



Pastoral Care tea party

Keeping in touch with the wider church family

Jenny Hesketh writes:

The Pastoral Care Group keep in touch with members of the church who no longer find it easy to attend in person or who worship online. It is important that they can continue to feel part of the Church Family.

Once again in October, a group of us met for a service in the Lady Chapel followed by a tea party in the Lower Mews. Beryl led us in prayer, with a special mention of Del Hutcheson, who had been a well-loved “regular” on these occasions.

It is lovely to gather together and enjoy a good chat – and delicious food.

Beryl tended to both our spiritual welfare and our gastronomic well-being with her delicious scones! A big “thank you” also to Jane our Churchwarden and to Angela our Verger for making the Lower Mews look so attractive, and to all those who contributed to the success of the afternoon.

Photos courtesy of Jane Nicholson



Autumn concerts

This year's series of autumn recitals at Christ Church concludes on Saturday 9 November with a concert of Organ Music for Remembrance, with organist David Wrigley. The church will be open for refreshments from 2:15pm and the recital starts at 3pm, lasting approximately an hour. Admission is free (with a retiring collection).

Please note that parking will be very limited – please consider alternative locations to park or alternative means of transport.



Jonathan Stead writes:

The second of our autumn concerts, held on 11 October, featured our own congregation members and was very warmly received. They performed a varied vocal and instrumental programme that showcased the talent we have at Christ Church. Many thanks to David Winters for compiling the programme and to those who participated. Photos courtesy of Jane Nicholson

Stamps for Seafarers

Sylvia and Steven Ayers write:

Following my request in the August issue of the *Link*, I was very happy to receive two lovely large packs of used postage stamps from all over the world. The first parcel contained some really old issues, some of which were extremely valuable and had been kept for years by Malcolm and Brenda. At the same time, someone in our congregation gave me a very large parcel of German used stamps, which were all gladly accepted by the Mission. I do thank all three donors very much indeed for their kindness.

After this splendid response, we hope that everyone will respond to my usual autumn request for your used Christmas stamps, which can be any value except for the ordinary first and second class stamps, which even this year will not be welcomed by collectors.

We now have a box on the table at the back of the church and I would love to see this full of used stamps, all trimmed with a two centimetre frame left all around the stamp in the same way that you have always donated these in the past.

We do thank you all for responding to our request, and hope that you will all have a very Happy Christmas.

The Handful: In Terra Pax

What is it? A winter concert featuring Gerald Finzi's Christmas cantata *In Terra Pax* and Poulenc's exuberant Gloria, plus music from Byrd, Berlioz, Vivaldi and Miškinis. Under the direction of Vicente Chavarría, with Peter King (organ) and soloists Josephine Goddard (soprano) and Dominic Felts (baritone). The Handful is a vibrant chamber choir based in Bath and founded over 20 years ago. Find out more at <https://thehandful.org>.

When is it? Saturday 7 December, 7:30pm

Where? Christ Church

Tickets from Bath Box Office, 01225 463362 or <https://bathboxoffice.org.uk>. For a special discount exclusively for the Christ Church congregation – £15 (£5 for Under-25's) – use the code HANDFUL24.

Welcoming students

We will be holding a welcome event at Christ Church for students and other young people on Sunday 17 November. We are working with the chaplains at Bath and Bath Spa Universities to advertise it. After our usual 10am Eucharist, students will be invited to a buffet lunch in the Lower Mews starting at midday. Please consider inviting students and other young people that you know to this event. For further information, please contact Jonathan Stead.

Welcoming LGBTQI+

Open Table follow-up

Christ Church is considering joining the Open Table network, which consists of inclusive churches across the country supporting the LGBTQI+ community. The director of Open Table, Kieran Bohan, led a consultation on the question and explained more about the work of the organisation on Saturday 26 October, and a follow-up meeting will take place in the Lower Mews on Thursday 23 November at 2pm. For further information, contact Simon Tatton-Brown at simon.tatton-brown@christchurchbath.org.

LGBTQI+ Affirming service

This year's Affirming LGBTQI+ Carol Service will be at St Stephen's, Lansdown, on Sunday 15 December at 5pm. If you would like to take part, perhaps reading a lesson or poem, or joining the group of singers from the participating churches, then please have a word with Simon Tatton-Brown or Jonathan Stead, who are on the planning group.

Lore's sermons

There are still some copies available of the selection of Lore Chumbley's sermons titled *Stories from Julian Road*. Suggested donation £10 per copy, by cash or card. Many thanks to Morny Davison for sponsoring this project.

Keeping in touch



Speaking of the wider Christ Church family, Sandra Swaby is pictured here with her mother, Enid.



Jane with Ken Ayers, who is being cared for at Larkhall Springs Nursing Home, Swainswick Gardens, Bath BA1 6TL. Sylvia says he would welcome visitors in the afternoons.

Assisted Dying debate

On 29 November, MPs will debate an Assisted Dying Bill for England and Wales. The debate will be followed by a free vote.

The bill would make it lawful in England and Wales for terminally-ill adults with a diagnosed life expectancy of less than six months to end their lives with medical help. According to supporters, polls show that two-thirds of the population would favour the change.

Former Archbishop of Canterbury George Carey has backed the bill, saying "Let's be on the side of those who ... want a dignified, compassionate end to their lives."

The present Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Revd Justin Welby, however, has spoken out against the bill. While recognising that it comes "from a position of compassion", he warned that "we can never be sure that assisted suicide will be safe from abuse.

"The right to end your life could all too easily – all too accidentally – turn into a duty to do so," he said. "The pressure to end one's life early would be intense and inescapable.

"I worry that even the best intentions can lead to unintended consequences, and that the desire to help our neighbour could, unintentionally, open the door to yet more pain and suffering for those we are trying to help," Archbishop Justin said.

Other denominations have declared strong opposition. *The Guardian* quoted several imams who made it clear that assisted dying is prohibited in Islam. "Life is absolutely sacred in Islam and no one has the right to take someone else's life," said Qari Asim, a Leeds imam. "Life is a gift from God and He chooses how long each person will live."

The head of the Roman Catholic church in England and Wales, Cardinal Vincent Nichols, the Archbishop of Westminster, has urged Catholics to lobby their MPs against the bill.

"This proposed change in the law may be a source of relief to some," he wrote. "But it will bring great fear and trepidation to many, especially those who have vulnerabilities and those living with disabilities. What is now proposed will not be the end of the story. It is a story better not begun.

"Once assisted suicide is approved by the law, a key protection of human life falls away. Pressure mounts on those who are nearing death, from others or even from themselves, to end their life in order to take away a perceived burden of care from their family, for the avoidance of pain, or for the sake of an inheritance," says Cardinal Nichols. "I know that, for many people, there is profound fear at the prospect of prolonged suffering and loss of dignity. Yet such suffering itself can be eased. Part of this debate, then, must be the need and duty to enhance palliative care and hospice provision.

"The radical change in the law now being proposed risks bringing about for all medical professionals a slow change from a duty to care to a duty to kill," the Cardinal warned.

"We know, only too well, that suffering can bring people to a most dreadful state of mind, even driving them to take their own lives, in circumstances most often when they lack true freedom of mind and will, and so bear no culpability. But this proposed legislation is quite different. It seeks to give a person of sound will and mind the right to act in a way that is clearly contrary to a fundamental truth: our life is not our own possession, to dispose of as we feel fit. This is not a freedom of choice we can take for ourselves without undermining the foundations of trust and shared dignity on which a stable society rests."

Morning Prayer on Zoom

One of the impacts of being without a Priest-in-charge is that there will be no 8am Sunday morning service at Christ Church during the Vacancy. However, our retired clergy and others are saying Morning Prayer together on Zoom from Monday to Friday each week at 8am. If you would like to join them, please contact Simon Tatton-Brown (07891 898472 or simon@tattonbrown.myzen.co.uk), who will give you the link.

Bishop's Message for November

"It takes the whole world to know Christ"



**From the Rt Revd Michael Beasley,
Bishop of Bath and Wells**

Do you think a fish knows that it's swimming in water? I've been reflecting on this question not because it's some kind of Buddhist koan – the type of question that asks "What's the sound of one hand clapping?" Rather it's because I've been reflecting recently on questions of culture and world view.

Do I see the world purely from the perspective of being who I am (a 55-year-old white Englishman who grew up in a small village in the 1970s)? If that's the case, is what I see an accurate representation of the whole of reality? Might other perspectives be possible? If I could see the world through the eyes of others, might my vision be richer, wider, deeper? Like a fish that suddenly realizes that seeing can happen not only through water, but through air as well?

Seeing things from the perspective of others was something that Jesus did. An example of this happens when Jesus heals a centurion's servant in Luke's Gospel (Luke 7:1-10). The centurion comes from a background and culture that's entirely different to that in which Jesus grew up. Yet Jesus is blown away

by the insight that the centurion has about who Jesus himself is. This leads Jesus to exclaim "I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith!"

The Diocese of Bath and Wells has a link with the five Anglican Dioceses of Zambia. There's much to be celebrated in the friendship that we share: the joy and vitality of the Zambian Church, the opportunities our link offers to help some of the world's poorest communities. But for me, the greatest gift we gain is the opportunity our link offers to stand in the shoes of others and to see the world, our faith, and the whole of reality from a different perspective.

A wise person once said to me "It takes the whole world to know Christ". Our link with Zambia enables us to see more of the Jesus we share than we could ever hope to experience otherwise.

+Michael

In loving memory



A plaque has been mounted on the screen of the St Michael chapel commemorating Margaret and Cliff Burrows, who contributed so much to the life of Christ Church, including a legacy that helped complete the chapel and east end reordering.

All Saints refurbished

From the Diocese of Bath and Wells:

More than 300 people gathered at All Saints Church in Weston in October to celebrate the reopening of the church building following the completion of a £2 million refurbishment. Bishop Michael was among many special guests who joined the festivities, along with MP Wera Hobhouse and the Deputy Mayor of Bath, Councillor Ruth Malloy.

The congregation are thrilled to be back in the transformed building after a year of closure and 12 years of planning and preparation. Over the past seven years, church members have donated two thirds (£1.3 million) of the money required for the refurbishment.

In the service, a big key to the original church door was symbolically passed down a line of ten generations, from a 99-year-old to an 8-month-old. Afterwards, 125 people sat down to a celebration lunch in the church, with another 125 in the Church Centre.

“The transformation has been spectacular,” said Revd Tom Yacomeni, Rector of All Saints. “We now have a wonderful space for all sorts of events which is a beautiful blend of the contemporary and the historic. Our vision is for it to be used for many more community activities as well as regular church services.”

Read more on the diocesan website at <https://bit.ly/all-saints-reopens>.



Photo: All Saints, c/o Diocese of Bath and Wells

This month's charities

The loose collection on the second and fourth Sundays of the next two months – 10 and 24 November, then 8 and 22 December – plus other collections at services this month as notified will be divided between Julian House and The Genesis Trust. (Donations in collection envelopes will continue to go to Christ Church.)

As a Christian charity, Genesis works with local churches and volunteers in the wider community



in Bath and the surrounding area to help disadvantaged and vulnerable individuals and families to change their lives. Offering immediate practical help with food, clothing and furniture, as well as long-term opportunities, training and work experience, Genesis supports people on their journey from crisis to independence.

For more information on the charity's activities, visit <https://genesistrust.org.uk>. For more about its Christmas appeal, plus links to ways to donate and ways to buy the Genesis Christmas cards or Calendar, visit <https://genesistrust.org.uk/christmas-gifts>.

Julian House is a Bath-based charity working



across the South West supporting vulnerable and at-risk individuals including men, women and young people experiencing homelessness, women and children escaping domestic abuse, adults with learning difficulties and people who need support after leaving prison.

The charity says: “Homelessness doesn't take a break, especially during the festive season. For our Christmas appeal we want to raise awareness of the reason why the people we support have fallen into difficult circumstances. These can include domestic abuse, mental health issues, family breakdown, childhood trauma and addiction.” Find out more or donate online at www.julianhouse.org.uk.

Christ Church calendar Nov. 2024

1 Fri *All Saints' Day*
Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

3 Sun *All Saints / The Fourth Sunday before Advent*
10am Eucharist

7 Thu *226th anniversary of the consecration of Christ Church*
11am Eucharist
Christ Church Trustees meeting, 7:30pm

8 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

9 Sat Concert – Organ Music for Remembrance, 3pm

10 Sun *Remembrance Sunday / The Third Sunday before Advent*
10am Eucharist

11 Mon *Remembrance Day*

14 Thu 11am Eucharist
Pilgrim Group meeting, 7:30pm

15 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

17 Sun *The Second Sunday before Advent*
10am Eucharist
Welcome Student Lunch, 12 noon
4:30pm Choral Evensong

21 Thu 11am Eucharist

22 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

24 Sun *Christ the King*
10am Eucharist
5pm Iona Contemplative Service

28 Thu 11am Eucharist
Pilgrim Group meeting, 7:30pm

29 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

30 Sat *Andrew the Apostle*

Dec 1 Sun *The First Sunday of Advent*
10am Eucharist

Our Sunday 10am Eucharist, and other services as advertised, continue to be live-streamed at www.facebook.com/christchurchbath/live
and www.youtube.com/@ChristChurchBath1798/streams

Prayer Cycle for November 2024

Friday	1	For the ministry of the Cedar Tree
Saturday	2	For countries in conflict
Sunday	3	For former clergy of Christ Church
Monday	4	For our armed forces and police
Tuesday	5	For our plans for the appointment of a new priest in charge
Wednesday	6	We give thanks for beauty in creation
Thursday	7	For those recently baptised or preparing for baptism
Friday	8	For all who face tragedy
Saturday	9	For our bell-ringing team
Sunday	10	For vocations to the ministry
Monday	11	For our government and politicians
Tuesday	12	For peace
Wednesday	13	For our link Dioceses in Zambia
Thursday	14	For our Pilgrim Group, meeting tonight
Friday	15	For the unemployed
Saturday	16	We give thanks for those who inspire us
Sunday	17	For all clergy taking services at Christ Church
Monday	18	For those who work in medicine
Tuesday	19	That we may have the gift of patience
Wednesday	20	For Mark, David and the choir
Thursday	21	For our charities of the month, Julian House and Genesis
Friday	22	For refugees
Saturday	23	For volunteer organisations

Sunday	24	For churches, Cathedrals and communities named Christ Church
Monday	25	For those who work in social services
Tuesday	26	For our own personal ministry
Wednesday	27	For the ministry of safeguarding
Thursday	28	We give thanks for our blessings
Friday	29	For those who are unable to keep warm
Saturday	30	For those on our long-term prayer list

Long-term Prayer List

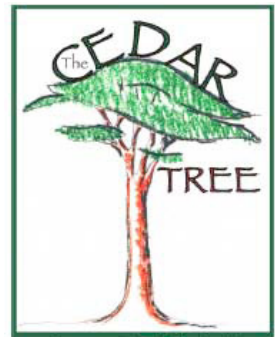
Please remember those we've been asked to pray for...

Geoff	Chris & David
Joyce	John
Daniel	Win
Milo	Chris
Naomi	Ken
Frankie	AJ
John & Sheila	Christine
Peter & Margaret	Larry
Sheila W	Joanna
John & Jean	
Stewart & Lillian	

Want to add a name to the prayer list, either long-term or short-term, or remove one? Please use the lists at the back of the church, or speak to the Verger or one of the Churchwardens.

Cedar Tree is open

The Cedar Tree community café is open every Friday from 11am to 1:30pm. All are welcome! If you live or work in the area, do consider dropping in for a chat, a cup of coffee, home-made cake or a light snack, to support this important part of our outreach to the local community. If you can help on a Friday or make a cake we can sell, then please contact Jenny Hesketh. Your offers will be very gratefully received.



'Under it every kind of bird will live'

Bath
Julian Road

Rotas for November 2024

Readers and readings, Sunday 10am Eucharist

	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
3 Nov All Saints / 4th before Advent	David Bishop Wisdom 3:1-9	Marcus Bull Revelation 21:1-6a	Graeme Stacey John 11:32-44
	Intercessions: Jonathan Stead		
10 Nov Remem- brance / 3rd before Advent	–	Jude Bishop 2 Thessalonians 2:13-16	Brenda Wall Matthew 5:1-12
	Intercessions: Beryl Bowes		
17 Nov Second Sunday before Advent	Robin Kerr Daniel 12:1-3	Rachel Preston Hebrews 10:11-14, 19-25	Georgina Bowman Mark 13:1-8
	Intercessions: Simon Tatton-Brown		
24 Nov Christ the King	Simon Tatton- Brown Daniel 7:9-10,13-14	Jonathan Stead Revelation 1:4b-8	Graham Reaper- Brown John 18:33-37
	Intercessions: Beryl Bowes		
1 Dec Advent Sunday	Morny Davison Jeremiah 33:14-16	Zoë Bushell 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13	Nick Wells Luke 21:25-36
	Intercessions: Mark Elliott		

Who's who at Christ Church

Priest-in-charge	(Vacant)	Event/concert bookings, weekly notice sheet	Judith Bishop 01225 858816 concerts@christchurchbath.org notices@christchurchbath.org
Supporting clergy	Revd Canon Simon Tatton-Brown 01225 835404 simon@tattonbrown.myzen.co.uk	Deanery Synod Reps	Brenda Wall Pauline Swaby-Wallace
Reader, Director of Music	Mark Elliott 01225 445360 mark.elliott@christchurchbath.org	Tower Captain, Ringing Master	Will Willans
Churchwarden	Jane Nicholson 07990 552413 jane@janemnicholson.com	Tower Secretary	Maggie Willans 07773 244024 maggiewillans@hotmail.com
Churchwarden	Jonathan Stead jonathanstead20@gmail.com	Steeple Keeper	David Guy
Verger	Angela Soboslay 01225 333297 angela.soboslay@christchurchbath.org	Cedar Tree café organiser	Jenny Hesketh jenny.hesketh@me.com
Chair of Trustees	Nick Wells 07774 104584 chair@christchurchbath.org	Junior Church	Emma Elliott
Treasurer	Zoë Bushell zoe.bushell@christchurchbath.org	Laity rotas	Judith Bishop
Organist and Assistant Director of Music	David Winters david.winters@christchurchbath.org	Prayer cycle	Virginia Knight
Christ Church Link editor	Alex Soboslay 07769 655927 alexs@christchurchbath.org	Charitable Giving co-ordinator	Jonathan Stead
Safeguarding officer	Virginia Knight 07896 916840 christchbathsafeguarding@gmail.com	Mission to Seafarers	Sylvia Ayers

Christ Church Link

This magazine is published on the first Sunday of each month. Please send any contributions of news and articles by the 15th of the preceding month to the editor, Alex Soboslay, or by e-mail to magazine@christchurchbath.org



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

About Christ Church

*We're a liberal, inclusive and open church,
seeking God through beauty in our worship, honesty
in our faith and doubt, and support in our community*

Christ Church has an unusual history, out of which has developed a distinctive ministry. It was founded at the end of the 18th century by a group of socially concerned clergy and lay people for those excluded from worship through the system of pew rents. It was probably the first church in England since the Reformation to provide seating for all free of charge. Early supporters included John Moore, Archbishop of Canterbury, and William Wilberforce, the great evangelical and campaigner against slavery. We must recognise, however, that much of Bath's wealth at the time derived, directly or indirectly, from the trafficking and exploitation of enslaved human beings, so that inevitably some of the funds donated ultimately derived from this source.

Christ Church is not a parish church and does not have a full-time vicar. This has led to the development of a shared ministry where clergy and laity both make important contributions to worship and church life.

Christ Church is part of the Anglican diocese of Bath and Wells, although it still sits outside the Church of England

parish system. We see ourselves as a traditional and liberal Anglican church. Worship is led by our clergy, and music is provided by our robed choir and organist. New singers of all ages are always very welcome.

As well as worship on Sundays and Thursdays, there are many other activities going on in our community, including our weekly community café every Friday. Our ecumenical Pilgrim Group provides a space for exploration and discussion of faith in an open and non-judgemental setting. Visit the website to check service times and events.

Regular Sunday services

- 8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) – *Suspended while we are in Vacancy*
- 10am Sung Eucharist with Junior Church activities for children and young people – *Every Sunday – also streamed at www.facebook.com/christchurchbath*
- 4:30pm Choral Evensong – *Usually on the third Sunday of each month*
- 5pm Contemplative Quiet Service (Iona) – *On the fourth Sunday of every month*

Baptisms, marriages and funerals by arrangement – please contact us!

Contacting us

Christ Church,
Julian Road,
Bath BA1 2RH
Phone: 01225 338869
(answer phone)

Email: admin@christchurchbath.org
Website: www.christchurchbath.org

