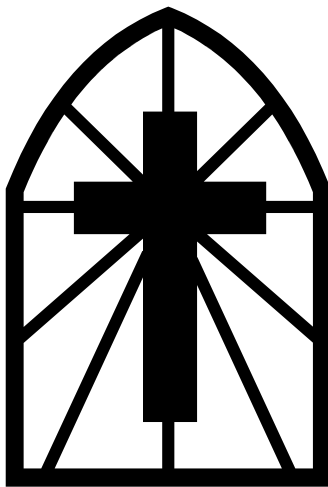


CHRIST  
CHURCH  
CHALLENGE



August 2008

**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

*Angela 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.*

Many thanks, as ever, to all of our contributors. Articles and news items are always most welcome. They can be emailed to [admin@christchurchbath.org](mailto:admin@christchurchbath.org), or handed to Nicky, David or one of the Church Wardens.

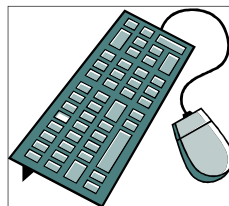


**A very happy Summer break  
to all our readers!**

## Forum...

### Is that holiday half empty or half full?

It has been said that if priests are any good at all, they deserve a month off; on the other hand, if priests are not any good, the congregation deserves a month off. No, I'm not asking you to answer the implied question; let sleeping dogs lie, I always say.



However, by the time you read this, I shall be on holiday in France via the test match at Edgbaston.

It's worth asking what it is I am travelling so far to enjoy. Will it be a vacation? *Vacation* is a word that comes to us with Latin roots, *va-ca-te*, meaning, *to empty*. A vacation, then, becomes a time to let go, to empty oneself of worries and tension, all the busy-ness of every day life. Too often we are too full of ourselves, and there's hardly room for anything else or anyone else. So perhaps a *vacation* is the thing we ought to be searching for as a space empty of burdens, anxiety, calendars and clocks with no sermons to write, no lessons to plan, no elections to contest.

A vacation sounds good thing but we don't often use the word in this country. We talk about the August holiday. *Holiday* is a word with Anglo Saxon roots, "*haelig tag*" meaning a day filled with health and wholeness. In fact, what we might call holiness. Here we are talking about a time, which is not empty but rather filled with something new, with a freshness of being, a sense of the life that comes as gift, a surprise from beyond ourselves. This is a reminder that what we are ultimately filled with and by is the mysterious presence of the Holy One.

It may be that August is intended to be both a vacation and a holiday, a letting go, a willingness to live with emptiness, so that there's space for the Spirit. I've heard it said, that a holiday—a vacation, call it what you will—is important because it brings the recollection that we are human-beings and not just machines. And with a sense of our humanness comes the question of what humans are for.

St Paul was always grappling with this question. In his letters he invited people to let go of their old ways; the rules and the regulations that tied them down and limited their capacity to live and love and know God. He was talking about a vacation from hard-work religion of duty rather than delight.

Paul also proclaimed that human life could be filled with a new and transforming sense of holiness. He said, "so if anyone is in Christ" and filled to overflowing with God's love, with the Holy Spirit "then there is a new creation: everything old has passed away. It seems to me that if you let Paul plan your time off he will help you move from vacation to holy days, from emptiness to fulfilment. It's an awful attempt at a pun but think how you'll put yourself right and be made ready to embrace your real and truest work.

Pass me my bucket and spade!

*Antony*

## Lectionary for August

	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
<b>Aug 3</b>	Trinity 11 (Proper 13)		
	Isaiah 55.1-5	Romans 9.1-5	Matthew 14.13-21
<b>10</b>	Trinity 12 (Proper 14)		
	No reading	Romans 10.5-15	Matthew 14.22-33
<b>17</b>	Trinity 13 (Proper 15)		
	Isaiah 56. 1, 6-8	Romans 11.1-2a, 29-32	Matthew 15.21-28
<b>24</b>	St Bartholomew		
	Isaiah 43.8-13	Acts 5.12-16	Luke 22.24-30
<b>31</b>	Trinity 15 (Proper 17)		
	No reading	Romans 12.9-end	Matthew 16.21-28
<b>Sep 7</b>	Trinity 16 (Proper 18)		
	No reading	Romans 13.8-end	Matthew 18.15-20

# Church Calendar for August

<b>Aug</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>	
	<b>6</b>	<b>Wed</b>	TRANSFIGURATION OF CHRIST	
	<b>8</b>	<b>Fri</b>	11.00am	The Cedar Tree Community Café
	<b>9</b>	<b>Sat</b>	MARY SUMNER, Mothers' Union Founder	
	<b>10</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>	
			ST LAWRECE OF ROME	
	<b>11</b>	<b>Mon</b>	ST CLARE of Assisi	
	<b>13</b>	<b>Wed</b>	FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE	
	<b>15</b>	<b>Fri</b>	THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	
			11.00am	The Cedar Tree Community Café
	<b>17</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>	
	<b>20</b>	<b>Wed</b>	WILLIAM & CATHERINE BOOTH	
			ST BERNARD of Clairvaux	
	<b>22</b>	<b>Fri</b>	11.00am	The Cedar Tree Community Café
	<b>24</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>	
			ST BARTHOLOMEW, Apostle	
	<b>28</b>	<b>Fri</b>	ST AUGUSTINE of Hippo	
	<b>30</b>	<b>Sat</b>	JOHN BUNYAN	
	<b>31</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>	
<b>Sep</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Wed</b>	11.00am	Holy Communion followed by Lunch
	<b>7</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>	
			6.30pm	Choral Evensong



# Laity Rota for August

		OT Readers	NT Readers	Gospel
<b>August</b>	3	David Bishop	Chris Graham	Mark Elliott
	10	No reading	Margaret Heath	Sylvia Ayers
	17	Sarah Hiscock	Judith Anderson	Margaret Burrows
	24	Judith Bishop	Emma Elliott	Richard Gabe
	31	Bev Pont	David Marles	Eileen Selmes
<b>September</b>	7	Martin Palmer	Nicky Gladstone	Bob Siderfin

## Chalice Assistants

<b>August</b>	3	Bev Pont	Margaret Burrows
	10	Margaret Heath	Janet Mahto
	17	Chris Graham	Jane Fletcher
	24	Penny Edwards	Bob Siderfin
	31	Andrew Sillett	Tessa Claridge
<b>September</b>	7	Bev Pont	Margaret Burrows

## Intercessors

<b>August</b>	3	Rev Antony Claridge
	10	Mark Elliott
	17	Martin Palmer
	24	Penny Edwards
	31	Bev Pont
<b>September</b>	7	David Marles



## Sidespeople

		8am	10am	
<b>August</b>	3	Clive Tilling	Tessa Claridge	Janet Mahto
	10	Arthur Jones	Margaret Heath	Andrew Sillett
	17	Clive Tilling	Margaret Silver	Frank Twissell
	24	Arthur Jones	Ken & Sylvia Ayers	
	31	Clive Tilling	Joan Bunkin	Jean Ferguson
<b>September</b>	7	Arthur Jones	Janet Mahto	Margaret Heath

## Do you know...

...the tree whose wood made the frames for harps for centuries, indeed, one was found wrapped in sealskin in the excavation of a Saxon village in Sutton Hoo. The leaves of this tree are also a favoured shape of wood-carvers who adorn the bench ends of cathedrals and other churches.



The leaves are also noted for their spectacular colours, especially in spring and autumn. One of the best places to see them is at Westonbirt Arboretum. These days you have to pay to go in, but when we first came to Bath in the 1960s you could drive in and park near the foresters' log cabin and wander around. There's an amazing collection of trees from all over the world, including the giant Sequoias, large conifers which have such a soft bark that you can punch it hard without hurting your hands. The wood of these trees is also favoured by turners and joiners: turners are able to make dishes and bowls that are almost transparent because they're so thin; whilst joiners make more substantial furniture.



The tree has also given its name to several places in Britain, including Mappledore in Wiltshire. Yes, the tree is a Maple.

*Cyril Selmes*

## **Local Ministry Group News**

### **Three Messages from Charlcombe Church**

#### **BBQ Saturday**

**9<sup>th</sup> August 2008 from 12.30 pm outside the church**

Having enjoyed your company at Brunel Manor come and join us at our annual BBQ (adults £7, children £3).

If you wish to come please ring Pat Prevatt (447469) as soon as you can so that we have some idea of the total number to cater for.

#### **Quiet Garden Afternoon**

**Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> August, 1.15 – 3.45 pm (also on 17<sup>th</sup> Sept.)**

This is a natural follow on from Brunel Manor, a time to be still and open to God's word – led by an experienced person.

12.30 pm Picnic in garden (bring something to sit on)

1.15 pm Meditation – followed by 'quiet time'

2.15 pm Further thoughts – followed by 'quiet time'

3.30 pm Final prayers.

### **Somerset Churches and Chapels, Bike Ride/Walk**

#### **Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> September 2008**

Friends of Somerset Churches and Chapels help with the maintenance of our places of worship. Charlcombe has already had one grant and I expect we will be asking for another when the roof is done. This is one of their major fund raising events. The basic idea is to obtain sponsorship from your friends and visit as many churches as you can. Choose your own route. Half the money raised is returned to your own church so the effort is not entirely altruistic!

At Charlcombe, for a number of years, we have held a walk starting at St Mary's Charlcombe at 9.15 am and visiting the churches at Woolley, Langridge, Northstoke and Weston with tea at Tournesol, Charlcombe Lane, for finishers. The total distance is 13 miles, but the Lansdown Monument provides a convenient half way point where transport back can be arranged.

It is probably the best country walk on this side of Bath. Come and join us but walk only as far as you want to. Further information and sponsorship forms from Richard Brooke (420547).



## **Churches Together in Bath**

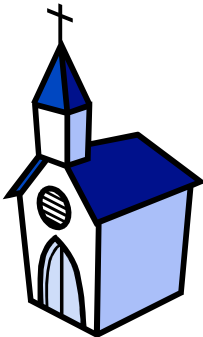
Our last meeting was at St Mary's down the road. Next year's Lent Lunchers won't recognise the venue with a fine new kitchen.

As usual, we discussed past and future activities, taking note of the distinction between what concerned CTB and what just our zone.

Membership of our zone is under review. Some churches steer clear of involvement with Catholics but there are heartening signs of interest from others.

Roger Nunn from CTB announced there was a new, free B&NES Green Companion 2008-09 published by Faragher Jones in Monmouth Street. An Embassy Bible College, with evening classes is starting in Bath in September. The celebrations of 1100 years of the diocese will take place in Glastonbury on 4 July 2009; as Roger pointed out we were all together then and these are not for Anglicans only.

Parking problems are not confined to Anglicans either. Mention of the subject (no prize for guessing out of whose bonnet the bee buzzed) raised a furor, as did problems of rubbish and recycling collections for churches. (Do you know the corny old one of an Italian accountant for our ex-pat church who got the stress wrong and said "I can understand 'collection' in the income column but not 'reFUSE collection' in outgoings." Sorry about that one.) Kieran to liaise with Jeremy to make representations to relevant authorities about lack of consultation and churches of all denominations having a rough time.



The Travelling Light has been found in the sanctuary of St Michael's and is restarting going from church to church. It is appreciated that reactions to this news may be mixed.

The next CTB newsletter, which will be Roger's last, is due out in September.

*Margaret Heath*

## DEANERY SYNOD REPORT

Margaret Silver, Dorothy Twissell and I enjoyed the Deanery Outing to Wells to see the improvements at the Cathedral. These include the clearing of the cloisters, opening of crypt with ramp access, vastly better facilities for visiting groups and choirs, the unblocking of three medieval doorways and much else. Impressive.

Sarah Hiscock, Lewis Boyd and I attended the first meeting of the new Deanery Synod on the feast of St ("doubting") Thomas at St John's, Bathwick. The Bishop of Taunton celebrated the Eucharist - cantor and incense - and preached stressing that commitment to Christ should make us more alive.

After the service we elected Martin Pavey as Secretary and Colin Hunt to continue as Treasurer. In our two Houses the clergy elected Revd Ian Lewis, Revd Tim King, Revd Richard Wilson and Revd Alison Fry to join the ex officio members Revd Patrick Whitworth, Rural Dean and the assistant Rural Deans Revd Martin Lloyd Williams and Revd Paul Langham on the committee. We laity elected Pippa Page, All Saints Weston, Deborah Bunn, Freshford, Brian Williams, Odd Down and Ann Taylor, Bath Abbey.

None of your three reps stood and no voting was needed.

Jeremy Key-Pugh was re-elected Lay Chair.

After coffee in our two Houses, we reunited to hear reports from various churches, for example the Rector mentioned the lunchtime programme at the Abbey and Elizabeth McClune our forthcoming Brunel Manor weekend.

The issue of parking was aired. More double yellow lines round churches were most unwelcome, as were increased costs, affecting eg "St Michael's by Waitrose". It was agreed that Jeremy make representations, on behalf of all the churches affected, with the relevant authority.

There was a very relaxed atmosphere and the coffee break gave a chance to renew friendships, indeed we were with difficulty dragged back to business.

*Margaret Heath*

The Lord bless you and keep you.

## USPG News

It seems a long time since I gave you news about St Anne's Hospital in Nkhotakota, Malawi.



Over the last year, St Anne's hospital has been running a training project for traditional birth attendants with the aim of reducing maternal and infant mortality rates by 25% by 2010. The basis of the project is to train 145 traditional birth attendants not only in midwifery skills but also in family planning and HIV/AIDS.

The Safe Motherhood project will provide the traditional birth attendants with medications (such as iron pills, anti-malaria drugs and eye ointments for babies), and equipment such as bicycle ambulances and traditional birth attendant kits to enable deliveries compliant with acceptable hygienic standards.

St Anne's Hospital encourages high risk antenatal mothers to come and wait in St Mary's ward during their final months of pregnancy. Whereas the ward used to house a daily average of 12 mothers-in-waiting, thus has now risen to 65, demonstrating how much the local community appreciates the hospital's care. As there is inadequate accommodation the hospital is having to resort to 'floor beds'.

Running the hospital has the same financial problems experienced by our own in the UK. Often there are difficulties in settling the dramatically increased water bills, and there is a shortage of linen and blankets. The demand for laundry soap and sterilising supplies such as chlorine has become a major financial burden for the hospital.

Please think of the Hospital in your prayers and the good work they achieve, and if you would like to assist our project in a financial way please get in contact with me, and I will arrange for the monies to go to USPG.

*Adrian Pegg*



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# Prayer Cycle for August

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*August*

- Fri 1** For those who feel that no-one appreciates or cares about them.
- Sat 2** For all being mistreated or suffering injustice.
- Sun 3** For our next-door neighbours; for our colleagues at work.
- Mon 4** For our next-door neighbours; for our colleagues at work.
- Tues 5** For David, our Treasurer.
- Wed 6** For all our readers, chalice assistants, intercessors and sidespeople.  
For Sarah, who draws up the Laity Rotas
- Thurs 7** For those who will not have any kind of holiday this year.
- Fri 8** For Margaret, Sarah and Lewis, our Deanery Synod representatives.
- Sat 9** For the Mothers Union; for its work around the world and all who share the vision of its founder.
- Sun 10** For our Clergy Team.
- Mon 11** For all being mistreated or suffering injustice. For all prisoners who are held without trial or without the protection of legal systems.
- Tues 12** For Judith, who prepares our weekly notice sheet
- Wed 13** For Rowan our Archbishop and for Peter our Bishop. For all Anglican Bishops and Primates.
- Thurs 14** For those who mourn, that they may be comforted.
- Fri 15** For the Cedar Tree project; for Nicky and all the helpers; for our local community.
- Sat 16** For Angela, our Verger
- Sun 17** For all who help to run our Junior Church, for Sarah who co-ordinates the rota, and for all our children.
- Mon 18** For all members of Christ Church, that this summer may bring them peace, refreshment and strength.

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- Tues 19** For our hospitals, nursing homes and local surgeries.
- Wed 20** For our LMG partners, St Stephen's and St Mary's Charlcombe. For all meeting in the garden at Charlcombe today.
- Thurs 21** For St Mary's, St Andrew's, St Swithun's and all our local churches.
- Fri 22** For those coping with terminal illness. For their families and all who care for them
- Sat 23** For intelligent interfaith dialogue; for all those affected by acts of terrorism
- Sun 24** .For the work of the Royal School of Church Music. For attending its courses this summer.
- Mon 25** For Cyril and Mark our Readers; for Sarah's ministry at Batheaston
- Tues 26** For those facing redundancy, for those who are unemployed. For those facing imminent financial uncertainty.
- Wed 27** For those in prison for whatever reason. For those spending time in young offenders' institutions, and their families.
- Thurs 28** For couples experiencing difficulties in their relationship. For the work of Relate.
- Fri 29** For the work of USPG around the world.
- Sat 30** For those who make coffee for us to enjoy after the 10am Communion service. That we may give a warm welcome to all visitors to the church this summer.
- Sun 31** Let us thank God for the blessings of the month now ending.
- September**
- Mon 1** For children preparing to go to a new school or joining a different class. For all who pray for the opportunity of a fresh start.
- Tues 2** For members of our congregation who can no longer attend church due to illness or infirmity.
- Wed 3** For all those attending the service and lunch at Christ Church today.

***Royal School of Church Music festival service  
Our Local Ministry Group chosen as hosts***

For many years, the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) has held a summer school in Bath. Boys and girls from all over the country come here to enjoy a singing holiday and improve their musical knowledge and skill. Our very own, Mark Elliott came to it as a boy chorister so you can tell what an old tradition it is!

Our Local Ministry Group has been asked to host a Choral Eucharist to be sung by the RSCM Junior Choir. As the youngsters are based at Kingswood School this service will take place at St Stephen's Lansdown at 11am on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August at 11am.

This will be the only mid-morning service within the LMG on that day. The congregations of Christ Church, St Stephen's and St Mary's Charlcombe will all be in one place to welcome the children and the their parents. Antony has been invited to celebrate and preach.

For those unable to get to St Stephen's for the 11 am Eucharist there will be a said service of Holy Communion at Christ Church at 8 am.

**The Healthy Churches' Handbook: A Process for Revitalizing Your Church  
Robert Warren, published by Church House Publishing, 2004**

This book is a practical guide to help churches identify their strengths and weaknesses and discover what action to take in order to develop the health of their church. The focus is on the quality of the church's life rather than just the numbers attending.

Churches are helped to assess themselves against seven marks of a healthy church. The goal is not easy solutions, but rather encountering the reality of God's presence in and through the life of each church.

A healthy church:

- ✚ is energized by faith;
- ✚ is outward-looking;
- ✚ seeks to find out what God wants;
- ✚ faces the cost of change and growth;
- ✚ operates as a community;
- ✚ makes room for all;
- ✚ does a few things and does them well.

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Officiating Minister	The Rev Antony Claridge, 62 Cranwells Park, Weston, Bath BA1 2YE 01225 427462
Assistant Clergy	The Rev Cliff Burrows, Stonecroft, Entry Hill Drive, Bath BA2 5NL 01225 334743
Reader / Director of Music	Mark Elliott, 32 Charlcombe Lane, Larkhall, Bath BA1 6NS 01225 445360
Reader / Magazine Distributor and Editor Emeritus	Cyril Selmes, 10 Daffords Buildings, Larkhall, Bath BA1 6SG 01225 420039
Churchwarden	Chris Gladstone, 5 Westwoods, Box Road, Bath BA1 7QE 01225 859969
Churchwarden / Verger	Angela Soboslay, 285 Newbridge Road, Bath BA1 3HN 01225 333297
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Secretary to the Trustees and Editor Emeritus	Nicky Gladstone, 5 Westwoods, Box Road, Bath BA1 7QE 01225 859969
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Deanery Synod / Churches Together in Bath (CTB)	Margaret Heath, St Lawrence, Lansdown Road, Bath BA1 5TD 01225 428272
Deanery Synod	Lewis Boyd
Mothers' Union (MU)	Margaret Burrows, Stonecroft, Entry Hill Drive, Bath BA2 5NL 01225 334743
CTB / MU Secretary & Treasurer / Missions to Seafarers / Calendar	Sylvia Ayers, 5 Forester Avenue, Bath BA2 6QD 01225 463976
USPG	Adrian Pegg, 68 London Road West, Bath BA1 7DA 01225 858809
Christian Aid / Children's Society	Your name here? Speak to Chris or Angela!
Organist	David Wrigley, 3 Haydon Gate, Radstock, BA3 3RB 01761 439355
Concert and Bookings Co-ordinator / Weekly Notices	Judith Bishop, 01225 869409 Email <a href="mailto:concerts@christchurchbath.org">concerts@christchurchbath.org</a>

# ***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](http://www.christchurchbath.org)

**The deadline for articles for the magazine is the  
15th of the preceding month.  
Thank you.**