

Pray for Ukraine

From the priest-in-charge...

Revd Lore Chumbley writes:

This year in this season of Lent, our prayers are with our brothers and sisters in Ukraine - those under attack. those who have already left the country and those trying to leave. Our Archbishops and Pope Francis called for a day of fasting and prayer on Ash Wednesday to intercede for Ukraine. God doesn't seem to interfere with the free will of those who cause harm to others - Jesus demonstrated that as he died on the cross. But God does answer prayers. Our response to the world situation must be to pray - repeatedly and with imagination and conviction for "God's precious children at risk or in fear."

During Lent we remember Jesus' forty days of fasting and prayer in the wilderness. Fasting is related to prayer throughout the Bible. Queen Esther fasted for three days before pleading with the king not to destroy her people. Moses fasted for forty days while in the presence of God as he received the Ten Commandments. Jesus spoke of the need for "fasting and much prayer" to cure a boy with epilepsy (Mark 9:29).

Our bodies affect how we feel and think. In the presence of God many of us stand or kneel, just as we would stand up in the presence of the Queen or a judge. It's a way of reminding ourselves in whose presence we are. In the same way, choosing to eat perhaps less richly or fully is a way of reminding ourselves that God gives us our bread for today and that some people fast not

through choice but through necessity. Fasting is also an ancient way of deepening prayer. George Herbert in his poem "Lent" writes of "improving our fast by starving sin" and "banqueting the poor."

We can't and shouldn't try to follow Jesus' extreme fast. I am mindful of the mental and physical dangers of skipping meals, particularly for those with a history of eating disorders. But an awareness of God's goodness in providing us with food and a recognition that, for many in Ukraine, the ordinary routines of life are now extraordinarily difficult, may help to focus our prayers.



Revd Narinder Tegally (left) was one of three people made Prebendaries of Wells Cathedral on I March. See page 3.

A welcome in Lent

Lent is traditionally a time people associate with giving up things, but this year, with the theme "Knowing You, Knowing Me, Knowing God", the Diocese is encouraging people to consider how they can better know and understand others, themselves and God. through focusing on offering and receiving welcome, hospitality, inclusion and generosity.

Throughout Lent the Diocese will be sharing stories from people from diverse backgrounds across Bath and Wells so we can learn more about the people who live here and reflect how knowing more about others affects our actions. The resources include weekly Bible reflections with study questions, a weekday video and conversation starter, and links relating to the themes.

Tony Cook, who leads the Everyday Faith and Growing Faith team in the Diocese, says, "During the Covid pandemic we all had to withdraw into our own four walls and, although things have started to return to 'normal', we want to encourage people, and particularly people of God, to renew and extend their welcome beyond not only their own four walls, but the four walls of the church. It is also a challenge to go out into our communities to receive the hospitality of other groups and individuals as Jesus did.

"We hope the reflections and stories featured in 'Knowing You, Knowing Me, Knowing God' will help us all consider how we can contribute to becoming a more diverse church - one more representative of the populations we seek to serve."

Find out more at www.bathandwells.org. uk/Lent-22 and get involved on social media.



A place of acceptance

From Manna, the diocesan magazine: Oosman Tegally, who worships at Christ Church, shares his thoughts on welcome and generosity.

What does welcome mean to you?

Acceptance. I have gone into some places in the past and the faces tell whether you are accepted or if you are not, and if you are received well then that to me is welcome. I have visited many places, many churches, and the moment I came into Christ Church I thought, yes, this is the place I'd like to worship and be part of.

Have you experienced feeling unwelcome?

Oh yes, there have been times when comments have been made because of my ethnicity. It's what they perceive, what they see - they're not looking inside to see what kind of a person you are - and I have been very hurt about that and I have never been back again. It's sad really because someone who could have been part of that community, cannot be when that happens.

How can we make people feel more included and less like an outsider?

We have to accept the person as they are, no matter what. It is accepting them for what they are, who they are, and being accepting from both sides. Inclusivity means anybody -LGBT, disabled, learning difficulties and more.

How can we be more generous?

Generosity is being there for somebody who needs you, it doesn't matter in what form. It comes from the heart and it's what you feel capable of doing, not necessarily financial - it can be in many different ways: moral support, being there, a listening ear.



Photo of Oosman from Manna.

The Curate's Corner

Revd Deacon Kara Maylor writes:

Tasty toasties, scrumptious sweet treats, delectable drinks and healthy helpings too if you so choose. Mix this with raucous games of lenga and Dobble, a quiet corner for jigsaws and puzzles, people to listen to and chat with or simply a quiet safe space to be. Come and join us at our wonderful Cedar Tree Café on Friday mornings in Christ Church from Ham to 1:30pm.

Over the last few months we have trained our Ministry Dog Barney, and the Curate is beginning to learn...! Whoever fancies it joins together for a stroll in our beautiful city to enjoy God in the great outdoors, observe our seasons changing, chat some more and join together in prayer for each other and the world. Last Friday was a glorious day and we ventured into the park in front of the Crescent, where we found the perfect tree trunk to perch on, pray and even burst into a rousing chorus of "Bread of Heaven" in anticipation of Welsh Rugby's victory at the weekend - okay, so that didn't actually work out as planned! But it was fun and a special time. All welcome!



Pilgrim Group meeting

The Pilgrim Group will meet on Thursday 10 March at 7:30pm in the Lower Mews and online to continue our study of Job. All are welcome! If you'd like to come in person or would like a Zoom invitation, contact Lore, lore.chumbley@me.com.

Last month...



Congratulations to Revd Narinder Tegally, who has been made a Prebendary (non-residentiary Canon) of Wells Cathedral and is pictured here in the official stall of the Prebend in the cathedral quire after her installation. Narinder has borne the difficulties of the last two years as Senior Lead Chaplain at Bath's Royal United Hospital, leading the spiritual care of both patients and staff. The service of Collation and Installation was led by Bishop Ruth Worsley as acting bishop of the diocese, who writes, "This invitation comes as recognition of your outstanding service to the Church in this diocese and your faithful commitment to the well-being of the Christian gospel in our times."

Lent Group

During Lent we will hold a Lent Group on the theme "Caring for Creation." We plan to meet every Sunday in Lent after the 10am Eucharist. If you'd be interested in taking part, there will be a sign-up sheet in the church.

The suggested Lent book this year will be Taking Heart by Fiona Gardner. Some copies will be available in Christ Church.

Fiona Gardner writes: "In Taking Heart the experiences of four people who are spiritually searching and looking for a direct experience of God are explored, and their different journeys through self-doubt to self-acceptance and to the heart of faith are discussed." For more information, please see the weekly notice sheet or speak to Lore.

Solar panels – from aspiration to action

Canon Simon Tatton-Brown shares his experience of installing solar panels.

The Eco Group is not only working to "green" Christ Church; it's also encouraging each of us as individuals to take our own actions. These might be small and cumulative, like walking to church instead of taking the car, planting our gardens to encourage pollinating insects or putting up a nesting box. Or they could be on a larger scale, like holidaying at home instead of flying overseas, or installing solar panels on the roof.

None of these options is cost free. One reason governments, churches and individuals hesitate to put our pledges into action is fear of the immediate cost. Aren't there always other things we want to do first?

I'd toyed with the idea of solar panels for several years. You might say it was an aspiration rather than a pledge. Last summer Trustees and Council were talking about how Christ Church should respond to the Climate Crisis. One result was the formation of our Eco Group. In August I was asked to preach about Creation. It was about that time that I got an e-mail from B&NES about a group

buying scheme for solar panels, encouraging residents to take up what B&NES promised was a very good deal.

It often takes a nudge like that to move from aspiration to action. We see this in the gospels. There were lots of people looking for God's redemption of Israel. It was when they heard John the Baptist preaching or encountered Jesus of Nazareth that they got up, left their old ways and transitioned from aspiration to action.

The B&NES e-mail did that for me. I registered my interest and got a quotation. At just over £4,000 for eight panels it was much cheaper than I'd feared. Like many of us I hadn't been spending money on holidays or trips to London during lockdown. I no longer had an excuse to put my aspirations off till tomorrow.

The B&NES scheme closed in September. But their website remains open. If you are interested, why not register your name so that when it resumes (presumably after all the current contracts have been fulfilled) you can take advantage of it too? https://solartogether.co.uk/BathNES/home



Photo courtesy of Simon Tatton-Brown.

Coming events

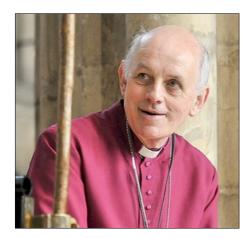
Westminster Ensemble (Atlanta, USA) What is it? The Westminster Ensemble is an elite 24-piece youth choir from Atlanta, Georgia, who perform sacred music from the Renaissance to the present day. In this lunchtime recital they sing the music of Tallis, Whitacre, Mozart and Britten. When is it? Tuesday 8 March, I-2pm Where? Bath Abbey

Canzona Concert

What is it? Canzona perform Stainer's Crucifixion and Rutter's Requiem. Director: David Bishop. Organ: Malcolm Archer. When is it? Sunday 20 March, 6pm Where? Christ Church Tickets £10 from 01225 858816 or on the door.

Bishop's Message for March

The promise of new life



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

"Lord, when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you?"

For any would-be follower of Jesus, the teaching in Matthew 25 is surely some of the most challenging in the whole of the New Testament. What sort of disciples are we called to be? Will the world recognise Christ in us both in our words and in our actions?

Faced with persecution, with the temptation to instant popularity and self-aggrandisement, Jesus remains true to himself and to his call to be a servant leader. This, he says, is what is required of anyone who would follow me: "to love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself".

While we may talk a great deal about being a welcoming Church, the reality is much harder to achieve. To welcome is not to want the stranger to become just like us. It's about valuing the gifts they bring and about being willing to be changed ourselves by the new life

coming among us. It begins, as Jesus began, by seeking to serve the stranger's needs and, to do that, we first have to listen.

Some of the harshest of Jesus' words were directed to the religious people of his day, too occupied with their own agendas, their own selfrighteousness, to notice the stranger in their midst. It is only when we are prepared to leave the security of our own home, "launching out into the deep", going onto the other's territory, can we begin to feel just how strange and at times threatening the community of faith can be to the outsider.

Lent, with its invitation to de-clutter our busy lives, brings also the promise of new life. Let's use this God-given time to pray that our hearts and the life of our communities may be opened such that we can truly welcome the stranger as a sister or brother in Christ.

With my blessing,

+Trevor

Daily Hope

A free national phoneline offers a simple way to bring worship and prayer into people's homes when they can't go to services in person. It will be particularly welcome to those without internet access to watch streamed services. Daily Hope offers hymns, prayers, daily reflections and a choice of church services over the phone, 24 hours a day.



This month's charity: Church Homeless Trust

The loose collection in the plate on the second and fourth Sunday of the month - 13 and 27 March – will go to the Church Homeless Trust. (Donations in collection envelopes will continue to go to Christ Church.)

Church Homeless Trust helps people without homes to rebuild their lives and end the cycle of homelessness. It helps people to become more confident and healthy through activities, training and personal support. It pays for clothes and travel so that they are able to start volunteering or working. And it pays for basic household goods and furniture when they move into their own home.

Church Homeless Trust grew out of the Church Army, which began helping homeless people on the Thames Embankment in 1882. Today statutory funding does not provide the personal help individuals need, and there are increasing numbers of homeless people in need of extra support. Church Homeless Trust raises funds for these, some of whom have high support needs, who would not otherwise receive extra support. It funds peer-led support and outreach to help rough sleepers off the streets, and pays for essentials when people arrive in hostels for the first time.

In the month of December 2021 alone. the charity awarded 81 personal grants to help homeless people rebuild their lives, and gave a Christmas gift to more than 3,000 homeless individuals.

Find out more, and donate directly if you wish, at https://churchhomelesstrust.org.uk.



Services live and online

Our weekly 10am Sunday Eucharist is open to all in person. For the time being, we will maintain social distancing, and will encourage people to wear masks but will not insist. The congregation is permitted to sing, but it will show care for others to remain masked as you do so. This service is live streamed at www.facebook.com/christchurchbath.

Following the government's announcement of an end to the legal requirement for Covid measures, we will be looking over the next few weeks at a gradual relaxation of restrictions and the reintroduction of the common Communion cup. This is in line with current Church of England guidelines.

Our weekly Thursday I Iam Eucharist takes place live in church, not online or on Zoom. The church also remains open for private prayer on Wednesday afternoons 2pm - 4pm for anyone local who wants to drop in.

An informal reflective service is held on the fourth Sunday of each month at 5pm. This is led by members of the congregation and uses the form of evening service in A Wee Worship Book (Fifth Incarnation) complied by the Iona Community and published by their Wild Goose Resource Group. All are welcome. If you'd like further information, please contact Jonathan Stead.

For anyone concerned about the health risks of congregational singing, we will not sing at the I I am Thursday Eucharist, 8am BCP Communion on the second Sunday of each month or the 5pm Quiet Service. All services continue to be socially-distanced.

Do send prayer requests - by e-mail to lore.chumbley@me.com or phone or text to Lore on 07595 294146, or by post to Christ Church, Julian Road, Bath BAI 2RH. Note that services will be online, so be mindful of the privacy of friends and loved ones.

Every weekday morning at 8am a group of us are saying Morning Prayer together on Zoom, or you can phone in. If you would like an invitation, please e-mail Lore.

Christ Church calendar March 2022

	2	Wed	Ash Wednesday 7:30pm Eucharist with Ashing
	3	Thu	11am Eucharist
	4	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm
	6	Sun	The First Sunday of Lent 10am Eucharist
	10	Thu	11am Eucharist Pilgrim Group meeting, 7:30pm
	11	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm
	13	Sun	The Second Sunday of Lent 8am Holy Communion (BCP) 10am Eucharist
	17	Thu	Patrick, patron of Ireland 11am Eucharist
	18	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm
	19	Sat	Joseph of Nazareth
	20	Sun	The Third Sunday of Lent 10am Eucharist 4:30pm Choral Evensong
	24	Thu	11am Eucharist
	25	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm
	27	Sun	The Fourth Sunday of Lent / Mothering Sunday 10am Eucharist 5pm Contemplative Service (Iona)
	31	Thu	11am Eucharist
April	1	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm
	3	Sun	The Fifth Sunday of Lent 10am Eucharist

Our Sunday 10am Eucharist, and other services as advertised, continue to be live-streamed at www.facebook.com/christchurchbath

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 March 2022

Tuesday	1	For peace
Wednesday	2	That we may have the spirit of penitence
Thursday	3	For those on our long-term prayer list
Friday	4	For places which have experienced storms and flooding
Saturday	5	For the Fairtrade movement
Sunday	6	For new members to be added to Christ Church
Monday	7	For our government and politicians
Tuesday	8	For the ministry of hospices
Wednesday	9	For our Church environment group
Thursday	10	We give thanks for family and friends
Friday	11	For the sick and suffering
Saturday	12	For those recently baptised or preparing for baptism
Sunday	13	For Lore our priest in charge
Monday	14	For the emergency services
Tuesday	15	For all at school
Wednesday	16	For our charity of the month, the Church Homeless Trust
Thursday	17	For those on our church rotas
Friday	18	For those who are finding it hard to earn a living
Saturday	19	For carers
Sunday	20	For our Diocese of Bath and Wells
Monday	21	For shopkeepers and shop workers
Tuesday	22	For the work of Genesis
Wednesday	23	We give thanks for those who enrich our lives
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24	For those who are persecuted for their faith
25	For our neighbours at St Mary's Catholic Church
26	For own own personal witness
27	For Jane and Janet our churchwardens
28	For those who work in the transport industry
29	For our Local Ministry Group partners
30	For those who are confined to their homes
31	We give thanks for the blessings of the past month
	25 26 27 28 29 30

Long-term Prayer List

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

Jean Joyce K Revd John Amber David Nick Johnson Joyce W Hannah Dillon Evelyn Tom Tilly Patrick

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.

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 cup of tea, home-

made cake and a chat, 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, please contact Janet Mahto.



"Under it every kind of bird will live" Julian Road

Rotas for March 2022

Readers and readings, Sunday 10am Eucharist

	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel	Intercessions
6 March 1st Sun. of Lent	6 March Judith Anderson 1st Sun. Deuteronomy of Lent 26:1-11	Peter Bowes Romans 10:8b-13	Clive Tilling Luke 4:1-13	Rebekah Cunningham
13 Mar 2nd Sun. of Lent	13 Mar Carol Hussey 2nd Sun. Genesis 15:1-12,17- Philippians 3:17 – of Lent 18	Jude Bishop Philippians 3:17 – 4:1	Ian Hay Davison Luke 13:31-end	Georgina Bowman
20 Mar 3rd Sun. of Lent	Beryl Bowes Isaiah 55:1-9	Nick Wells 1 Corinthians 10:1- 13	Mark Elliott Luke 13:1-9	Simon Tatton- Brown
27 Mar Mothering Sunday	Ben Elliott 1 Samuel 1:20-end	Isaac Elliott Colossians 3:12-17	Tim Jones John 19:25b-27	Junior Church
3 April 5th Sun. of Lent	3 April Jane Hoe th Sun. Isaiah 43:16-21 of Lent	Georgina Bowman Philippians 3:4b-14	Robin Kerr John 12:1-8	Ian Hay Davison

Who's who at Christ Church

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lore.chumbley@me.com

Curate Revd Deacon 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 01225 445360

mark.elliott@christchurchbath.org

Churchwarden,

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jane@janemnicholson.com

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

Chair of Trustees Nick Wells

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Treasurer David Bishop 01225 858816

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Organist and Assistant

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weekly notice sheet Judith Bishop

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Steeple Keeper David Kelly

Publicity co-ordinator Janet Mahto

Laity rotas Judith Bishop

Prayer cycle Virginia Knight

Junior Church Emma Elliott

Churches Together in Bath,

USPG Rebekah Cunningham

Mission to Seafarers Sylvia Ayers

Deanery Synod Reps Brenda Wall

Pauline Swaby-Wallace

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 We're a liberal, inclusive and open church, OF ENGLAND 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 will not sing at the 11am Thursday Eucharist, 8am BCP Communion or 5pm Quiet Service. For now, all services continue to be socially-distanced.

As well as worship on Sundays and Thursday mornings, there are many other activities going on in our community, including our weekly community café every Friday. Visit the website to check service times and events.

Regular Sunday services

Holy Communion (Book 8am of Common Prayer) - On the second Sunday of every month

Sung Eucharist with Junior 10am 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 every month also streamed

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

