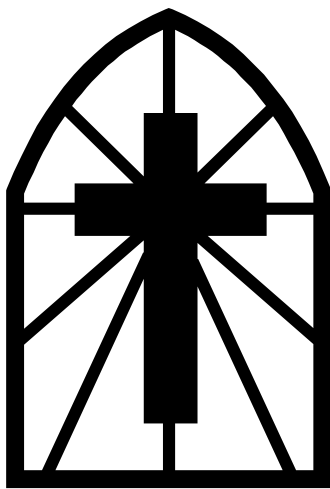


CHRIST
CHURCH
CHALLENGE



May 2003

CHRIST CHURCH, JULIAN ROAD
DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS IN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

SUNDAY SERVICES

8.00am	Holy Communion
10.00am	Family Communion, Junior Church & Crèche
First Sundays & Festivals	Choral Evensong and Sermon at 6.30pm
Other Sundays	Said Evening Prayer at 5.30pm (see page 5)

There is amplification to assist the hard of hearing

MID-WEEK SERVICE

11.00am Thursday	Holy Communion
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CHOIR

Junior Choir Practice	Friday 6.30pm - 8.00pm
Adult Practice	Friday 7.30pm - 9.00pm

New singers always welcome - please contact Director of Music 01225 445360

BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES, FUNERALS

By arrangement. Please 'phone the Vestry 338869 / Officiating Minister 427462

John and Chris, the churchwardens, would like to know about people who are ill, or of any circumstances in which the ministry of the Church would be welcome

The Ammerdown Centre—advance notice

Many thanks to Margaret Heath for an article about the Ammerdown Centre which we just couldn't squeeze into this month's edition of the magazine. It will appear in full next month, but in the meantime, here's advance notice that **Marcus Braybrooke** and **George Carey** will both be speaking at the Ammerdown Centre on June 2 as part of the Centre's 30th Anniversary celebrations. For further details, please see Margaret Heath

From the Vicar's Desk



Beating the Bounds

Everyone has boundaries. No one likes to be fenced in, with other people hemming us in on all sides! We have a sort of invisible border running all the way round the surface of our bodies - and we feel uncomfortable if people force themselves too close. Most people, too, have a place that they call 'home'. Somewhere they can go to and close the door behind them. They feel safe there where no one else enters without permission.

Hundreds of years ago the church had a festival called 'Rogation Sunday'. It was a day when the priest, in his robes, accompanied by all the villagers, went around the boundaries of each parish. Later this procession became known as the parish 'perambulation', or 'beating the bounds'. In the 19th century, even in many large towns, the vicar, the mayor, the people - and crowds of children - would tramp around the exact boundary line of their village or town. If there was a hedge in the way of the line - they broke it down. If a house was built across the boundary line - then a window was broken and the mayor's mace passed through. If the boundary ran along the middle of a river, then the vicar and mayor would be put in a boat and would row along it. Often, at various points, boys would be 'bumped' so that *"they would well remember the bounds of the parish within which they dwell"*.



The whole idea began well before Christianity. The Romans had a festival called the 'robignalia' in which the people went through their fields and prayed to the gods to protect their crops. They especially prayed to the god known as 'Terminus' - the god of fields and boundaries. When



Christianity became the religion of Europe the festival continued, although Jesus was the focus of prayers. A cross was carried around the boundary line, at various points the Bible was read and prayers were said. The word "rogation" comes from the Latin *rogare* to ask or to pray and the place where this was done was often called Gospel Oak, Gospel Thorn or Amen Corner. The purpose, though, was the same as in Roman times - to ask God's blessing on the crops and to check that no one had trespassed in any way across the border of each parish.

The National Farmer's Union and the Arthur Rank Centre in the National Agricultural Centre at Stoneleigh are anxious that we should use Rogation

Sunday to focus thoughts and prayers on farming and the rural communities on whom we depend for so much. The prayers and readings the team at the Arthur Rank Centre have selected for use when beating the bounds are wonderfully pertinent and imaginative. For example on reaching the village pub, shop or bakery, walkers will listen to words from Psalm 104 v. 15 -17:



“You make grass to grow for the cattle and plants to reach our needs, / bringing forth food from the earth and wine to gladden our hearts, / oil to give us a cheerful countenance and bread to strengthen our hearts. A Rogation meditation by Tony Ingleby, based on the 23rd psalm is printed on page 12.

Respect for and knowledge of territory has been a feature of human life throughout history. In Deuteronomy 19 v.14 we read: “In the inheritance which you will hold in the land your God gives you to possess, you shall not remove your neighbour’s landmark, which the men of old have set.” We all need boundaries... and yet are they always a good thing? When Jesus was alive there was a rigid boundary between Jews and Samaritans. The parable of the Good Samaritan and his meeting with the Samaritan woman at the well tell us of Jesus’ attitude to the racial and doctrinal boundaries that divide people and set them against each other. Rogation Sunday falls on the 5th Sunday of Easter and is followed by three rogation days. The third day is followed by Ascension Day on which we celebrate the fact that Jesus ascended to be with his Heavenly Father. His rising broke the boundary between earth and heaven and destroyed the chasm between life and death.

Antony Claridge

A message from Antony, Tessa and Victoria Claridge

Antony, Tessa and Victoria would like to thank you for all your love, thoughts and prayers on the death of Edward. His funeral at Christ Church was a wonderful celebration of his life and an affirmation of the faith which we share.

We are grateful to all who contributed to or helped with arrangements for a service by which our family and many friends felt cherished and uplifted.

Church Calendar for May

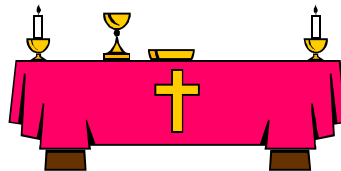
May 1	Thurs	PHILIP AND JAMES, APOSTLES 11.00am Holy Communion—Rev Marianne Atkinson NO LUNCH
4	Sun	THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER 6.30pm Choral Evensong
8	Thurs	JULIAN OF NORWICH—Spiritual Writer c1417 11.00am Holy Communion, MU Corporate Communion —Rev Antony Claridge. Followed by lunch
11	Sun	THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
15	Thurs	11.00am Holy Communion—Rev Antony Claridge
17	Sat	PLANT & CAKE SALE in aid of CHILDREN'S SOCIETY
18	Sun	THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER START OF CHRISTIAN AID WEEK
22	Thurs	11.00am Holy Communion—Rev Antony Claridge
26	Sun	THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
27	Tue	Rogation Day
28	Wed	Rogation Day
29	Thurs	ASCENSION DAY 11.00am Holy Communion—Rev Antony Claridge followed by lunch in aid of Church Funds 7.30pm Holy Communion—Rev Marianne Atkinson
31	Sat	VISIT of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY to ELIZABETH
Jun 1	Sun	THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 6.30pm Choral Evensong
5	Thurs	11.00am Holy Communion—Rev Antony Claridge NO LUNCH

Service Rota for May

	8 am	10 am	Evening
		Celebrant Preacher	Leader
May	4 Rev Antony Claridge	Rev Marianne Atkinson Dr Cyril Selmes	Rev Antony Claridge
	11 Rev Antony Claridge	Rev Cliff Burrows Rev Antony Claridge	
	18 Rev Antony Claridge	Rev Antony Claridge Rev Marianne Atkinson	
	25 Rev Antony Claridge	Rev Antony Claridge Rev Antony Claridge	
June	1 Rev Antony Claridge	Rev Cliff Burrows Dr Cyril Selmes	Rev Antony Claridge

Thursday Services at 11.00am

May	1 Rev Marianne Atkinson
	8 Rev Antony Claridge
	15 Rev Antony Claridge
	22 Rev Antony Claridge
	29 Rev Antony Claridge
June	5 Rev Antony Claridge



7.30pm: Rev Marianne Atkinson

Laity Rota for May

		OT Readers	Epistle	Gospel
May	4	Mr M Palmer	Mr D Bishop	Ms J Anderson
	11	Mr L Grosvenor	Mr C Graham	Mrs M Burrows
	18	Miss A Crawley	Mr M Elliott	Mrs J Bishop
	25	Mr R Siderfin	Miss J Fletcher	Mrs A Sheppard
June	1	Mrs R Gabe	Mr M Jones	Mrs P Edwards
	8	Mrs G Bowman	Mrs A Kemp	Mrs S Ayers

Chalice Assistants

May	4	Mrs M Burrows	Mr C Graham
	11	Lady Heath	Dr C Selmes
	18	Miss J Fletcher	Mrs P Edwards
	25	Mrs J Metcalfe	Mr R Siderfin
June	1	Mrs M Burrows	Mr C Graham
	8	Lady Heath	Dr C Selmes

Intercessors

May	4	Mr M Elliott
	11	Mrs N Gladstone
	18	Mrs P Edwards
	25	Mr B Pont
June	1	Rev C Burrows
	8	Mr C Graham



Sidespeople

		8am	10am
May	4	Mrs B Hayward	Mr & Mrs Ayers
	11	Miss E Hewlett	Dr D Marles Mrs J Bunkin
	18	Mr C Tilling	Mr & Mrs Metcalfe
	25	Miss E Iden-Hart	Mrs C Tanner Mrs A Charman
June	1	Mr A Jones	Mrs T Claridge Mrs J Ferguson
	8	Mr & Mrs Olney	

Lectionary for May

	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
May 4	The Third Sunday of Easter		
	Acts 3.12-19	1 John 3.1-7	Luke 24.36b-48
11	The Fourth Sunday of Easter		
	Acts 4.5-12	1 John 3.16-24	John 10.11-18
18	The Fifth Sunday of Easter—Christian Aid Sunday		
	<i>Readings to be Notified</i>		
25	The Sixth Sunday of Easter—Rogation		
	Deuteronomy 8.1-10	2 Thess 3.6-13	Mark 11.22-24
Jun 1	Sunday after Ascension		
	Acts 1.15-17, 21-26	1 John 5.9-13	John 17.6-19

Christian Aid Sunday

Christian Aid Sunday will be observed on Sunday 11th May. Our services on that day will feature readings and intercessions provided by Christian Aid. Gift envelopes will be in every pew so that you may contribute to the wonderful work done by this organisation in all parts of the world. Christian Aid is nearly always the first aid agency into dangerous and war torn areas and is recognised for its non-political integrity.



Churches Together in Bath are holding a united service at Manvers Street Baptist Church at 6.30 pm. The preacher is the Revd Professor Tim Gorrige, better known to many as the brother-in-law of John James.

All Together Now

At Rogation tide when we think and pray about boundaries and the goodness of God, a recent talk by Bishop Peter about dialogue and reconciliation seems particularly relevant. This is an edited text of what Bishop Peter said to the Annual General Meeting of the Council of Somerset Churches Together on 28 January.



Today we celebrate the feast of St Thomas Aquinas born in 1225, paradoxically known by his fellow students for his silence rather than his speech, and unkindly christened "The Dumb Ox". Critical of contemporary theological argument, Aquinas sought an approach that gave equal weight to opposing points of view, before deciding where the preponderance of evidence might lie.

In his sermon to the United Covenant Service in Wells on St Paul's Day, Bishop Declan, Bishop of Clifton, observed: 'The greatest antidote to violence is conversation'. He was speaking in the context of the possibility of war, of course, but his remarks are equally true of theological debate. 'We need the discipline of conversation' observes Ched Myers, (from the Latin *converses* meaning to *turn around*). Conversation holds within it the possibility of mutual conversion'.



In the great liturgy of the Orthodox Church in preparation for communion, it is required that you have sought reconciliation with the people around you. One of the prayers warns: 'Before drinking the Divine Blood in Communion, make peace with those who have grieved you. Only then may you dare to eat this mystical food'. This reflects the solemn requirement to forgive and seek conversion rather than the destruction of enemies.

What we need to rediscover is our story; then the capacity to tell it. As one orthodox pastor puts it: "We will tell you our story. You can take it or leave it. We are not trying to prove it. It is simply, our story".

All together *now*?

Churches Together in Bath Update

Further to my list in the March Christ Church Challenge, I have learned a few more facts at our recent meeting of CTB Central Zone:

On the last Sunday of June, July and August there will be "Songs of Praise" in Parade Gardens, presided over by a minister. Entrance fees are waived from 5.00pm on those days, and I think that the event starts at 5.30.



Contrary to what had previously been decided, it was agreed NOT to participate in the Opening Procession of the Music Festival, as it was felt that we should be well-prepared if we were to make an impact: a feeble presence was counter-productive. At the meeting it was announced that there were still some tickets available for John Rackley's inauguration as President of the Baptist Union which takes place in Cardiff on 6 May. Please contact Central URC for further details.

Margaret Heath

Some Prayers for Christian Aid Week

Our hands are not machines in the factories of profit,
 our bodies not just robots for production of wealth.
 Our lives are given dignity by God, not by possessions,
 our dreams achieve their quality in freedom, not control.

Our job is joy, our labour creation,
 our business peace, our task to be.
 Be with us, Lord, in rest and work.
 Our hope is to live life and to live it to the full.

(Linda Jones / CAFOD)

God of all compassion, whose son Jesus Christ laid down his life for us:
 may we who seek to follow you be inspired to change the world for good,
 so that our brothers and sisters in need may glimpse in us
 the hope of justice and the love of Jesus,
 who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever. Amen.

(Collect from the Christian Aid Week service)

Mothers' Union News

At our Overseas Sale in April we raised £88.00, and we are always very conscious of the support we receive from the Congregation on the day and also on the following Sunday morning. The weather was kind to us, and by including the proceeds from an Overseas box, we were able to send a respectable amount to the Deanery Overseas Officer to use at his discretion.

For our May meeting, we hope to see you all on Thursday 8th for a mid-week Communion and "Metcalfe" lunch. This is earlier in the month than usual, as no lunch is planned for the third week. We always look forward to these occasions with great pleasure, not least because of the friendship we find there. On May 6th, we are all invited to join the Bath Abbey MU at 11am for a Communion Service to celebrate their 60th year as a Branch. We are also urged to join them for coffee and wine after the service, and we send them our very best wishes on successfully reaching this milestone.



On Wednesday 14th May at 7.30pm the Bath Deanery Mothers' Union is inviting all members of our congregation to an open meeting on the subject of HIV / AIDS at St Stephen's Church, Lansdown. More details of this event were published in the April Magazine. Our next Branch informal prayer meeting and get-together will be held in the Vestry on June 10th. We hope to see you all there.

Sylvia M. Ayers (MU Secretary)

- Advertisement -

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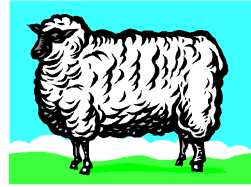
"A service that gives choice and control to the older person"

If you, or someone you care for, needs assistance to carry out the normal activities of daily life.

Contact: Sarah Talbott on 01225 334692

We offer support seven days/week

A Meditation for Rogation



Being a shepherd I should be very dear to you,
Lord.

There are plenty of shepherds in the bible:

Abraham, Isaac and Jacob all had flocks.

Moses looked after sheep for his Father-in-law.

King David learned to lead and protect by looking after his Father's flock.

The prophet Amos was a shepherd

and Ezekiel used shepherds as the model for leadership.

'Shepherd' is even used as an metaphor for your care;

You call your people your 'flock',

the Psalmist says, 'The Lord is my shepherd!'

and Jesus said, 'I am the Good Shepherd!'

There's a lot of sense in it all.

Being a shepherd teaches you about care.

It's more than providing fields and food and fences.

It's more than long hours and disturbed nights.

It includes knowing them and being proud of doing the right thing by them.

'Animal welfare' is a very worthy phrase

but 'looking after my sheep' is all of that ... and more.

It's warmer and more gentle somehow, without being sentimental.

But just now it doesn't feel as though that's the way you look after me.

The Lord's my shepherd but it seems that I DO want.

The Good Shepherd has laid down his life for me,

but MY life and livelihood seem to be under threat too.

So why can't you lead us in green pastures?

I hoped against hope that after the storms of Foot and Mouth

there would be still waters of prosperity to drink from,

But even when prices and job satisfaction are high

the wolf of disaster isn't very far from the door,

The future is uncertain and it doesn't take a lot to upset the balance -

a new directive, more restrictions, more paperwork,

bad weather, an infection, a few more lambs dying, a fall off in demand...

The table prepared for family farmers isn't going to fatten us up.

And where oh where are your goodness and mercy for the shepherd

poisoned by the sheep-dip chemicals he was forced to use?

Have you deserted me in the face of economic forces,

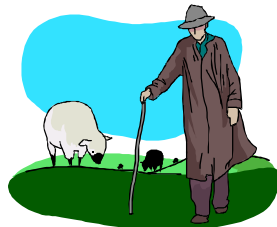
like a hireling running away to save his skin?

My dear one, I have not run away.
I am near enough to hear the fear in your cry.
I didn't allow the name 'shepherd' to be used lightly about me.
In bible times a shepherd had to contend with great hardship and danger;
Wild animals and robbers, drought and shortage of pasture
were some of the enemies.
And a good shepherd never deserted his flock;
he did whatever he could to keep the flock together,
calling, watching and searching by day,
sleeping across the entrance to the fold at night.
He was the watchman, the security officer, the vet, the transport
He cared for every need.
And for this he received no honour.
Society treated him as a rogue.

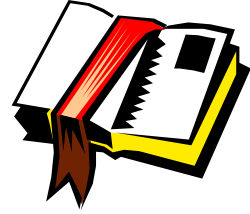
So I am called the Good Shepherd.
And my sheep can't expect to walk in smoother paths than I have walked.
I will go with you through every dark valley,
illness, loss, pain, disappointment, poverty, mockery, even death.
I know my way through them all;
I've been there before and come through.
I can offer you that hope.
When you lose sight of me I can tap my staff on the ground
so that you know I'm still there.
But I don't pretend that I am going to just lift you out of the valley.
I'm not a lottery ticket or a happy pill.
I'm the Good Shepherd.
I know you, I hear you, I care for you and I am with you

You have chosen a demanding way of life
and you live in a demanding society,
demanding but disconnected:
A consumer society, consuming product and producer,
consuming past, present and future,
consuming the countryside and those who live and work there,
greedily consuming itself as it strays from my
paths and pastures.
But I am the Good Shepherd, yesterday, today
and forever,
and I will seek to save all but myself.
And that 'all' includes you, my dear one.

© Rev'd Tony Ingleby 2003



OUR BIBLE CONSULTANT WRITES...



St. Paul's first letter to the Church in Corinth was NOT his first: there's little doubt that members of that community had replied to an earlier letter and, at the same time, posed a series of questions for him to answer. In addition, members of the church had visited him in Ephesus, where this letter was written in about 53 A.D., and Paul had sent Timothy to Corinth to encourage them in their faith.

Corinth was a large and important city through which many travellers passed on their way to Northern Greece. I think this is one of the longer and more complex of his letters, and also one of the most interesting. I also think it's almost impossible to summarise it adequately in a short space, but I hope this may encourage you to read it for yourself, preferably in fairly large chunks. Many parts of it will be familiar to you from the Sunday bible readings, but the whole has more impact than than the relatively small snippets.

The letter is a complex one and often seems rather haphazard as Paul moves from one topic to another, sometimes answering some query or comment he's had from Corinth or sometimes making striking comments of his own. However, the letter seems to contain at least three recurring features: there are the parts where Paul is explaining his understanding of the gospel; then the parts where he is telling the members of the church how this gospel should effect their behaviour, both in and out of church; and then parts which might be described as poetic meditations. I will try to give at least one example of each, but the other distinguishing feature of this letter is Paul's insistence that he and his fellow apostles were only concerned to preach the gospel.

They were not doing this to make a name for themselves, or to gain power over the various church communities, but because they believed that God had called them to do this through the work of the Holy Spirit; moreover, they were preaching the way of the cross, believing that God had sent his Son, the Christ, to save them from sin and the fear of death. His resurrection was proof that God would also save those who believed in Him. Paul repeats this sentiment several times in a slightly different format, perhaps in response to



criticisms of his work as an apostle, but also because he wants to make it clear that the church community needs to stand on its own feet, yet continue to teach the Good News and find new members to support its work.

It's not surprising that these four features are so consistent that Paul's letters are often referred to as the Gospel of St. Paul.

Two important phrases which pervade our worship and Christian thought probably come from Paul's writing. He often refers to the Body of Christ. In this letter he writes: "Your bodies are the Lord's, the limbs of Christ. Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. Do nothing to degrade your body." Paul



also writes about a central part of the Eucharist, the breaking of bread. In the translation by Richmond Lattimore it reads: "God will support you because we many are one loaf, one body, for we all partake of the one loaf." Paul devotes a lot of space to the expected behaviour of followers, both inside and outside the church. We're all familiar with his writings about the gifts of the spirit which come from God. This section ends with Paul writing: "God has established apostles, prophets, teachers, those with powers, healers, those who are helpful, those who govern, and those who speak with tongues. Aspire to the greater."

What stays in my mind, however, is what he writes about worship in church: "It is better to prophesy or teach than to speak in tongues if it needs translation. Instruments without notes cannot make a recognisable tune. If you are prophesying, teaching or answering questions, then God is among you. Share songs or lessons or revelation or speech with tongues or interpretation - let all be for edification. If not, stay silent and speak to God."



Paul's most memorable writing is his meditation that "Love is patient, is kind, love has no jealousy, does not swagger..." The introduction is just as memorable: "But now I show you a way which is even better. If I speak with the tongues of men and angels, but have no love, all I am is sounding bronze or clashing cymbal. And if I have the gift of prophesy and know all mysteries and all understanding, and if I have faith entire so as to move mountains, and have no love, I am nothing. And if I give all I have in alms, and if I give my body to be burned, and have no love, it does me no good."

Cyril Selmes

Prayer Cycle for May

- Thur 1** For peace between nations: for the restoration of the authority of the United Nations Organisation
- Fri 2** For our National Health Service, our hospitals, nursing homes and local surgeries
- Sat 3** For those who suffer any form of mental illness and their families, that they may find our attitude towards them sensitive and helpful
- Sun 4** For all who are called to preach today
- Mon 5** For our branch of the Mothers' Union
- Tue 6** For all who serve in local Government
- Wed 7** For the safety of all holiday-makers
- Thur 8** That all members of the public may offer their full support to our Police Forces in all matters with which they have to deal
- Fri 9** For skill and wisdom in the management of affairs in Iraq
- Sat 10** For all who live alone and find it difficult: for the housebound
- Sun 11** For Rowan our Archbishop, and Peter our Bishop
- Mon 12** For the families of all who have lost their lives during recent warfare
- Tue 13** For those who are experiencing difficulty in their marriage relationship
- Wed 14** For Dorothy House and all hospices
- Thur 15** For parents with handicapped children
- Fri 16** For all who mourn, especially those mourning the loss of a child or children
- Sat 17** For those responsible for Christian broadcasts on radio or television
- Sun 18** For our Clergy team and their families
- Mon 19** For those who suffer any form of mental illness and their families, that they may find our attitude towards them sensitive and helpful
- Tue 20** For John and Chris our Churchwardens, Angela our Churchwarden elect, and for David, our Treasurer

-
- Wed* 21 For the work of USPG
- Thur* 22 For Mark our Director of Music, David our Organist, our Choir and any others who offer music as part of our worship
- Fri* 23 For the turning of the hearts and minds of those of any faith or none who believe hatred to be a virtue and who plan evil towards others
- Sat* 24 Let us give thanks for John and Charles Wesley, and pray for unity within the Methodist Church
- Sun* 25 For all who are training for ordination
- Mon* 26 For our Junior Church and those who care for its members
- Tue* 27 For those whose life appears to them to be without purpose
- Wed* 28 For Tom and Cyril our Readers: for Sarah's ministry at Batheaston
- Thur* 29 Let us rejoice on this day of triumph on which our Incarnate Lord took our nature into Heaven
- Fri* 30 For the work of the Children's Society (C of E)
- Sat* 31 Let us give thanks for the blessings of the month now ending
- June*
- Sun* 1 For the work and witness of Churches Together in Bath
- Mon* 2 For seafarers and the work of the Mission to Seafarers
- Tue* 3 For those who work in the Social Services
- Wed* 4 For any who feel unloved
- Thur* 5 For all with low self-esteem
- Fri* 6 That our nation's wealth may be more fairly distributed
- Sat* 7 For all who drive on our roads, that they may do so responsibly
- Sun* 8 For our Clergy team and their families

*They suffer with their Lord below,
They reign with him above,
Their profit and their joy to know
The mystery of his love.*

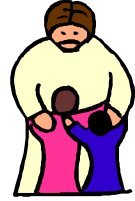
"Hold the Back Page!"

From the Church Register

Funerals

4th April: Edward Antony Claridge aged 26 years

22nd April: Basil Henry Sheldon aged 94 years



Share the News

When you buy your copy of our monthly magazine why not push the boat out and get an extra copy to give to a friend or neighbour?

It is a simple act of outreach, and experience suggests that it is very much appreciated.



Joke of the Month

Vicar: Fred, why aren't you singing in the choir any more?

Fred: Well, Vicar, I missed a service last month and a rumour went round that the organ had been tuned.

Stop Press!

As the magazine goes to print news comes in that Angela Soboslay and Chris Gladstone have been elected as churchwardens for the year 2003 –2004.

For Chris this is a re-election but Angela takes up this important post for the first time.

Most readers will know Angela, her husband Alex and children Alexander and Jenny. The whole family have been popular and active members of our church for many years. We thank Chris for his work last year and for agreeing to continue as we welcome Angela to her new role. A profile of Angela will appear in next month's magazine.



WHO'S WHO?

OFFICIATING MINISTER

The Rev Antony Claridge, 62 Cranwells Park, Weston, BA1 2YE Tel: 427462

ASSISTANT CLERGY

The Rev Cliff Burrows, Stonecroft, Entry Hill Drive, BA2 5NL. Tel: 334743

The Rev Marianne Atkinson, 17 Claude Avenue, Bath BA2 1AE Tel: 331525

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Tom Slade, 42 Rockcliffe Road, Bathwick, BA2 6QE. Tel: 465864

Cyril Selmes, 10 Daffords Buildings, Larkhall, BA1 6SG. Tel: 420039

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Chris Gladstone, 16 Croft Road, Fairfield Park, BA1 6JJ. Tel: 444938

HON SECRETARY to Church Council

Nicky Gladstone, 16 Croft Road, Fairfield Park, BA1 6JJ. Tel: 444938

HON TREASURER

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DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

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MAGAZINE EDITOR: Nicky Gladstone. Email: magazine@christchurchbath.org

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JUNIOR CHURCH and CRECHE

Emma Elliott, 32 Broadmoor Lane, Weston, Bath BA1 4JY Tel: 445360

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY (CofE)

Ann Kemp, 23 Belvedere, Bath BA1 5ED Tel: 313417

USPG & MISSIONARY COMMITTEE

Adrian Pegg, 68 London Road West, Bath BA1 7DA. Tel: 858809

MOTHERS UNION BRANCH

DEANERY

Margaret Burrows, Stonecroft, Entry Hill Drive, BA2 5NL. Tel: 334743

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CHRIST CHURCH, JULIAN ROAD

DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS IN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

PAST HISTORY

Christ Church was built at the end of the 18th Century by the socially concerned clergy and lay people for those excluded from worship by the system of pew rents. It was probably the first church of that time to provide seating free of charge. Early supporters included the Archbishops of Canterbury and York; the great evangelical campaigner against slavery, William Wilberforce; Philip Pusey, the father of E B Pusey; and Martin Stafford Smith, the godfather of John Keble, who were both founders of the Oxford Movement. The building was designed by the famous Bath architect John Palmer, who was responsible for the completion of the Great Pump Room, Lansdown Crescent and St Swithin's, the parish church of Walcot. In November 1998, the congregation, friends and well-wishers from all over the world celebrated the bicentenary.

MINISTRY

Christ Church is unusual in not being a parish church. Much of the vitality of its life and worship derives from the fact that the congregation comes from all areas of the city and the surrounding districts. Whilst there is no full-time paid vicar, there is a non-stipendiary priest-in-charge, who leads a ministerial team of ordained and lay people. Worship at Christ Church largely reflects the traditions of those responsible for its foundation and the rich diversity of the Church of England as a whole. Thus, preaching and Bible-based teaching is firmly set within a liturgical setting which is best described as liberal and catholic.

SERVICES

The 8am Holy Communion is either Book of Common Prayer (1662) or Common Worship. At 10am the Family Eucharist is celebrated according to Common Worship. On the first Sunday of each month, there is a full Choral Evensong. A more informal discussion-based service is held on the third Sunday of the month. A Junior Church and a Crèche cater for the children and young people who attend the 10am service. At festivals such as Easter, Christmas, Mothering Sunday and Harvest, our special services, designed for the whole family, are very popular.

There are a variety of mid-week activities including Holy Communion at 11am every Thursday (with lunch on the first and third weeks of the month). The notice board and the weekly notice sheet provide details of discussion and prayer groups which are held at different times throughout the year. An all-age choir, which rehearses on Friday evenings, maintains the much-admired music tradition at Christ Church.

THE CHURCH MAGAZINE

Currently published on the first Sunday of every month, Christ Church Challenge brings news of the church locally, in the Diocese, and throughout the world.

Articles or news items MUST be with the Editor by the 15th of the month preceding the publication date