

# CHRIST CHURCH CHALLENGE



December 2009

**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 4.30pm
Other Sundays	Said Evening Prayer at 5.30pm

*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.*

**~ We have a Gospel to proclaim ~**

You will find details of services over Christmas on page 5.

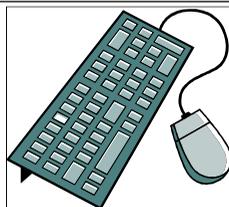
If you are able to help publicise these, attractive cards are available at church for handing out to friends and neighbours.

**~ Wishing all our readers ~**  
**~ joy and peace this ~**  
**~ Christmas ~**



## Forum...

I expect that many of us are regular listeners to the Today Programme on Radio 4. Apart from the Thought for the Day slot, there is generally some topic that triggers a response from me that goes unheard by the Presenter, or I collapse laughing at the latest piece



of nonsense. A few days ago I caught the tail end of a discussion about a 93 page Cycling Manual (yes, 93 pages) that has been produced for the Police Authorities to cover the intricacies of cycling. Among the topics that the Manual covers is the importance of “rear scanning” or, in simpler terms, looking behind you. That reminded me of a recent journey.

On All Souls' Day Margaret and I went to collect our son Stephen from hospital. A few days before that trip the offside wing mirror of Margaret's car had, in her words, “fallen out”, so we took the opportunity to break our journey and have a replacement fitted. If you drive a car you know the importance of wing mirrors because it is just as important to be fully aware of what is happening on the road behind, as it is to react to what lies ahead. That truism is now captured in the Police Manual, but it is also relevant to our spiritual lives. The need to look back is at the heart of the General Confession that we say at each Eucharist. We reflect on where our journey has taken us to date and prepare ourselves for what lies ahead. In addition to this regular opportunity to take stock of our progress and repent for our shortcomings, the Church's Calendar helps by designating the Penitential Seasons of Lent and Advent. The latter is fresh in our minds, but it may help to re-read prayerfully the four Collects for Advent, the period when the Church prepares again to celebrate the coming of Christ.

When I started to think about mirrors, my mind wandered onto kaleidoscopes and the memory of my first encounter with these toys.



What fascinated me was that when I looked down the wrong end, all that I could see was a pattern-less collection of coloured glass beads. But when I looked through the eyepiece, there was a beautiful symmetrical set of coloured patterns that could be changed at will simply by rotating the end-piece. It seemed mysterious until I learned something about mirrors. For young people familiar with computer games and computer-generated images, kaleidoscopes may seem tame and not worth mentioning, perhaps the same is true for some modern minds when faced with the concepts of Penance followed by Forgiveness or Absolution.

When we look up to the sky at night we can imagine another kaleidoscope on a much grander scale. Physicists, mathematicians and astronomers have given us the tools to understand something of these changing cosmic patterns, but there is still much to learn and marvel about this universe in which we have been created. It was a sense of wonder that led those wise men of scripture on a journey of faith to follow a star. Even if we deconstruct the story, it still has much to teach us, but that is the focus of the Epiphany, so I will return to that car journey.

After we had collected Stephen, on our way to his home at Malmsbury we decided to make a detour via Wootton Bassett. We had last been in the town in the late 1960s to attend the Wedding of an uncle who died a decade ago, so it seemed appropriate on All Souls' Day to reawaken personal memories. Wootton Bassett is regularly in the news when its people line the streets to pay their respect to repatriated dead service personnel. Two days before our visit we had heard of the death of Staff-Sergeant Olaf Schmid, an incredibly brave bomb disposal specialist whose professionalism and apparently nerveless skill saved the lives of many comrades. As we drove through the town, that man's courage and sacrifice reminded me of some words of Jesus:

Greater love has no man than this,  
that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Staff Sgt Schmid must have lived knowing that the odds were high that at some stage he would die doing the work he was trained for. There was the same inevitability in the life of Jesus, who came so that others "may have life, and have it abundantly".

It is the beginning of that life that we celebrate during this Christmas season when we will hear again those stirring words from the Prologue to St. John's Gospel:

In the beginning was the Word,  
and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.  
And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,  
full of grace and truth".



I pray that the Incarnate Word may enlighten our lives this Christmas and give us all fresh hope and renewed commitment as children of God.

I wish you a very happy and blessed Christmas. I hope that like a young child with their first kaleidoscope, you can have a sense of wonder at God's involvement in His creation, made manifest in the infant child.

*Cliff*



Let us go to Bethlehem...



Come and celebrate the story of that first Christmas, a story of love and hope. Add something special to your festive celebrations, and take a little time to hear again the story of the baby in the manger. You'll be very welcome.

## ~Sunday 20th December~

6.30pm

### **Christmas Carols**

A candlelit service of sacred choral music, poetry, Bible readings and favourite carols. Followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

## ~Christmas Eve~

3.00pm

### **Crib Service**

A short service for children. Come dressed as an angel or a shepherd and join the story

11.30pm

### **Midnight Mass**

The traditional start to Christmas Day with choral music and carols.

## ~Christmas Day~

8.00am

### **Holy Communion**

A quiet meditative service with the words of the 1662 Prayer Book

10.00am

### **Family Communion**

A Christmas celebration! Bring your best present so far.

## **Churches Together in Bath**

### **Notes from the Meeting on November 10th**

This short but lively meeting was held at St Mary's Julian Road, in their smart meeting hall. Discussions covered the World Aids Day Procession held on 26th November, and the Road Peace Service on 15th at Christ Church, which was organised almost entirely by Antony, and we do thank both him and Mark very much for all their work on this event. The progress of the travelling Light was also mentioned. After being delayed for some weeks, it arrived at Christ Church on November 15th, and will be taken to the Salvation Army Citadel on December 6th. It was hoped that the rota for this would be better observed in future, so that no other Churches would miss their turn.



Some January dates were then announced:

- ✚ The Mayor's Call to Prayer has been tentatively fixed for the 5th.
- ✚ The Ecumenical Epiphany Service, which is now in its tenth year, will be at St Mary's, Julian Road, at 7pm on the 10th.
- ✚ The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, for which a booklet has been produced, runs from 18th-25th. On Saturday 23rd, there will be an 11am Service for this at St John's RC Church, North Parade.

The Progressive Christianity Network was then introduced by Sheena Carter, who gave a brief outline of its aims. This ecumenical organization, started by Rev Ron Garner asks : Can Christianity make sense today? and promotes a fresh approach, "where contemporary thought and understanding matter as much as scripture and tradition." Except for December, the Bath Group meets at 7.30pm in the URC Hall on the fourth Monday of each month from November to May. A printed programme of their Autumn/Spring subjects has been produced, which is now on our Church Notice Board, and everyone is welcome to attend any of the sessions.

Our next Central Zone meeting will be on February 3rd in the Nexus Church Hall in Walcot. This will start with the AGM and will be followed by a normal meeting, when future events will be discussed.

*Sylvia M Ayers*  
*CTB (Central Zone) Representative*

# Church Calendar for December

<b>Dec</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>	
			Church Genesis Duty	
			Travelling Light to Salvation Army Citadel	
			ST AMBROSE, Bishop and Teacher	
	<b>11</b>	<b>Fri</b>	11.00am	The Cedar Tree Community Café
	<b>13</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>	
	<b>14</b>	<b>Mon</b>	ST JOHN OF THE CROSS	
	<b>17</b>	<b>Thur</b>	7.30pm	Home Group at 77 Brookfield Park, BA1 4JJ
	<b>18</b>	<b>Fri</b>	11.00am	The Cedar Tree Community Café
	<b>20</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>	
<b>Please see page 5 for details of services over Christmas</b>				
	<b>24</b>	<b>Thur</b>	CHRISTMAS EVE	
	<b>25</b>	<b>Fri</b>	CHRISTMAS DAY	
			No Cedar Tree Community Café	
	<b>26</b>	<b>Sat</b>	ST STEPHEN, Deacon, first Martyr	
	<b>27</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS</b>	
			ST JOHN THE APOSTLE	
	<b>28</b>	<b>Mon</b>	THE HOLY INNOCENTS	
	<b>29</b>	<b>Tues</b>	ST THOMAS A BECKET, Archbishop and martyr	
	<b>31</b>	<b>Thur</b>	JOHN WYCLIFF, Reformer	
<b>Jan</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>THE EPIPHANY</b>	
			4.30pm	Choral Evensong

.org...see our website for latest details...[www.christchurchbath.org](http://www.christchurchbath.org)...see o

# Laity Rota for December

		OT Readers	NT Readers	Gospel
<b>December</b>	<b>6</b>	Sylvia Ayers	Matthew Jones	Judith Anderson
	<b>13</b>	Margaret Burrows	Judith Bishop	Richard Gabe
	<b>20</b>	Emma Elliott	Bev Pont	David Marles
	<b>27</b>	Eileen Selmes	Martin Palmer	Bob Siderfin
<b>January</b>	<b>3</b>			

## Chalice Assistants

<b>December</b>	<b>6</b>	Tessa Claridge	Bev Pont
	<b>13</b>	Margaret Burrows	Margaret Heath
	<b>20</b>	Janet Mahto	Jane Fletcher
	<b>27</b>	Penny Edwards	Bob Siderfin
<b>January</b>	<b>3</b>		

## Intercessors

<b>December</b>	<b>6</b>	Mark Elliott
	<b>13</b>	Martin Palmer
	<b>20</b>	Penny Edwards
	<b>27</b>	Bev Pont
<b>January</b>	<b>3</b>	



Sidespeople		8am	10am	
<b>December</b>	<b>6</b>	Clive Tilling	Margaret Silver	Frank Twissell
	<b>13</b>	Arthur Jones	Ken & Sylvia Ayers	
	<b>20</b>	Clive Tilling	Andrew Sillett	Janet Mahto
	<b>27</b>	Arthur Jones	Morny Davison	Margaret Heath
<b>January</b>	<b>3</b>			

# Lectionary for December

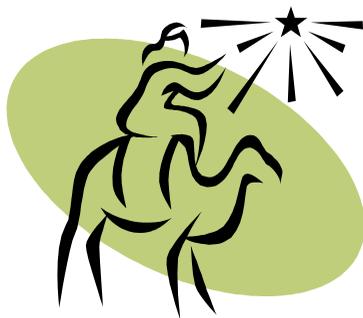
	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
<b>Dec 6</b>	Second Sunday of Advent		
	Malachi 3.1-4	Philippians 1.3-11	Luke 3.1-6
<b>13</b>	Third Sunday of Advent		
	Zephaniah 3.14-20	No reading	Luke 3.7-18
<b>20</b>	Fourth Sunday of Advent		
	Micah 5.2-5a	No reading	Luke 1.39-45
<b>24</b>	Christmas Eve		
	Isaiah 52.7-10	Hebrews 1.1-5	John 1.1-14
<b>25</b>	Christmas Day		
	Isaiah 9.2-7	No reading	Luke 2.1-20
<b>27</b>	First Sunday of Christmas		
	1 Samuel 2.18-20,26	Colossians 3.12-17	Luke 2.41-52
<b>Jan 3</b>	The Epiphany		
	Isaiah 60.1-6	No reading	Matthew 2.1-12

## Our Patronal Festival—Christ the King

Christ Church was full for this year's patronal festival. People from St Mary's Charlcombe and St. Stephen's joined us in what was a joyful celebration with 179 communicants. We expected to have the pleasure of welcoming Richard Frith, Bishop of Hull to preach on what was the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Antony's ordination. Sadly, Mrs Frith's father became critically ill and they had to return to Hull in the early hours of Sunday morning. And so it was, that Tessa cut the patronal cake and Antony preached the patronal sermon.



We presented gifts to Antony and Tessa and they want to use the magazine to tell everyone how much they appreciated our generosity and loving thoughts. We can't wait to see Antony in his nice new cassock.



## Pilgrimage News

Going on pilgrimage continues to be one of the most exciting and happy experiences for a Christian.

**St Chad's College, Durham**, will be hosting a 4 day "**Preparation for Holy Week**" holiday retreat

between **24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> March 2010** with priest and broadcaster Revd Rob Marshall. The four day break includes a pilgrimage to Holy Island and worship in Durham cathedral and costs only £269 per person. Call 01482-562 455 to order a brochure.

There are many pilgrimages organised to the **Holy Land** every year featuring different programmes, but one very popular itinerary will be followed by Bishop Lindsay Urwin, former Bishop of Horsham and now the Administrator of the Anglican Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham in Norfolk. Featuring Bethlehem, Nazareth, Galilee and Jerusalem and leaving the UK on **29<sup>th</sup> November 2010**, places are currently available on 0208 281 4882 (**Lightline Pilgrimages**).

Meanwhile, in the UK next May, the **National Pilgrimage to Walsingham** will take place on Bank Holiday Monday, May 31<sup>st</sup> ([www.walsingham.org.uk](http://www.walsingham.org.uk)).

Former **Archbishop of York, Dr David Hope**, is leading a pilgrimage to **Iona** in April (19<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>). A coach leaves from central York and takes in Oban before spending 3 nights on the island of Iona. Brochures are available on 01482-562 455

UKLTG Ltd, Pilgrimages Holidays Conferences

5 Brampton Court, Brough, East Yorkshire, HU15 1DZ

Tel: 01482 562 455

[www.ukltg.com](http://www.ukltg.com)

# Buy a 'Baby' Brick



...as a gift for Christmas!

Forget all those hours trudging around the shops, poring over catalogues and surfing the internet for that perfect gift. We have just the present for you this Christmas.

**Why not give your loved ones something different?  
A gift that lasts a lifetime and helps save a baby's life!**

**Buy a virtual 'Baby' brick for £10, a row for £100 or  
for someone very special, a wall for £1,000.**

Your generous present will help the NICU 'space to grow' Campaign build a new Neonatal Intensive Care Unit for sick and premature babies at Bath's Royal United Hospital. Plus the recipient will receive a Buy a 'Baby' Brick Christmas card and their name permanently recognised within the design of the new building.

This life-saving gift is ideal for the relative or friend who is impossible to buy for, or for that caring person who likes to contribute to their local community.

For more information or to buy your Christmas gift 'Baby' brick. call 01225 825691 or visit [www.foreverfriendsappeal.co.uk](http://www.foreverfriendsappeal.co.uk) .

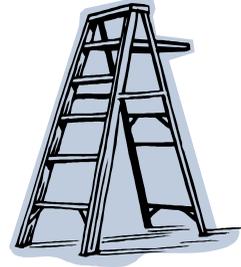
The Forever Friends Appeal

NICU **'space to grow'** Campaign  
for our premature babies



## **Working Group for Possible Church Improvements**

You will be delighted to hear that we are nearing the end of our work and we plan to present our report to Council at their January meeting. Meanwhile we have circulated our draft summary report to Council members at their meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> November so that they can see our recommendations and make any comments they wish by the end of December. If you would like to add your views then please pass them to me at [siderfins2@yahoo.com](mailto:siderfins2@yahoo.com).



Of course, making a whole stack of what **we** think are sensible—even brilliant—ideas, doesn't mean they will be implemented immediately (although we have included a list of items that we recommend are dealt with as soon as possible) as the Trustees first have to agree with us and then have to find the money!



I'll let you know how we get on in January!

*Bob Siderfin*

## Churches Together for RoadPeace

### ***A special time to be remembered***

On Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> November, the annual service of remembrance for road victims was held at Christ Church. The Mayor of Bath, Cllr Colin Barrett and the Chairman of Bath and North East Somerset Council were welcomed on behalf of RoadPeace and Churches Together in Bath.

Following the service, letters came from RoadPeace local organisers to say how much the service was appreciated. Mrs Barbara Davies writes: "The people who came, especially for the first time, found it an uplifting and comforting experience, judging by their comments after the service. Facing loss is an overwhelming and unbearable experience. Providing the opportunity to come together with others in similar circumstances and to hear comforting words with the promise of eternal life will have given those present the courage to move on."

Mrs Davies goes on to thank us for the beautiful prayers and the uplifting music of the choir. She said: "It was a privilege to be present in such a fine building and to hear such youthful voices."

There is a appreciation, too, for the people of Christ Church who acted as stewards and provided refreshments. Barbara Davies concludes: "The warmth you offered us and your understanding made it a very special time to be remembered."

A report and photograph appeared in the Chronicle. The picture can be found on a notice board at the back of the church.

## Contrasts...

### Thoughts on two Art Exhibitions The Sacred Made Real, The National Gallery and Wild Things, Royal Academy of Arts

The exhibition at the National Gallery "The Sacred Made Real" shows the tremendous power of religious images for Spanish Catholics. The curator, Xavier Bray, has brought from Spain carved wooden figures, sculpted by one, painted by another, of for example the dead Christ and of saints.

These lived in churches but would be paraded on certain days on floats, followed by penitents and attracting huge crowds, as the excellent accompanying film shows. Such famous painters as Velasquez were influenced by these realistic figures, although a picture cannot show a figure from all sides so, for example, the stripes on Christ's back in a portrayal of him after the flagellation can only be imagined. The sculptures are realistic to the length of using real horn for finger nails, nothing is left to the imagination. For some this is powerfully moving; at the other extreme there may be thought of "waxworks" and claims realism is not true art.

'The Sacred Made Real' presents a landmark reappraisal of religious art from the Spanish Golden Age with works created to shock the senses and stir the soul.

The religious artists of 17th-century Spain pursued a quest for realism with uncompromising zeal and genius, creating works to inspire devotion among believers.

Over a period of 10 years from 1905 to 1915, three outstanding young sculptors emerged in Britain. 'Wild Thing' explores the body of work executed by the three sculptors and draws on the major themes that impressed upon the men, namely sex, fertility, the human condition, the machine age and the impact of war.

The following day to Eric Gill's "Wild Things" at the Sackler Gallery of the RA. The difference was immense. Certainly there were religious subjects but treated by Gill in a way which for me conveyed much by their very lack of detail; I preferred the tender intimacy of his mother and infant to a Spanish painting of a very decorated Virgin supplying milk from her breast to Saint Bernard of Clairvaux. What works for one does not work for another, I think?

Gill's combination of genius, Catholicism and extraordinary promiscuity fascinates; whiffs of Salieri's wondering how God could have conferred such musical gifts on the unworthy Mozart? Some of you will know about the fuss made over Gill's Stations of the Cross. The other artists exhibited

were Gaudier- Brzeska, with the query whether his death aged 23 was the greatest loss to art of World War One, and Epstein. A rich feast.

I shall go back to both and take the audio guides; I tend to go once without and just look and then again and learn. Art History is immensely enriching, I find; I am not “artistic” but looking at Christian art teaches me a lot and is a rich part of my own spiritual life in many ways. Perhaps more artistic readers have their insights to add?

Both the exhibitions run until 24th January.

*Margaret Heath*

Date for the diary:

24<sup>th</sup> April 2010, Ecumenical Study Fellowship at Ammerdown

**Sarah Sheppard will talk on The Christian Narrative in Art**

Admission and tea/coffee is free.

Cooked lunches can be booked in advance, or bring a packed lunch. Details will be on board at Christ Church or ask Margaret. Lifts possible.

## **Carolling the Advent Message**

Despite the cold wind and rain on Advent Sunday the Advent Carol Service was probably better attended than ever. It was a pleasure to welcome friends from neighbouring churches (St Mary’s, Charlcombe, St Stephen’s and St. Swithun’s) as well as unattached music lovers.



In words and music, the liturgy told the story of the dawning of our salvation and expressed our hope for the second coming of Jesus. At a service like this, the musical skills with which Christ Church is blessed are seen as a powerful instrument in preaching the word and bringing people together in contemplation and prayer.

After the meditative beauty of the service most of the congregation remained in church for refreshments. Many new friendships were made with the promise future cooperation. We give thanks, not only to readers and singers, but also to the people who prepared the church and provided hospitality.

# Prayer Cycle for December

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## *December*

- Sun 6** For the work of the Genesis Trust; for those helping at the Sunday Lunchbox today.
- Mon 7** For all delegates to the Copenhagen Climate Change Conference.
- Tues 8** For Rowan our Archbishop and for Peter our Bishop. For all Anglican Bishops and Primates.
- Wed 9** For the work of the Cedar Tree. For Nicky and all the helpers.
- Thurs 10** For Chris and Lewis, our church wardens.
- Fri 11** For our Trustees, and for Mark, their chairman.
- Sat 12** For the staff, pupils and governors of St Andrew's and St Stephen's schools
- Sun 13** For all our readers, chalice assistants, intercessors and sidespeople. For the witness they bear. For Sarah, who draws up the Rotas.
- Mon 14** For those sleeping on the streets of Bath this winter.
- Tues 15** For Judith, who prepares our weekly notice sheet.
- Wed 16** For Angela, our Verger.
- Thurs 17** For those attending the House Group tonight.
- Fri 18** As the Copenhagen Conference closes, we pray that rich nations may understand the scale of the problem that faces them.
- Sat 19** For Cyril and Mark our Readers.
- Sun 20** In the Churches Together in Bath rota, we pray for the people and leaders St Michael Without.

- Mon 21** For Margaret, Andrew and Lewis, our Deanery Synod representatives.
- Tues 22** For our Clergy Team
- Wed 23** For Mark, our Director of Music and David, our Organist. For our choir.
- Thurs 24** That we may find space for quiet contemplation in our lives.
- Fri 25** *The Word is made flesh and dwells among us, full of grace and truth.*
- Sat 26** For those who are persecuted for their faith.
- Sun 27** For all who are travelling over the Christmas season.
- Mon 28** For all the children in our congregation. For those who lead the Junior Church.
- Tues 29** For all caught up in wars and areas of conflict.
- Wed 30** For David, our Treasurer and magazine editor.
- Thurs 31** Let us thank God for the blessings of the year now ending.
- January**
- Tues 1** For God's blessing on the New Year, for strength to face all the challenges it will bring.
- Wed 2** For those facing redundancy, for those who are unemployed.
- Thurs 3** For all who are caring for the sick; that they may be given peace and strength.

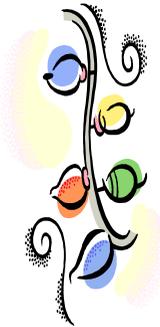
*O Lord hear my prayer*

## Churches Together in Bath Open Christmas

As most of our readers will know, Churches Together in Bath organises the Open Christmas event, which provides food and fellowship for anyone who would otherwise be alone on Christmas Day.

The budget for this event is £5000 and we continue to take collections at Church to support them. We will let you know how much we collect in the New Year.

Here are some more details of the event...



The Christmas Day party takes place at Kingswood School, Lansdown from 12.15 to 4.15pm It is **FREE OF CHARGE** and **TRANSPORT IS PROVIDED**.

A traditional three-course lunch and tea will be served. All free of charge. Diabetics are catered for. There is entertainment in the afternoon and Father Christmas will have presents for everyone.

Anyone wishing to attend should ring Sheila on 01225 316256 for an application form.

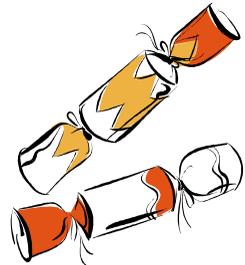
Extra volunteers are also very welcome covering such jobs as being a table host (making sure everyone is happy), serving food, kitchen work, and driving. To find out if there is a job for you please ring Anne on 01225 316360 or Diana on 01225 851176.

It is said that the volunteers enjoy themselves as much as the guests.

Christmas Eve is when the hall is set up. Clearing up takes place on the 28th.

Lunch is also provided for all helpers including a buffet for those who intend having their main meal in the evening. A meeting of all volunteers is being held on Wednesday 16th December at Central United Reformed Church, Grove Street, at 8pm.

If you wish for more information please ring Brian Abel, the Chairman of "Open Christmas" on 01225 858429.



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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 / Chairman of the Trustees / 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 / Christian Aid / Deanery Synod	Lewis Boyd, 5 Jesse Hughes Court, Lower Swainswick, BA1 7BE 01225 329190
Verger	Angela Soboslay, 285 Newbridge Road, Bath BA1 3HN 01225 333297
Church Council Secretary	David Bishop, The Old Tannery, Turleigh, Bradford on Avon, BA15 2HG 01225 869409
Treasurer to the Trustees / Magazine Editor	David Marles, 5 Westwoods, Box Road, Bath BA1 7QE 01225 859969
Secretary to the Trustees	Nicky Gladstone, 5 Westwoods, Box Road, Bath BA1 7QE 01225 859969
Deanery Synod / Laity Rotas / Junior Church	Sarah Cade, 2 Mortimer Close, Bath BA1 4EN 07983 556759
Deanery Synod / Churches Together in Bath (CTB)	Margaret Heath, St Lawrence, Lansdown Road, Bath BA1 5TD 01225 428272
Deanery Synod	Andrew Sillett
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
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.**