

# Community, now and eternally

*From the priest-in-charge...*

**Revd Lore Chumbley writes:**

What varied and delightful talents God has given us! Over the past few weeks, as part of our “Time and Talent” challenge, I have enjoyed brunch followed by a guided walk, a creative writing session, bought six beautiful wild flower coasters and had some (very necessary) remedial help on my allotment. Not only that, I am also looking forward to a harp lesson, a re-ordered library, and what more will be revealed at our mini fête on Sunday 21 May.

Your response to the challenge to use your God-given talents and raise money for both our chosen charity and Christ Church has been extraordinary. There’s still time to get involved if you haven’t yet. As I followed a cheerful crocodile of walkers up hill and down dale last month on Kara’s guided walk, I was struck by how the challenge has brought people together in new ways doing unexpected activities, and just how valuable that is.

In these weeks after Easter, the lectionary insists that we hear readings from the Acts of the Apostles describing the growth of the infant church. Initially it was a Jerusalem-based movement, consisting only of those who had known and followed Jesus. As the Holy Spirit worked like yeast, the group grew in number and confidence but was still based in one place. At Pentecost, forty days after the Resurrection, the Holy Spirit set the church free. People from all over the Mediterranean region, visiting Jerusalem for the feast of Pentecost,

heard Peter preaching, “each in their own language.” As they returned home with the news of the Resurrection and the extraordinary happenings in Jerusalem ringing in their ears, new churches sprang up.

Like every church in the world, Christ Church is a descendant of that first Jerusalem “church.” We only exist because of the courage and faith of the disciples and first followers of Jesus. As we strengthen our fellowship and share our time and talents, let’s remember that we do so as one link in the chain of believers that reaches right back to the upper room with Jesus and forward into the future.



*The “Te Deum” windows around the nave express the diverse community of angels, saints, prophets and churchgoers joining together in praising God.*

# Celebrating the Coronation

By the time you read this, the Coronation will have taken place of his Majesty King Charles III and her Majesty Camilla the Queen Consort. The occasion is as much a religious service as a civil formality, and Bishop Michael Beasley takes an active role as Bishop Assistant to the King alongside the Bishop of Durham, a role which has been carried out by the Bishop of Bath and Wells at every coronation since that of Richard I in 1189.

Services of celebration and community events will continue in the coming weeks, with prayers being offered for the King and Queen Consort. Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II was famously a person of faith, and the tenor of King Charles's service is suggested in "the King's Prayer" from the Coronation liturgy:

*God of compassion and mercy,  
whose Son was sent not to be served but to  
serve,  
give grace that I may find in thy service perfect  
freedom  
and in that freedom knowledge of thy truth.  
Grant that I may be a blessing to all thy  
children,  
of every faith and conviction,  
that together we may discover the ways of  
gentleness  
and be led into the paths of peace.  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.*



Photo: @TheRoyalFamily

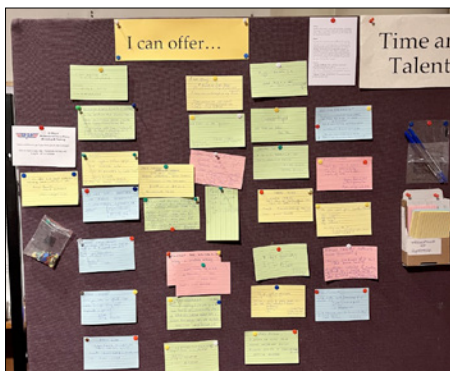
# Curate's corner

Wow, what a talented community we have at Christ Church! "Time and Talent" is under way – do go and feast your eyes on the notice board to see the vast array of experiences on offer, from a Celtic harp lesson and all manner of delectable delights to a lesson on how to get good at gaming. I look forward to hearing the stories, seeing the photos and having a go at something new myself.

I had a funeral with a difference this week... Usually you have recorded music or occasionally a pianist or string duo playing the family in and out. On Tuesday we had an opera singer do this. What a wonderful thing to have in the Crematorium – but if I tell you that they are extremely strict on their time slots, you will understand why, whilst wonderful, it was a somewhat fraught experience for me as I prayed to be able to gracefully hold the space for the grieving family and, surreptitiously, keep an eye on time constraints. You will be pleased to hear that God is good and all went smoothly. Amazing what you learn in this role!

Please pray for confidence for my lovely Year 5 and 6 netball team. We have our first match against Bathford in a couple of weeks and our practice has been limited because of strike days and weather. Please pray it is fun and they all want to do it again.

Welcome back to our lovely students, and here's to the emerging warm summer sun and blue skies.



A part of the Time and Talent notice board.

# Time and Talent 2023

This year's Time and Talent Challenge is in full swing. The project encourages all of us to use the talents God has given each of us and to share them, giving God the glory. It's also a wonderful opportunity to raise funds for Christ Church and our chosen charity, Mentoring Plus, a local charity that supports young people who are struggling at school or at home. It's also an occasion to get our friends and neighbours involved by selling baked/bottled/handmade goods to them, or inviting them over for tea or a meal with a donation to Time & Talent. If you haven't already, please see Jude Bishop or Jonathan Stead for an envelope of £20 seed money to help you on your way.

Please check the Time and Talent noticeboard at the back of the church for services and outings being offered. If you are interested in any, please contact the person offering the service directly using the contact details if provided. If you are not sure who's offering the service then please ask Lore, Jonathan or Jude. Once you have made contact then you need to agree a date, time and venue to meet for the event. All transactions should be in cash as far as possible.

If you wish to offer a service, then please fill in a card including your contact details and pin it to the noticeboard. Anyone who is getting payment for any goods/services for Time and Talent should ideally sign up so that we can allocate you a number and give you the £20 if you choose to take it.

Time and Talent concludes with a Mini Fête on Sunday 21 May. This will take place in the Lower Mews after the 10am Eucharist, from 11:30 to 1pm. We hope to offer cakes, jams, chutneys and other homemade produce for sale, craftwork, and anything else that you've made as part of your contribution to the project, together with a white elephant stall.

We will need volunteers to help run these stalls and to serve tea, coffee and cake. Help is also required to set the room up on the Saturday afternoon, 20 May, and to clear away at the end. If you can assist with any of this then please let Jonathan or Jude know.

# This month...



*Please continue to take extra care in the car park behind the church this month while scaffolding is still in place for work on the Upper Mews roof.*

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## Considering creation



*In April Taunton Minster hosted an art installation and a series of Eco Talks. Revd Tobie Osmond, Vicar at Taunton Minster, says, "The Gaia artwork installation has allowed us to continue conversations about caring for God's glorious creation that we started when we hosted the artist Luke Jerram's previous installation, the Museum of the Moon [also seen in Wells Cathedral and Bath Abbey]. Every day I have been engaged in phenomenal discussions with a range of people, including people from Taunton who have never visited us before, about this wonderful world that God has tasked us to take care of. It only just fits in our magnificent church, but it looks spectacular, particularly at night when set against the stars of the heavens and angels on our ceiling."*

# Quiz for Somerset Day Christ Church ACM

Somerset Day falls on Friday 12 May this year and everyone is invited to celebrate by joining what is hoped to be Somerset's biggest ever quiz. In conjunction with BBC Somerset, an actual and virtual quiz takes place 7pm–9pm. This year's celebrations follow on from the Coronation, with the quiz theme of Somerset, its crown jewels and royal connections.

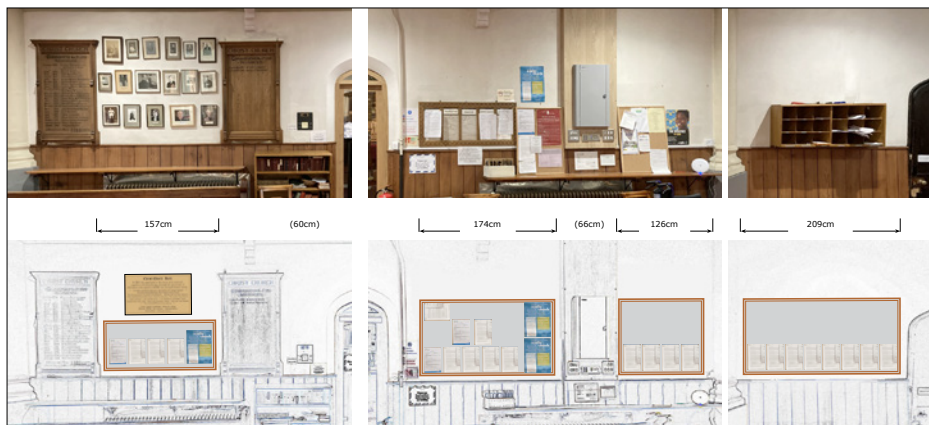
Anyone can take part in the radio quiz, but organisers are also encouraging pubs, schools, care homes and others, including church communities, to host a quiz on the same evening and raise funds for local good causes. Find out more at [www.somersetday.com](http://www.somersetday.com).



The Annual General Church Meeting of the Christ Church congregation will be held on Sunday 14 May after the 10am service – so starting at about 11:15am. Come along to elect Churchwardens, Deanery Synod representatives and members of Church Council, and receive reports on the activities of all the groups in the church. Anyone can attend, but you must be on the Electoral Roll of Christ Church to vote.

The booklet of reports is available in advance – do pick up a copy and take it home to read before the meeting. There's a large-print version for anyone who'd like one – please ask if you want one. You'll also find the booklet on the website, so you can read it online or download it to read at your leisure. Visit [christchurchbath.org](http://christchurchbath.org), click on Church Life, then Church Council, scroll down the page, and click on Church Council Minutes.

## View the proposals for the west wall



You'll recall that we have been considering how to make better use of the various spaces on the west wall of the nave and provide more efficient, clearer displays of information, along with the long-agreed bells donor board. On one of the free-standing noticeboards at the back of the church (appropriately!) you'll

find our application for a Faculty (the Church of England counterpart of Listed Building permission) detailing what is being proposed – artist's impression above. The photos of past incumbents are to be reframed and moved to the south wall (the Julian Road side, between the windows near the kitchen).



# Bishop's Message for May

*Remember Jesus too*



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

Writing about the celebration of Holy Communion almost eighty years ago, Gregory Dix posed the question “Was ever another command so obeyed?” It’s well worth searching online for his whole answer. An edited quote of his response reads:

*“For century after century, spreading slowly to every continent and country and among every race on earth, this action has been done, in every conceivable human circumstance, for every conceivable human need. People have found no better thing than this to do for kings at their crowning and for criminals going to the scaffold; for armies in triumph or for a bride and bridegroom in a little country church; for the wisdom of the Parliament of a mighty nation or for a sick old woman afraid to die; while the lions roared in the nearby amphitheatre; on the beach at Dunkirk. And best of all, week by week and month by month, on a hundred thousand successive Sundays, faithfully, unfailingly, across all the parishes of Christendom,*

*the pastors have done this just to make the plebs sancta Dei – the holy common people of God.”*

The first of Dix’s scenarios will be played out before us at the Coronation of King Charles III. At the heart of the ceremony, amidst all the pomp and circumstance, the oaths and declarations, the regalia and crowning, will be the celebration of Holy Communion. The words used will be just the same as those spoken in our parish churches Sunday by Sunday. From Communion, the King and Queen will be sent out from Westminster Abbey to live like us the prayer we say at the end of many of our services. They will offer “their souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice, sent out in the power of [God’s] Spirit to live and work to [God’s] praise and glory.”

The command that the King, Queen and all of us obey is Jesus’s direction to “Do this in remembrance of me.” So, as you watch the Coronation please remember Jesus too. For he is the one who comes to us as a servant; the King of kings.

**+Michael**

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## **Pilgrimage to Iona**

Canon Angela Berners-Wilson, formerly an associate minister at Christ Church, is leading a pilgrimage to Iona from Monday 22 to Saturday 28 October 2023. Price from £1,349 pp, plus return travel to Glasgow. To find out more or sign up: [info@mccabe-travel.co.uk](mailto:info@mccabe-travel.co.uk).

We have at least six and possibly as many as eight joining the pilgrimage. We will offer bursaries for anyone who’d like to come but would find it expensive. If that sounds like you, please let Lore know. If you can’t come but would like to contribute to such a bursary scheme, then please speak to Lore.

# This month's charity: BEMSCA

BEMSCA (Bath Ethnic Minority Senior Citizens Association) runs a day care centre and outreach programme supporting members who cannot leave their homes, as well as a social space for older members of the Caribbean, Asian and Chinese communities to meet and also access information on health, housing and welfare issues. It is appropriate that we pray for, and financially support, this project in the lead-up to our celebration of Windrush Sunday (18 June) in this year, which marks the 75th anniversary of the arrival of the Empire Windrush.

The loose collection in the plate on the second and fourth Sundays of both this month and next month – 14 and 28 May, then 11 and 25 June – will go to BEMSCA. (Donations in collection envelopes will continue to go to Christ Church.)



## Coming events

### Windrush Service

Sunday 18 June, our 10am Eucharist will be recognising the contribution of the Caribbean community to Christ Church and the country.

### Julian Road Community Fair

Saturday 22 July, with Bath at Work Museum.

### Celebratory Ceilidh

Saturday 14 October, as part of our celebration of the 225th anniversary of the consecration of Christ Church.

# Day Conference

## Modern Church Day Conference: Contemplative Prayer as Mission

*What is it?* Modern Church South West Group presents a Day Conference on the topic *Contemplative Prayer as Mission* with Dr. Lorraine Cavanagh, exploring a link between familiar themes. Modern Church encourages open, respectful debate on Christian faith. Visit [modernchurch.org.uk](http://modernchurch.org.uk).

*When is it?* Saturday 17 June, 11am – 4pm (coffee from 10:30am)

*Where?* Christ Church

*Admission* £5 per person, payable on the day. Please bring a packed lunch; hot drinks will be provided on the day.

*To book* please email [dj455475@hotmail.com](mailto:dj455475@hotmail.com) and your booking will be acknowledged.

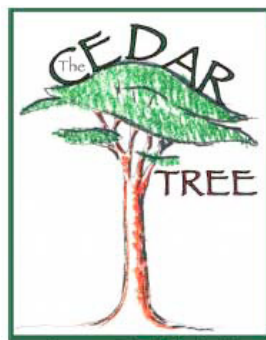
Please include a phone/mobile number for contact purposes.



Modern Church  
faith in the world

## 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

# Christ Church calendar May 2023

**May** 1 Mon *Philip and James, Apostles*

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4 Thu 11am Eucharist

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5 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

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6 Sat Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III

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

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11 Thu 11am Eucharist

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12 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

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**14 Sun** *The Sixth Sunday of Easter*  
8am Holy Communion (BCP)  
10am Eucharist  
Christ Church Annual Church Meeting (about 11:15am)

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15 Mon *Matthias the Apostle*

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18 Thu *Ascension Day*  
11am Eucharist

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19 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

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**21 Sun** *The Seventh Sunday of Easter*  
10am Eucharist  
4:30pm Choral Evensong

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25 Thu 11am Eucharist

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26 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

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**28 Sun** *Pentecost (Whit Sunday)*  
10am Eucharist  
5pm Contemplative Service (Iona)

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31 Wed *The Visitation (Visit of Mary to Elizabeth)*

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**June** 1 Thu 11am Eucharist

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2 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

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**4 Sun** *Trinity Sunday*  
10am Eucharist

**Our Sunday 10am Eucharist, and other services as advertised, continue to be live-streamed at** [www.facebook.com/christchurchbath](https://www.facebook.com/christchurchbath)

# Prayer Cycle for May 2023

<b>Monday</b>	<b>1</b>	For those who live or work in care homes
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>2</b>	For those who are persecuted for their faith
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>3</b>	For the Local Deanery Synod
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>4</b>	That we may have the gift of faith
<b>Friday</b>	<b>5</b>	For those in slavery or bonded labour
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>6</b>	For our bell-ringing team
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>7</b>	For Kara our Curate
<b>Monday</b>	<b>8</b>	For farmers
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>9</b>	We give thanks for artists, poets and musicians
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>10</b>	For our link Dioceses in Zambia
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>11</b>	For children and their families
<b>Friday</b>	<b>12</b>	For those finding it hard to earn a living
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>13</b>	For peace
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>14</b>	For Mark our Lay Reader
<b>Monday</b>	<b>15</b>	For scientists and engineers
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>16</b>	For countries experiencing civil unrest
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>17</b>	For our charity of the month
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>18</b>	For our Pilgrim Group
<b>Friday</b>	<b>19</b>	For those who mourn
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>20</b>	For our Junior Church
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>21</b>	For our servers and others who assist at the altar
<b>Monday</b>	<b>22</b>	For those who work in local government
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>23</b>	For those on our long-term prayer list



<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>24</b>	For the ministry of Julian House
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>25</b>	We give thanks for the fruits of the earth
<b>Friday</b>	<b>26</b>	For those who have been forced to flee their homes
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>27</b>	For volunteer organisations
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>28</b>	That we may have the grace of the Holy Spirit
<b>Monday</b>	<b>29</b>	For our armed forces and police
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>30</b>	For those who travel
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>31</b>	We give thanks for the blessings of the past month

# Long-term Prayer List

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

Chris  
David  
Hui Tao Ling  
Jean and John  
Joyce K  
John K  
Romey and Roger  
A J Kninchi  
Roger and Francis  
Jeremy and Roz  
Mary Elizabeth Bull  
Natalia Bull

Kat  
Paul and Kate  
Evelyn

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

# Rotas for May 2023

*Readers and readings, Sunday 10am Eucharist*

	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
<b>7 May</b> Fifth Sunday of Easter	<b>Carol Hussey</b> Acts 7:55-60	<b>Beryl Bowes</b> 1 Peter 2:2-10	<b>Morny Davison</b> John 14:1-14
	Intercessions: <b>Peter Bowes</b>		
<b>14 May</b> Sixth Sunday of Easter	<b>Jude Bishop</b> Acts 17:22-31	<b>Jonathan Stead</b> 1 Peter 3:13-22	<b>Nick Wells</b> John 14:15-21
	Intercessions: <b>Kara Maylor</b>		
<b>21 May</b> Seventh Sunday of Easter	<b>Rachel Preston</b> Acts 1:6-14	<b>Georgina Bowman</b> 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11	<b>Brenda Wall</b> John 17:1-11
	Intercessions: <b>Jonathan Stead</b>		
<b>28 May</b> Pentecost	<b>Peter Bowes</b> Acts 2:1-21	<b>Angela Soboslay</b> 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13	<b>Virginia Knight</b> John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39
	Intercessions: <b>Beryl Bowes</b>		
<b>4 June</b> Trinity Sunday	<b>David Bishop</b> Isaiah 40:12-17, 27-31	<b>Morny Davison</b> 2 Corinthians 13:11-13	<b>Robin Kerr</b> Matthew 28:16-20
	Intercessions: <b>Mark Elliott</b>		

# Who's who at Christ Church

**Priest-in-charge** Revd Lore Chumbley  
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lore.chumbley@me.com

**Curate** Revd Kara Maylor

**Supporting clergy**  
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simon@tattonbrown.myzen.co.uk

Revd Beryl Bowes  
Revd Dr Peter Bowes

**Reader, Director of Music** Mark Elliott  
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**Churchwarden** Janet Mahto  
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janetmahto@gmail.com

**Churchwarden** Jane Nicholson  
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**Verger** Angela Soboslay  
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**Chair of Trustees** Nick Wells  
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**Treasurer** David Bishop  
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**Deanery Synod Reps** Brenda Wall  
Pauline Swaby-Wallace

**Safeguarding officer** Virginia Knight  
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**Organist and Assistant  
Director of Music** David Winters  
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**Event/concert bookings,  
weekly notice sheet** Judith Bishop  
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concerts@christchurchbath.org  
notices@christchurchbath.org

**Christ Church Link editor** Alex Soboslay  
07769 655927  
alexs@christchurchbath.org

**Tower Captain,  
Ringing Master** Will Willans

**Steeple Keeper** David Kelly

**Cedar Tree café organiser**  
Jenny Hesketh  
jenny.hesketh@me.com

**Junior Church** Emma Elliott

**Laity rotas** Judith Bishop

**Prayer cycle** Virginia Knight

**Charitable Giving co-ordinator**  
Jonathan Stead

**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](mailto:magazine@christchurchbath.org)

# 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, the Archbishop of Canterbury; William Wilberforce, the great evangelical and campaigner against slavery; and Martin Stafford Smith, godfather of John Keble, a founder of the Oxford Movement.

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.

For anyone concerned about the health risks of congregational singing, we do not sing at the 8am BCP Communion or 5pm Quiet Service.

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) – *On the second Sunday of every month*
- 10am Sung Eucharist with Junior Church activities for children and young people – *Every Sunday – also streamed at [www.facebook.com/christchurchbath](http://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)

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