atquietgardendays@gmail.com) in advance. All welcome.

### **Lunchtime music hour at Abingdon Baptist Church**

Abingdon Baptist Church welcomes you to spend an hour relaxing to live music from local musicians and singers on the second Monday of each month in the church sanctuary from 12.30 to 1.30 pm. You are welcome to bring a packed lunch; tea and coffee are available. Open to all. Free admission. Limited parking.



- 9 March - Linda King on piano. Donations to Carousel welcome.
- 13 April - Paul Herrington entertains. Donations to Archway welcome.

If you are a musician and would like to give an hour freely to entertain us, we are always looking for new acts. Please contact Pam Pratt on [pampratt@btinternet.com](mailto:pampratt@btinternet.com) or ring 01235 526344 for more details.

### **Stepping Stones Bereavement Group**

A new cohort of this group will start on Tuesday 10 March 2026 at 10.30 am in The Barn, Christ Church, Northcourt Road. This group is for people who have been bereaved in the past 12 months or so, all ages, all faiths or none. It will meet for nine sessions on the second Tuesday of each month with a break in August. The leaders are all volunteers - not counsellors - but all bring different experiences. If people would like to attend, or would like further info, please contact Sue Quantick ([Sue.quantick@cca.uk.net](mailto:Sue.quantick@cca.uk.net)) so she can plan ahead.

### **Oxford Playhouse, The Passion**

Look's what up on the Oxford Playhouse website, taking place on Friday 27 March 2026, 3 pm and 7.30 pm:

<https://www.oxfordplayhouse.com/events/the-passion>

Set against a background of occupied territory in first century Judea, *The Passion* by The LAMPS Collective (by Chris Matthewman and Sam Pullen-Campbell) follows three very different individuals over the course of the week leading up to the first Easter. Suitable for 12+. Tickets £12/£14. Duration 1 h 15 min.



### **Good Friday Procession of Witness and Open Air Service**

This will take place on Friday 3 April 2026: the procession will leave from Abingdon Library at 11.45 am through the precinct to Abingdon Market Place for a service at 12 noon. We will be accompanied by the Salvation Army band and the Revd Carol Hamilton-Foyn will lead the service. All welcome.

### **Abingdon Community Fridge**

Abingdon Community Fridge exists to prevent food waste and is open to everyone. It collects surplus food from local businesses and distributes to the community. Help to stop excess food being thrown out by coming to Hadland Road Community Centre, Abingdon OX14 3YH:

Mondays: 4 - 4.30 pm  
Thursdays: 1 - 2 pm

Saturdays: 10.30 - 11.30 am

For more information, go to [www.facebook.com/abingdoncommunityfridge](https://www.facebook.com/abingdoncommunityfridge).

### **Abingdon Compassionate Cafe**

A comforting space for conversation, along with cake, tea, coffee, or soft drinks, at St Ethelwold's House, East St Helen Street, Abingdon, OX14 5EB. The Café takes place monthly on the first Saturday of the month, from 2 pm to 4 pm. All welcome.

### **Abingdon's International Welcome Café – Fridays, 1 – 2.30 pm, The Barn, Christ Church, Northcourt Road, OX14 1PL**

This café was set up in response to the Homes for Ukraine scheme and to provide wider support of refugees through a collaborative partnership of Christ Church and Host Abingdon, the main partners, as well as many other churches in Abingdon as well as local groups and organisations, including the Food Bank. The café offers friendship, support, refreshments, toys and help with English run by a qualified TEFL teacher. For further information, please contact [hello@hostabingdon.org](mailto:hello@hostabingdon.org).

### **Archway**



The Archway Foundation, a locally founded registered charity 'serving those hurt by loneliness', offers a pathway of support including individual support via telephone or face-to-face, and small supportive social groups. By volunteering for an hour a fortnight as an Individual Support or once a month as a small group volunteer, or as a volunteer driver, you can make a huge difference to someone's week. We are especially keen to find volunteers to support our monthly Abingdon group. Excellent training and support is given and any travel expenses reimbursed. If you think you could help, please get in touch. An application form can be found at [www.archwayfoundation.org.uk](http://www.archwayfoundation.org.uk), or a hard copy is available by calling 01865 790552.

### **The Community Hub**

The Community Hub, formerly Cafe@35, is open for tea, coffee, soft drinks and biscuits on Monday - Saturday 10.30 am - 12.30 pm. We offer a warm welcome with space to meet with friends. We re-open on Monday 5 January 2026.

### **Christian cards and books**

Cards covering all events, including birthdays, anniversaries, get well, thinking of you, are available for purchase from 35 Ock Street, Abingdon Baptist Church, as well as Mothering Sunday and Easter cards. There is also a range of books for sale; books can also be ordered. Do come along and see what we have. Our stock is sourced from St Andrew's Christian Bookshop whose nearest outlet is Witney since they closed their shop in Oxford. We are open when the Community Hub is open: 10.30 am - 12.30 pm Monday - Saturday.

### **Foodbank**

Do download our BanktheFood app to see quickly and easily what items Abingdon Foodbank needs, but we always need tinned meat, squash, UHT milk, custard and rice pudding, washing up liquid and surface spray. Thank you for your continuing support: we wouldn't manage without it.

For more information about Abingdon Foodbank – the history of the Foodbank and how it operates, location and opening times, food needed, where you can donate food, other ways you can help, real stories, how to download the Foodbank app – go to <https://abingdon.foodbank.org.uk/>.



### **Hilarious Religious shows for Children**

LolBear is a touring company that puts on Professional Christian Productions; our family shows are hugely interactive. We are already booking our Religious Easter, Summer and Autumn dates. We bring the full theatre set-up to your church, so no travel needed. For further information, please contact Areli at [arelibecerril428@gmail.com](mailto:arelibecerril428@gmail.com). They also offer drama lessons for nursery and primary schools.

### **HOST ABINGDON - Be part of a positive response to local refugees and asylum seekers**

The Host Abingdon team offers a warm welcome and practical help. Volunteers are needed to join our small team in providing organisation and support, as well as working directly with the women and families we help. You would play a part in welcoming, accessing services, helping people connect with ESOL teaching and community groups, and supporting people in moving on when they get good news of leave to remain.

Are you practical and well organised as well as friendly and open-hearted? Personal qualities and life experience matter more than qualifications... and we will give you induction training and on-going support. Please contact us to find out more by emailing [hello@hostabingdon.org](mailto:hello@hostabingdon.org).

### **Moving into Stillness: Taizé circle dancing and stillness**

Circle dancing to Taizé music with silent interludes takes place on the first Thursday of the month, 9.45 - 10.45 am at St Michael and All Angels Church, before the regular circle dancing session, which is held on the first and third Thursdays of the month from 11 am to 12 noon. Elizabeth Mitchell will be the teacher. No prior experience/partner needed. Tea and coffee will be provided. Contact Sue Sheppy ([susan.sheppy@btinternet.com](mailto:susan.sheppy@btinternet.com)) for further information.

NB: In April, Moving into Stillness will be held on 9 April with the second regular circle dancing session being held on 23 April.

### **New Horizons group for the over 50s**

This takes place every Wednesday at the Salvation Army base at 12 West St Helen Street, Abingdon. Coffee and chat from 10.30 am with a meal at 12 noon – please let us know a week ahead if you want a meal on [oxford@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:oxford@salvationarmy.org.uk).

The meal is followed by an activity: a 'sing by heart' – a dementia friendly session – once a month, and a craft activity monthly.

### **Open Doors initiative**

Open Doors runs most Mondays (except Bank Holidays) from 11 am until 2 pm at St Edmund's Parish Centre.

*We welcome anyone who is on their own or would just like some company to join us for a chat and lunch or just pop in for a tea/coffee.*

Open Doors sessions are informal and you are welcome to come along for all or part of the session. Lunch (a home-cooked main meal and dessert) is served around 12.15. There are usually about 20 guests at each session. Hope you can join us.

### **Silent Reflections**

This will be held on the last Tuesday of every month (except for December) at St Michael and All Angels Church from 7.30 to 8.30 pm. NB: In March this will take place on 24 March to avoid Holy Week services. Material will be available to support your prayer in the quiet of the sanctuary, and the opportunity is always available to walk the labyrinth. We begin in the church room, so please enter through the door on the south side of the church. If you park in Park Road or Crescent, come in to get a parking permit, otherwise the parking is free in the surrounding streets.

### **Vacancy for a Part-time Trust Chaplain, The Ewelme Almshouse Charity**

The Ewelme Almshouse Charity is seeking a part-time Trust Chaplain (8 hours per week – flexible – stipend) to provide pastoral care and spiritual guidance to its residents, and to proffer spiritual counsel to Trustees and staff across the breadth of the Charity's operations. We are looking for a people-person, someone who is compassionate, and attuned to the particular needs of older people. The ability to drive is essential as we have almshouses in Ewelme, Oxfordshire and Marsh Gibbon, Buckinghamshire.

The successful applicant will:

- Be licensed or otherwise authorised within the CofE, or hold an equivalent office and be in good standing within a denomination recognised by Churches Together in England.
- Be sensitive to the faith needs of a community, with experience of ministering to a community within or outside the Church of England;
- Be mindful of the challenges older people may face;
- Through spirituality and prayer promote the caring tradition of the Charity;
- Have a clean driving licence, own a car, and be willing to travel between our almshouse locations.

The closing date is Friday 10 April 2026. For an Information Pack containing further details of the role and how to apply, please contact the Trust Manager at [trustmanager@ewelmealmshouses.org](mailto:trustmanager@ewelmealmshouses.org). For further details of Ewelme Almshouse Charity, please visit: [www.ewelmealmshouses.org](http://www.ewelmealmshouses.org).

**NEWS FROM AROUND THE CHURCHES:** Please check church websites for up-to-date info

**Abingdon Baptist Church** [www.abingdonbaptist.org.uk](http://www.abingdonbaptist.org.uk)

**Abingdon Community Church** <https://abingdoncc.org.uk> / [www.facebook.com/groups/AbingdonCC/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/AbingdonCC/)

**Abingdon Vineyard Church** [www.abingdonvineyard.org.uk](http://www.abingdonvineyard.org.uk)

**All Saints Methodist Church** [www.allsaintsabingdon.org.uk](http://www.allsaintsabingdon.org.uk)

**Christ Church** [www.cca.uk.net/](http://www.cca.uk.net/) and [www.longfurlongchurch.org.uk](http://www.longfurlongchurch.org.uk)

**RCCG Light House Abingdon** [www.rccglighthouseabingdon.org](http://www.rccglighthouseabingdon.org)

**Peachcroft Christian Centre** [www.peachcroftcc.org/](http://www.peachcroftcc.org/)

**Quakers** [www.abingdonquakers.org/](http://www.abingdonquakers.org/)

**Salvation Army** [www.salvationarmy.org.uk/abingdon](http://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/abingdon)

**Our Lady and St Edmund Roman Catholic Church** [www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk/](http://www.ourladyandstedmund.org.uk/)

**St Helen's, St Michael's, St Nicolas'** <https://abingdonparish.org.uk/StH> <https://abingdonparish.org.uk/StM>  
<https://abingdonparish.org.uk/StN>

**Trinity Church** [www.trinityabingdon.org.uk](http://www.trinityabingdon.org.uk)

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The CiA News is circulated by the Church in Abingdon to member churches within Abingdon to promote church activities and groups, news and any other information that may be of interest to CiA news readers. If you would like to submit news or receive the news by email, please contact the CiA Administrator. The deadline for publication is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month previous to publication. For more information about the Church in Abingdon, go to [www.church-in-abingdon.org.uk](http://www.church-in-abingdon.org.uk).