



Looking to the future

A vision for the East end of the building

On Sunday 2 July, after our 10am service, about 30 of the Christ Church congregation met to consider ideas for the East end of the church. After a thoughtful and courteous discussion there was a secret vote, with a clear majority agreeing on a “high altar” in front of the reredos plus a second, smaller communion table nearer the congregation. The choir should have choir stalls which can be formed in a curve behind the communion table



A visualisation of the worship space at Christ Church, with fewer different levels in the chancel than at present, a “high altar” at the East plus a smaller communion table, and the choir curving around it – with the addition of choir stalls, which are not pictured here. The design of these, and that of the communion table, are to be determined. (It is also an option to have the communion table not draped.) Do you have any views you have yet to make known? Please speak to Lore, Mark or one of the Churchwardens – it’s vital that everyone’s voice should be heard!

(leaving a gap in the centre with a clear line of sight to the “high altar”), but both the communion table and the choir stalls should be movable, so that the space can easily be reconfigured for different types of worship (such as smaller services or prayer groups “in the round”) or for events.

There was consensus on reducing the number of different levels at the East end, as underlying structures permit, in order to produce more space around the communion table and make things less cramped for the choir, to allow more flexibility in layout and to improve accessibility for the less able bodied. The possibility of moving the pulpit and the design of any “apron” or platform at the front of the chancel step will be discussed with specialist advisors from the diocese.

All this, as well as the repairs needed to the organ, will require some serious fundraising – so please begin to think how you could get involved in raising money. Your prayers and suggestions are still needed too – there’s a lot still to be decided, so let’s continue to hold our prayer for discernment in mind:

**Lord of time and eternity,
You inspired people of faith and integrity to found our church.
Fill us with truth and love as we seek to discern your will for Christ Church and give us courage and energy to follow your guidance,
looking always to Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen**

New priests ordained, more start training



A former solicitor and sheep farmer, an indie band leader, and a mother with a thirst for adventure were among 23 people ordained at Wells Cathedral at the start of July. Twelve people (eight of them women) were ordained priest on Saturday 1 July, and 11 ordained deacon on Sunday 2 July. The new priests are pictured above on their traditional procession from the Bishop's Palace to the Cathedral.

Learn more and view photos on the Diocesan website at <http://bit.ly/ordained-2017>

Nationally, the Church of England has welcomed a 14% increase in numbers training for the priesthood. An anticipated total of 543 men and women will begin studies this autumn at colleges across England. It's worth noting that of these, 25% are under the age of 32. The increasing age profile of clergy has been a significant motivator for the Church in focusing on growing ordained vocations.

The Church notes that this increase in people coming forward for ministry training comes after the 2015 launch of Renewal and Reform, a policy that aims to breathe new life into the Church through growing ordained and lay vocations, increasing flexibility in funding and cutting red tape so local churches can better serve their communities. See <https://churchofengland.org/renewal-reform.aspx>

Summer opening at Christ Church

Revd Lore Chumbley writes:

Christ Church is an interesting historical building, a community resource and a worshipping community. We welcome anyone who would like to join in our worship and fellowship – but how can they do that if they don't know that we exist?

As part of our "parish plan", therefore, Christ Church opened its doors to the community on Saturdays throughout the summer of 2017. We weren't sure how it would work but teams volunteered to serve coffee, tea and cake, to staff the kitchen and to talk to anyone who came in. The first week was quiet – and then Brenda had the idea of standing outside and offering flapjacks to passers-by. It did the trick and soon we had a flow of visitors into Christ Church.

They looked round the church, had a cup of coffee and sat and chatted with us. Several locals commented that they hadn't known that the church was still active. Some took the opportunity to light a candle and say prayers. Some visitors from Canada commented, "We came in to see building and found a community." At the end of the season we

held an all-day "Open Church" with an organ recital, a choir concert, visits to the ringing chamber, a small art exhibition, a children's trail and refreshments all day.

This year people have been asking "When are you opening on Saturdays for the summer?" So it looks as if we will be doing it again! We will open every Saturday starting from 22 July. The church will be open from 11am till 1pm, and we plan to serve tea, coffee and cake. There will be a book stall and a bring-and-buy stall. If it's fine these will be outside, since as well as raising some money for our various projects we hope they will stimulate interest in the church and encourage people to stop and have a look.

We would love you to get involved. You can do so by donating books, making a cake, offering to serve coffee, manning a stall, or coming along to Christ Church to have a cup of tea and encourage us.

On our final Saturday, 9 September, the church will be open for "Ride and Stride" and we will have the church open all day with all sorts of activities. More later – but for now, please make a note of the date in your diary.

Circuit of Bath Walk

This year's Circuit of Bath Walk, in aid of Julian House, takes place on Sunday 24 September. The whole route is 20 miles, but participants can do as little as two miles, thanks to a shuttle bus around the five checkpoints during the day. One stretch, from Bathampton to Limpley Stoke, follows the canal path, making it ideal for family groups. Other parts of the route take in quaint villages such as Woolley, Upper Swainswick, Englishcombe and South Stoke. Dogs, on leads, are very welcome.

The event is free to enter but participants are asked to raise as much sponsorship as they can so that Julian House can continue to help and support homeless and marginalised men and women. The Circuit of Bath Walk is part of the inaugural Bathscape Walking Festival, which runs 16-24 September.

Find more details and register online at www.julianhouse.org.uk/support-us/events/circuit-of-bath-walk.htm



Last month in Christ Church



On Thursday 8 June Christ Church was packed for a service to celebrate the life of Donald Morris, who died on 25 May. He would have turned 91 on 27 July. Our condolences and prayers go out to Yvonne and all their family and friends.

Our Best of British meal in the Lower Mews on Saturday 24 June raised over £380. Thank you to Clive and everyone who helped in the kitchen, waited at tables, or contributed in any way.

A service to farewell retiring Archdeacon of Bath Andy Piggott, also ex officio a Trustee of Christ Church, was held in Bath Abbey on Monday 26 June. The photo shows Bishop Peter expressing his own thanks and best wishes to Andy and Ruth.

Bath Foodbank appeal

Bath Foodbank is experiencing a significant increase in demand. At the same time, school holidays can be a particularly difficult time for families who are eligible for free school meals. Many struggle to provide food for their family, at a time when there may be increased financial demands, such as possibly needing extra childcare. This summer Bath Foodbank is running a pilot scheme offering eligible families enough food for five main meals a week over each of the six weeks of the school holidays.

The items most needed are: pasta sauce, fruit squashes, tinned tomatoes, tinned vegetables (peas, carrots and potatoes), tinned meat (not corned beef), packets of mashed potato, tinned rice puddings, packets of soup, jam, biscuits, chocolate. There is a collection basket at the back of the church.

“The world is charged with the grandeur of God”



Revd Lore Chumbley writes:

Gerard Manley Hopkins was a 21st-century poet who was born in the 19th century. A brilliant Oxford scholar, he threw away all chance of an academic career when he converted to Roman Catholicism while a student. He trained for the Jesuit priesthood and spent his short life (he died aged 44) as an unremarkable priest. Yet he was a world-class poet. As a Classics graduate he was steeped in the metres of Greek verse but his poetic breakthrough came when he recognised – as Shakespeare had – that the rhythm of ordinary speech has its own innate metre. Hopkins called his innovative approach to metre “sprung rhythm”, and whether or not they recognise it, he laid the foundation on which 20th-century poets have built.

Words were only one of Hopkins’ great loves. His second, greater love was for God. He did not have what his contemporaries would have seen as a seemingly detachment from his subject. Like William Blake, he found evidence of God in the beauty of creation and saw the face of Christ in those around him. He argued with God, cried out to him in anguish and whispered to him as to a lover. As a result he wrote poetry which, to his Victorian contemporaries, was strange, difficult and antipathetic.

It is not surprising therefore that Hopkins had no major works published in his lifetime. The first edition of his poems was published in 1918 and was eclipsed by the ending of the First World War. Over the past 100 years, however, poetry has followed where Hopkins led. TS Eliot’s “The Waste Land” is thought to have been influenced by Hopkins’ sprung rhythm. WH Auden, Stephen Spender and C Day Lewis show his influence. The Catholic Swiss theologian Urs Von Balthasar respected him as theologian and poet, and Rowan Williams, the former Archbishop of Canterbury, has written about him with insight and sensitivity. Poems such as “Pied beauty”, “As kingfishers catch fire” and “The world is charged with the grandeur of God” have become widely anthologised and loved.

2018 marks the centenary of the publication of Hopkins’ poems. Over the past five years, the Oxford University Press has been publishing a newly-edited eight-volume Complete Works. His diaries, notebooks, sermons and letters have already been published in the new edition and it is hoped that the OUP new edition of the poems will be ready by next year.

The Hopkins Society will be joining the international celebrations of the centenary at Roehampton, South London, from 21 to 23 June 2018. There will be lectures, poetry reading, discussions and an opportunity to take part in interactive sessions. For more information or to join the Hopkins Society, contact the membership secretary alisaclaire@talktalk.net or have a word with Lore.

There is no news...

The Church of England is no longer producing its inFocus supplement for church magazines. “We are looking at other ways of distributing news from the National Church,” a representative said, “and will be working out the best way to communicate this soon.”

Bishop's Message for July

Following the call with trust in God



**From the Rt Revd Ruth Worsley,
Bishop of Taunton**

This month I shall make my first visit to Zambia. Mostly we take holidays in Scotland, so this sounds somewhat exotic and probably warmer! However, it is not intended to be a tourist visit but rather an opportunity to grow the friendship between our diocese and our sisters and brothers in our partnership link with Zambia.

Next year we celebrate 40 years of that friendship and you will be hearing much more of how we hope to mark that milestone and develop and strengthen the partnership. We hope that there will be visits to and fro so that we can learn from one another about how we live and tell our stories of faith and how to share the grace of God in our lives.

In recent months we have seen something of a growing fear and anxiety creeping into some of the ways in which we as a society respond to people who have a different culture, ethnicity or religious faith than ourselves. Such fear can prevent us from the joy of discovering alternative views or perspectives or engaging in novel experiences.

Reticence in taking risks can mean we miss the delight of making new friends.

Trust is something which grows as we step outside of the boundaries of our known world into the unfamiliar territory of another. The call of Christ to follow him is one that takes us beyond ourselves into places of discovery and the expanding of horizons. I'm looking forward to meeting my Zambian brothers and sisters in the shared journey we have committed to walk together.

I hope that each of us will make the most of the opportunities we have both here and abroad to open ourselves to the voice of God as we experience new people, new places and new discoveries this summer.

+Ruth Taunton

Coming events

Quiet Garden Afternoons

What is it? Reflective afternoons in the garden of the oldest church in Bath, every month over the summer. Gather at 1pm, bring a picnic. The first reflection is at 1:30. There will be two periods of quiet. The afternoon concludes at about 3:30, but you are free to stay for as long as you like

When is it? Tuesdays 18 July, 15 August, 19 September and 17 October

Where? St Mary the Virgin, Charlcombe Lane, Charlcombe BAI 8DR

CTB Combined Service

What is it? The summer combined service for Churches Together in Bath, led by Revd Michael Norman from St Saviour's. Followed by delicious refreshments

When is it? Sunday 6 August 2017, 6:15pm

Where? All Saints, Woolley BAI 8AS

Spirituality series

Revd Lore Chumbley writes:

Our 2017 series of talks on Spirituality concludes this month. On Thursday 13 July Revd Prebendary Paula Hollingsworth speaks on "Jane Austen and Spirituality". On Thursday 27 July Sister Rita Elizabeth from the Sisters of Bethany will finish our series with a talk on "Spirituality and Anglican Religious Life".

All talks are at 7:30pm in the Lower Mews. Question and comments are encouraged, and we end with refreshments and discussion. Everybody is welcome.

We'll hold a similar series in summer 2018. If there are speakers you would like to hear from in 2018, please let Lore or Brenda know.

Bells for blood cancer

On Saturday 29 July a specially chartered train will be travelling from Hastings via Kent and London to Bath, bringing what promises to be "a very large number" of bell ringers to Bath, all to raise funds for the charity Strike Back Against Blood Cancer. (You might remember that our ringers rang a sponsored quarter-peal last December at Christ Church in support of it.) The visitors will explore the city and then ring at Christ Church between 1:30 and 2:30pm. Come along to hear and support them, and look for information about sponsorship at the back of the church. For details about Strike Back Against Blood Cancer, visit <http://sbabc2017.weebly.com>

This month's charity: Bath Street Pastors

The loose collection in the plate on Sunday 9 July, plus an optional retiring collection for the rest of the month, will go to Bath Street Pastors. (Donations in collection envelopes will continue to go to Christ Church.)

The Bath Street Pastors, active since 2008, are part of the national Street Pastors team first pioneered in 2003, which continues to grow throughout the UK and across the world.

Street Pastors are trained volunteers from local churches who care about their community. They are usually on patrol from 10pm to 3am on Friday and Saturday night, seeking to care for, listen to and help people who are out on the streets. They are led by a local coordinator and also have support from local

churches and community groups in partnership with the police, local council and other statutory agencies.

What do they do? The team on patrol is on the look-out for anyone who might need help. This help might include giving flip-flops to a woman whose high heels have been abandoned in favour of bare feet (not a good idea when there is broken glass around!), or giving a blanket to someone sleeping rough. It might include giving directions to the taxi ranks or train station, or helping someone who's had too much to drink to sober up enough to get home. It might involve comforting someone who's just had a row with their partner, or helping someone who's got separated from their friends to track them down. It might mean a casual conversation, or a lengthy chat with someone who is suicidal. It might mean calling the ambulance for someone who is injured, or talking with those who have been involved in or witnessed a fight.

In addition to volunteers and prayer, they need funding to support their work, pay for training and fund the flip-flops etc they provide. Bath Street Pastors are overseen by the Ascension Trust and operate in association with Genesis Trust Bath. For more, visit <https://streetpastors.org/locations/bath/>



Christ Church calendar July 2017

2 Sun *The Third Sunday after Trinity*

3 Mon *Thomas the Apostle*

6 Thu Eucharist, 11am, followed by coffee

7 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am–1:30pm

9 Sun *The Fourth Sunday after Trinity*
(No 8am Holy Communion today)
Christ Church rostered to assist at Genesis Sunday Centre

13 Thu (No 11am Eucharist today)
Talk on “Jane Austen and Spirituality”, 7:30pm

14 Fri *John Keble, priest and poet*
Cedar Tree café, 11am–1:30pm

16 Sun *The Fifth Sunday after Trinity*
4:30pm Choral Evensong)

20 Thu (No 11am Eucharist today)

21 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am–1:30pm

22 Sat *Mary Magdalene*

23 Sun *The Sixth Sunday after Trinity*

25 Tue *James the Apostle*

27 Thu Eucharist, 11am, followed by coffee
Talk on “Spirituality and Anglican Religious Life”, 7:30pm

28 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am–1:30pm

29 Sat *Mary, Martha and Lazarus, companions of Jesus*

30 Sun *The Seventh Sunday after Trinity*

Aug 3 Thu Eucharist, 11am, followed by coffee
Christ Church Council meeting, 7:30pm

4 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am–1:30pm

6 Sun *The Transfiguration of our Lord*

Got something you want to let everyone know about? Pop a note in the “Magazine Editor” pigeonhole at the back of church or send an e-mail with all the details to magazine@christchurchbath.org. For the weekly notice sheet, e-mail notices@christchurchbath.org

Prayer Cycle for July 2017

Saturday	1	For the local Deanery Synod
Sunday	2	For the ministry of our Junior Church
Monday	3	For the Queen and all heads of state
Tuesday	4	For those who have been forced to flee their homes
Wednesday	5	For all at school
Thursday	6	For a good harvest
Friday	7	For Janet and the Cedar Tree
Saturday	8	For good relationships between the nations
Sunday	9	For Mark our Lay Reader
Monday	10	For adoptive and foster families
Tuesday	11	That we may be peacemakers
Wednesday	12	For those who live and work in the streets around Christ Church
Thursday	13	For the Fairtrade movement
Friday	14	For the unemployed
Saturday	15	We give thanks for beauty in the world around us
Sunday	16	For our bell-ringing team
Monday	17	For those who work in financial services
Tuesday	18	For the lonely and depressed
Wednesday	19	For our charity of the month
Thursday	20	That we may have the gift of faith
Friday	21	For victims of violence
Saturday	22	For those on holiday
Sunday	23	For those on our church rotas

Monday	24	For shopkeepers and shop workers
Tuesday	25	For those who mourn
Wednesday	26	For good relations between different faiths
Thursday	27	That we may have the gift of kindness
Friday	28	For those who work in dangerous conditions
Saturday	29	For former members of Christ Church who have moved away
Sunday	30	For our flower arrangers and those who look after the church
Monday	31	We give thanks for the blessings of the past month

Long-term Prayer List

Please remember those we've been asked to pray for...

John, Cliff and Margaret Burrows
 Ned and Angela Townshend
 Joyce Fairburn
 Martin Palmer
 Katharine
 David Slater
 David Lavis
 Jason Batup
 Don Sparks
 Keith Warren and Jean
 Tabitha and Fonella Coles
 Hilary Hunter
 Steve Faulkner
 John Gosling

Want to add a name to the prayer list, either long-term or short-term, or remove one? Please use the lists at the back of the church, or let the Verger or one of the Churchwardens know.

Other LMG services

These are the regular services at our Local Ministry Group sister churches:

Sundays

- 9am Eucharist, Charlcombe St Mary's
- 10:45am Choral Communion, St Stephen's Lansdown
- 6:30pm Evensong (BCP), Charlcombe St Mary's – 3rd Sunday of the month

Morning Prayer

- Monday 8:45am St Stephen's
- Friday 9:15am Charlcombe St Mary's
- Saturday 9:30am St Stephen's

Christ Church Link

This magazine is published on the first Sunday of each month. Please send any contributions of news and articles by the 15th of the preceding month to the editor, Alex Soboslay, or by e-mail to magazine@christchurchbath.org

Rotas for July 2017

Readers and readings, Sunday 10am Eucharist

	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
2 July Trinity 3	Alex Soboslay Genesis 22:1-14	Jonathan Stead Romans 6:12-end	Mark Elliott Matthew 10:40-end
9 July Trinity 4	Rebekah Cunningham Zechariah 9:9-12	Lewis Boyd Romans 7:15-25a	Charles Rice Matthew 11:16-19, 25-end
16 July Trinity 5	Peter Woodward Isaiah 55:10-13	Daphne Radenhurst Romans 8:1-11	Rowena Hall Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
23 July Trinity 6	Jane Fletcher Isaiah 44:6-8	Isaac Elliott Romans 8:12-25	Morny Davison Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
30 July Trinity 7	Sylvia Ayers 1 Kings 3:5-12	Alex Soboslay Romans 8:26-end	Judith Anderson Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52
6 August Trinity 8	Malcolm Wall Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14	Judith Bishop 2 Peter 1:16-19	Brenda Wall Luke 9:28-36

Laitly rota, Sunday 10am Eucharist

	Chalice assistants	Sidespeople	Intercessions
2 July	David Rawlings, Clive Tilling	Morny Davison, Margaret Silver	Mark Elliott
9 July	Janet Mahto, Jane Fletcher	Margaret Heath, Jane Nicholson	Georgina Bowman
16 July	Brenda Wall, Keri Chivers	Morny Davison, Jonathan Stead	Rebekah Cunningham
23 July	Janet Mahto, Clive Tilling	Janet Mahto, Margaret Silver	Penny Edwards
30 July	Brenda Wall, David Rawlings	Ken Ayers, Sylvia Ayers	Mark Elliott
6 August	Jane Fletcher, Clive Tilling	Jonathan Stead, Morny Davison	Sarah Jones

Who's who at Christ Church

Priest-in-charge	Revd Lore Chumbley 07595 294146 lore.chumbley@me.com	Concert bookings, weekly notice sheet	Judith Bishop 01225 869409 concerts@christchurchbath.org notices@christchurchbath.org
Supporting clergy	Revd Prof. Cliff Burrows Revd Canon Simon Tatton-Brown	Tower Captain, Ringing Master	Will Willans
Reader, Director of Music	Mark Elliott 01225 445360 mark.elliott@christchurchbath.org	Tower Secretary	Ian Hay Davison 07932 160482 bells@christchurchbath.org
Churchwarden	Malcolm Wall 01225 864933 malcolm.wall@christchurchbath.org	Steeple Keeper	David Kelly
Churchwarden, Christ Church Link editor	Alex Soboslay 07769 655927 alexs@christchurchbath.org	Laity rotas	(acting) Judith Bishop
Verger	Angela Soboslay 01225 333297 angela.soboslay@christchurchbath.org	Prayer cycle	Virginia Knight
Chair of Trustees	Charles Rice 01225 332915 charles.rice@btopenworld.com	Cedar Tree café	Janet Mahto
Treasurer	David Bishop 01225 869409 david.bishop@christchurchbath.org	Publicity co-ordinators	Janet Mahto, Lewis Boyd, Hazel Boyd
Safeguarding officer	Lewis Boyd 07739 989639 lewis.boyd@christchurchbath.org	Junior Church	Emma Elliott
Organist and Assistant Director of Music	Keith Pigot 01225 723801 keithpigot@gmail.com	Churches Together in Bath, USPG	Rebekah Cunningham
		Traidcraft stall	Sally Churchyard, Chris Tanner, Judith Bishop
		Mission to Seafarers	Sylvia Ayers 01225 463976
		Deanery Synod Reps	Sarah Kerr Jane Nicholson Brenda Wall



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

About Christ Church

*We're a liberal, inclusive and open church,
seeking God through beauty in our worship, honesty
in our faith and doubt, and support in our community*

Christ Church has an unusual history, out of which has developed a distinctive ministry. It was founded at the end of the 18th century by a group of socially concerned clergy and lay people for those excluded from worship through the system of pew rents. It was probably the first church in England since the Reformation to provide seating for all free of charge. Early supporters included: John Moore, the Archbishop of Canterbury; William Wilberforce, the great evangelical and campaigner against slavery; and Martin Stafford Smith, godfather of John Keble, a founder of the Oxford Movement.

Christ Church is not a parish church and does not have a full-time vicar. This has led to the development of a shared ministry where clergy and laity both make important contributions to worship and church life.

Christ Church is part of the Anglican diocese of Bath and Wells, although it still sits outside the normal Church of England parish system. We see ourselves as a traditional and liberal Anglican church. Worship is led by our clergy, and music is provided by our

robed choir and organist. There is the option of separate activities for children in Junior Church groups during our 10am Sunday service.

As well as worship on Sunday and Thursday mornings, there are many other activities going on in our community. We support the Genesis Sunday Centre and have our own community café. The musical tradition of the church continues to thrive, and we have an active choir; new singers of all ages are always very welcome. Our ecumenical Pilgrim Group provides a space for exploration and discussion of faith in an open and non-judgemental setting.

Regular Sunday services

8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

On the second Sunday of every month

10am Sung Eucharist with Junior Church activities for children and young people

Every Sunday

4:30pm Choral Evensong

Usually on the third Sunday of every month, but see website or notice board for details

Baptisms, marriages and funerals by arrangement – please contact us!



Contacting us

Christ Church,
Julian Road,
Bath BA1 2RH
Phone: 01225 338869
(answer phone)

Email: admin@christchurchbath.org
Website: www.christchurchbath.org

