



Making a space for prayer

Some thoughts from a member of the congregation

A derelict former gardener's shed has been converted into a "24-hour prayer space" at St Mary's Church in Frome. A growing new Christian community meets fortnightly in the former vicarage of St Mary's to explore different approaches to prayer – Ignatian, Taize, Centering, Northumbrian and others.

To most people, garden sheds aren't inherently what Celtic Christians called "thin places", places where the heavenly is closer to the earthly. But maybe it's

actually the other way around: making a place for prayer, and indeed praying, lifts us closer to heaven.

So as we approach the 226th anniversary of the consecration of Christ Church in November, let's give thanks for those who conceived and founded Christ Church in the 1790s, all those who have served it in any capacity over the centuries, and all those who, even as we seek our next Priest-in-charge, contribute in myriad ways to the work and mission of Christ Church today – our Trustees, Churchwardens, Verger and servers, all the clergy taking services, our Council, choir and organists, all those who read the lessons, make the cakes, arrange the flowers and help in any way at all. If, as the Benedictine motto puts it, *laborare est orare* – to work is to pray – then working together in the service of prayer, worship and outreach is doubly blessed and brings us ever closer to the Kingdom of God.



The Prayer Shed in the grounds of St Mary's Church in Frome, available for prayer 24 hours a day, was opened by the Archbishop of Canterbury – see page 3. Photo: Diocese of Bath & Wells



A ceramic lamp from Palestine in our St Michael Chapel, where we are invited to pray for peace.

A farewell from Carol

Carol Hussey writes:

Earlier in the summer, after four years at Christ Church, I graduated with a Masters in Mechanical Engineering with Manufacturing and Management with first class honours. It was a lovely day with the sun shining over the Royal Crescent and the Abbey, if a bit warm in my black cape and mortarboard. Since then, I have moved back to London and have been enjoying my last summer before entering the working world. I have been exploring new places like Hungary, Northumberland, Snowdonia and Oxfordshire, and new experiences like losing my voice at a Taylor Swift concert.

As many of you know, I received a job offer from a manufacturing company in East London. However, the company has changed its budget and withdrew my offer, so I am back on the job search. The plan is still to work in manufacturing in the South East and to settle into a new church community with Matthew. Please hold my new job applications in your prayers as I look for where God is sending me.

When I first arrived at Christ Church, I was the only student, and you welcomed me

with open arms. Since then, getting involved in Living in Love and Faith, Pilgrim and Council has been so enriching. Most of all it has been such a joy to see the student group grow and flourish.

With Kara and Jane also leaving in the summer, I wanted to slip quietly away; however, at my last Council meeting, I received a lovely card, a bunch of flowers and a gift voucher from all of you. I am planning to spend it on a power suit to give me confidence for my launch into the corporate world.

At Christ Church, I was cared for by so many and learnt so much. I learnt that faith is both incredibly simple and complex at the same time. I learnt that my voice is valued. Finally, I learnt that God's love reaches further than we can imagine. I will take with me Christ Church's values of beauty in worship, honesty in faith and doubt, and service to the community.

The gift of chaplaincy

From the Diocese of Bath & Wells:

In moments of sorrow, struggle or uncertainty, chaplains walk alongside those in need. They bring hope and healing wherever it is needed, from hospitals and schools to workplaces and courts, the elderly and those at the end of life.

During Covid-19, a nurse at the RUH said, "I wouldn't have got through the last few months without the chaplains. They've got this knack of finding you, this inner sense of where you are and when you need them to visit." A Consultant Clinical Psychologist spoke of chaplaincy as the "gift of time and listening, as important as sterile conditions in a hospital operating theatre."

In Bath and Wells, more than 300 chaplains serve in schools and colleges, hospitals and hospices, industry, retail, and other places of work and leisure. About ten new chaplaincies have been formed each year over the past seven years. See also page 5 and find out more at bathandwells.org.uk/chaplaincy.



Photo courtesy of Carol Hussey

Archbishop joins Wave of Prayer

From the Diocese of Bath and Wells:

For 24 hours at the start of September, a wave of prayer spread across the Diocese of Bath and Wells, as people came together to pray for the growth of the Church and the transformation of their communities. Wave of Prayer events took place right across Somerset, from intimate prayer gatherings in homes and churches to outdoor events and online prayer walls.

The Archbishop of Canterbury joined the wave, starting with a youth service in Bath on Friday night and then morning prayers in the chapel of the Bishop's Palace in Wells on Saturday morning. He then travelled on to Bridgwater, Nailsea and Frome. He met and prayed with young people, and with farmers in an agricultural market. He met church communities and shared in prayer with them, and he officially opened a newly created prayer space – see page 1.

“Without prayer,” he commented, “we are simply a voluntary organisation operating out of a building with a pointy roof.”

Read more about Archbishop Justin's journey, with pictures, on the diocesan website at <https://bit.ly/wave-of-prayer-2024>.



The Wave of Prayer began with a Movement Worship Night for young people at St Michael's Without, Bath. Archbishop Justin joined Bishop Michael and more than 170 people from across the diocese who came together to pray with and for young people. Photo: Diocese of Bath & Wells

Saturday recitals

This year's series of autumn recitals continues at Christ Church on the following Saturdays:

■ 12 October: Christ Church Instrumentalists. Musicians from the choir and congregation of Christ Church.

■ 9 November: Organ Music for Remembrance. Organist: David Wrigley.

All the recitals will start at 3pm and last approximately an hour. Admission is free (with a retiring collection) and the church will be open from 2:15pm for refreshments.

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



The first of our Saturday recital series took place on 14 September, with the Strings of Trowbridge Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Philip Draisey (standing at left), and our organist, David Winters (at the right of this picture).

Lore's sermons

Morny Davison has kindly arranged for a selection of Lore Chumbley's sermons to be printed, under the title *Stories from Julian Road*. There is a suggested donation of £10 per copy of the book, which is available after our main Sunday service each week. Payment can be made by cash or card. If you can't get to Christ Church on a Sunday, please make your interest known and arrangements can be made. We are most grateful to Morny for sponsoring this project.

Crafts from the Holy Land for Christmas

Djemila Cope writes:

A Christmas stall from Bethlehem will run from Thursday 28 November to Sunday 15 December at BRLSI (Bath Royal Literary and Scientific Institute), 16-18 Queen Square, Bath BA1 2HN. It is part of the Bath Christmas Market.

Waiting for you will be beautifully hand-crafted olive wood products, jewellery,



embroidery, mother of pearl and ceramics, shipped all the way from Bethlehem's Shepherds Fields, where the Holy Land Handicraft Co-operative Society have their shop.

The Co-operative supports approximately 2,000 individual craftspeople including local Women's Enterprise groups and organisations supporting people with disabilities. It also provides a vital sales outlet to small-scale producers who would otherwise be unable to market their products individually at a fair price. This is critically important now while conflict rages around them and tourists are no longer visiting.

As a member of the World Fair Trade Organisation, the Co-operative's vision is one of peace in the Holy Land and a world in which justice and sustainable development are at the heart of trade structures and practices, so that everyone can maintain a decent and dignified livelihood. Come and see the beautifully crafted pieces on their stall.

Festival of Orthodox Arts

A Festival of Orthodox Arts is taking place on Friday 25th and Saturday 26th October from 10 am at St John's Church, Bathwick, BA2 6PT.

A café will be open 10am to 5pm each day, and visitors can meet the 18 artists who will be exhibiting more than 100 works, including

icons, mosaics, paintings, ceramics, sculpture, stained glass, woodcuts and photography.

All events in the festival are free, including a talk by icon painter Aidan Hart at 10:30am on Saturday 26th and a conversation at noon that day organised in partnership with the Institute for Orthodox Christian Studies, Cambridge (IOCS), with Aidan Hart, Dr Andrew Nosal and Dr Elizabeth Theokritoff on depicting an evolving cosmos as creation transfigured by Christ.

At 7:30pm on Friday 25th, there will be a candlelit concert of original pilgrim songs. On the Saturday there is a children's workshop, and Mosaic Choir will perform folk songs and liturgical music from around the world.

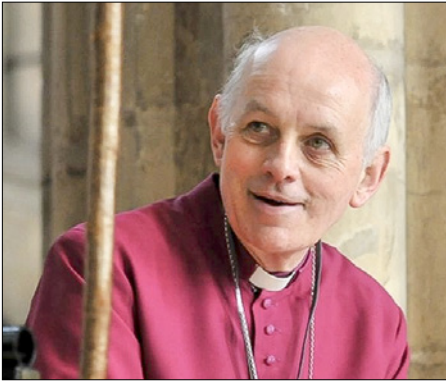
Café proceeds and 20% of art sales will be donated to Genesis Trust, the local charity working with homeless and vulnerable people in the Bath area.

The full Festival programme is available at www.bath-orthodox-church.co.uk/arts.html.



Bishop's Message for October

A light which shines in the darkness



**From the Rt Revd Trevor Willmott,
Assistant Bishop for the
Diocese of Bath and Wells**

The custodial sentences imposed on many of those involved in the recent riots in communities across our country have highlighted, yet again, the issue of criminal justice and the pressures and strains within the prison system.

The seemingly ever-increasing size of the prison population; the appalling conditions within many of our older prisons, especially those in our inner cities; the almost total lack of provision for education and rehabilitation and an apparent unwillingness by those elected to Parliament to consider whether the whole of our justice system needs a radical overhaul – all these things have resulted in much media comment.

But one part of the prison system which has not been mentioned is the invaluable role played by those who serve as Chaplains. Prison and restorative justice have been a constant thread almost throughout the whole of my life, beginning with my first visit while still in my teens to what was then called a Borstal.

Since then, I've had the privilege of working with chaplaincy teams across the whole of the prison estate. I've witnessed at first hand the extraordinary work done by those teams, lay and ordained, of all faiths, working together to witness to God's love in Christ and caring for all those in the prison system, both staff and prisoners. I've often said to those on the outside, if you want to know what true collaborative ministry looks like in practice, look no further than a chaplaincy team. While each member remains true to his or her particular faith, the barriers which often divide people of faith have no part in that shared work of witness and service.

Sadly, all too often, the work of Chaplaincies not just in prison but in all aspects of our human life, in education, hospital, mental health, care homes and many other places, is barely known – that is, until we need their care. But Chaplaincies are the yeast which leaven our society, the light which shines in the darkness. Society, as we long and pray for it to be, would be the poorer without them.

+Trevor

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.

Bath Abbey lights up

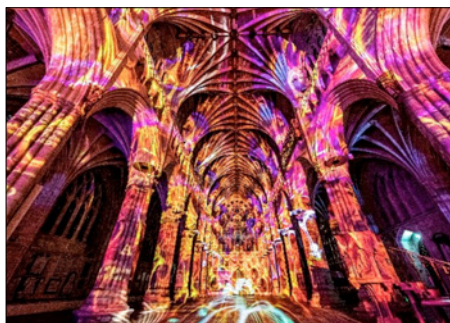
Bath Abbey is being transformed this month with the premiere of Shine On, the first light-and-sound installation in the historic space.

Shine On, created by an artistic collective called Luxmuralis, brings the stunning stained-glass windows of Bath Abbey to life in ways never seen before, using dynamic light projections and original musical compositions by composer David Harper to highlight their intricate designs and vibrant colours.

“This installation not only highlights the artistic brilliance of the stained-glass windows but also creates a deeply immersive and emotional experience for visitors,” said Peter Walker, Artistic Director of Luxmuralis at Bath Abbey. “As light dances across the ancient stone and illuminates the sacred art, visitors will be transported into a realm where history, art and technology converge. The harmonious blend of light and music creates an atmosphere of reflection and wonder, inviting visitors to engage deeply with the Abbey’s rich heritage and spiritual ambience.

“It not only celebrates the craftsmanship of the past but also reimagines it for contemporary audiences, both honouring and re-vitalising the historic beauty of Bath Abbey.”

Shine On takes place at Bath Abbey from Friday 4 October to Saturday 26 October. It is open Monday to Saturday from 6:30pm. Tickets cost £10 for adults and are available from Bath Box Office, bathboxoffice.org.uk/whats-on/shine-on-luxmuralis.



A bespoke “Son et Lumière” installation by Luxmuralis. Photo: Diocese of Bath & Wells

This month’s charity: Lux Youth Project

The loose collection on the second and fourth Sundays of this month – 13 and 27 October – will go to the Lux Youth Project. (Donations in collection envelopes will continue to go to Christ Church.)

Lux Youth Project is the Bath offshoot of Youth for Christ, and like Youth for Christ it delivers community youth work, mentoring and small group work in schools and chaplaincy. It runs open access drop-in clubs, a dance academy, breakfast club, one-to-one mentoring and enrichment courses in Bath particularly in areas of deprivation. Currently much of its work takes place in the South-down area of Bath but as it grows it may expand into other areas of need.

From the charity’s website: “Lux Youth Project is a Christian charity inspired by our faith to work with young people across Bath



Youth Project

have worked in Bath and the surrounding area for more than 30 years, providing open access and schools youth work. In 2023 we became Lux Youth Project.

“LUX is Latin for light and we want to be light for young people experiencing times of darkness and difficulty. We also believe that every person has light in them and that with the right support and encouragement can share that light to make their lives and communities brighter. As it says in the Bible: ‘Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven’ (Matthew 5:16).”

Find out more about the charity and its work at www.luxyouthproject.co.uk.

Christ Church calendar Oct. 2024

	3	Thu	11am Eucharist Pilgrim Group meeting, 7:30pm
	4	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm
	6	Sun	<i>The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity</i> 10am Eucharist
	10	Thu	11am Eucharist
	11	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm
	12	Sat	Concert – Christ Church instrumentalists, 3pm
	13	Sun	<i>The Twentieth Sunday after Trinity</i> 10am Eucharist
	15	Tue	Christ Church Council meeting, 7:30pm
	17	Thu	11am Eucharist
	18	Fri	<i>Luke the Evangelist</i> Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm
	20	Sun	<i>The Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity</i> 10am Eucharist 4:30pm Choral Evensong
	24	Thu	11am Eucharist Christ Church Trustees meeting, 7:30pm
	25	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm
	27	Sun	<i>The Last Sunday after Trinity / Bible Sunday</i> 10am Eucharist 5pm Iona Contemplative Service
	28	Mon	<i>Simon and Jude, Apostles</i>
	31	Thu	11am Eucharist Pilgrim Group meeting, 7:30pm
Nov	1	Fri	<i>All Saints' Day</i> Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm
	3	Sun	<i>The Fourth Sunday before Advent</i> 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 October 2024

Tuesday	1	For the elderly
Wednesday	2	We give thanks for artists, poets and musicians
Thursday	3	For the work of Genesis
Friday	4	For countries which have experienced storms and flooding
Saturday	5	That we may be open to encounters with God
Sunday	6	For the ministry of our Junior Church
Monday	7	For those who work in financial services
Tuesday	8	For peace
Wednesday	9	For our plans for the appointment of a new priest in charge
Thursday	10	For all at school
Friday	11	For those with addictions
Saturday	12	For the chaplaincies at Bath's Universities
Sunday	13	For our Lighthouse young adult group
Monday	14	For shopkeepers and shop workers
Tuesday	15	For Christian unity
Wednesday	16	We give thanks for family and friends
Thursday	17	For our church Environment Group
Friday	18	For those finding it hard to earn a living
Saturday	19	For those who have lost their faith
Sunday	20	For Mark our Lay Reader
Monday	21	For our King and other heads of state
Tuesday	22	For those who care for the sick
Wednesday	23	For our charity of the month, the Lux Youth Project

Thursday	24	For the Trustees of Christ Church
Friday	25	For those who are persecuted for their faith
Saturday	26	That we may have the gift of joy
Sunday	27	For our Diocese of Bath and Wells
Monday	28	For journalists and those who work in the media
Tuesday	29	For our flower arrangers and those who look after the church
Wednesday	30	For those on our long-term prayer list
Thursday	31	We give thanks for the blessings of the past month

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.



Rotas for October 2024

Readers and readings, Sunday 10am Eucharist

	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
6 Oct 19th Sunday after Trinity	Malcolm Wall Job 1:1, 2:1-10	Graham Reaper- Brown Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12	Mark Elliott Mark 10:2-16
	Intercessions: Georgina Bowman		
13 Oct 20th Sunday after Trinity	Judith Anderson Job 23:1-9,16,17	Jonathan Stead Hebrews 4:12-16	Nick Wells Mark 10:17-31
	Intercessions: Mark Elliott		
20 Oct 21st Sunday after Trinity	Alex Soboslay Job 38:1-7	Virginia Knight Hebrews 5:1-10	Peter Bowes Mark 10:35-45
	Intercessions: Beryl Bowes		
27 Oct Last Sunday after Trinity	Morny Davison Job 42:1-6,10-17	Angela Soboslay Hebrews 7:23-28	Zoë Bushell Mark 10:46-52
	Intercessions: Jonathan Stead		
3 Nov Fourth Sunday before Advent	David Bishop Deuteronomy 6:1-9	Marcus Bull Hebrews 9:11-14	Graeme Stacey Mark 12:28-34
	Intercessions: Georgina Bowman		

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



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

