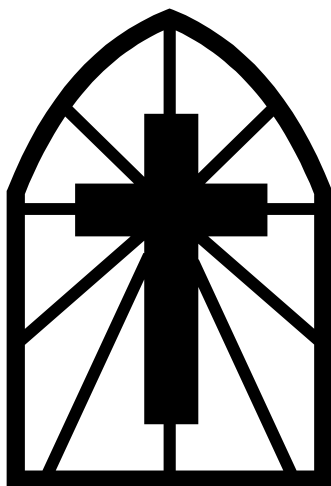


CHRIST CHURCH CHALLENGE



November 2005

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

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

Chris and Angela, 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.

Following the more slimline magazine last month, we have an embarrassment of riches in this edition. Many thanks to "Special Correspondent" Simon Cave for his report on the Jonathan Aitken lecture at the end of September which appears on p11.

Marion Stoneham responded to our appeal for tales of your summer holidays in style - turn to page 14 for her thrilling account of her trip.

The back of the magazine features a new regular column. "Big Questions, Little Answers" is a new questionnaire which will be testing members of the congregation from now on. Mark Elliott gets the ball rolling on page 18.

Forum...



All Change

An ancient Greek philosopher once wrote, “All is flux, nothing stays still. Nothing endures but change.”

Many of us fear change and avoid it at all costs and in doing so lose a vital opportunity; the chance to right wrong or to make things better. One of the passages from Isaiah often heard as Advent draws near reflects a desperate yearning for change.

*O that thou wouldst rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains might quake at thy presence -
as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to
boil -
to make thy name known to thy adversaries, and that the
nations might tremble at thy presence! 64.1*

This text comes from Israel’s exile period following the destruction of Jerusalem in the sixth century BCE. The royalty and intelligentsia of God’s chosen people have been taken to captivity in Babylon. Writing as enslaved prisoners in a foreign land, the prophet and his people feel abandoned by God and without hope. They wait for God to be real in their present as they remember Him active in their past. They need reassurance that there is a God who cares, who will save them from their suffering.

The experience of the Israelites in exile seems a pre-echo of our own yearning to transform the world in which we live. Inspired and led by God – if only he will come to us - there is so much we would change.

During Advent we prepare and wait for the coming of Christ. And the trouble with waiting is that it requires both courage and faith. With it there often comes that sense of hopelessness which makes us give up waiting and looking forward and become content with things as they are. It takes vision, hope and faith to wait.

Nowadays there is a tendency to rush into the Christmas season without much thought for Advent. We want to sing the Christmas carols at the beginning of November! We can’t wait for the tree to be

decorated and the three wise men to arrive with their gifts. However, if we have a yearning deep within, if we seek God to transform our lives, if we too wait for God to make the mountains tremble, we should appreciate the possibility of Advent.

Just because we can't see the solution doesn't mean there isn't one. Advent is about listening for God's solution in our waiting. As Advent draws near it would be good to think of using it as a means to nurture that longing within our hearts for something new, something better in our lives and the world. Jon Magnuson wrote: -

"Everything is changing. Nothing remains as it is. All that we cherish and hope for is being transformed into something else...mystics remind us not to despair. An eternal, hidden tapestry, they say, surrounds us all. The sages invite us to make connection with it. Choose a place, they say, any place, and commit yourself fully, for whatever time given you, to making that one small corner of the universe more beautiful, more just, more compassionate, and the world will be a better place because you have passed through."

Whether you find chance threatening or an opportunity, God is with us in the waiting. Only God remains the same. *"Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."* (James 1:17)

Antony

We have received a note from Margaret Heath, who writes,

"Very warm thanks indeed for a lovely bunch of flowers - they lasted so well, and with your message cheered me so much. Thank you too, for kind cards, and in some cases, donations in memory of Mark, to our Ammerdown Centre Library.

I am busy working on the Thanksgiving Service, then hope to reply to all the messages individually, and hope to be at Christ Church soon.

Love to all, Margaret.

Church Calendar for November

Nov	6	Sun	THE THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT	
			5.00pm	Said Evening Prayer
	7	Mon	7.30pm	Church Council
	8	Tue	SAINTS AND MARTYRS OF ENGLAND	
	10	Thur	LEO THE GREAT, Bishop & Teacher of the Faith - 461	
	13	Sun	THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY	
			5.00pm	Said Evening Prayer
	15	Tue	2.30pm	Mothers' Union Closing AGM
	19	Sat	HILDA, Abbess - 680	
	20	Sun	THE FESTIVAL OF CHRIST THE KING	
			5.00pm	Said Evening Prayer
	24	Thur	11.00am	Holy Communion followed by lunch
	25	Fri	ISAAC WATTS, Hymn Writer - 1748	
	27	Sun	ADVENT SUNDAY	
			6.30pm	Advent Carol Service at Christ Church with the congregations of St Stephens and St Mary's, Charlcombe
	30	Wed	ST ANDREW THE APOSTLE	
Dec	4	Sun	THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT	
			5pm	Said Evening Prayer

Laity Rota for September

Readers	OT Readers	NT Readers	Gospel	
November	6	Jane Fletcher	Sarah Hiscock	Matthew Jones
	13	Chris Munday	Ann Kemp	Margaret Burrows
	20	Sarah Jones	Judith Anderson	Judith Bishop
	27		Junior Church	
December	4	Audrey Sheppard	Judith Bishop	Rosanne Gabe
	11		Junior Church	

Chalice Assistants

November	6	Janet Mahto	Penny Edwards
	13	Bob Siderfin	Tessa Claridge
	20	Rosanne Gabe	Margaret Burrows
	27	Janet Mahto	Chris Graham
December	4	Ann Kemp	Jane Fletcher
	11	Penny Edwards	Bob Siderfin

Intercessors

November	6	David Marles
	13	Rev Cliff Burrows
	20	Chris Graham
	27	Junior Church
December	4	Georgina Bowman
	11	Junior Church



Sidespeople	8am	10am		
November	6	Dil Jones	Chris Tanner	Ann Charman
	13	Dorothy Twissell	Tessa Claridge	Jean Ferguson
	20	Barbara Hayward	Nicky & Joshua Gladstone	
	27	Clive Tilling	Margaret Silver	Frank Twissell
December	4	Elizabeth Iden-Hart	Ken & Sylvia Ayers	
	11	Dil Jones	David Marles	Joan Bunkin

Lectionary for November

	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
Nov 6	The Third Sunday before Advent		
	Amos 5. 18-24	1 Thessalonians 4.13-18	Matthew 25. 1-13
13	The Second Sunday before Advent - Remembrance Sunday		
	No reading	1 Thessalonians 5. 1-11	Matthew 25. 14-30
20	The Sunday Next before Advent - Christ the King		
	Ezekiel 34.11-16, 20-24	Ephesians 1.15-23	Matthew 25. 31-46
27	Advent Sunday		
	Isaiah 64.1-9	1 Corinthians 1. 3-9	Mark 13. 24-37
Dec 4	The Second Sunday of Advent		
	Isaiah 40.1-11	2 Peter 3.8-15a	Mark 1.1-8

Our Calendar Correspondent Explains...

“St Hilda, Abbess” (19th November)

St. Hilda was the daughter of Prince Hereric of Deira, a nephew of King Edwin, by his wife, Lady Bregswith. Hereric had followed his uncle into exile during the invasions of King Aethelfrith of Bernicia and Hilda was probably born at the court of King Raedwald of East Anglia at Rendlesham in Suffolk.

Hilda was baptised by St. Paulinus in AD 627, was apparently educated by him and entered the service of the Lord at the age of thirty-three. In AD 657, Abbess Hilda had founded a double monastery of both monks and nuns at Whitby (*Streoneshall*) and here she finally settled. Hilda was a patroness of the arts and a notable teacher, whose advice was sought by Kings and Abbots alike; while her monastery became famed as a centre of learning. It trained at least five bishops.

St. Hilda was buried at Whitby and miracles were soon reported at her tomb. She was venerated as a saint and her bones suitably enshrined. Her shrine was demolished, in AD 800, when Whitby Abbey was sacked by the Danes; but her body was, apparently, recovered from the ruins by King Edmund the Magnificent in the 10th century. He gave them to the Abbey of Glastonbury in Somerset where they were revered until the Reformation.

Churches Together in Bath

Notes from the Meeting at Argyle URC on September 21st

In Christian Aid Week 2005, the final total for Bath, including tax refunded, was £41,303, which is almost the same as in 2004. Grateful thanks were expressed to all who took part. A new map is being prepared for visitors showing all the Bath Churches. It will be based on the Tourist Office Map, but with the local attraction sites removed. Younger helpers are urgently required to staff the Open House Coffee Shop in Manvers Street, as through age or infirmity, the number of available assistants has now fallen.

On July 16th 2006, Churches Together plan to hold a Summer "Fun Days" in Parade Gardens, consisting of activities for Children, Refreshments and a "Songs of Praise" service. All this of course requires a great deal of organisation, so co-operation is required from all the churches. Will YOU be part of the Working Group now being set up for this project? Please let me know now, as if Congregational participation is not forthcoming, the event will again have to be cancelled.

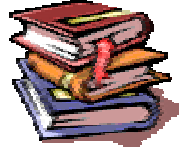
The Road Peace Service will be on Sun November 20th 2005 at 6pm at St. Mary's Bathwick, and will be taken by the Vicar, Rev David Protheroe. Our MP Don Foster, and representatives from the Police, Fire and Ambulance Services, the Bath Chronicle and the Mayor's Office have all been invited. It was stressed that many of the bereaved come from long distances to attend the Service, so it would be a great comfort to them if members of local Churches could also be present.

If you can respond to any of the above three appeals, do please speak to me now, so that I can pass on your offers of help to the next CTB meeting which is on November 17th.

The Joint Alpha Initiative ten week Course of lunchtime lectures runs at the Guildhall from October 3rd to December 5th, with sessions at 9.45. 12.15 and 7pm. A basement area at St. Michael's, Broad Street has been set aside for parents to care for their children, so there should be no problems with attendances. Over 800 tickets were sold for this unique opportunity to explore the meaning of life.

Sylvia Ayers CTB Representative (Central Zone)

USPG Report



Our Book Fair held in September produced quite an amazing result. The total at present stands at £403.09. Although we sell on the day itself - items which are donated during the year are offered for sale to the public and therefore command a better price when sold at specialist fairs. Also, donations whether in cash or cheque helped our total.

May I thank the team who gave up two days to help, namely Dorothy Twissell, Margaret Silver and Jane Fletcher. Also, a big thank you to those who gave items to sell. Without your support, we could not raise the monies we do.

Adrian Pegg

A Friend



The Christ Church Friends in Deed scheme is designed to provide a network of good neighbours, called Area Wardens. These Area Wardens have volunteered to do the neighbourly things we used to do for each other when we lived closer together. When the need arises, they are prepared on request to:

- make friendship visits or telephone calls
- do shopping at times of illness or infirmity
- offer or find sources of advice
- handle occasional non-specialist odd jobs

All areas in which church members live are covered by the Friends in Deed scheme. If you need or know of someone else who needs help, you should in the first instance contact the Friends in Deed Co-ordinators, Jane Fletcher (01225 463758) and Yvonne Morris (01225 425555). They will then get in touch with the Area Warden best able to provide the help that is needed.

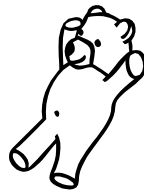
A note from the Editor...

"I am a Lady, you know, and as such don't feel that I can adequately check out a new discussion website for Christian Men looking to share their views on, presumably all things masculine and Christian, with similar minded chaps. If any male readers feel like having a look at it and reporting back, then why not log on to www.geezersforjesus.co.uk. No, honestly. Thanks, Nicky xx"

MOTHERS' UNION NEWS

We sincerely thank those members of the congregation who so generously supported our Autumn Women's Refuge Appeal by bringing in such a lovely lot of domestic items. We will continue to receive gifts and donations until November 6th, after which our Deanery Contact has promised to make time in her busy schedule to deliver the parcels. For details of their requirements, readers should refer to the October Magazine.

I recently received a letter from Diana Emery, who is our contact for the "Teddies for Tragedies". Unfortunately the scheme has now had to be terminated, because the cellophane factory at Bridgwater, where the container was packed, has ceased trading, and the organisers have been unable to find an alternative site where this facility can be accommodated.



Diana writes: "This was a wonderful project, and I do thank you and your friends for helping to bring a smile to the faces of hundreds of little ones throughout the world, often in some very sad areas." To this, I would like to add my own thanks to our Christ Church knitters, whose many hours of dedication produced the 91 toys which I have been able to send off since 2001. If any member of the Congregation is still knitting for us, please continue, as your efforts can now be given instead to the Womens' Refuge, who often welcome children who would appreciate the comfort of a Teddy.

Our closing AGM as a Branch will be on Tuesday 15th November, and the meeting will be hosted by Joan Bunkin instead of using the Vestry, as our numbers are now smaller than ever, and a larger room would not be required.

Sylvia M. Ayers (MU Secretary)

Jonathan Aitken at the Guildhall

September 26th 2005

Some came, I suppose, like me. Intrigued at the prospect of witnessing a public figure who had been disgraced. Quite what he had done was perhaps unclear in the memory. It didn't matter. Some tabloid newspaper caricature of arrogance and corruption, perhaps a sacrifice to atone for Thatcherism. The frisson of the extremely privileged brought low. The conjunction of celebrity and scandal that is the mainstay of our popular culture.

So the great throng of respectable Bath people settled in their chairs in the Guildhall to await Jonathan Aitken's side of things.

And there, suddenly, he was on the podium, handsome and patrician as might have been expected, but humble and speaking with a quiet force. Speaking with the authority that only those who have lost everything can command. He started with the drama and horror of the day he was found guilty and sent to prison. His complete ruin, played out in front of the entire press and television. His utter humiliation. His fear. Fear of what his fellow-inmates would do to him.

Then he explained his previous involvement, unwilling at first, with an Alpha course. How his Christian belief provided him with strength in his ordeal. How he came to be respected in prison, admired even by very hardened men who lived desperate lives. In time, his faith worked itself so powerfully on the minds of these other prisoners that many came to see the need in their lives for God.

Many left, I'm sure, the Guildhall in a contemplative mood. Impressed with the quiet force of what he had to say. Here was a man who had been a man to be pitied, who had fallen into an abyss. Here was a man who was now to be envied, whose life was fruitful and hopeful. Maybe many people came to the evening as to an entertainment, but what they got was a parable. A parable of Christian love as a, the, great redemptive force.

Simon Cave

Congratulations!

The following article is taken from the online newsletter of the University of Wales Institute, Cardiff (UWIC)..

“A University of Wales Institute, Cardiff Food and Consumer Science graduate has won the Institute of Consumer Sciences (ICSc) 2005 student award for *Best Dissertation*. Twenty-one year-old Oliver Kirkbride, originally from Bath, who graduated from UWIC in July 2005 with a First Class Honours degree, won the national award for his entry *Food – Use it or lose it!* The top prize of £300 and a free years’ associate membership of the ICSc will be presented to Oliver at an award ceremony at the South West branch student meeting in November.

Oliver’s winning dissertation investigated the reasons why students are not taking Food Science and Technology at A-level and beyond, the implications of this for the food industry, and suggestions for how this trend could be reversed.

A short report on the dissertations’ findings will be published in a forthcoming issue of leading trade publication *Consumer Sciences Today*.

One of the competition’s judges Dr Phil Lyon of the ICSc said: “Oliver was the clear winner. No other entry was, in our opinion, close enough to warrant division of the award and prize money.”

Immediate past chair of the ICSc Dr Ruth Fairchild, senior lecturer at UWIC and Oliver’s dissertation tutor, said: “The findings of this research are going to be of immense help in the future marketing of food, consumer and related courses.

“They will also aid in decreasing the severe shortage of food knowledge and skills amongst managers needed in the food industry and teachers within schools, which are areas very dear to the Institutes’ heart.”

Since graduating from UWIC, Oliver has secured a post as a sensory scientist in the food industry.”

Warmest congratulations from all at Christ Church to Oliver, who can be congratulated in person at the Christmas Fair on 10th December!

LMG NEWS

Home from home

It was good to have Jonathan Lloyd as celebrant at Christ Church at the end of October. He has spoken of the warmth of the welcome he received and a sense that our church is as much home to him as St. Mary's and St. Stephen's. Antony will be preaching at St. Mary's and St. Stephen's on Sunday 4th December.

Hosting at Advent

The churches of St. Mary's and St. Stephen's do not have an Advent Carol Service. This being so, we have invited the two congregations to join us at 6.30 pm on Advent Sunday. Please make a note in your diaries now so that we can have a large crowd of Christ Church people to welcome our new friends. We plan to offer refreshments after the service and so we shall also be glad of volunteers for that part of the evening. In the light of Antony's *Forum* article, we should see this service as an opportunity to see the change to a Local Ministry Group as something that will express the hope and vitality of the gospel message.

Home and Away

We all like to be beside the seaside and with this in mind Jonathan Lloyd has invited us all to join his congregation on a weekend away in Torquay. He has chosen a conference centre which caters for the needs and interests of all ages. Brunel Manor offers facilities for those who like to be active as well as those who prefer quiet relaxation. The weekend will be a wonderful opportunity to talk about our new life as a wider worshipping and witnessing community and to enjoy what the travel agents call " a short break". The dates are 9th – 11th June and we have to confirm numbers early in December. Look out for the leaflet with full details which will be in church very soon. The price of the weekend will be subsidised to make it possible for as many people as possible to take part.

The Grand Canyon - Rim to Rim

In 2001, I walked to the bottom of the Grand Canyon. We descended from the South Rim, on the steep South Kaibab Trail - 6.3 miles, which took 4 hours. At the bottom is Phantom Ranch, where four bunk houses accommodate 20 men and 20 women. There is also a small campsite, and a Lodge for communal meals. Everything at the Ranch is taken down, and brought up, by mule, and so only basic requirements can be met. The following morning after a 5am breakfast, we started our ascent back to the South Rim, this time on the Bright Angel Trail - the most popular of the trails, not least because you are able to replenish your water supply. It is a long climb, and part way up, I declared that I would never do it again! We reached the top - 8.9 miles and seven hours later.

The years passed with the nagging feeling becoming ever greater, that we had not done the trip properly! We should have **crossed** The Canyon from the North Rim to the South Rim. Making arrangements to do this walk, especially from the U.K. are not easy. However we persevered, and eventually managed to make a booking for this September. I was a pensioner last time, but now I am four more years into that position! However, nothing daunted, nothing gained, and so...

On 18 September 2005, I was at the North Rim, on the North Kaibab trail head at 5.45am. This is a long trail of 14.2 miles and we descended with the temperature ever increasing during the course of the day, finally arriving at Phantom Ranch at 3pm. It was a beautiful hike, initially a fairly steep descent, and then much of the last seven miles, beside the Bright Angel Creek. We had decided to spend two nights at the bottom, so we could explore the area a little more, and: see the white water rafters on the Colorado River. With the benefit of a full moon on 20 September, we began our ascent, again on the Bright Angel Trail, at 5.45am. Somehow, it did not seem such a hard climb, perhaps because we were more prepared, whatever, we managed to improve on the previous performance, and reached the top at 12 midday.

This was an exhilarating experience - although probably now undertaken by me for the last time!

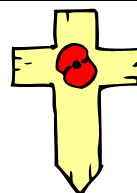
Grand Canyon Facts:



1 mile deep, 10 miles across as the crow flies.
215 miles by road from North to South rim
North Rim elevation 8.800 feet, Temperature 18 September 65F
Phantom Ranch Temperature, 19 September 100F
South Rim elevation 6.900 feet, Temperature 20 September 78F

MarionStoneham

The importance of remembrance



The act of observing a Two Minute Silence began in 1919 following the Armistice at 11am on the 11th November 1918 at the end of the First World War.

In 1921, the year the Legion was formed, 'Armistice Day' was formally adopted as the national day of Remembrance and the British Legion was charged in its Royal Charter with organising "Festivals of Remembrance, services and parades to perpetuate the memory of sacrifices made during service with Our Armed Forces in war and peace".

Since then, the Legion has been responsible for organising national, regional and local ceremonies of Remembrance to reflect the nation's concern that the human cost of war should not be forgotten. These include:

The annual Poppy Appeal – the nation's symbol of Remembrance.

The Two Minute Silence at 11am on 11th November when the nation pauses to honour those who gave their lives for peace and freedom.

The annual Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall to pay tribute to all those who have given their lives for our peace and freedom.

The Parade and Service at the Cenotaph in Whitehall on Remembrance Sunday organised by the MOD in conjunction with the Legion.

This year 11th November falls on a Friday and, as in previous years, millions of people across the nation will stop at 11am for a Two Minute Silence to remember those who fought, and those who are still fighting, for all of us today.

Prayer Cycle for November

- Tue 1** For the work and witness of the Mothers' Union: for Sylvia, Margaret and all members of the Christ Church MU Branch
- Wed 2** For those who are facing retirement, that God will help them with the challenges of their new life
- Thur 3** For intelligent interfaith dialogue; for all those affected in any way by acts of terrorism
- Fri 4** For those who use our roads; for all who are travelling
- Sat 5** For all who are coming to terms with the death of a loved one; for those who are bearing a grief which they cannot share
- Sun 6** For members of our congregation who can no longer attend church due to illness or infirmity
- Mon 7** For David, our Treasurer
- Tue 8** For our Church Council as it meets tonight. For the Trustees of Christ Church, and Yvonne, their Chairman
- Wed 9** For countries of the Third World which suffer through the selfishness of richer nations
- Thur 10** For Angela and Chris, our Churchwardens, and for Frank and Yvonne, our Deputy Churchwardens
- Fri 11** For our Local Ministry Group
- Sat 12** For our readers, Cyril, Tom and Mark. For Sarah's ministry at Batheaston
- Sun 13** For all clergy spouses; for Tessa, Margaret and Chris
- Mon 14** For the work of the Mission to Seafarers
- Tue 15** For those who work behind the scenes to assure the smooth running of our church
- Wed 16** For those facing redundancy, for those who are unemployed
- Thur 17** For our hospitals, nursing homes and local surgeries
- Fri 18** For our HR Group for young people and for their leaders
- Sat 19** For the work of the Children's Society, and for Jenny Wright, our Children's Society Representative

-
- Sun 20** For the Road Peace Service tonight. For all bereaved or injured in road accidents
- Mon 21** For the work of Churches Together in Bath; for Sylvia and Chris, our CTB representatives
- Tue 22** For the homeless; for the work of Julian House and Genesis
- Wed 23** For children being bullied at school. For parents who worry about them and do not know how to help
- Thur 24** For those in prison for whatever reason. For those spending time in young offenders' institutions, and their families
- Fri 25** For Mark, David, Mike and the Choir, as they prepare our music for Advent and Christmas
- Sat 26** For seafarers and the work of the Mission to Seafarers
- Sun 27** For ourselves during this season of Advent, that we will be able to focus on its true significance
- Mon 28** For those for whom the build-up to Christmas is a time of pressure and stress
- Tue 29** We pray for the University Chaplaincy Centre, for Angela the University Chaplain, and for all the chaplains
- Wed 30** Let us thank God for the blessings of the month now ending, and offer him the challenges of the month that is to come

December

- Thur 1** For the departed who have shared their earthly pilgrimage with us
- Fri 2** For our clergy team, Antony, Cliff and Sandy
- Sat 3** For those moving house or looking for a new home, that God's peace will touch them at this stressful time
- Sun 4** For children who care for their parents, either due to illness or old age; for families everywhere
- Mon 5** For Sarah Hiscock who draws up the Laity Rota. For all our readers, chalice assistants, intercessors and sidespeople
- Tue 6** For couples experiencing difficulties in their relationship. For the work of Relate
- Wed 7** For those who are lonely or feel uncared for
- Thur 8** For all doing voluntary service overseas

Big Questions, Little Answers

This month's subject is our new reader, Mark Elliott

Where were you born? Walsall, West Midlands.

What are your hobbies?

Music. Friends. Pubs. Messing with computers.

What car do you drive?

BMW 523SE Touring. Not as posh as it sounds.

What is your favourite film, and why?

Oo, err, urm. Magnolia maybe. Perhaps Highlander. Muppet Christmas Carol!?

What is your favourite kind of music?

Really depends on mood. If pushed I would plump for choral.

What is your favourite kind of meal / food?

Any meal involving friends, conversation and large amounts of red wine.

What has been your proudest moment?

Don't really do proud. Isaac's birth was incredible and scary and humbling. Would that count?

What is the most amazing place you have visited?

Sri Lanka. Staggering country. Very beautiful scenery and people.

What famous person, dead or alive, would you like to meet?

Alive: Stephen Fry. Dead: J S Bach.

What's your pet hate?

Intolerance. Oh, and tomatoes.

What's your favourite book?

Blimey. Urm. Something by Iain Banks maybe? The Wasp Factory or Consider Phlebas.

Tell us a little-known fact about yourself

I am terrified of having my hair cut.

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 Sandy Munday, 18 Chestnut Walk, Saltford, BS31 3BG. Tel 342740

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

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

CHURCHWARDENS

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Angela Soboslay, 285 Newbridge Road, BA1 3HN. Tel: 333297

HON SECRETARY

Nicky Gladstone, 5 Westwoods, Box Road, Bath BA1 7QE Tel: 859969

HON TREASURER

David Marles, 5 Westwoods, Box Road, Bath BA1 7QE Tel: 859969

CHAIRMAN of the TRUSTEES

Yvonne Morris, 3 Summerhill Road, Sion Hill, BA1 2UP. Tel: 425555

DIRECTOR of MUSIC

Mark Elliott (see above)

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BATH

Sylvia Ayers, 5 Forester Avenue, Bath BA2 6QD. Tel: 463976

CHRISTIAN AID/CHILDRENS' SOC

Jenny Wright, Ground Floor Flat, 3 Lansdown Lane, BA1 4LS. Tel:465331

JUNIOR CHURCH

Emma Elliott, 32 Charlcombe Lane, Larkhall, BA1 6NS. Tel: 445360

BOOKINGS AND CALENDAR

Sylvia Ayers (see above)

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MOTHERS UNION BRANCH DEANERY

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

SECRETARY / TREASURER

Sylvia Ayers (see above)

MISSIONS TO SEAFARERS

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LAITY ROTAS

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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 Eucharist is celebrated according to Common Worship. On the first Sunday of each month, there is a full Choral Evensong. A Junior Church and a Crèche cater for the children and young people who attend the 10am service. We hold special all-age services once a month and at festivals such as Easter, Christmas, Mothering Sunday and Harvest.

There are a variety of mid-week activities including Holy Communion at 11am every Wednesday during Lent, followed by lunch). 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.

CHURCH COMMUNICATIONS

Published on the first Sunday of every month, Christ Church Challenge brings news of the church locally, in the Diocese, and throughout the world. Our website is constantly updated and can be found at www.christchurchbath.org

The Editor would be grateful if contributors were to submit articles by the 15th of the month preceding the publication date.