

Kara installed in Exmouth

Our former curate takes up her new post

On Thursday 1 August a good-sized contingent from Christ Church – and Revd Lore Chumbley – were present to support our former curate, Revd Kara Maylor, as she was installed in her new parish in Exmouth by the Bishop of Crediton, Rt Revd Jackie Searle, who is currently acting diocesan bishop in the Diocese of Exeter.

Kara is now Team Vicar in the parish of Withycombe Raleigh with Exmouth. She and the Team Rector are responsible for three churches, but Kara will be particularly involved with the church of St John in the Wilderness. The name

is appropriate: the church is down a country lane on the outskirts of Exmouth. There has been a church there since mediaeval times, and the present building, thought to be the third on the site, is mid-14th to mid-15th century. It stands in a very large churchyard, which is still used for burials, but must have been surrounded by farmland up until recent times, when new housing estates began to be built in the area. Kara has been housed on one of these estates not far away and says she is in easy cycling distance of the church. ▶

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At the end of her installation and licensing, Kara was congratulated and welcomed by everyone present.

Kara in Exmouth

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▶ The parish is keen to explore new forms of mission and outreach in Exmouth more broadly, and we know from Kara's time at Christ Church that she will bring her rare gifts and enthusiasm for a variety of ministries. We send our very best wishes to Kara, her family and the new community she joins.



The church of St John in the Wilderness, Exmouth.

Stamps for Seafarers

Sylvia Ayers writes:

At this time of year, you may be receiving – or possibly sending – postcards and letters home from far-flung places, adorned with unusual and attractive stamps. There is a market for such stamps, even when they have been used, and the Missions to Seafarers is always keen to receive stamps it can sell on to collectors to raise funds.

Please would you therefore cut AROUND the used stamps, leaving a two centimetre frame, and either pass them to me at Christ Church or leave them for me in the box labelled "Stamps for Seafarers" on the table at the back of the church. I can then send them on to the Missions to Seafarers office.

My request for used stamps does continue throughout the year, so if you get any unusual picture stamps in your post, I will be very pleased to receive them from you at any time.

Young have deeper faith

Young people in Britain show a deeper and stronger conviction in their religious beliefs than any other age group, a recent study commissioned by the Institute for the Impact of Faith in Life (IIFL) suggests.

The IIFL survey of 2,064 UK adults, carried out by Whitestone at the start of May, found that, of the 18-24-year-olds self-identified as religious, 69% believed that their faith had a significant impact on their lives, compared with 51% of over-65s. Of the younger group, 72% found that faith helped them to find purpose in life, compared with 47% of over-65s.

The poll also found, however, that Christians in Britain generally were less confident in speaking about their religious beliefs than most other faith groups: 38% of Christians polled preferred not to tell people about their faith, compared with 29% of Muslim respondents. Just 28% of Christians believed theirs to be the only true religion, compared with 83% of Muslims.

In a separate IIFL survey conducted in the last week of June, the week before the General Election, the young were also much more likely to say their faith would shape the way they would vote: 44% of 18-24-year-olds agreed that it would, compared to just 16% of 55-64-year-olds and 17% of over-65s.

In the June survey, 64% of all respondents agreed that someone of any faith should be able to be Prime Minister. However, respondents were split on whether British politicians talking about their faith publicly is a good thing, with 38% saying it is, 34% saying it is not and 28% saying they don't know.

Of all age groups, 49% of 18-24-year-olds agreed it was a good thing, with 25-34-year-olds the next highest at 40% and 45-54-year-olds the lowest at 32%. Of faith groups, 50% of Christian respondents agreed that politicians talking publicly about faith is a positive thing, compared to 65% of Muslims, 54% of Hindus and 63% of Jews.

33% of Christians opposed talking about faith in the workplace, compared with 30% of Muslim respondents, 43% of Hindu respondents and 35% of Jewish respondents.

Iona: home of Celtic spirituality

Jonathan Stead writes:

Several years ago Greg and Rebekah Cunningham attended a workshop led by John Bell, a leading member of the Iona Community, songwriter and theologian on Celtic spirituality. They were extremely impressed and so a group of us approached Lore to ask if we might organise a monthly Iona worship service. Lore agreed and we bought copies of *A Wee Worship Book*, published by the Wild Goose Resource Group.

The WGRG is a semi-autonomous project of the Iona Community and seeks to “develop and identify new methods and materials to enable the revitalisation of congregational song, prayer and liturgy”. The book contains a series of morning and evening liturgies, an affirmation of faith, and an alternative form of the Eucharistic service. All are contemporary in nature, and are filled with the richness of the Celtic tradition. This is especially true in its appreciation that God exists in everything around us. He is not just its creator but He continues to dwell in all His creation.

I was fortunate enough to attend one of John Bell’s workshops at Ammerdown and was greatly influenced by it. Perhaps it was also a re-connection with my own Celtic heritage. My mother was born in North Ayrshire in Scotland and I was raised in a

Presbyterian church called St Columba’s. Outside stood a large stone Celtic cross modelled on that outside the Abbey on Iona [see *photo below*].

I was extremely blessed to be able to go on a pilgrimage to Iona last year with Lore, Kara and her Mum. I was much moved by the starkness and isolation of this holy island which had, through St Columba, launched major missions into Scotland and the north of England.

Although the Celtic spiritual tradition was marginalised after the Synod of Whitby in 664 by the Roman tradition of St Augustine, it has had a marked revival since the last century. The Abbey on Iona, the historic symbol of Celtic spirituality, which had fallen into disrepair during the Scottish Reformation, was rebuilt in the 1930s, and a new ecumenical Iona Community was founded.

A group of us meet in church at 5pm on the fourth Sunday of each month and read one of the Celtic liturgies. It is a time of quiet reflection, and those present lead parts of the liturgy or present a piece of writing that they have found meaningful. In true Christ Church spirit, we finish the evening with fellowship over sherry and nibbles. If you wish to join our worship, please just arrive, or speak to me for further information.



The Abbey and Celtic cross on Iona. Photo by Jonathan Stead

Season of Creation



Photo: Colin Watts, ChurchofEngland.org.

Creationtide or the Season of Creation is the period in the annual church calendar, from 1st September to 4th October, dedicated to God as Creator and Sustainer of all life. Many churches choose to use this time of year to hold special services and events to give thanks for God's gift of creation, and to renew their commitment to caring for our one planet home.

The theme for the Season of Creation 2024 is *To Hope and Act with Creation*.

In the letter of Paul the apostle to the Romans, the biblical image pictures the Earth as a mother, groaning as in childbirth (Rom. 8:22). We are not caring for the Earth as a gift from our Creator, but rather using it as a resource to be exploited. And yet, there is hope and the expectation for a better future. To hope in a biblical context does not mean to stand still, but rather groaning, crying and actively striving for new life. As in childbirth, we go through a period of intense pain, but new life springs forth.

The symbol for the Season of Creation 2024 is the first-fruits of hope. We have hope that the Creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God (Rom. 8:21).

Find more information and resources from the Church of England at <https://bit.ly/season-of-creation-2024>.



Day of Remembrance of the Slave Trade

In Saint Domingue, today the Republic of Haiti, the night of 22 to 23 August 1791 saw the beginning of an uprising that would play a crucial role in the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade.

It is against this background that the UNESCO International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition is commemorated on 23 August each year. It was first celebrated in Haiti (1998) and Gorée Island in Senegal (1999).

This International Day is intended to inscribe the tragedy of the slave trade in the memory of all peoples. In accordance with the goals of the UNESCO intercultural project *The Routes of Enslaved Peoples*, it should offer an opportunity for collective consideration of the historic causes, the methods and the consequences of this tragedy, and for an analysis of the interactions to which it has given rise between Africa, Europe, the Americas and the Caribbean.

"It is time to abolish human exploitation once and for all, and to recognize the equal and unconditional dignity of each and every individual," says Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UNESCO. "Today, let us remember the victims and freedom fighters of the past so that they may inspire future generations to build just societies."

Find out more about *The Routes of Enslaved Peoples* at <https://www.unesco.org/en/routes-enslaved-peoples>.



Photo © UNESCO / Pilar Chiang-Joo

Bishop's Message for August

Take a break!



**From the Rt Revd Christopher Foster,
Assistant Bishop for the Diocese of
Bath and Wells**

It's August! Does that mean holiday season for you? Of course it will be for some... but where and doing what?

Holidays mean all sorts of different places and activities – sometimes inactivity – and our preferences and choices are hugely diverse. Whether you are travelling this month or staying at home, any break in our routines gives us a brilliant opportunity. We have a God-given moment to get perspective. Or perhaps I should say that we have the chance to get a renewed sense of who we are, whose we are, and who we might become.

I invite you to step back from everyday tasks and burdens and to place yourself into the glorious divine perspective. It's something we do week by week (or more regularly) in our worship, but a holiday, or a break in our normal pattern of life, gives a special chance to do this.

Seeing ourselves in a bigger context

will, of course, be humbling and make us freshly aware of our frailty, yet it will also raise our eyes and our sights to the potential in which we have a share.

The invitation which Jesus gave to his first disciples is the same one he gives us who are the latest generations of his followers. It is to share in something greater and bigger than we can ever fully comprehend, and to do that by accepting our personal part in the community of the Gospel, the Church, in building the Kingdom of God.

“Take a Break”, the signs on the motorway urge. Take a break this summer, whether or not you leave home, to regain your perspective on the beauty and privilege of being a follower of Jesus in bringing the Kingdom a little closer. See the opportunities as well as the challenges in your community, our nation, and the world. Looking more widely and more broadly gives a proper perspective on who we in the divine economy, and how we can serve both God and also other people.

+Christopher

Visiting choir

The choir are taking their summer break in August. We wish them well and look forward to seeing them when they return on Sunday 8 September.

The week before that, Sunday 1 September, we are delighted to be welcoming a guest choir for our 10am Sunday Eucharist, Voce Chamber Choir. Voce are a London-based chamber choir led by internationally renowned choral director Suzi Digby.

This month's charity: USPG Malawi project

The loose collection on the second and fourth Sundays of this month – 11 and 25 August – will go to USPG's ongoing Malawi project. (Donations in collection envelopes will continue to go to Christ Church.)

This month we are again supporting USPG's project in Malawi. This is a commitment we have made over recent years to support USPG's work among women and girls in developing education, health and economic self-sufficiency in Malawi.

There are four areas of focus, which also take into account issues relating to gender equality and HIV/AIDS:

- education for girls,
- protecting livelihoods,
- management of the environment,
- water, hygiene and sanitation.

The programme is holistic and focuses on girls and young women in a multi-faceted way, starting with their education. To improve literacy among girls, the programme focuses on increasing school enrolment and also works with communities and parents to reduce early marriages, early pregnancies, and the rate at which girls drop out of school.

You can also donate at <https://uspg-donation-form.raisely.com/>. If you specify it is for the Partners in Mission programme in Malawi and write **REI03, Christ Church Bath** on the form, USPG can send us an annual total.



Diocesan Day of Prayer

On Saturday 7 September, everyone across the Diocese of Bath and Wells is invited to join in a Diocesan Day of Prayer. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, will be joining us as we come together across the diocese to pray for the growth of our churches and the transformation of the communities we serve.

Bishop Michael will host a gathering in each archdeaconry, while churches across the diocese are also invited to hold their own prayer gatherings with a focus on local communities.

"As churches we pray in and for our communities each and every day," Bishop Michael said, "but for this Diocesan Day of Prayer I am encouraging every church to look afresh at the communities we serve and the multitude of ways we can and do pray for them.

"As well as being an opportunity to help us seek God's transformation for the communities we are a part of, I hope this will provide us with a chance to deepen our own faith and strengthen our church communities through prayer.

"I am always struck by how many people, even if they are not regular churchgoers, are pleased that they are being prayed for, and so this may be an opportunity to let our communities know that we are praying for our life together and how it might be transformed for good, as well as giving thanks for all that is good already."

To find out more or sign up to receive the resources when they are available, visit www.bathandwells.org.uk/news/day-of-prayer.php.



Archbishop Justin during his last visit to the diocese in 2016. Photo: Diocese of Bath and Wells

Christ Church calendar August 2024

6 Tue *The Transfiguration*

8 Thu 11am Eucharist

9 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

11 Sun *The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity*
10am Eucharist

15 Thu *The Blessed Virgin Mary*
11am Eucharist

16 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

18 Sun *The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity*
10am Eucharist
(No 4:30pm Choral Evensong today – the choir is away)

22 Thu 11am Eucharist

23 Fri *UNESCO International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition*
Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

24 Sat *Bartholomew the Apostle*

25 Sun *The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity*
10am Eucharist
5pm Iona Contemplative Service

29 Thu *The Beheading of John the Baptist*
11am Eucharist

30 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

Sep 1 Sun *The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity / Creationtide begins*
10am Eucharist

5 Thu 11am Eucharist

6 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

7 Sat *Bath and Wells Diocesan Day of Prayer*

8 Sun *The 15th Sunday after Trinity / Accession of King Charles III*
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 August 2024

| | | |
|------------------|-----------|---|
| Thursday | 1 | For our Local Ministry Group partners |
| Friday | 2 | For those who lack food or water |
| Saturday | 3 | We give thanks for the freedoms we enjoy |
| Sunday | 4 | For all clergy taking services at Christ Church |
| Monday | 5 | For those who work in the hospitality industry |
| Tuesday | 6 | For the work of Julian House |
| Wednesday | 7 | That we may be pure in heart |
| Thursday | 8 | For peace |
| Friday | 9 | For those who are confined to their homes |
| Saturday | 10 | For those who travel |
| Sunday | 11 | For our servers and others who assist at the altar |
| Monday | 12 | For farmers |
| Tuesday | 13 | For those affected by disasters in the air or at sea |
| Wednesday | 14 | For those who have been recently ordained |
| Thursday | 15 | We give thanks for those who inspire us |
| Friday | 16 | For the ministry of the Cedar Tree |
| Saturday | 17 | For our link Dioceses in Zambia |
| Sunday | 18 | For Angela our Verger |
| Monday | 19 | For scientists and engineers |
| Tuesday | 20 | We give thanks for beauty in creation |
| Wednesday | 21 | For our plans for the appointment of a new priest in charge |
| Thursday | 22 | For those on our long-term prayer list |
| Friday | 23 | For the unemployed |

| | | |
|------------------|-----------|---|
| Saturday | 24 | For our charity of the month, USPG's Malawi project |
| Sunday | 25 | For our bell-ringing team |
| Monday | 26 | For the emergency services |
| Tuesday | 27 | For new members to be added to Christ Church |
| Wednesday | 28 | That we may have the gift of hope |
| Thursday | 29 | For the lonely and depressed |
| Friday | 30 | For those who use or run food banks |
| Saturday | 31 | For good relationships between different faiths |

Long-term Prayer List

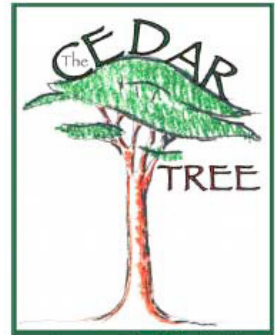
Please remember those we've been asked to pray for...

| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Geoff | Chris & David |
| Joyce | John |
| Daniel | Win |
| Milo | Chris |
| Naomi | Ken |
| Frankie | AJ |
| John & Sheila | Christine |
| Peter & Margaret | Larry |
| Sheila W | |
| 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 August 2024

Readers and readings, Sunday 10am Eucharist

| | Old Testament | New Testament | Gospel |
|--|--|--|--|
| 4 August Tenth Sunday after Trinity | Angela Soboslay 2 Samuel 11:26 – 12:13a | Robin Kerr Ephesians 4:1-16 | Peter Bowes John 6:24-35 |
| Intercessions: Georgina Bowman | | | |
| 11 August Eleventh Sunday after Trinity | David Bishop 2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33 | Alex Soboslay Ephesians 4:25 – 5:2 | Malcolm Wall John 6:35,41-51 |
| Intercessions: Jonathan Stead | | | |
| 18 August Twelfth Sunday after Trinity | Beryl Bowes 1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14 | Virginia Knight Ephesians 5:15-20 | Jonathan Stead John 6:51-58 |
| Intercessions: Beryl Bowes | | | |
| 25 August Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity | Morny Davison 1 Kings 8:22-30, 41-43 | Graham Reaper- Brown Ephesians 6:10-20 | Zoë Bushell John 6:56-69 |
| Intercessions: TBC | | | |
| 1 Sept 14th Sunday after Trinity | Jude Bishop Song of Solomon 2:8-13 | Marcus Bull James 1:17-27 | Brenda Wall Mark 7:1-8,14-15, 21-23 |
| Intercessions: Simon Tatton-Brown | | | |

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, Ringling 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

About Christ Church



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

*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 (taking a break in August) and organist. New singers of all ages are always 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
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