



Experiencing “the fifth gospel”

No, not the 2015 Ian Caldwell thriller, but the land of Israel...

Revd Lore Chumbley writes:

Jerusalem has been in the news over the past few weeks. It's 50 years since the Six Day War of June 1967, and all those who are concerned about Jerusalem have been aware that this could be a difficult year. It was not a surprise therefore when during my recent stay in Jerusalem the gates of the city were sealed by armed police. No-one was allowed in or out. It was a reminder of the power the Romans had in the time of Jesus – to close the city to the faithful if they chose to do so.

Whatever you do in Jerusalem and wherever you go you are reminded of

the history still reverberating through the city. I spent two weeks there in July 2017 as a volunteer on an archaeological dig on Mount Zion – a stone's throw from the traditional site of the Last Supper. Every foot you dig down brings you about a hundred years closer to the time of Jesus. Parts of our dig were 20 feet below the surface, so right back to the First Century.

Very early each morning we walked to the dig along a street just inside the old wall of the city. Many scholars think we were walking past the buried remains of a palace built by Herod the great. It may be the place where Pilate pronounced sentence on Jesus. Today it is a car park owned by the Armenian Church. Each morning we would gaze longingly at it, wondering if it would be possible one day to excavate it.

It was not all digging. We found time to visit Herodius, another palace of Herod the Great, where he was buried. We explored the ancient City of David, where traces of the Jebussite city which King David conquered (2 Samuel 5:1-12) have been found. The tunnel which King Hezekiah built under the hill of the city of David to protect the city's water supply (2 Kings 20:20) is still there. And at the end of the tunnel is a remnant of the Biblical pool of Siloam, mentioned in John's account of Jesus healing a blind man (John 9:6-7).

The Israel museum is full of evidence for the culture of the Old Testament, both religious – idols, incense altars,



Steps from the time of Jesus – from the Kidron Valley leading up to Mount Zion.

The fifth gospel (cont.)



The archaeological dig on Mount Zion.

- ▶ ancient shrines – and everyday artefacts such as pottery and jewellery. Sadly there is much less from the time of Jesus. The Romans destroyed Jerusalem in 70AD and many artefacts did not survive. But just to walk through the streets of Jerusalem, to see the sun rise over the Mount of Olives and to pick a piece of Roman pottery from the earth confirms an understanding that the incarnation took place, not in the pages of a book but here in this place, surrounded by hills and valleys – the Mount of Olives, the Kidron Valley – whose contours are unchanged.

In 2019 we hope to take a group from Christ Church to the Holy Land to experience that together. David Gatcliffe, a retired priest in Frome, has agreed to lead it. He will be preaching at Christ Church on Sunday 24 September, so take the opportunity to meet him then. The group would spend time in Jerusalem, Galilee, Hebron and Jericho. We have pencilled in the Saturday after Easter, 25 April 2019, as our travel date. It will not be cheap, so I hope we will have the will and the generosity to set up a system of bursaries so that those able to do so would pay slightly more in order that those who could not otherwise afford it can receive help with their costs.

Last month...



On Friday 21 July Cliff Burrows turned 80, and we celebrated the occasion on Sunday 23rd in traditional Christ Church style, with some spectacular cakes crafted by Jo Palmer. Cliff and Margaret were delighted to be able to take the leftovers back with them to share with other residents of Ivybank care home.

Bath Foodbank appeal

Bath Foodbank is experiencing a significant increase in demand. At the same time, school holidays can be a particularly difficult time for families who are eligible for free school meals. Many struggle to provide food for their family, at a time when there may be increased financial demands, such as possibly needing extra childcare. This summer Bath Foodbank is running a pilot scheme offering eligible families enough food for five main meals a week over each of the six weeks of the school holidays.

The items most needed are: pasta sauce, fruit squashes, tinned tomatoes, tinned vegetables (peas, carrots and potatoes), tinned meat (not corned beef), packets of mashed potato, tinned rice puddings, packets of soup, jam, biscuits, chocolate. There is a collection basket at the back of the church.

Bells for bicentenaries and blood cancer

It's now more than two years since our new bells were installed. We regularly enjoy the Saturday morning practice and Sunday morning ringing but recently there has been even more going on.

Our ringers, who call themselves "The Society of Christ Church Youths", rang a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples on Saturday morning, 22 July, to commemorate the bicentenary of the deaths of two famous residents of Bath: Jane Austen (18 July 1817) and John Palmer (19 July), the architect of Christ Church and other buildings in Bath including St Swithin's, Lansdown Crescent and St James's Square, the largest square in Bath.

It might help to explain what "a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples" means. "Grandsire" refers to the musical composition or the pattern in which the bells are rung; this particular composition goes back at least 350 years and is frequently rung today. "Triples" means a composition rung on eight bells with the eighth keeping time behind and the front seven weaving in and out. A quarter peal is about 1,260 changes, the bells changing order every eight bells and never repeating themselves. A quarter peal takes 45-50 minutes; a full peal of 5,040 changes takes a good three hours. Our ringers have struck several quarter peals, including one that was a sponsored ring for the Strike Back Against Blood Cancer charity, which Christ Church supported.

On Saturday 29 July Christ Church had agreed to welcome ringers visiting Bath for a sponsored ring in support of the same charity. The ringers had organised a vintage train from Hastings to Bath. From the station they made their way to St Mary's Bathwick and rang there, then walked up to Christ Church to ring before going on to St Michael's Without. All this, however, without any lunch!

As you'll know, Christ Church is open for coffee and cake on Saturday mornings in the summer. At 1:15, just as we were about to close up, the first, tired bell ringer arrived, followed by seven more. Since Christ Church has eight bells we assumed that was the total number of ringers expected, gave them tea



Ron Shepherd, who rings in St Paul of the Cross in Dulwich Hill, Australia, visited our tower, the original home of a bell now in his church.

and cake, and again prepared to close up the building – only to find wave upon wave of enthusiastic but exhausted ringers climbing the hill towards the church.

We brought out our biggest teapot, put on the coffee maker and found unexpected stores of cake. It felt like the feeding of the 5,000! Miraculously our provisions for 20 stretched to feed the 100 ringers who arrived and there was cake left over at the end!

And finally... Connections continue with our old bells. Except for the cracked tenor bell – which was melted down for its metal, which was used in casting our new bells – our old bells were rehoused thanks to the Keltek Trust, a charity that finds new homes for surplus bells. Four went to St Leonard's church, Ipstones, Staffordshire, and the other three to St Christopher's, Willingale, Essex; St Mary's parish church, Prescott, Merseyside; and St Paul of the Cross, Dulwich Hill, Sydney, Australia. Lore knows the parish church of Prescott well, having worked at the hospital in nearby Whiston. On Sunday 30 July, Ron Shepherd, who rings the bells in St Paul of the Cross, was visiting from Australia and joined our ringers for their 9:30 ring.

**Revd Lore Chumbley and
Ian Hay Davison**

New Archdeacon



The Diocese has announced that Revd Dr Adrian Youngs will be the next Archdeacon of Bath. He is currently Rector of Trull and Angersleigh, two parishes on the edge of Taunton, where he has served since 2003. In addition, he became Rural Dean of Taunton Deanery in 2015.

Adrian was born and brought up in Romford, Essex. He studied Biological Sciences at Exeter University, then completed a doctorate at Bath University in yeast physiology sponsored by Showerings Cider in Shepton Mallet. After being called to the priesthood, he completed theological training at Wycliff Hall, Oxford, and curacies in Dorking and South Croydon before joining the Diocese of Bath and Wells in 2003.

Adrian's wife Fran has recently been accepted for ordination training. They have two children, Rebecca and Tom, and a border terrier called Barney.

Adrian is a West Ham United fan and member of Trull Players amateur dramatics group – theatre-goers might even be treated to his Dame during panto season.

Adrian will be licensed as Archdeacon of Bath in the autumn. The Revd Chris Hare has taken on the responsibilities of archdeacon in the interim period.

The Archdeacon of Bath is ex officio a Trustee of Christ Church. The Venerable Andy Piggott, who retired as Archdeacon on 30 June after over 30 years in full-time ministry, was strongly supportive of Christ Church, and we look forward to welcoming Dr Youngs and hope he will take as active an interest.

Coming events

Christ Church Open Mornings

What is it? Christ Church is open every Saturday morning over the summer, offering the local community an opportunity to visit our historic Georgian building and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and a piece of cake

When is it? Every Saturday, 22 July to 9 September, 11am to 1pm

Where? Christ Church, Julian Road, BAI 2RH

CTB Combined Service

What is it? The summer combined service for Churches Together in Bath, led by Revd Michael Norman from St Saviour's. Followed by delicious refreshments

When is it? Sunday 6 August 2017, 6:15pm

Where? All Saints, Woolley BAI 8AS

Quiet Garden Afternoons

What is it? Reflective afternoons in the garden of the oldest church in Bath (or in the church if the weather is bad), every month over the summer. Gather at 1pm, bring a picnic and something to sit on. First reflection 1:30, then two periods of quiet. The afternoon ends at about 3:30, but stay as long as you like

When is it? Tuesdays 15 August, 19 September and 17 October

Where? St Mary the Virgin, Charlcombe Lane, Charlcombe BAI 8DR

Apple Picking Party in aid of Genesis

What is it? Janet Mahto is opening her garden again this year in aid of Genesis Trust

When is it? Sunday 10 September, from midday

Where? Granville Lodge, Weston Road, Bath BAI 2XU

Circuit of Bath Walk

What is it? This year's sponsored walk in aid of Julian House. The whole route is 20 miles, but you can do as little as two miles, with an easy stretch along the canal path and others taking in villages around Bath. There's a shuttle bus around the five checkpoints during the day

When is it? Sunday 24 September

Details/registration: www.julianhouse.org.uk/support-us/events/circuit-of-bath-walk.htm

Bishop's Message for August

Giving thanks for the gifts of administrators



**From the Rt Revd Peter Hancock,
Bishop of Bath and Wells**

In a magazine recently I read about a distance learning course being offered by St. John's College in Nottingham specifically for Church Administrators. It combines study alongside working, takes about 18 months, and leads to a Certificate in Christian Studies. Those who have completed the course speak of how not only has it transformed their way of working, but how it changed the way others within the church perceived them and the work that they do. I found that really encouraging.

All churches are dependent on the skills, gifts and talents of church members offering their time and expertise to help build up the Church. Valuing, appreciating and developing those God-given gifts is so important. When Paul wrote to the Church at Corinth he said "Now to each one has been given the Spirit's gifts for the good of all" (1 Corin-

thians Chapter 12). He then goes on to give examples of those gifts. He mentions prophecy and healing, preaching and teaching, leadership and tongues and many others. But tucked away in that list of gifts and ministries we read that God has appointed people with the ability "to help others and those with gifts of administration". Administrators are mentioned in the same list as apostles, miracle workers and prophets.

As anyone who has ever been involved in Church work knows, administrators often are "miracle workers" ensuring that all the necessary administrative tasks of the church are done efficiently and effectively. The word Paul uses for "administrator" is the same word that is used for a pilot of a ship, whose task it is to steer the ship safely through the rocks and the shoals to the harbour. Administrators seldom stand in the limelight, they work in the background and shoulder the routine but essential work on which everything else depends.

We don't always know who counts the collection, produces the service sheets, takes the minutes, or staples the church magazine together. But God knows, and without all those people the mission of the church would not go forward as it does. Hurrah for administrators.

+Peter Bath and Wells

Bishops' Lent Appeal thanks

Bishop Peter and Bishop Ruth have said "a fantastic thank you" to everyone who donated to their Lent Campaign 2017 (our Charity of the Month in April) and helped raise over £15,000. The money raised will help refugees in Greece and in Somerset.

Diocesan Mental Health conference



According to the UK Mental Health Foundation, as many as one in four adults and one in ten children are likely to have a mental health problem in any given year. World Mental Health Day, hosted by the World Federation of Mental Health, is on 10 October each

year. Understanding, resourcing and treating mental health concerns has become a priority on the nation's agenda and, as part of the Church's support for this increased focus, the Diocese of Bath and Wells Ministry for Mission team is hosting a number of events over a 12-month period to encourage a wider engagement in our own churches and communities with mental health.

The first is a half-day conference, "Discovering Wholeness Together: How can the local church engage with mental well-being?" This takes place on Saturday 30 September in Temple Methodist Church in Taunton, and churches in the diocese, including Christ Church, have been invited to send two representatives each. If you'd like to take part, please let Lore or one of the Churchwardens know. Registration is open until 1 September.

This month's charity: Mission to Seafarers

The loose collection in the plate on Sunday 13 August, plus an optional retiring collection for the rest of the month, will go to the Mission to Seafarers. (Donations in collection envelopes will continue to go to Christ Church.)

Piracy, abduction, shipwreck, abandonment, human rights abuses and separation from loved ones are just a few of the problems seafarers face. Around the world, The Mission to Seafarers provides help and support to the 1.5 million men and women who face danger every day to keep our global economy afloat.

The charity works in over 200 ports in

50 countries caring for seafarers of all ranks, nationalities and beliefs. Through a global network of chaplains, staff and volunteers it offers practical, emotional and spiritual support to seafarers through ship-visits, Flying Angel seafarers' centres and a range of welfare and emergency support services.

The organisation grew out of the Bristol Channel Mission, established in 1836 by Revd John Ashley as a result of being struck by the loneliness and spiritual needs of the merchant seafarers at anchor. Using his example, a number of Anglican ministries followed suit and in 1856 it was decided to establish a single organisation. The Mission to Seamen, as it was known, was made a missionary society of the Anglican Communion and its work grew in line with the rapidly expanding British maritime empire.

In 2000, the name was changed to The Mission to Seafarers to reflect its role as a society which cares for all seafarers, regardless of gender.

For more about the charity and its work, see www.missiontoseafarers.org



Christ Church calendar August 2017

3	Thu	Eucharist, 11am, followed by coffee Christ Church Council meeting, 7:30pm	
4	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am–1:30pm	
5	Sat	Christ Church Open Morning, 11am–1pm	
6	Sun	<i>The Transfiguration of our Lord</i>	
10	Thu	Eucharist, 11am, followed by coffee	
11	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am–1:30pm	
12	Sat	Christ Church Open Morning, 11am–1pm	
13	Sun	<i>The Ninth Sunday after Trinity</i> 8am Holy Communion (BCP)	
15	Tue	<i>The Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	
17	Thu	(No 11am Eucharist today)	
18	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am–1:30pm	
19	Sat	Christ Church Open Morning, 11am–1pm	
20	Sun	<i>The Tenth Sunday after Trinity</i> 4:30pm Choral Evensong	
24	Thu	<i>Bartholomew the Apostle</i> Eucharist, 11am, followed by coffee	
25	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am–1:30pm	
26	Sat	Christ Church Open Morning, 11am–1pm	
27	Sun	<i>The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity</i>	
29	Tue	<i>The Beheading of John the Baptist</i>	
31	Thu	Eucharist, 11am, followed by coffee	
Sep	1	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am–1:30pm
	2	Sat	Christ Church Open Morning, 11am–1pm
	3	Sun	<i>The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity</i>

Got something you want to let everyone know about? Pop a note in the "Magazine Editor" pigeonhole at the back of church or send an e-mail with all the details to magazine@christchurchbath.org. For the weekly notice sheet, e-mail notices@christchurchbath.org

Prayer Cycle for August 2017

Tuesday	1	For our Compassion Fund
Wednesday	2	For our own personal witness
Thursday	3	For the Church Council, meeting tonight
Friday	4	For those who lack food or water
Saturday	5	For children and their families
Sunday	6	For Alex and Malcolm our churchwardens
Monday	7	For those who work in journalism and the media
Tuesday	8	We give thanks for beauty in creation
Wednesday	9	For all who produce publicity for Christ Church
Thursday	10	For our link dioceses in Zambia
Friday	11	For those in hospital
Saturday	12	For those who travel
Sunday	13	For Lore and Colin
Monday	14	For those who work in social services
Tuesday	15	For our neighbours at St Mary's Catholic Church
Wednesday	16	For our plans for the church building
Thursday	17	For the emergency services
Friday	18	For the homeless
Saturday	19	We give thanks for those who inspire us
Sunday	20	For our servers and others who assist at the altar
Monday	21	For those in the legal profession
Tuesday	22	For new members to be added to Christ Church
Wednesday	23	For our charity of the month

Thursday	24	For our Local Ministry Group partners
Friday	25	That we may have the gift of hope
Saturday	26	For those who live or work in care homes
Sunday	27	For our Diocese of Bath and Wells
Monday	28	For our government and politicians
Tuesday	29	For the work of the Mothers' Union
Wednesday	30	For countries experiencing civil unrest
Thursday	31	We give thanks for family and friends

Long-term Prayer List Other LMG services

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

John Burrows
 Ned and Angela Townshend
 Joyce Fairburn
 Martin Palmer
 Katharine
 David Slater
 David Lavis
 Jason Batup
 Don Sparks
 Keith Warren and Jean
 Tabitha and Fonella Coles
 Hilary Hunter
 Steve Faulkner
 John Gosling
 Charlie and Vivki Pritchard
 Maxine Hobday

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 let the Verger or one of the Churchwardens know.

These are the regular services at our Local Ministry Group sister churches:

Sundays

- 9am Eucharist, Charlcombe St Mary's
- 10:45am Choral Communion, St Stephen's Lansdown
- 6:30pm Evensong (BCP), Charlcombe St Mary's – 3rd Sunday of the month

Morning Prayer

- Monday 8:45am St Stephen's
- Friday 9:15am Charlcombe St Mary's
- Saturday 9:30am St Stephen's

There is no news...

The Church of England is no longer producing its inFocus supplement for church magazines. "We are looking at other ways of distributing news from the National Church," a representative said, "and will be working out the best way to communicate this soon."

Rotas for August 2017

Readers and readings, Sunday 10am Eucharist

	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
6 August Transfiguration	Malcolm Wall Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14	Judith Bishop 2 Peter 1:16-19	Brenda Wall Luke 9:28-36
13 August Trinity 9	Richard Gabe Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28	Janet Mahto Romans 10:5-15	Penny Edwards Matthew 14:22-33
20 August Trinity 10	Jonathan Stead Genesis 45:1-15	David Bishop Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32	Charles Rice Matthew 15:21-28
27 August Trinity 11	Clive Tilling Exodus 1:8-2:10	Jane Fletcher Romans 12:1-8	Georgina Bowman Matthew 16:13-20
3 Sept Trinity 12	Morny Davison Exodus 3:1-15	Virginia Knight Romans 12:9-end	Margaret Heath Matthew 16:21-end

Laitry rota, Sunday 10am Eucharist

	Chalice assistants	Sidespeople	Intercessions
6 August	Jane Fletcher, Clive Tilling	Jonathan Stead, Morny Davison	Sarah Jones
13 August	Clive Tilling, Keri Chivers	Margaret Silver, Jane Nicholson	Georgina Bowman
20 August	Jane Fletcher, Brenda Wall	Janet Mahto, Margaret Heath	Penny Edwards
27 August	Brenda Wall, David Rawlings	Ken Ayers, Sylvia Ayers	Rebekah Cunningham
3 Sept	Jane Fletcher, Clive Tilling	Jane Nicholson, Jonathan Stead	Mark Elliott

Who's who at Christ Church

Priest-in-charge Revd Lore Chumbley
07595 294146
lore.chumbley@me.com

Supporting clergy
Revd Prof. Cliff Burrows
Revd Canon Simon Tatton-Brown

Reader, Director of Music Mark Elliott
01225 445360
mark.elliott@christchurchbath.org

Churchwarden Malcolm Wall
01225 864933
malcolm.wall@christchurchbath.org

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

Verger Angela Soboslay
01225 333297
angela.soboslay@christchurchbath.org

Chair of Trustees Charles Rice
01225 332915
charles.rice@btopenworld.com

Treasurer David Bishop
01225 869409
david.bishop@christchurchbath.org

Safeguarding officer Lewis Boyd
07739 989639
lewis.boyd@christchurchbath.org

**Organist and Assistant
Director of Music** Keith Pigot
01225 723801
keithpigot@gmail.com

Cedar Tree café organiser Janet Mahto

Publicity co-ordinators Janet Mahto,
Lewis Boyd, Hazel Boyd

**Concert bookings,
weekly notice sheet** Judith Bishop
01225 869409
concerts@christchurchbath.org
notices@christchurchbath.org

**Tower Captain,
Ringing Master** Will Willans

Tower Secretary Ian Hay Davison
07932 160482
bells@christchurchbath.org

Steeple Keeper David Kelly

Laitia rotas (acting) Judith Bishop

Prayer cycle Virginia Knight

Junior Church Emma Elliott

**Churches Together in Bath,
USPG** Rebekah Cunningham

Traidcraft stall Sally Churchyard,
Chris Tanner, Judith Bishop

Mission to Seafarers Sylvia Ayers
01225 463976

Deanery Synod Reps Sarah Kerr
Jane Nicholson
Brenda Wall

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, 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 normal 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. There is the option of separate activities for children in Junior Church groups during our 10am Sunday service.

As well as worship on Sunday and Thursday mornings, there are many other activities going on in our community. We support the Genesis Sunday Centre and have our own community café. The musical tradition of the church continues to thrive, and we have an active choir; new singers of all ages are always very welcome. Our ecumenical Pilgrim Group provides a space for exploration and discussion of faith in an open and non-judgemental setting.

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

4:30pm Choral Evensong

Usually on the third Sunday of every month, but see website or notice board for details

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

