



Meeting the mystery

From the priest-in-charge...

Revd Lore Chumbley writes:

After the celebration of Pentecost at the end of May, June began with flaming heat and the mystery of the Trinity, “a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma,” as Churchill wrote (of Russia!) in 1939. My head, though, is full of the mystery and glory of the book of Revelation. In May I went on a pilgrimage to Patmos with a group studying Revelation, the book John wrote while on that island. We don’t know if “John” was the beloved disciple who wrote the Gospel or a different John. Apparently the Greek of Revelation is rougher than that of the Gospel, leading scholars to suggest they have different authors. But the disciple would have been eighty or even ninety by the time the book was written. Some muddling of grammar as he struggled to set down his ecstatic vision in what was probably his second language is understandable.

Whoever he was, the wildness of the island, its steep slopes covered with scrub, and the fierce heat of the summer will have changed little since his time. The cave in which he wrote still exists, now framed by a Greek Orthodox church. You can touch the basalt of the cave and then go outside to enjoy the view of blue sea and blue sky – the view he would have known.

The act of pilgrimage acknowledges that we are embodied and that place and weather and travel matter to us. So too do the companions with whom we travel. They affect our mood, our prayer life and our receptivity to the

Holy Spirit. We were privileged to spend the week with Fr Nicholas King, who has translated both Testaments from their original languages. Swaying slightly, the Greek text open in his left hand, he would read off the text, translating and commenting as he did so. Outside, the sun shone and the swallows and swifts dived and called as they must have done in John’s time.

It was a joy to travel on pilgrimage. But Christ’s revelation of himself comes to us in the New Testament wherever we read it. All we have to do is put ourselves in way of hearing him and the Holy Spirit will read with us to unwrap the mystery.



In early May the nation saw the Coronation of King Charles III. At the heart of the pageantry is a religious service, and by tradition dating back to the year 1189 the Bishop of Bath and Wells (at the King’s left hand here) takes an active role as Bishop Assistant to the monarch alongside the Bishop of Durham. See page 5 for more.

Officers elected

At the Christ Church Annual Church Meeting held on Sunday 14 May, Janet Mahto stepped down as Churchwarden and was warmly thanked for her years of service. Jonathan Stead was elected in her place (see page 4), and Jane Nicholson re-elected Churchwarden for another year. Pauline Swaby-Wallace and Brenda Wall were re-elected as our Deanery Synod representatives, to serve until 2026.

The meeting heard that Clive Tilling is stepping down as a Trustee of Christ Church after more than 30 years of service, for which he received a heartfelt ovation. Zoë Bushell is filling the vacancy and will be taking on the role of Treasurer, which David Bishop is giving up (although he remains a Trustee).

As Churchwarden, Jonathan will sit on Church Council ex officio, so resigned his elected seat on Council. Zoë Bushell and Richard Gabe did not stand for re-election, and Isaac Elliott (who will be away from Bath at university) and Zi Ling both stood down. Thanks to all for their service!

The members of Christ Church Council for 2023-24 are as follows:

Ex officio

Revd Lore Chumbley	Priest-in-charge
Revd Kara Maylor	Curate
Jane Nicholson	Churchwarden
Jonathan Stead	Churchwarden
Pauline Swaby-Wallace	Deanery Synod Rep
Brenda Wall	Deanery Synod Rep

Elected until 2024

Judith Bishop
Malcolm Wall
Maggie Willans

Elected until 2025

Lucy Humbert
Emma Elliott
Carole Hussey

Elected until 2026

Mornay Davison
Sarah Jones
David Rawlings

Time and Talent 2023

The Time and Talent Mini Fête held in the Lower Mews on Sunday 21 May was a great success, raising the splendid total of £1,065. (By comparison, the fête three years ago raised £660.) The funds will be divided between 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 not too late to get involved in the Time and Talent Challenge, which has been extended to Sunday 25 June to give participants the chance to complete their projects. 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. Please sign up so that we can allocate you a number and give you the £20 if you choose to take it.

Body, Mind and Spirit

What is it? A series of interactive talks, which began with personal trainer Jenny Moon on 1 June and continues with poet Anna Reckin on 15 June. Rosie Dawson, a journalist specialising in religious affairs, follows on 29 June, talking about "Doing theology on radio". Revd Prof. Bruce Chilton, Biblical scholar and theologian, speaks on 20 July about "How Jesus invented the Eucharist".

When? Thursdays 1 June, 15 June, 29 June and 20 July, 7:30pm

Where? Christ Church

Curate's corner

Revd Kara Maylor writes:

I hope you are all enjoying this glorious sunshine. Waking up to blue skies really seems to lift everyone's spirits! As the sun began to emerge, a few of us from the Cedar Tree went up to enjoy the stunning carpet of bluebells in Bluebell Wood... I think the smiles in the photos [right] say it all.

And what a couple of months of "Time and Talent" we have had. Everyone seemed to have enjoyed the brunch and walk from our house. Some stunning views, delicious food as always from Lucy, and great conversations. Many were keen to do more, so from Wednesday 14 June I will lead a series of evening walks beginning in the car park in Batheaston. The first will be the Solsbury Hill Stomp. Let me know if you would like to join us.

Our students have all had exams and assignment deadlines over the last month, and we are celebrating these coming to an end with an adventure in the woods and a walk up at Lansdown. We will miss them over the next couple of months but please pray for rest and recuperation for them as they go home.

We are hosting a Create event in the Lower Mews on Saturday 10 June – please do let me know if you would like to join us for that. Enjoy the Summer sun and be blessed!



Come and Create

What is it? A free event to come together and be inspired, share inspiration and Create. This day is a creative response to a powerful vision on a reflection on Ministry in the World – a net both encompasses and sets free, both reaches out and lets in. Come and create in our abundant space. A variety of materials will be provided, or do bring your own.

When is it? Saturday 10 June, 11am – 3pm

Where? Christ Church Lower Mews

Meet our new Churchwarden



Jonathan Stead writes: Although I was raised in South Africa and spent most of my life there, my mother was Scottish-born and my father's family were early English settlers. In fact the Stead family farm is still called "New Leeds."

I became involved in the Anglican Church in South Africa as a student and was particularly attracted to its strong anti-apartheid position. This led to me serving on the Council of the Cathedral in Grahamstown and later on the PCC at St Francis of Assisi in Johannesburg. I was also blessed to be licensed as a Lay Minister in both Dioceses, and spent 30 years assisting the clergy in worship and other aspects of parish life.

My undergraduate degree majored in law and history, and then I studied an honours degree and finally a Masters in History. Diplomacy had been my first love but my political views prevented me from serving the apartheid government at the time. Instead, after teaching for four years, I embarked on a

career in Higher Education and held positions as Dean of Studies, Dean of Students, Public Affairs Director and then Director of Marketing and Communication at four universities. A highlight of this time was attending a small dinner party for Nelson Mandela shortly after his release. He had asked for this visit to thank Wits University for assisting Winnie and his daughter as students during the State of Emergency.

As a substitute for a career in diplomacy I joined the SA Institute of International Affairs (a sister of Chatham House in London) and later was elected to its Council and Executive Committee. After ending my university career, I became a member of their management team as Marketing Director and had ten very stimulating years, travelling widely and meeting a range of distinguished politicians and diplomats from around the world.

Seven years ago I moved to Bath – initially for a six month "sabbatical" – not knowing a soul in the city but feeling that God was calling me to a new place and a new ministry. I loved Bath from the outset and was made extremely welcome by my neighbours (including Ian and Morny) and by Christ Church. This special community of faith has become part of my family and I am extremely grateful for all the kindness I have experienced here.

Prayer for children and young people

Statistics and stories, from around the diocese and beyond, reflect that churches can find it difficult to connect with children, young people and their families. In all cases, praying for children and young people in our communities is something we can all do and is a great place to start.

The week 2–8 July 2023 sees a diocese-wide Week of Prayer for Children and Young People, their families and their schools, and the diocese is encouraging churches across Bath and Wells to join in.

The Go Team have created a Prayer Guide for the week with a theme for each day plus

some creative ideas to inspire your prayers, whether praying at home, as a small group or leading prayers in a service. Download it at <https://bit.ly/week-of-prayer-for-children>.

Schools, colleges and universities in the diocese will also be encouraged to join the Week of Prayer, especially through chaplains and local church links.

During the week itself the daily themes and prayer points will be released through the diocese's social media channels on YouTube and Facebook @bathandwells, and young people will be taking over the Diocesan Prayer Calendar on Instagram and Twitter.

Bishop's Message for June

A commitment to serve



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

“Your Majesty, as children of the kingdom of God we welcome you in the name of the King of kings.” In reply

to these opening words at his Coronation, King Charles III responded: “In his name and after his example I come not to be served but to serve.” This short exchange summed up what the service was about and what it intended to convey.

The King's commitment to service is not in any doubt. To give just a few examples, he has engaged with our most challenged communities far more than any politician, he called on us to care for the environment years before it became popular to do so and, of course, he founded The Prince's Trust, which supports our most challenged younger people in so many ways.

He becomes king of a new era, the Carolean era. Our times see us face some big challenges. The question is how to address them. I was immensely struck by all the agencies and charities present in the Abbey for the King's Coronation. Their participation spoke of the ways in which we're going to need to act differently in the years ahead to address the issues that confront us.

Because it's all too evident that the power of government, be that local or national, to respond to the problems we see is less now than it was when

the late Queen began her reign. Our challenge in this era is of how we're going to come together, in service, to address the different challenges that lie before us, be that the climate, how we tackle poverty, how we respond to a troubled international situation. All of us will have a part to play.

Where to find the resource to act in the way that's going to be needed? As I stood beside the King at the Coronation, what inspired me was to see the way he drew so much strength, purpose and resolve and assurance from his Christian faith for the service he's called to give. And in that we can follow him too.

+Michael



Bishop Michael has shared his experience of the Coronation in a video available on YouTube and at <https://bit.ly/bishop-michael-on-coronation>.

Celebrate Zambia links

Churches across Bath and Wells and in Zambia are invited to celebrate the links between the dioceses on Sunday 2 July.

Martin Canning, Chair of the diocesan World Mission Group, explains: "Zambia / Bath and Wells Sunday is an opportunity for every parish across our six partner dioceses to pray and learn more about each other, and to consider our place as part of the worldwide Anglican Communion.

"It is also an opportunity to give thanks for the nearly 45 years we have celebrated life and faith together through our companionship link. Even if you don't currently have an active link, do join us in prayer on the day."

People are also asked to reflect on the challenges we are all facing, including climate change, which affects some areas of the world more than others.

Prayers and other liturgical resources for Zambia / Bath and Wells Sunday can be found at <https://bathandwells.org.uk/zambia>, along with stories about how the link works in different parishes across Bath and Wells.



The construction of Chipata South Parish School in Zambia was made possible with financial aid from the Link Parish of Keynsham, which has also donated IT kit. Photo: Diocese of Bath & Wells

Coming events

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.

This month's charity

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. In our 10am Eucharist on that day we will be recognising the contribution of the Caribbean community to Christ Church and the country.

The loose collection in the plate on the second and fourth Sunday of the month – 11 and 25 June – will go to BEMSCA. (Donations in collection envelopes will continue to go to Christ Church.)



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.

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.

Christ Church calendar June 2023

4 Sun *Trinity Sunday*
10am Eucharist

8 Thu *Corpus Christi*
11am Eucharist

9 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

12 Sun *Barnabas the Apostle / The First Sunday after Trinity*
8am Holy Communion (BCP)
10am Eucharist

15 Thu 11am Eucharist

16 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

18 Sun *The Second Sunday after Trinity / Windrush Sunday*
10am Eucharist
4:30pm Choral Evensong

22 Thu 11am Eucharist

23 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

24 Sat *The Birth of John the Baptist*

25 Sun *The Third Sunday after Trinity*
10am Eucharist
5pm Contemplative Service (Iona)

29 Thu *Peter and Paul, Apostles*
11am Eucharist

30 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

July 2 Sun *The Fourth Sunday after Trinity*
10am Eucharist

3 Mon *Thomas the Apostle*

6 Thu 11am Eucharist

7 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

9 Sun *The Fifth Sunday after Trinity*
8am Holy Communion (BCP)
10am Eucharist

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

Prayer Cycle for June 2023

Thursday	1	For our Local Ministry Group partners
Friday	2	For victims of violence
Saturday	3	For a good harvest
Sunday	4	For Jane and Jonathan our Churchwardens
Monday	5	For shopkeepers and shop workers
Tuesday	6	For all at school
Wednesday	7	For our church environment group
Thursday	8	That we may work for the kingdom of heaven
Friday	9	For the unemployed
Saturday	10	For the elderly
Sunday	11	For Angela our Verger
Monday	12	For those who work in financial services
Tuesday	13	For countries which have experienced storms and flooding
Wednesday	14	We give thanks for family and friends
Thursday	15	For our Charity of the Month, BEMSCA
Friday	16	For the ministry of the Cedar Tree
Saturday	17	For peace
Sunday	18	For our flower arrangers and those who look after the church
Monday	19	For those who work in medicine
Tuesday	20	For those on our long-term prayer list
Wednesday	21	For the mentally ill
Thursday	22	For new members to be added to Christ Church

Friday	23	For those who lack food or water
Saturday	24	That we may have the gift of hope
Sunday	25	For our Archbishop, bishops and clergy
Monday	26	For carers
Tuesday	27	We give thanks for our blessings
Wednesday	28	For the Trustees of Christ Church
Thursday	29	For good relations between different faiths
Friday	30	For those who work in dangerous conditions

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
Sheila
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.

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 June 2023

Readers and readings, Sunday 10am Eucharist

	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
4 June Trinity Sunday	David Bishop Isaiah 40:12-17, 27-31	Morny Davison 2 Corinthians 13:11-13	Robin Kerr Matthew 28:16-20
	Intercessions: Mark Elliott		
11 June Barnabas the Apostle	Kara Maylor Job 29:11-16	David Bishop Acts 11:19-30	Malcolm Wall John 15:12-17
	Intercessions: Simon Tatton-Brown		
18 June Second Sunday after Trinity	Jane Hoe Exodus 19:2-8a	Carole Hussey Romans 5:1-8	Isaac Elliott Matthew 9:35 – 10:8
	Intercessions: Georgina Bowman		
25 June Third Sunday after Trinity	Ben Elliott Jeremiah 20:7-13	Beryl Bowes Romans 6:1b-11	Jonathan Stead Matthew 10:24-39
	Intercessions: Peter Bowes		
2 July Fourth Sunday after Trinity	Rachel Preston Jeremiah 28:5-9	Zoë Bushell Romans 6:12-23	Brenda Wall Matthew 10:40-42
	Intercessions: Kara Maylor		

Who's who at Christ Church

Priest-in-charge	Revd Lore Chumbley 07595 294146 lore.chumbley@me.com	Deanery Synod Reps	Brenda Wall Pauline Swaby-Wallace
Curate	Revd Kara Maylor	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	Christ Church Link editor	Alex Soboslay 07769 655927 alexs@christchurchbath.org
	Revd Beryl Bowes Revd Dr Peter Bowes	Tower Captain, Ringing Master	Will Willans
Reader, Director of Music	Mark Elliott 01225 445360 mark.elliott@christchurchbath.org	Steeple Keeper	David Kelly
Churchwarden	Jane Nicholson 07990 552413 jane@janemnicholson.com	Cedar Tree café organiser	Jenny Hesketh jenny.hesketh@me.com
Churchwarden	Jonathan Stead jonathanstead20@gmail.com	Junior Church	Emma Elliott
Verger	Angela Soboslay 01225 333297 angela.soboslay@christchurchbath.org	Laity rotas	Judith Bishop
Chair of Trustees	Nick Wells 07774 104584 nicholaswells5@btinternet.com	Prayer cycle	Virginia Knight
Treasurer	David Bishop 01225 858816 david.bishop@christchurchbath.org	Charitable Giving co-ordinator	Jonathan Stead
Organist and Assistant Director of Music	David Winters david.winters@christchurchbath.org	Mission to Seafarers	Sylvia Ayers
Safeguarding officer	Virginia Knight 07896 916840 safeguarding@christchurchbath.org		

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 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*
- 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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