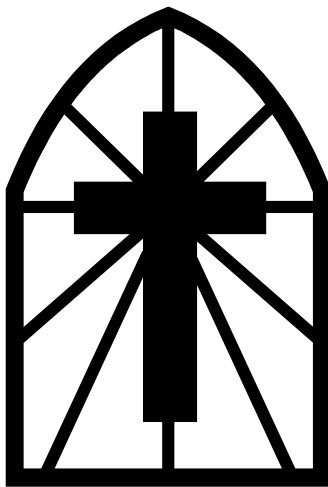


CHRIST  
CHURCH  
CHALLENGE



October 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*

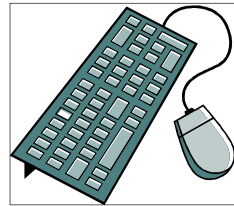
**BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES, FUNERALS**

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.*

## *Forum...*

During a recent visit to Munich Margaret and I made space for a visit to one of the many Art Galleries or, in the local terminology, Museums. That prompts the question what is the difference between a Museum and a Gallery? According to the OED, the terms are interchangeable, but try asking a German "which gallery houses the Vincent Van Gogh masterpiece, Sunflowers?" We tried and it led to a version of hunt the thimble.



But the hunt was worthwhile. It is always satisfying when we view an original masterpiece that is known and recognised worldwide from the many posters and copies that exist. There is a spiritual lesson there that I leave you to ponder.

That visit made me want to know a little more about the Artist. I have learnt that he was a very religious man and in his paintings he struggled to express these inner feelings that he could not convey in any other way. He started work in a firm of art dealers but in his mid-twenties decided to devote his life to religion and spent time preaching to miners in Belgium, perhaps inspired by his father's work as an ordained Minister. He soon found that he was not suited to this activity and then went to Brussels to study painting after which he returned home to live with his father and painted scenes from the lives of working people. Then when he was 33 years old he went to Paris and was encouraged by the artists whom he met to paint in much brighter and clearer colours than before. The painting of Sunflowers is a testimony to his use of pure blazing colours. In its simplicity it holds you. Why is that the case when you can go out and at very little cost buy enough sunflowers to fill a vase?

Again I leave you to ponder that, but let me add that I do not often sit looking at a vase of sunflowers for the length of time, nor with the intensity, that I stood looking at that painting.

It came as a surprise to me that a person with that skill and ability to give so much pleasure suffered fits of deep depression for the last three years of his life and committed suicide at the age of 37. Even more surprisingly, during those last years he continued painting and his last work was full of sunlight. Another puzzle to ponder set by this man of outstanding talent.

If I had known this story of Van Gogh's life when I viewed another painting in the Museum, this time by an artist whose name I have already forgotten, I should have had even more to reflect upon. This other painting was of five men dressed in white alb-like garments sitting on a

bench. The four men flanking the central figure all had faces that expressed a life of hardship but with a clear determination not to give in to the slings and arrows thrust at them. They were fighters and born survivors. They stared out of the canvas with unflinching looks. The fifth person was starting to divest his garment and had a hunted or desperate look. He seemed reluctant to look outward. I cannot recall the exact title of the painting but it was something like "Time is up" or "Enough". It did not give me the same pleasure as studying those glorious sunflowers but it started me thinking of all the misery suffered by many people to the point that they feel life is not worth living. That is a challenge to the Church and to us here in Christ Church. How **do** we respond, how **should** we respond?

There, I have finished with another couple of questions rather than seek to offer simple answers. But I do not think that our faith has simplistic one-fit answers to life's complexities. We have to be prepared to think through hard questions, work hard to find answers that satisfy our deepest needs and our individual quests for meaning. We also have to learn to open ourselves in moments of silence where we empty ourselves in order to be filled.

*Cliff*

## From the Church Registers

### Holy Matrimony

27<sup>th</sup> September    Katherine Elizabeth Tanner and  
Alexander Neil Watson



# Church Calendar for October

Oct	5	Sun	<b>TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>	
	6	Mon	WILLIAM TYNDALE	
	7	Tue	Wells Cathedral Lecture "Play and Narrative"	
	10	Fri	11.00am	The Cedar Tree Community Café
	11	Sat	JAMES, Deacon	
			Rehearsals for RVW Sacred Concert—all welcome	
	12	Sun	<b>TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>	
			6.30pm	Ralph Vaughan Williams Sacred Concert Christ Church
	13	Mon	EDWARD the Confessor	
	15	Wed	ST TERESA of AVILA, Teacher	
			11.00am	Holy Communion followed by Lunch
	17	Fri	ST IGNATIUS of Antioch	
			11.00am	The Cedar Tree Community Café
	18	Sat	ST LUKE, Evangelist	
	19	Sun	<b>TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>	
	23	Thu	7.30pm	Christ Church Trustees
	24	Fri	11.00am	The Cedar Tree Community Café
	25	Sat	SS CRISPIN & CRISPINIAN	
			7.30pm	One World Week Evening (Guildhall)
	26	Sun	<b>BIBLE SUNDAY</b>	
	28	Tue	SS SIMON & JUDE, Apostles	
	31	Fri	11.00am	The Cedar Tree Community Café
Nov	1	Sat	ALL SAINT'S DAY	
	2	Sun	<b>ALL SAINTS SUNDAY</b>	
			6.30pm	Choral Evensong

—See [www.christchurchbath.org](http://www.christchurchbath.org) for latest details of church events—

# Laity Rota for October

		OT Readers	NT Readers	Gospel
October	5	Sarah Hiscock	Mark Elliott	Jane Fletcher
	12	Margaret Heath	Sylvia Ayers	Matthew Jones
	19	Judith Anderson	Margaret Burrows	Judith Bishop
	26	Emma Elliott	Richard Gabe	Bev Pont

## Chalice Assistants

October	5	Andrew Sillett	Tessa Claridge
	12	Bev Pont	Margaret Burrows
	19	Margaret Heath	Janet Mahto
	26	Chris Graham	Jane Fletcher

## Intercessors

October	5	Rev Antony Claridge
	12	Georgina Bowman
	19	Mark Elliott
	26	Martin Palmer



## Sidespeople

		8am	10am	
October	5	Arthur Jones	Andrew Sillett	Janet Mahto
	12	Clive Tilling	Margaret Heath	Morny Davison
	19	Arthur Jones	Margaret Silver	Frank Twissell
	26	Clive Tilling		Ken & Sylvia Ayers

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**SOMERSET CHURCHES TOGETHER  
ANNUAL GATHERING 2008**

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**Churches in  
Community  
From Vision to Action**

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**Saturday, 8 November 2008  
10.00 am – 3.45 pm  
Locking Castle Church,  
Weston Super Mare**

**Keynote Speakers:**

**Rt Revd Declan Lang, Bishop of Clifton**

**Rt Revd Peter Price, Bishop of Bath & Wells**

**Aims and Objectives**

- ✚ To maintain a supportive network for local ecumenism among the churches throughout Somerset.
- ✚ To enable local ecumenical groups in Somerset to share their successes and discoveries.
- ✚ To explore the potential role for our churches to work with government policies that want our help to develop the social capital.
- ✚ To explore the opportunities available for churches to work in partnership with statutory, private and voluntary organisations in order to make a real impact on the quality of life in our communities.
- ✚ To discover ways in which the churches can work with other faith groups to provide a faith reference point for public bodies to consult with.
- ✚ To develop an understanding of the concept of the spiritual health and well being of the whole community and the churches' role in supporting it.



[www.sctog.org.uk](http://www.sctog.org.uk)

email: [sctog@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:sctog@blueyonder.co.uk)

# Lectionary for October

	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
<b>Oct 5</b>	Trinity 20 (Proper 22)		
	Isaiah 5.1–7	No reading	Matthew 21.33–46
<b>12</b>	Trinity 21 (Proper 23)		
	Isaiah 25.1–9	Philippians 4.1–9	Matthew 22.1–14
<b>19</b>	Trinity 22 (Proper 24)		
	Isaiah 45.1–7	No reading	Matthew 22.15–22
<b>26</b>	Bible Sunday		
	Nehemiah 8.1–4a	Colossians 3.12–17	Matthew 24.30–35
<b>Nov 2</b>	All Saints Sunday		
	Revelation 7.9–17	No reading	Matthew 5.1–12

## Mothers Union News



We will hold our Branch Collection for the Womens' Refuge Appeal on October 19th and 26th, and items can also be accepted until the following Sunday. Tea, coffee, sugar and cleaning materials are always

needed, and it is still a regrettable fact that some of the women and children arrive at the Refuge with nothing but the clothes they stand up in, so anything in this line, particularly children's-wear, that we can give them will be very welcome. Although the Refuge is now under new management, their needs remain the same as before. Eight families can be accommodated at any one time in the bright welcoming family and single rooms, and they are all told about the support given by the MU, which is where YOU come in.

There is still an on-going need for cleaning materials and other basic items such as light bulbs, tinned goods and pasta, as well as coffee, tea and sugar. If *you* use it at home, *they need it too!* In previous years, our

***Continued on page 9***



## CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BATH

The Churches Listings Leaflet publicises Church Services throughout the City, with the outer-Bath Churches listed by area. A new version is now being printed, (in Buff), and a pack of them will be given to every Church in Bath. Volunteers will also deliver the leaflets to Hotels, Guest Houses and B&B's in Bath.

The Rev Roger Nunn will be Executive Secretary until the end of this month. His latest Newsletter, (copies are on the Church Table), gives details of the Bath & Wells 100 event on July 4<sup>th</sup> 2009, and the Green Companion Booklet which is now available from the publishers. Roger also mentioned the possibility of another major Debate, this time on "The Embryo", but this is still at the very early discussion stage.

### Future Dates

- ✓ The Travelling Light will come to Christ Church from St John's, South Parade on October 5<sup>th</sup>. It will go from us to Holy Trinity Queen Square on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- ✓ The next Meeting of this Committee will be held on Thursday November 13<sup>th</sup>.
- ✓ The Road Peace Service will be held at 4pm on November 16<sup>th</sup> at Nexus Church. It is planned to erect a carved stone memorial to Bath's Road Crash Victims.
- ✓ The 2009 Epiphany Service will take place at Manvers Street on January 11<sup>th</sup>.

*Sylvia M Ayers*  
*Joint CTB Representative*

### **Continued from page 8**



friends at Christ Church have been most generous with their donations, both in cash and kind, so we are confident that you will want to help us again this year. If you prefer to give cash, we will use this to buy Supermarket Savings Stamps for them. We are sure that you will all want to support this worthwhile endeavour, so we invite each member of the congregation to give us at least one item either in

cash of kind on those Sundays, or else during the following week. Be assured that every gift is very warmly welcomed by those in the Refuge, so do please be generous.

*Sylvia M Ayers (Secretary)*

**A FEW WORDS FROM WHITTON**

The Cottage  
Whitton  
Ludlow  
Shropshire  
SY8 3DB

01584 891500

Dear Friends

First of all a very big thank you for the generous gift of two tickets to Ludlow Races. We plan to use them when the jump season begins and know we will have a great day out!

It seems a long time since our last Sunday at Christ Church and as you can imagine we have been very busy since.

Our removal to South Shropshire went smoothly with Kate's help and we were safely ensconced by Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June. The first Sunday happened to be evensong in our new parish church and we were surprised to see a congregation of some 30 people. We were warmly welcomed by the Church Warden and warbled away with the best of them (no choir here!). The church itself whilst beautifully set at the top end of the village was somewhat obscured by scaffolding round the tower, but the inside is delightful with a Burne-Jones/William Morris east window and a lovely mosaic floor, sadly with a large crack in it caused by the roots of two large oak trees nearby.

Monday morning brought a variation of the daily milk delivery with a bottle of wine on the doorstep and a welcome card from the parishioners!

The second June service was an outdoor communion in the churchyard round the preaching cross which apparently predates the church. The cross itself has lost the top but made a good focal point. The service was followed by an 'al fresco' lunch. Having inquired prior to the event if we could do anything we duly turned up with a rice salad (some things never change). This was well attended and we were left reeling with names and addresses.

The last weekend in June was the big fundraising push of the year – The Whitton Open Gardens Weekend. Some nine stunning gardens were open to the public and we took advantage of the opportunity to look round and gain some ideas. (St Mary's Church Whitton has a very good website and photos of some the gardens can be seen there.) People apparently travel from Birmingham for this event.

We were able at least to help on the refreshments, tombola, bookstall and white elephant at various times. The weekend culminated in a songs of praise service in the garden of Whitton Paddocks (an Elizabethan house of some considerable size). Unfortunately we were unable to attend as we had arranged a long time before to attend one of the Ludlow Festival concerts in St Laurence's Church. The weekend raised a staggering £2,500 and the Auction of Promises some two weeks later £4,400. This auction was held in a marquee erected in Whitton Farm's garden for a wedding reception. We learnt very early on that the villagers hold the church very dear to their hearts and although some of them 'don't do religion' they consider the maintenance of the church very important and go to enormous lengths to raise the money needed for its upkeep.

We are part of the Teme Valley Ministry, which comprises some 11 churches with the main church in Tenbury Wells. The largely female ministry team would seem to have their work cut out and the list of Sunday services is very long not to mention the list of fundraising and social events that it appears someone manages to attend.

We are settling in very well to what transpires to be a very sociable village but needless to say miss you all.

Chris joins me in sending you all best wishes and we hope that anyone venturing this far north will pay us a visit.

*Ann (Kemp)*

### **All was safely gathered in**



Thanks go to all those who contributed in any way to our highly successful Harvest Festival at Christ Church. The church was beautifully decorated with fresh fruit, flowers and vegetables and a van load of dried goods were sent to Genesis for use in their meals programme.

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# Prayer Cycle for October

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*October*

- Sun 5** For all being mistreated or suffering injustice. For all prisoners who are held without trial or without the protection of legal systems.
- Mon 6** For Rowan our Archbishop and for Peter our Bishop. For all Anglican Bishops and Primates.
- Tues 7** For Judith, who prepares our weekly notice sheet.
- Wed 8** For Cyril and Mark our Readers; for Sarah's ministry at Batheaston.
- Thurs 9** For those who make coffee for us to enjoy after the 10am Communion service.
- Fri 10** For the Cedar Tree project; for Nicky and all the helpers; for our local community
- Sat 11** For our LMG partners, St Stephen's and St Mary's Charlcombe. For all participating in this weekend's Sacred Concert.
- Sun 12** For Mark, our Director of Music and David, our Organist. For our choir.
- Mon 13** For the University Ecumenical Chaplaincy Centre, for Angela the University Chaplain, and for all the chaplains.
- Tues 14** For all our readers, chalice assistants, intercessors and sidespeople. For Sarah, who draws up the Laity Rotas.
- Wed 15** For Angela, our Verger.
- Thurs 16** For Margaret, Sarah and Lewis, our Deanery Synod representatives.
- Fri 17** For our Clergy Team.
- Sat 18** On the feast of St Luke, we pray for our hospitals, nursing homes and local surgeries and for those who work for the emergency services.
- Sun 19** For the work of the Mother's Union around the world. For our own branch at Christ Church. For the Women's Refuge Centre.

- 
- Mon* 20 For those who care for our church building, arrange the flowers and prepare for our services.
- Tues* 21 For David, our Treasurer.
- Wed* 22 For the work of USPG in general, and especially for St Anne's Hospital, Lake Malawi.
- Thurs* 23 For the Christ Church Trustees, meeting tonight; for Yvonne, their chairman.
- Fri* 24 For those concerned about rising fuel costs as colder days approach.
- Sat* 25 At the start of One World Week, we pray for a world in which human beings may enjoy freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear and want.
- Sun* 26 That, whatever burdens we bear, our worship today may reflect a deeper joy and thankfulness.
- Mon* 27 For all who help to run our Junior Church, for Sarah who co-ordinates the rota, and for all our children.
- Tues* 28 For all those who have no safe home to go to.
- Wed* 29 For those who suffer in body, mind or spirit: for those who care about them and worry about them.
- Thurs* 30 For those who mourn, that they may be comforted.
- Fri* 31 Let us thank God for the blessings of the month now ending.
- November*
- Sat* 1 For those whose lives shine as a light for us; for all who have helped us walk in the truth and love of God.
- Sun* 2 For those we love; for those who love us, in this world and the next.

*O Lord hear my prayer*

## ALL IN THE END IS HARVEST... OR APPLE CHUTNEY

Faced with a collapsed, fully-laden cooking apple tree in her garden in August, a Bath resident decided not to cast her windfall of apples on the compost heap but to roll up her sleeves and get chutney-making.

In these straitened economic times, Eirlys Penn thought a little make-do-and-mend\* mentality was called for. So she stuck on a pinny and set about slow-cooking apples, onions, garlic, ginger, brown sugar, cider vinegar and pickling spices until they turned dark, syrupy and delicious. The resulting apple chutney was such a hit with her family and friends that Eirlys thought she'd offer it further afield.



A particularly good partner to ham, strong cheddar and stilton, the chutney is only being produced in small batches of 6-8 jars, so availability is strictly limited. However, you can purchase a jar from Nicky Gladstone for £3.50. 10% of proceeds will go to the Home Farm Trust, a charity supporting adults with learning disabilities.



[\*For those who appreciate the green mantra to reduce, reuse and recycle, Eirlys has continued the thrifty theme by using other rescued materials: re-used jars; obsolete computer-paper labels; pretty scrap fabric lid tops. If you have any spare, unwanted materials that you think she might be able to use, do contact her on 01225 329294.]

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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
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
Chairman of the Trustees	Yvonne Morris, 3 Summerhill Road, Sion Hill, Bath BA1 2UP. 01225 425555
Secretary to the Trustees and Editor Emeritus	Nicky Gladstone, 5 Westwoods, Box Road, Bath BA1 7QE 01225 859969
Deanery Synod / Laity Rotas / Junior Church	Sarah Hiscock, 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	Lewis Boyd, 5 Jesse Hughes Court, Lower Swainswick, BA1 7BE
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>

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

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