



Farewell to Lore and Colin

Revd Lore Chumbley, Priest-in-charge Mar 2016 – Feb 2024

On Sunday 11 February, the Christ Church community came together in numbers to say a heartfelt farewell to Lore and Colin at Lore's last service as Priest-in-charge.

At the end of the service, Nick Wells, chair of the Trustees of Christ Church, thanked Lore on behalf of the Trustees and the congregation for her eight years in post. Lore was presented with farewell gifts and keepsakes from the Christ Church family and BEMSCA, the Bath Ethnic Minority Senior Citizens Association, followed in traditional Christ Church style by cake and fizz.

In a thank-you card, Lore said how touched she and Colin were by all the good wishes they received. We all wish them both the very best for the future.



Jane and Jonathan, our churchwardens, presented Lore with flowers and mementoes including a bespoke book of photos contributed by all the Christ Church community.



Our Junior Church also made a presentation including a handmade card for Lore.



Lore and Colin cut the splendid cake.

Curate's Corner

On Sunday 25 February we heard that Kara, our Curate, has accepted a position in Exmouth and will be leaving Christ Church at the end of June.

Revd Kara Maylor writes:

Love how Jonathan introduced the announcement on Sunday... "When Kara arrived with us, some of us thought she was certifiable – now she has been certified by the Bishop as having completed her curacy and deemed ready to take on a full role as a Vicar." I am so thankful to have been able to serve my curacy in Christ Church. It has been an incredible three years. I have learnt so much of course from Lore but also from all of you. I know now what a warm, welcoming, inclusive church community should look like.

My role in Exmouth is three days plus Sunday, so we will keep our home in Bath, and I will be back for a couple of days a week. Once the house is made habitable, I look forward to welcoming you to come and explore the beautiful Jurassic Coast with me.

From now until June, I will be contributing a longer article for each issue of the *Link*. If there are any subjects you would like to see addressed, do drop me suggestions on my email, kara.maylor@btinternet.com.

Coming events

Fauré Requiem

What is it? Part of the Lucis Choir 10th Anniversary Concert Series (Musical Director Francis Faux). Also featuring Fauré's Pavane and music by Lili Boulanger, de Séverac and Stopford. Details at <https://lucischoir.com>.

When? Saturday 23 March, 7:30pm

Where? St Mary Redcliffe, Bristol BS1 6RA

Tickets: £25/£20/£10 (restricted view) from Bath Box Office, bathboxoffice.org.uk.

Music for Easter Eve

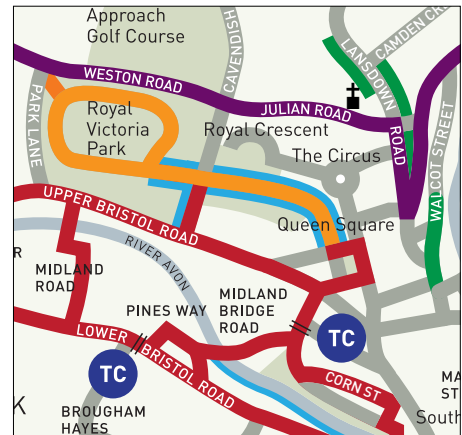
What is it? A performance by CanZona of music for the cusp of Easter. Watch for details soon, or speak to David Bishop.

When? Saturday 30 March, 7:30pm

Where? Christ Church

Bath Half Marathon

Watch out when travelling to church on Sunday 17 March – this year's Bath Half Marathon takes place on that day. Roads along the route (shown in red on the map) and access to city car parks are closed from 9am to 4pm (and Royal Victoria Park from 6am to 6:30pm) and parking on those roads – including *disabled parking* – is suspended from 6am to 4pm. Once again this year the start and finish are on Royal Avenue (in front of the Royal Crescent) and additional parking restrictions apply on a number of roads including Lansdown Road (shown in green). Traffic is likely to be heavier than usual on the diversion routes (shown in purple), which include Julian Road, so you might wish to allow extra time to get to and from Christ Church. Temporary crossings (marked TC on the map) are provided for pedestrians to cross the race route at Green Park and Brougham Hayes.



Services at Christ Church

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. For details of all the services taking place this month, particularly all those over Holy Week and Easter, see the calendar for March on pages 6-7.

Ordinand's Corner

Jane Hoe writes:

Goodness, Lent has come quick, hasn't it! I must say, though, I have been looking forward to it this year! The reason for my eager anticipation has been Brenda and Malcolm's offer to run another Zoom course based on David Cole's "Celtic" series, which we used back in Advent.

I think back in November, some of us had been a little unsure about how diligent we would be about getting up for our 7:30am meeting for 40 days (yes, Celtic Advent is 40 days!), but actually, the fellowship we all felt made it such a joy, we all stayed the course!

The books are excellent – we are learning so much about the Celtic tradition and its teachings – which also proves great stimulus for discussion. What I love most about our discussions is that they are such an "honest space" where we can each say as much or little as we want to. We all bring different experiences and points of view, and this is a joyous thing!

My faith is very much rooted in God being present "in the space between us" and this has never been truer to my experience than in the warmth, joy and shared humanity of this group.

As I'm a (very old!) student doing "distance learning", I spend most of my days alone in my study (you can see from the photo – also drying room/ dumping ground!). So, beginning my day with this fellowship is a wonderfully enriching thing. If you would like to join us (you are most welcome to just "dip in and out" as you are able) then do get in touch with Bren or Malcolm and they will email you the Zoom link.



Royal visit to Bath

Her Majesty the Queen joined Bishop Michael at a Service of Celebration at Bath Abbey in February to mark the 850th anniversary of St John's Foundation, which provides shelter and support for older adults in the city and works with children locally. Queen Camilla, who is Patron of the Foundation, had tea with residents of St John's almshouses in the Chapel of St Michael Within before walking to the Abbey.



Photo © Beata Cosgrove Photography, courtesy of the Diocese of Bath and Wells.

Coming events

Mozart's Così fan tutte

What is it? A concert performance with orchestra by Cardiff Opera, conducted by William Stevens.

When? Sunday 10 March, 6pm

Where? Christ Church

Tickets: £18 (£5 for students & under-18s) from www.ticketsource.co.uk/cardiff-opera.

Bach's St John Passion

What is it? A performance by Bath Minerva Choir (Gavin Carr, Conductor) with Bristol Baroque Ensemble (Roger Huckle, Leader). Details at www.bathminervachoir.co.uk.

When? Saturday 16 March, 7:30pm

Where? Bath Abbey

Tickets: £30/£25/£15 side aisles (unreserved) from Bath Box Office, bathboxoffice.org.uk or 01225 463362.

Sharing the Easter story

From the Diocese of Bath and Wells:

Preparations are well underway for some creative Easter celebrations across Bath and Wells during Holy Week – in our churches, in our schools, as well as in our homes and outdoor spaces.

Suzi Darwin, Children and Youth Worker at St Swithin's, Bath, is one of the organisers of an event designed to share the good news by recreating the wonder of the Easter story in Victoria Park, below the Royal Crescent.



Volunteers from churches across Bath will bring the Easter story to life. Photo courtesy of the Diocese of Bath & Wells.

Between 2pm and 4pm on Good Friday, Suzi and other volunteers from six Bath churches will be holding the Easter Adventure in the Park. At stations dotted around the park they will be telling stories and engaging children in a range of ways, from waving palms to marking Jesus's journey into Jerusalem to sharing squash and biscuits at a Last Supper.

"Last year's event was really lovely," she explains, "with people from different churches getting involved and acting out the Easter story at churches around the city. Around 100 people joined in with the event last year, some who regularly attend church and some who don't, including some families who attend our church toddler group.

"This year's event is going to be very interactive. The children can get fully involved and at the end we hope to be able to give them an Easter egg and a Bible. By holding it in Victoria Park we hope that even more people can join us – and can meet and come to know Jesus."

Looking for something creative to do at home to engage with the Easter story? Why not download our Easter Bible Chat Mat at bathandwells.org.uk/chat-mats.

Lent theme 2024: "Watch and Pray"

Before we reach Easter on the last day of March, we are still journeying through Lent. The Church of England's Lent theme for 2024 is *Watch and Pray: Wisdom and hope for Lent and life*. On the night he was betrayed, Jesus

knelt in darkness in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Though he pleaded with his disciples "Stay here with me... Watch and pray," they all fell asleep, leav-

ing him alone in his hour of deepest suffering. This Lent we are encouraged to wait expectantly for God to meet us and sustain us through the storms and trials we all face. *Watch and Pray* invites us to seek God in both familiar and unfamiliar places this Lent: in darkness and in quiet; in movement and migration; in the healing and transforming work of the Spirit; in the weeping of Holy Week and in the joy of Easter morning.

There are resources available for churches, schools and individuals – details are at <https://bit.ly/watch-and-pray-2024>. You can sign up at www.churchofengland.org/node/41651 to get free daily Lent reflection e-mails (except Sundays) delivered straight to your inbox every day up to Easter Day.



Bishop's Message for March

New life for all the world



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

Sowing seeds, chitting potatoes, choosing varieties. Easter acts as starter's orders for the gardening year. Beds are cultivated, lawns are mown, plans for all the growth and new life that spring and summer will bring are made and then turned into action.

There's a much greater connection between gardening and Easter than it merely being the time to dust off forks and spades. For in the Bible, a garden is the setting for Easter itself. In John's Gospel (John 20:1-18) Mary Magdalene meets the risen Jesus in a garden. Indeed, Jesus's appearance to Mary is so unexpected that at first she can't believe it's really him. So she mistakes the man she meets, "supposing him to be the gardener" (John 20:15).

In John's account, all the new life contained in the first Easter chimes with a much earlier story set in a garden too. This is of the new life of another man and woman, the creation story of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden and contained in the book of Genesis (Genesis 2:4 – 3:24). In that

story, Adam is the gardener (Genesis 2:15), only for things to go wrong. In John, Jesus is portrayed as the new Adam – come to bring new life that has no end.

What would happen if we were to think of our churches as gardens, primed to welcome the spring that is the new life of Jesus this Easter? What would happen if we imagined ourselves called to be gardeners – like our father Adam and the new Adam, Jesus? What would we expect to grow? What might need pruning or weeding? What new plans for the coming season would we make and turn into action? What would be the harvest that we'd sow for, tend and then reap?

For I reckon we should see Easter as the starting point of all that God wants to do among us and with us. Jesus's Resurrection opens us to being part of God's new creation. Easter offers us a fresh start for life, relationships and the life of our churches: new life for all the world.

Happy gardening and a very Happy Easter to you all!

+Michael

Praying together in Lent

From Ash Wednesday, 14 February, to Thursday 28 March, Christians from around Bath are invited to join daily together in prayer between noon and 2pm. This could either be wherever you are or at the Seventh Day Adventist chapel Prayer Room behind the Abbey, to pray with others. This Prayer Room will be open to those invited through the church and people passing by. Wherever we are, let's join together to pray for God's Kingdom to come.

Christ Church calendar March 2024

1 Fri *David, patron of Wales*
Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

3 Sun *The Third Sunday of Lent*
10am Eucharist

7 Thu 11am Eucharist

8 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

10 Sun *Mothering Sunday (the Fourth Sunday of Lent)*
10am Eucharist

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

15 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

17 Sun *Passion Sunday (the Fifth Sunday of Lent)*
10am Eucharist
4:30pm Choral Evensong
(Bath Half Marathon – watch for diversions and road closures)

19 Tue *Joseph of Nazareth*

21 Thu 11am Eucharist

22 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

24 Sun *Palm Sunday*
10am Procession of Palms and Sung Eucharist
5pm Iona Contemplative Service

25 Mon 8pm Sung Compline

26 Tue 8pm Sung Compline

27 Wed 8pm Sung Compline

28 Thu *Maundy Thursday*
11am Eucharist and Stripping of the Altars
Agape meal, St Stephen's, Lansdown, 7pm

29 Fri *Good Friday*
12 midday Music & Meditations for Good Friday
1pm Children's Service
2pm Liturgy for Good Friday

30 Sat *Easter Eve*
Vigil for the Eve of the Resurrection, St Mary's, Charlcombe
(time to be confirmed)
Concert of music for Easter Eve by CanZona, 7:30pm

31 Sun *Easter Sunday*
6:15am Dawn Service, St Mary's, Charlcombe
10am Sung Eucharist
(British Summer time begins – clocks go forward today)

April 4 Thu 11am Eucharist

5 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

7 Sun *The Second Sunday of Easter*
10am Eucharist

8 Mon *The Annunciation*

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

This month's charity: Jamie's Farm

The loose collection on the second and fourth Sundays of the next two months – 10 and 24 March, plus 14 and 28 April – will go to Jamie's Farm, a charity chosen by our young people. (Donations in collection envelopes will continue to go to Christ Church.)

This year, the children's choice for Charity of the Month is Jamie's Farm. This charity offers opportunities for young people to take part in a unique residential programme, built around working on the farm. The young people who benefit are from all sorts of backgrounds, with differing needs, including social and emotional-related, and often having difficulties in school. The programme is designed specifically to improve well-being, boost engagement, improve behaviour and develop

essential life-skills such as communication and self-awareness. There are six farms all over the country, and one is located just outside Bath, in Box. You can find out more about the charity at <https://jamiesfarm.org.uk>.

Members of our Junior Church will be fundraising for Jamie's Farm during March and April. Keep a lookout in the notices for their fundraising escapades!



Jamie's Farm seeks to combine Farming, Family, Therapy and Legacy to assist the attendees in their daily lives. Photo courtesy of Jamie's Farm.



Prayer Cycle for March 2024

Friday	1	For refugees
Saturday	2	For those who live and work in the streets around Christ Church
Sunday	3	For Jane and Jonathan our churchwardens
Monday	4	For architects and designers
Tuesday	5	For the Local Deanery Synod
Wednesday	6	For the work of Genesis
Thursday	7	That we may be stewards of creation
Friday	8	For those who lack food or water
Saturday	9	For those who travel
Sunday	10	For all clergy taking services at Christ Church
Monday	11	For farmers
Tuesday	12	We give thanks for our blessings
Wednesday	13	For our Church Council
Thursday	14	For peace
Friday	15	For those finding it hard to earn a living
Saturday	16	For those preparing for ordination or recently ordained
Sunday	17	For the ministry of our Junior Church
Monday	18	For those who work in medicine
Tuesday	19	For our plans for the appointment of a new incumbent
Wednesday	20	For those on our long-term prayer list
Thursday	21	That we may have the gift of joy
Friday	22	For victims of natural disasters

Saturday	23	We give thanks for artists, poets and musicians
Sunday	24	For Mark our Lay Reader
Monday	25	For those who work in social services
Tuesday	26	For the elderly
Wednesday	27	For our charity of the month, Jamie's Farm
Thursday	28	For volunteer organisations
Friday	29	For the sick and suffering
Saturday	30	For new members to be added to Christ Church
Sunday	31	Thanksgiving for the Resurrection

Long-term Prayer List

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

Geoff
 Joyce
 Daniel
 Milo
 Naomi
 Frankie
 John & Sheila
 Peter & Margaret
 Sheila W
 John & Jean

Our prayer lists have been reset, as they are from time to time to keep them current. If you 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 from 11am to 1:30pm every Friday **except Good Friday**. All are welcome! If you live or work in the area, do consider dropping in for a chat, a cup of coffee, homemade 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.



Rotas for March 2024

Readers and readings, Sunday 10am Eucharist

	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
3 March 3rd Sunday of Lent	Carole Hussey Exodus 20:1-17	Zoë Bushell 1 Corinthians 1: 18-25	Malcolm Wall John 2:13-22
	Intercessions: Georgina Bowman		
10 March Mothering Sunday (4th Sun. of Lent)	(Junior Church) 1 Samuel 1:20-end	(Junior Church) Colossians 3:12-17	(Junior Church) Luke 2:33-35
	Intercessions: (Junior Church)		
17 March Passion Sunday (5th Sun. of Lent)	Judith Bishop Jeremiah 31:31-34	Brenda Wall Hebrews 5:5-10	Nick Wells John 12:20-33
	Intercessions: Jonathan Stead		
24 March Palm Sunday	Peter Bowes Isaiah 50:4-9a	–	Dramatised Gospel
	Intercessions: Beryl Bowes		
31 March Easter Sunday	Robin Kerr Acts 10:34-43	Isobel Powell 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11	Jane Hoe John 20:1-18
	Intercessions: Mark Elliott		
7 April Second Sunday of Easter	Kara Maylor Acts 4:32-35	Jonathan Stead 1 John 1:1 – 2:2	Mark Elliott John 20:19-31
	Intercessions: Kara Maylor		

Who's who at Christ Church

Priest-in-charge	(Vacant)	Organist and Assistant Director of Music	David Winters david.winters@christchurchbath.org
Curate	Revd Kara Maylor 07749 614613 kara.maylor@btinternet.com	Deanery Synod Reps	Brenda Wall Pauline Swaby-Wallace
Supporting clergy	Revd Canon Simon Tatton-Brown 01225 835404 simon@tattonbrown.myzen.co.uk	Christ Church Link editor	Alex Soboslay 07769 655927 alexs@christchurchbath.org
	Revd Beryl Bowes Revd Dr Peter Bowes	Tower Captain, Ringing Master	Will Willans
Reader, Director of Music	Mark Elliott 01225 445360 mark.elliott@christchurchbath.org	Tower Secretary	Maggie Willans 07773 244024 maggiewillans@hotmail.com
Churchwarden	Jane Nicholson 07990 552413 jane@janemnicholson.com	Steeple Keeper	David Kelly
Churchwarden	Jonathan Stead jonathanstead20@gmail.com	Cedar Tree café organiser	Jenny Hesketh jenny.hesketh@me.com
Verger	Angela Soboslay 01225 333297 angela.soboslay@christchurchbath.org	Junior Church	Emma Elliott
Chair of Trustees	Nick Wells 07774 104584 chair@christchurchbath.org	Laity rotas	Judith Bishop
Treasurer	Zoë Bushell zoe.bushell@christchurchbath.org	Prayer cycle	Virginia Knight
Event/concert bookings, weekly notice sheet	Judith Bishop 01225 858816 concerts@christchurchbath.org notices@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

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(answer phone)
Email: admin@christchurchbath.org
Website: www.christchurchbath.org

