



A story of journeys

Christ Church celebrates both John the Baptist and the 70th anniversary of the arrival of the Empire Windrush

Revd Lore Chumbley writes:

When I wrote in the May issue of *Christ Church Link* that there would be a celebration of the arrival of the *Empire Windrush* and the contribution of the Caribbean community to this country over the 70 years since then, I had no idea of the enthusiasm it would generate. The chosen day, 24 June, was also the feast of the birth of John the Baptist – but Revd Canon Simon Tatton-Brown ably wove together the birth of the prophet who refused to follow in his father’s footsteps, but instead followed his calling into the desert, with the journeys which brought our Caribbean community to Bath. The Rainbow Steel Band played as if it was at home in Christ Church – as indeed it is: in the past the members of the band would practise in the church.

After the celebration Eucharist we heard stories and memories from the Caribbean community and poems of both celebration and protest. Sharon Rawlings spoke movingly about her father Lloyd Grosvenor, and there was an exhibition of pictures, stories and communal memories.

Astonishingly, the sun was shining, so we were able to hold the barbecue outside in the Upper Mews garden with the kind permission of the tenant, Bath Academy of Media Makeup. We enjoyed Pauline’s traditional fruit punch and a three-tier cake decorated with palm leaves made by Jo Palmer. To reflect the Caribbean theme it had a layer of

mango sponge, a layer of lime and coconut, and was topped off with lemon and coconut. As well as burgers there was goat curry and jerk chicken. Marick from Dragonfly Sound Systems had generously offered his services and his sound system for the afternoon, and since all the occupants of the surrounding houses had been invited, there could be no complaints about the noise we made.

As the afternoon wore on, Marick played “By the Rivers of Babylon,” based on King David’s psalm of exile and longing, and slowly and with great dignity the elders rose and danced. It was a privilege to host the day with our partner organisations. We are already planning next year’s celebration.



Members of the Christ Church congregation, the Caribbean community in Bath and surrounding areas, and several of our neighbours enjoyed the barbecue in the Upper Mews garden, the former school playground, in near-Caribbean weather.

Mission to Seafarers

Sylvia M. Ayers writes:

We have now reached that time of year when members of our congregation are often absent from services due to their being away from home on holiday. Although we now send home far fewer cards depicting those favoured resorts than before, many of us continue to receive these mementoes of our friends' holidays. After displaying them for a week or two, and before throwing them away, please take a moment or two to carefully cut off the stamps, leaving at least a half inch border all round, and bundle them up for the Mission to Seafarers.

Also, the Mission regularly send me their quarterly Newsletters, which I place on the church bookstand. Please feel free to look at or borrow them, to learn more about the good works which they do all year round.

You can then leave your stamps in the "A" pigeonhole in church, where they will be gratefully received by yours truly. I will send them off to the Mission in London, where they are sold to raise much needed funds. All sorts of picture stamps are welcome, including any foreign issues which may come your way, but unfortunately I cannot accept the ordinary First and Second Class red and blue stamps, as the Mission is not able to sell them. I look forward to receiving your parcels, and I do most sincerely thank those regular, if often anonymous, contributors to this cause who are continuing to give me their bundles throughout the year.

Fr Jeremy's 40 years

The parish priest of St Mary's RC church, Fr Jeremy Rigden, is celebrating 40 years as a priest. We are invited to join in the celebrations on Friday 20 July. There's a Mass at 7pm in St Mary's concelebrated by the Bishop of Clifton, Bishop Declan Lang, and over 18 other priests, then a party in the parish hall from 8pm. Please let Angela Soboslay or Lore know if you plan to go, so they can pass the numbers to St Mary's to help with catering.

Ask Alexa for a prayer

The Church of England has launched an Alexa "skill", enabling users to ask Amazon's voice-activated smart home device to read a prayer, recite the Ten Commandments, or find a nearby church thanks to integration with A Church Near You, the CofE's online national church finder.

Daily prayer resources are central, with a prayer for the day, as well as morning, evening and night-time prayers and a grace before meals all specially recorded.

To use the skill, users can say: "Alexa, ask the Church of England..." and then add:

- for today's prayer
- to read me the Lord's Prayer / the Beatitudes / the Apostle's Creed
- to find churches near [town]
- about christenings / church weddings / Church of England funerals
- how to pray
- who God is
- what Christians believe.

In all, there are more than 30 questions or actions available. Many of the answers draw on material from the Pilgrim discipleship course and *The Pilgrim Way: A Short Guide to the Christian Faith*, which is also excerpted on the CofE website. The audio content will also be used on the website, in social media, and in apps and audiobooks in due course.

Counterparts for Google Home and Apple HomePod are planned to follow.

■ In March the CofE announced that it will begin taking contactless payments at more than 16,000 churches, cathedrals and religious sites across the country, for one-off payments including wedding fees and donations. Further options, including passing around a contactless card reader with the collection plate, are being trialled and may be rolled out later.



Last month in Christ Church



More than 120 people joined in our service of celebration of the arrival of the Windrush on Sunday 24 June (top), followed by reminiscences, poems and more (top right). The Rainbow Steel Band played before and after and accompanied one of the hymns, and the occasion was topped off with a barbecue. Thanks and congratulations to all the organisers and volunteers involved.

Ted Hudson BEM

Local charity worker Ted Hudson has been awarded the British Empire Medal for services to Education through his charity Bibles For Children (www.biblesforchildren.org.uk), which he set up in 1997. Some 533,000 Bibles have been given out to children, including a translation in Welsh, reaching 2,000 schools across the British Isles.

Margaret Heath writes:

Long-standing members of our congregation may recall that when he ran the Christian bookshop, in pre-Amazon days, Ted used to supply books for the Christ Church bookstall. We got 10% off sales, 20% off firm orders, had to sell at full price, and used the profit to buy books for our library. Congratulations to Ted! *Photo courtesy of Midsomer Norton, Radstock & District Journal*



Knitted Bible Exhibition



The Knitted Bible began life as just a couple of scenes created by United Reform Church Hartlepool, and has grown to an amazing 33 scenes from the Old and New Testaments. Marvel at the Golden Calf! Find the ladybirds in the Ark! See Lazarus in his grave-clothes, Moses with the Tablets, and more! The Knit-

ted Bible is at MHA Stratton House, 16 Park Lane, Bath BA1 2XH (just west of Victoria Park) Monday 9th to Sunday 15th July. The display has been on tour for the last 10 years, but this will be its first visit to a Care Home. Visit the exhibition – open daily 11am to 6pm (Sunday 2pm–6pm) – and help celebrate 75 years of the Methodist Homes Association.

Local churches are invited to provide stewards to help. You'll be given lots of tea and cake, and all training. One to two hours during the week would be really helpful, and you will be welcome to join in the closing communion service at 3:30pm on Sunday 15th. If you can offer help or wish to book a group visit, call Sarah on 07484 534125.



19 ordained in Bath & Wells

On Saturday 30 June and Sunday 1 July Bishop Peter and Bishop Ruth ordained ten priests (those who have served one year of curacy) and nine deacons (taking the first step into ordained ministry). Among the “#newrevs” are a former professional singer, an artist, a dance teacher, a drama teacher, and a director of a growing organisation that coordinates contemporary worship nights for young people. They bring diverse experiences in family and children’s work, youth and schools worship, church planting, university administration and the Scout Association.

Rev'd Sue Rose, diocesan Vocations Team



Leader, said: “Our pioneer project, launched last year, is all about creating a culture of pioneering and innovation across the diocese. Whilst the focus is on creating nine new pioneer posts across Somerset, the ultimate aim is to catalyse pioneering activity across the diocese, refreshing and enriching what is already on offer. The way we are approaching vocations is starting to reflect that.”

Rich Miles’ placement in particular signals a new approach to curacy. Rich is Director of Movement, which aims to bring the handful of young people worshipping in rural and small town churches together for high energy, contemporary worship nights. Movement have a base in three churches in the South West but organise pop-up nights in other towns too.

Former dance and drama teacher Caroline Deakin is delighted to be joining St Michael’s Without in the heart of Bath. “I can’t wait to see what God is doing there and what plan he has for me,” she says. “I sense that St Michael’s is a creative place where people try and think outside the box – I don’t work any other way! The possibilities are endless.”

Learn more about some of the #newrevs and their journeys at <http://bit.ly/2018-ordinands>

Bishop's Message for July

Exploring faith



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

As I write this I am home alone whilst my husband, Howard, is sailing around the coast of Britain in the footsteps (or should that be the wake?) of the Celtic Saints. He is immersing himself in how the story of Jesus was brought to Britain all those years ago and taking the opportunity to see how life is lived in those coastal communities today. He is sharing in conversations about what faith in Jesus means for us in 2018.

My travels are rather more local than Howard's but I encounter the same desire to see what it means to be a Christian in Britain today. One of the themes that often emerges is that people want to become more confident in their own faith before they try to share that faith with others.

I am saddened by the suggestion that one legacy of centuries of clericalism is that lay people do not believe themselves to be "authorised to communicate their faith". Lay people are

already living out their faith in their churches and communities – without that, the church wouldn't exist! But many of us (and this is true for people who are ordained as well as lay people) are not confident and want to know more and understand our faith better. It's wonderful to know that so many of our churches have home groups, Bible studies and other activities to help, but I also want to commend two courses that the diocese offers and have new sessions beginning in September. They both have exploring in their title – for good reason, even though this exploring is more armchair than coastal adventure.

Exploring Christianity is for those wanting to learn more about the Christian faith and the Bible, and past attendees have found it has really enriched their understanding of their faith and given them greater confidence. *Exploring Spirituality* is more experiential and focuses on different ways of prayer, allowing people to connect with God using a range of Christian traditions, many of which even those who have been churchgoers for decades may be surprised to discover.

It may be that one of these two courses is just what you are looking for, or maybe you can think of someone in your church whom you could encourage to set sail. We cannot promise a smooth voyage, but in the Bible we have an amazing guidebook, and in prayer a solid compass to help you along the way.

+Ruth Taunton

You can find out more about the courses Bishop Ruth mentions at www.bathandwells.org.uk/lay-training or call Leonie Jones on 01749 685 106.

Gen Y still hope to marry... in church

Millennials still value marriage, with almost three quarters of those who are unmarried (72%) intending to tie the knot, according to new research by the Church of England.

While official figures show a decline in the marriage rate, a study commissioned by the CofE's Life Events team suggests that 18-to-35-year-olds still dream of having their big day.

More than 1,000 unmarried young people were asked about factors that would influence their wedding plans. Among those who were single, almost six in 10 (59%) said that they would like to marry at some point. Just over one in 10 (12%) of respondents said they were engaged and planning their upcoming nuptials.

Significantly, the survey also finds that millennials attach a special importance to church weddings, with more young people preferring to marry in a church or chapel (47%) than a register office or town hall (34%).

Those who would consider a church wedding were asked why it appealed to them from a list of options. Almost a third (31%) said it felt like a "proper" wedding. Marrying before God or receiving a blessing was also in the top 10 (the seventh most chosen option). Millennials were also strongly drawn to "traditional/conventional" wedding venues (72%).

The research shows that for those considering marriage, almost one in six (17%) said that faith or religion had influenced their wedding ideas.

Revd Dr Sandra Millar, the Church of England's Head of Life Events, said: "It's encouraging to see that young people are still thinking and planning for a wedding. Despite the fact that many may be delaying or choosing not to marry at all, the idea of a special, beautiful wedding day is still one of life's big dreams. For many a church wedding is still part of fulfilling that dream."

This month's charity: ROSA Project

The loose collection in the plate on Sunday 8 July, plus an optional retiring collection for the rest of this month, will go to Julian House's ROSA Project. (Donations in collection envelopes will continue to go to Christ Church.)

ROSA is a project run by Julian House providing accommodation and support for women with an offending history to help reducing reoffending. It helps:

- divert women from the criminal justice system and from custody;
- prevent family breakdowns through custody or offending;
- offer a range of support which addresses the needs that often push women into offending which includes domestic and sexual violence.

ROSA is a trauma informed service that recognises many women offenders will have experienced and survived trauma throughout their lives. This means the service not only understands the impact of trauma but also the recovery, helping women to deal with crises and emergencies and strengthening resilience in responding to stressful life events.

Safe and secure accommodation is key to supporting women, and therefore women will not be able to disclose the location or have visitors. Women will be able to access a range of services including counselling, educational group work and practical support to tackle the issues that push them into offending.

The service is primarily for offenders who have experienced domestic abuse and are involved in probation services, and prior to acceptance an assessment interview is required. For more information, visit www.julianhouse.org.uk/projects-and-services/domestic-abuse/rosa-project.htm



Christ Church calendar July 2018

1	Sun	<i>The Fifth Sunday after Trinity</i>	
3	Tue	<i>Thomas the Apostle</i>	
5	Thu	Eucharist, 11am, followed by coffee Pilgrim Group meeting, Prof. David Catchpole, 7:30pm	
6	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am–1:30pm	
8	Sun	<i>The Sixth Sunday after Trinity</i> 8am Holy Communion (BCP)	
12	Thu	Eucharist, 11am, followed by coffee	
13	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am–1:30pm	
15	Sun	<i>The Seventh Sunday after Trinity</i> 4:30pm Choral Evensong	
17	Tue	Christ Church Council meeting, 7:30pm	
18	Wed	Christ Church Trustees meeting, 7:30pm	
19	Thu	Eucharist, 11am, followed by coffee Pilgrim Group meeting, 7:30pm	
20	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am–1:30pm	
22	Sun	<i>Mary Magdalene</i>	
25	Wed	<i>James the Apostle</i>	
26	Thu	Eucharist, 11am, followed by coffee	
27	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am–1:30pm	
29	Sun	<i>Mary, Martha and Lazarus, companions of Jesus</i>	
30	Mon	<i>William Wilberforce, social reformer (and one of the founding benefactors of Christ Church)</i>	
Aug	2	Thu	Eucharist, 11am, followed by coffee
	3	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am–1:30pm
	5	Sun	<i>The Tenth Sunday after Trinity</i>
	6	Mon	<i>The Transfiguration of our Lord</i>

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 2018

Sunday	1	For Angela our Verger
Monday	2	For those who work in the hospitality industry
Tuesday	3	For the lonely and depressed
Wednesday	4	For countries with economic problems
Thursday	5	For our Pilgrim Group, meeting tonight
Friday	6	For those who use and run food banks
Saturday	7	We give thanks for family and friends
Sunday	8	For our Junior Church
Monday	9	For the Queen and other heads of state
Tuesday	10	For victims of violence
Wednesday	11	For those who live and work in the streets around Christ Church
Thursday	12	That we may be stewards of creation
Friday	13	For refugees
Saturday	14	For carers
Sunday	15	For Mark our Lay Reader
Monday	16	For farmers
Tuesday	17	For Christian unity
Wednesday	18	For our flower arrangers and others who look after the church
Thursday	19	For all in hospital
Friday	20	For those finding it hard to earn a living
Saturday	21	For good relationships between the nations
Sunday	22	For our bell-ringing team

Monday	23	For those who work in financial services
Tuesday	24	We give thanks for artists, poets and musicians
Wednesday	25	For local branches of the Mothers' Union
Thursday	26	For those who travel
Friday	27	For those who work in dangerous conditions
Saturday	28	For our compassion fund
Sunday	29	For our Archbishop, bishops and clergy
Monday	30	That we may hunger and thirst after righteousness
Tuesday	31	For children and their families

Long-term Prayer List

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

David Slater
 Keith Warren and Jean
 Katharine
 Harry Pattullo
 Joyce Fairburn
 David Jones
 Ivy Savage
 Nick Johnson
 Hilary and Mary Faulkner
 Amber
 George Alagiah
 Marge Gull
 Pauline Cawadine
 Sister Catherine
 Demelza King

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 or informal communion, St Stephen's Lansdown
- 4pm Scruffy Church (4th Sunday of the month), St Stephen's
- 5:30pm Re:Fresh contemporary worship (1st & 3rd Sunday), St Stephen's Centre
- 6:30pm Evensong (BCP), Charlcombe St Mary's – 3rd Sunday of the month

Morning Prayer

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

Rotas for July 2018

Readers and readings, Sunday 10am Eucharist

	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
1 July Trinity 5	Jude Bishop Lamentations 3:23-33	Malcolm Wall 2 Corinthians 8:7-end	Charles Rice Mark 5:21-end
8 July Trinity 6	Alex Soboslay Ezekiel 2:1-5	Isaac Elliott 2 Corinthians 12:2-10	Sylvia Ayers Mark 6:1-13
15 July Trinity 7	Morny Davison Amos 7:7-15	Janet Mahto Ephesians 1:3-14	David Bishop Mark 6:14-29
22 July Mary Magdalene	Zoe Bushell Song of Solomon 3:1-4	Brenda Wall 2 Corinthians 5:14-17	Emily Bond John 20:1-2,11-18
29 July Trinity 9	Jane Fletcher 2 Kings 4:42-end	Bob Siderfin Ephesians 3:14-end	Clive Tilling John 6:1-21
5 August Trinity 10	Daphne Radenurst Exodus 16:2-4,9-15	Jonathan Stead Ephesians 4:1-16	Mark Elliott John 6:24-35

Laitly rota, Sunday 10am Eucharist

	Chalice assistants	Sidespeople	Intercessions
1 July	Jonathan Stead, TBC	Morny Davison, Margaret Silver	Rebekah Cunningham
8 July	David Rawlings, Clive Tilling	Jonathan Stead, Jane Nicholson	Jonathan Stead
15 July	Brenda Wall, Jonathan Stead	Sylvia Ayers, Ken Ayers	Nick Wells
22 July	Clive Tilling, David Rawlings	Morny Davison, Margaret Silver	Sarah Jones
29 July	Brenda Wall, TBC	Jane Nicholson, Jonathan Stead	Mark Elliott
5 August	David Rawlings, Clive Tilling	Sylvia Ayers, Ken Ayers	Penny Edwards

Who's who at Christ Church

Priest-in-charge	Revd Lore Chumbley 07595 294146 lore.chumbley@me.com	Tower Captain, Ringing Master	Will Willans
Supporting clergy	Revd Prof. Cliff Burrows Revd Canon Simon Tatton-Brown Revd Narinder Tegally	Tower Secretary	Ian Hay Davison 07932 160482 bells@christchurchbath.org
Reader, Director of Music	Mark Elliott 01225 445360 mark.elliott@christchurchbath.org	Steeple Keeper	David Kelly
Churchwarden, Safeguarding officer	Lewis Boyd 07739 989639 lewis.boyd@christchurchbath.org	Christ Church Link editor	Alex Soboslay 07769 655927 alexs@christchurchbath.org
Churchwarden, Cedar Tree café organiser	Janet Mahto 01225 424860 janetmahto@gmail.com	Publicity co-ordinators	Janet Mahto, Lewis Boyd, Hazel Boyd
Verger	Angela Soboslay 01225 333297 angela.soboslay@christchurchbath.org	Laity rotas	Judith Bishop
Chair of Trustees	Charles Rice 01225 332915 charles.rice@btopenworld.com	Prayer cycle	Virginia Knight
Treasurer	David Bishop 01225 869409 david.bishop@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
Event/concert bookings, weekly notice sheet	Judith Bishop 01225 869409 concerts@christchurchbath.org notices@christchurchbath.org	Traidcraft orders	Judith Bishop
		Mission to Seafarers	Sylvia Ayers
		Deanery Synod Reps	Sarah Kerr Jane Nicholson Brenda Wall

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



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

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(answer phone)
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Website: www.christchurchbath.org

