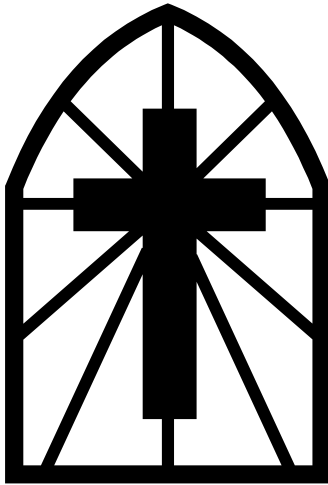


CHRIST  
CHURCH  
CHALLENGE



August 2006

**CHRIST CHURCH, JULIAN ROAD**  
**DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS IN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND**

**SUNDAY SERVICES**

8.00am	Holy Communion
10.00am	Family Communion, Junior Church & Crèche
First Sundays & Festivals	Choral Evensong and Sermon at 6.30pm
Other Sundays	Said Evening Prayer at 5.30pm (see page 5)

*There is amplification to assist the hard of hearing*

**CHOIR**

Junior Choir Practice	Friday 6.30pm - 8.00pm
Adult Practice	Friday 7.30pm - 9.00pm

*New singers always welcome - please contact Director of Music 01225 445360*

**BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES, FUNERALS**

By arrangement. Please 'phone the Vestry 338869 / Officiating Minister 427462

*Angela and John, the churchwardens, would like to know about people who are ill, or of any circumstances in which the ministry of the Church would be welcome.*

*Please do continue to pray for our plans to provide a welcoming coffee shop in our church once a week. If you missed the latest report on our progress, you can read it in this month's Forum article.*

*Along with our regular columns Chris Graham, writing on page 8, investigates an intriguing frontispiece in his family bible. A copy of the page discussed can be seen at the back of the church.*



**A very happy Summer break  
to all our readers!**

# Forum...



On Sunday 30th July, Nicky Gladstone gave an update on the proposed project to reach out to our neighbours on Julian Road. In order to keep everyone possible up to date with developments, we're using this month's Forum slot to reproduce what she said. Apologies therefore to those who are exposed to it for a second time!

A couple of months ago, I stood at the front of Church, and explained my vision for a project to reach out to the disadvantaged people on our doorstep. I was—and am—convinced that this is what God is calling us to do as a congregation. I was encouraged by the response from the congregation—offers of both practical help and financial support. Since then, we've been researching and thinking, and these are our conclusions...

We've talked to many people, notably Paul Solly of Genesis, and his advice was clear—use the back of church rather than approaching another church or organisation to ask for the use of their premises. Christ Church is well positioned right on Julian Road, and while our facilities are far from perfect, our location couldn't be better.

Our aim is to use the area at the back of church as a coffee shop / drop in centre for the disadvantaged on and around Julian Road. Preliminary research tells us that in this area of Bath, homelessness is not the main problem. Julian Road is an area of social need and poverty, which also houses many people with emotional difficulties. Many of these people have nowhere to go during the day, and so remain at home, feeling increasingly isolated. We intend to reach out to these neighbours by selling sandwiches and coffee at reasonable prices, and by offering them a pleasant place to come for an hour or so.



In the first instance, it is anticipated that we can offer this service one day per week, from 11am until 2pm.

Conversations with Paul Solly of Genesis have convinced us of the importance of running the project as a shop or café. If we charge a small amount for the food we provide, it establishes a partnership between us and those who come in. We are not “doling out charity” and they are our paying customers, and this sets up healthy boundaries between us.

So, what needs to be done now? Of course, as a long-term goal, we need to have a serious look at the area at the back of Church and see how we can adapt it. It's not my place to comment on that at this time, but there are



many ways in which we can clear out the back of Church and use it as a temporary “secular space” into which we can invite our neighbours. In the short term, we need to clear and clean the space without large expenditure. Clearing has already started, and we intend to buy a few chairs and tables, and make the area welcoming and attractive.

In early September, the intention is to have a coffee morning, at which we would set up exactly as we intend to do for the coffee shop, and invite members of the congregations and other local churches to show them exactly what we intend to do. This will attract attention and hopefully volunteers. We would then hope to launch the coffee shop properly a couple of weeks later.

As the project becomes a reality, we need concrete offers of help. Please volunteer! Now we have more of an idea what it is we’re going to offer and where, please think seriously about what you can do. Can you commit to helping once a month, once a fortnight, once a week? Which day can you do? Please let Nicky know. Any offers of help will be gratefully received.

And most of all, please pray. It’s going well. Let’s keep it going.

*Nicky*

## **Bravo!**

As the magazine presses roll, there’s just time for a quick review of the Victorian Murder Mystery Evening held on 27th July in the Banqueting Room at the Guildhall in aid of St Stephen’s Tower Appeal.

A grand setting for an ambitious event which really delivered on all fronts—the Murder Mystery, co-scripted by our own Kate Kemp and crime novelist Mo Hayder was an enjoyable piece of melodrama, expertly directed by Jo Palmer and featuring the talents of, among others, Antony Claridge as the enigmatic Inspector Chorus of the Yard, and David Marles a young London architect who actually turned out to have dunnit. It’s always the quiet ones.

Much fun was had by all attending—and the biggest applause of all must be reserved for Kate Kemp and her team (compliments to the chefs) whose organisational skills ensured astonishingly smooth running of the whole event.

# Church Calendar for August

Aug	6	Sun	<b>THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>	
			THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD	
			6.30pm	Choral Evensong
	9	Wed	MARY SUMNER, Founder of Mothers' Union - 1921	
	11	Fri	JOHN HENRY NEWMAN, Priest - 1890	
			CLARE OF ASSISI - 1253	
	13	Sun	<b>THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>	
			8.00am	NO SERVICE
			5.00pm	Said Evening Prayer
	15	Tue	THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	
	20	Sun	<b>THE TENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>	
			5.00pm	Tea and Taizé Service
	24	Thur	SAINT BARTHOLOMEW THE APOSTLE	
	27	Sun	<b>THE ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>	
			5.00pm	Said Evening Prayer
	28	Mon	AUGUSTINE, Bishop and Teacher - 430	
	29	Tue	THE BEHEADING OF JOHN THE BAPTIST	
	30	Wed	JOHN BUNYAN, Spiritual Writer - 1688	
	3	Sun	<b>THE TWELVETH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>	
			6.30pm	Choral Evensong
			Christ Church Genesis Lunch Duty	

# Laity Rota for August

Readers	OT Readers	NT Readers	Gospel	
<b>August</b>	<b>6</b>	Sarah Hiscock	Chris Munday	Ann Kemp
	<b>13</b>		Judith Anderson	Judith Bishop
	<b>20</b>	Margaret Burrows	Audrey Shepherd	Roseanne Gabe
	<b>27</b>		Emma Elliott	Richard Gabe

## Chalice Assistants

<b>August</b>	<b>6</b>	Margaret Burrows	Janet Mahto
	<b>13</b>	Chris Graham	Ann Kemp
	<b>20</b>	Penny Edwards	Jane Fletcher
	<b>27</b>	Tessa Claridge	Bob Siderfin

## Intercessors

<b>August</b>	<b>6</b>	Rev Antony Claridge
	<b>13</b>	Mark Elliott
	<b>20</b>	Penny Edwards
	<b>27</b>	Bev Pont

Sidespeople	8am	10am		
<b>August</b>	<b>6</b>	Elizabeth Iden-Hart	David Marles	Joan Bunkin
	<b>13</b>	Arthur Jones	June Metcalfe	Chris Gladstone
	<b>20</b>	Dorothy Twissell	Tessa Claridge	Jean Ferguson
	<b>27</b>	Clive Tilling	Nicky & Joshua Gladstone	

# Lectionary for August

	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
<b>Aug 6</b>	<b>Transfiguration of Our Lord</b>		
	Daniel 7.9-10, 13-14	2 Peter 1. 16-19	Luke 9.28b-36
<b>13</b>	<b>Trinity 9</b>		
	No reading	Ephesians 4.25-5.2	John 6.35, 41-51
<b>20</b>	<b>Trinity 10</b>		
	Proverbs 9.1-6	Ephesians 5.15-20	John 6.51-58
<b>27</b>	<b>Trinity 11</b>		
	No reading	Ephesians 6.10-20	John 6.56-59
<b>Sep 3</b>	<b>Trinity 12</b>		
	No reading	James 1.17-27	Mark 7.1-8, 14-15, 21-23

## Our Calendar Correspondent Explains... “SAINT CLARE OF ASSISI” (11th August)

**Saint Clare** was one of the first followers of Francis of Assisi and founded the Order of Poor Ladies to organize the women who chose to take the Franciscan vow of poverty and celibacy.

Clare was born in Assisi, Italy in 1194 and heard Francis preaching in the streets of Assisi. On March 20, 1212, Clare and her sister Agnes fled their home to follow Francis staying with a nearby convent of Benedictine nuns until moving to San Damiano, where they founded the Order of Poor Ladies.

In 1216, Clare accepted the role of abbess at San Damiano, and defended her order from the attempts of prelates to impose a rule on them that more closely resembled the Rule of St Benedict than Francis' stricter vows.

After Francis's death, Clare continued to promote the growth of her order and thwarting every attempt by each successive Pope to impose a rule on her order of women beyond the order she had originally devised, despite the fact that, after 1224, Clare was frequently ill and unable to leave San Damiano.

On August 9, 1253, the Papal bull *Solet annure* of Pope Innocent IV confirmed that Clare's Rule would serve as the governing rule for the Order of Poor Ladies. Two days later, on August 11, 1253, Clare died at the age of 59. On August 15, 1255, Pope Alexander IV canonized Clare as St Clare of Assisi. In 1263, Pope Urban IV officially changed the name of the Order of Poor Ladies to the "Order of Saint Clare". On February 17, 1958, Pope Pius XII designated her as the patron saint of television, on the basis that, when she was too ill to attend a Mass, she had been miraculously able to see and hear it on the wall of her room. This power of far-seeing has attributed to her as the patron saint of clairvoyant visions.

## THE BOOK OF NUMBERS

*A photocopy of the document described here is on display at the back of church for your closer inspection*

One of the many books we retrieved from my father's library when we had to sell the family home was an old fashioned Victorian family Bible. Like Major-General Stanley's 'ancestors', it was only a 'family' Bible by acquisition. It had belonged to a sister of my great-great grandfather, and the frontispiece certainly does not record the births and christenings of generations of little Grahams. Instead, it contains the single word BIBLE made up of a series of carefully copied but nonetheless rather dry statistical statements. It is the handwriting equivalent of the embroidered sampler, but somewhat less uplifting. A century later it could perhaps at best be called Concrete Poetry.

I have deciphered each of the copperplate entries and checked them out:

*The Bible contains 3,566,480 letters, 810,697 words, 31,173 verses, 1,189 chapters and 66 books.*

How did great-great-great aunt Esther know? I suspect she copied this down from someone else who did. Or perhaps calculating all this was her life's work.

*The word 'and' occurs 46,227 times. The word 'Lord' occurs 1,855 times.* No, I think she must have got this from someone else. But, in the days before computers, somebody must have done the sum.

*The word 'Reverend' occurs only once in the Bible which is in 9<sup>th</sup> verse of the 111<sup>th</sup> Psalm.*

'Holy and reverend is his name.'

*The middle and least Chapter is the 117<sup>th</sup> Psalm; the middle verse of the 116<sup>th</sup>.*

Psalm 117 is indeed the shortest psalm – and at only two verses long it must also be the shortest chapter in the Bible. And the middle of Psalm 116 looks to be about the middle of the Bible on terms of pages (without the Apocrypha.)

*The 21<sup>st</sup> verse of the 7<sup>th</sup> chapter of Ezra contains the alphabet and is the 11th finest chapter.*

'Contains the alphabet' as in all the letters A-Z appear in it: *And I, even I Artaxerxes the king, do make a decree to all the treasurers which are be-*



*yond the river, that whatsoever Ezra the priest, the scribe of the law of the God of heaven, shall require of you, it be done speedily.* Now, there is something I didn't know and would never have thought to ask. I don't know about the 'finest chapter' though.

*The nineteenth chapter of the Second Book of Kings and the 27<sup>th</sup> Chapter of Isaiah are alike.*

This does not quite work, since neither chapter offers any Xs. Nor are they identical. Am I missing something?

*The least verse is the 35<sup>th</sup> verse of the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter of John.*  
Jesus wept.

*Each verse of the 136<sup>th</sup> Psalm ends alike*

For his mercy endureth for ever. John Milton turned this into:

'For His mercies aye endure, Ever faithful ever sure.'

*and the 15<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> verses of Psalm 107 ends alike.*

Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness,  
And for his wonderful works to the children of men!

*There is no word or name in the Bible of more than six syllables.*

I suppose I shall have to read the Bible from A-Z to find out. Or perhaps Cyril Selmes knows.

The thing that strikes me today is how trivial all this information seems. All these statistics are about the least interesting thing that can be said about the Bible. It's like not being able to see the wood for the trees. I'd like to think that a close study of the Bible – closer than ever I have given it - would yield more than the total number of 'ands' in the text.

But another way of looking at all this is to observe that our Victorian ancestors read the Bible so faithfully, and were so familiar with its teachings, that they were able, in addition, to count the books, chapters and verses. It was a labour of love. Just because we find the equivalent of a monkish doodle in the margin, does not mean that our forebears treated the Bible with disrespect or a lack of understanding. It suggests a book that was so central to their lives, so familiar, and so much loved, that they wanted to count every word and record every fact. They went from 'read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest' to 'count and classify'. We would do well to travel the other way – from Trivial Pursuit to serious study.

*Chris Graham*

PALACE OCTOCENTENNIAL FESTIVAL  
AT WELLS  
10TH-17TH SEPTEMBER 2006

To celebrate the Octocentennial (800 years) of the Bishop's Palace at Wells there will be a festival lasting from 10th September until 17th September 2006.

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Parade and Thanksgiving for  
Voluntary Services in Somerset  
*Sunday 10th September*

David Starkey Lecture  
*Tuesday 12th September*

Open Gardens & Gardeners' Forum  
*Wednesday 13th Sept*

Antiques? Meet the Experts  
*Thursday 14th September*

Acker Bilk Concert  
*Friday 15th September*

Family Fun Day  
*Saturday 16th September*

Sounding Retreat and Grand Finale  
*Sunday 17th September*

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Tickets and further details:  
The Old Deanery, Wells  
01749 670777

## MOTHERS' UNION NEWS



Several members of the Congregation regularly purchase Mothers' Union diaries, Calendars and Cards through our Christmas Order plan. The traditional and modern cards for 2006 are already illustrated on page 22 of the Summer edition of the MU Home and Family Magazine.

Although, with five months still to go for Christmas, this seems much too early, I can take your orders now, so if anyone would like to buy, just let me have the money with the code number of your chosen design(s), as every order must be pre-paid. I will notify our regular customers as soon as I receive the Diary and Calendar prices, and hopefully, the parcels should arrive by the beginning of October.

You do not have to be an MU member to buy from us, so if any member of the congregation would like to order cards, calendars or diaries, please let me know now. I plan to be absent from Church during most of July, so Margaret Burrows will take your order if I am not available.

Because of the Summer Holidays, there will be no Corporate Communion in August, but one will be arranged for September.

*Sylvia M Ayers, MU Secretary*

### A Friend



The Christ Church Friends in Deed scheme is designed to provide a network of good neighbours who have volunteered to do the neighbourly things we used to do for each other when we lived closer together. When the need arises, they are prepared on request to:

- make friendship visits or telephone calls
- do shopping at times of illness or infirmity
- offer or find sources of advice
- handle occasional non-specialist odd jobs

All areas in which church members live are covered by the Friends in Deed scheme. If you need or know of someone else who needs help, you should in the first instance contact the Friends in Deed Co-ordinators, Jane Fletcher (01225 463758) and Yvonne Morris (01225 425555). They will then get in touch with the local contact best able to provide the help that is needed.

**Excuse me, I'm Lost...**

Our episode guide continues. Still woefully behind schedule, but there's only so many hours in the day. And hang on to your hats, because something happens very soon...



A quick recap. There are the Original Castaways, and now the Tail Section Castaways. Then there are the Rafterers, Sawyer, Jin, Michael and Michael's son Walt. They were Originals, but left on a raft to find help. Sadly, it all went horribly wrong for the Rafterers, Sawyer was shot and Walt was kidnapped, but keeps appearing to Shannon (Original) in visions. Then there are The Others. They live on the island, and would appear to be vicious murderers, but we don't know why.

Episode 2/5: Michael runs off into the jungle to find Walt. He doesn't find him, but one of the newbie Tail Section castaways, an enormous taciturn guy called Mr Echo, goes with him. Mr Echo has considerable tracking skills. They hide, and see a group of the Others. The Others have a child with them, but it's not clear if the child is Walt. Back with the Original Castaways, Sun loses her wedding ring. She finds it.

Episode 2/6: Sayid (handsome Iraqi engineering expert) makes a new shelter for Shannon (you remember Shannon, beautiful but shallow.) She's very—make that extremely—grateful for the shelter. The Tail Section guys are making their way tentatively across the island in search of the Original guys. Sawyer's gunshot wound is getting much worse. It starts to rain. Shannon has more visions of Walt, but Sayid doesn't believe her, so she runs off into the rain. Deep in the jungle, the Tail Section Guys are panicking. Also deep in the jungle, Sayid and Shannon both see a vision of Walt. They embrace, Sayid tells Shannon that he loves her and will never leave her. Shannon plunges deeper into the jungle to find Walt, with all the weight of Plot Cliché thundering at her heels. A shot is fired. Sayid stumbles into a clearing to find the panicking Tail Section Guys holding a smoking gun. Shannon has been shot.

Episode 2/7: Obviously, Sayid is going to have some pretty strong words for the Tail Section Guys, but that's not happening this episode. Instead, we see the first 48 days on the island as experienced by the Tail Section people. The Others have kidnapped (and killed?) more than half of them, and they have serious trust issues between them. Is it any wonder that they shoot first and ask questions later? Will Sawyer recover from his injuries? How come Walt keeps manifesting himself? How come Jin's English isn't improving? You'll find out as quickly as I do.

*Nicky Gladstone*

Dear Friends,

Once again I would like to thank you for using the Scout Christmas Postal Service last Christmas. At the recent Post Committee's Annual General Meeting, the Chairman reported that unfortunately five Bath Scout Groups have now withdrawn from the scheme, resulting in the loss of a large number of workers. With this big fall, we feel it would be impossible to maintain the present high standard throughout the City.

The meeting therefore agreed that after 18 years of existence, it would be better to end the operation while it is still a success, rather than to try to struggle on with much less support. Consequently the Scout Post will not take place from 2006, although there is always the possibility that it could be resurrected in the future.

Once again may I send you my heartfelt thanks for your continued loyalty to the Bath Scout Movement. I am sure it will be a relief to know that you will not have to fit so much extra into the already busy days just before Christmas!

Yours (still) in Scouting,

Sylvia M Ayers, Central Post Co-Ordinator

**Taken from a letter from the Revd Canon Bill Christianson  
Secretary General of the Mission to Seafarers**

We are now half way through our 150th anniversary year and we have been delighted at how much interest and support there has been for us this year from our supporters, the Church and the shipping industry.

In March, we held a special service of thanksgiving in Westminster Abbey.

Later in the year - October 11-15 - we have the Sea Tea. Information can be found on our website, as can information about our special 150th anniversary teapots which are proving to be very popular.

In the last week of October, we have our World Conference in Derbyshire when we will be discussing how we can keep our ministry relevant for seafarers today and in the future.

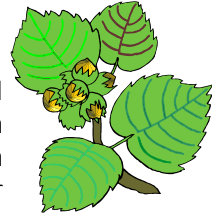
With good wishes  
Bill Christianson



Caring for seafarers  
around the world

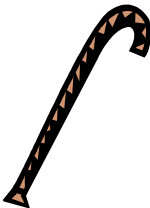
## DO YOU KNOW.....

the name of the shrubby tree which had magical properties, colonised Great Britain after the last Ice age and was known in Ireland as 'the tree of knowledge' ? For thousands of years its foliage was used as cattle food and its wood for making wattle and divining rods. The fruits are widely grown in woods in Kent, Wiltshire and the Cranbourne Chase and were named after St. Philibert of Normandy, a Benedictine monk who founded an abbey on the River Seine.



This tree was known throughout Europe for its magical properties, some of which were good and some which involved blasphemous and impious incantations. Many myths include this tree. A sacred well near Tipperary is surrounded by these trees and their flowers and fruits, beauty and wisdom, fall into the pool of water. The salmon which live in the pool eat the fruits: for each one they eat a bright spot appears on the surface of their body. The fruits also have medicinal properties: in an Irish pocket one is a cure for rheumatism.

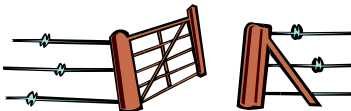
Aside from magical functions these trees have always been useful and widely used. Although they sometimes are tree-like and reach thirty feet, they more often have straight branches or wands growing from the base. These wands are easily split to make stakes and may also be twisted to make hurdles and fences of all shapes and sizes. Woven into wattle they became the framework for sheds, stables and houses. Twigs were twisted and used as pegs in thatching and larger branches were used as divining rods, a custom which came from Germany in the 13th century. These rods were not only used for detecting water, but also minerals and treasures.



When searching for treasure one had to know the right incantations: suggesting these rods had

magic properties. More recently the wands have been popular for making walking sticks: the bark varies a great deal in colour and texture, which contrasts attractively with the lighter-coloured wood.

Like many plants with pagan myths attached to them, the fruits were christianised by becoming the nuts of St. Philibert in the 7th



century, presumably cultivated at his abbey. The name soon became shortened to Filbeard or Filbert, and one of the favourite cultivated kind in Tudor times was the white Filbert. Wild Filberts were also common in this country and formed part of the staple diet. Many stories seem to get attached to these fruits. In 1826 the owner of Hatfield Forest complained about their popularity: when they were ripe all the layabouts and riff-raff from Bishop's Stortford invaded the forest to feed on them. However, he also claimed that they used this as an excuse for all kinds of mischief and debauchery.

More recently, in Great Houghton, Northamptonshire, there was a long lane, flanked by a hedge which bore these nuts. A farm gate at the end provided an ideal way of cracking these nuts. So for years and years, this was known as Crack-Nuts Lane, until developers swept it away about thirty years ago. In its place was a small group of houses, one of which was a Rectory. The Rector's wife did not think Crack-Nuts was a suitable address, and changed it to Rectory Close. Richard Mabey, with tongue in cheek, I think, suggests that this might be "clergy retribution for the indignities of Nutcrack Night". When nuts which had been left to ripen were brought out, many parishes had the custom of taking them to church the following Sunday and cracking them as loudly as possible during the sermon.



So these nuts are filberts or cob nuts, or hazelnuts, and the tree is a hazel. And St Philibert's Day is 20th August, when all his Filberts are thought to be ripe.

*Cyril Selmes*

# Prayer Cycle for August

- Tues* 1 For those who make coffee for us to enjoy after the 10am Communion service.
- Wed* 2 For our hospitals, nursing homes and local surgeries.
- Thurs* 3 For all visitors to our city this summer, that they may find a welcome here.
- Fri* 4 For couples experiencing difficulties in their relationship. For the work of Relate.
- Sat* 5 For David, our Treasurer.
- Sun* 6 For those who will not have any kind of holiday this year.
- Mon* 7 For the departed who have shared their earthly pilgrimage with us.
- Tues* 8 For peace in the Holy Land; for all children caught up in centuries old conflicts.
- Wed* 9 For those mourning the death of loved ones; for those mourning the death of a child or children.
- Thurs* 10 For all members of our Church Council.
- Fri* 11 For countries of the Third World which suffer through the selfishness of richer nations.
- Sat* 12 For Rowan our Archbishop and for Peter our Bishop. For all Anglican Bishops and Primates.
- Sun* 13 For members of our congregation who can no longer attend church due to illness or infirmity.
- Mon* 14 For Genesis and the work of the Sunday Centre.
- Tues* 15 For all visitors to Christ Church this summer.
- Wed* 16 For those who work for the Emergency Services.
- Thurs* 17 For those who feel that no-one appreciates or cares about them.
- Fri* 18 For Cyril, Mark and Tom our Readers; for Sarah's ministry at Batheaston.



- 
- Sat* 19 For families over the summer break.
- Sun* 20 For all who organize our church services.
- Mon* 21 For all doing voluntary service overseas.
- Tues* 22 For the work and witness of the Mothers' Union: for all the members of the Christ Church branch.
- Wed* 23 For those who use our roads; for all who are travelling
- Thurs* 24 For the Trustees of Christ Church, and Yvonne, their Chairman.
- Fri* 25 For Angela and John, our Churchwardens, and for Frank and Yvonne, our Deputy Churchwardens
- Sat* 26 For our Altar Servers, Sidespeople, Chalice Assistants, Readers, and all who assist in any way at our services.
- Sun* 27 For Angela, our Verger.
- Mon* 28 We pray for the week ahead, and think especially of those who are unhappy or frustrated in their work.
- Tues* 29 For those coping with terminal illness. For their families and all who care for them.
- Wed* 30 For those who work behind the scenes to assure the smooth running of our church.
- Thurs* 31 We give thanks for the blessings of the month now ending, and offer the coming month to God.
- Sep*
- Fri* 1 For Mark, David, Mike and the choir. We thank God for the gift of music and its role in our worship.
- Sat* 2 For our Clergy Team.
- Sun* 3 For Emma who compiles our weekly notice sheet.
- Mon* 4 For school children, students, teachers and all involved in education, as a new academic year begins,
- Tues* 5 For our plans to provide help to those in need in the neighbourhood around our church.

# Big Questions, Little Answers

*It's a two-parter for August and September—everything you've ever wanted to know about Mr and Mrs Jones, but were afraid to ask. Sarah goes first..*

## **Where were you born?**

Hertford County Hospital in the refined home county of Hertfordshire

## **What are your hobbies?**

Singing, cooking, card making, writing, going to the theatre, planning junior church

## **What car do you drive?**

Since my little Peugeot 106 was written off, I drive Matthew's Silver Fiesta

## **What is your favourite film, and why?**

Shakespeare in Love: it's a witty, romantic and passionate story all about people who love theatre and the ending has a hint of tragedy mixed with optimism.

## **What is your favourite kind of music?**

Stuff I can enjoy singing along to: choral, jazz, musical theatre

## **What is your favourite kind of meal / food?**

Italian probably but almost anything cooked well and eaten at a leisurely pace in good company will suit me.

## **What has been your proudest moment?**

Graduation, being offered a post as a senior pharmacist at the Maudsley and watching HR run a fantastic fundraising concert for Tsunami victims

## **What is the most amazing place you have visited?**

The Minack Theatre in Cornwall at twilight

## **What famous person, dead or alive, would you like to meet?**

Francis Walsingham (spymaster to Queen Elizabeth I)

## **What's your pet hate?**

People who refuse to empathise

## **What's your favourite book?**

The Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis or Three Men in a Boat by Jerome K Jerome

## **Tell us a little-known fact about yourself**

I aspire one day to give the definitive performance of Lady Macbeth

---

**WHO'S WHO?**

---

**OFFICIATING MINISTER**

The Rev Antony Claridge, 62 Cranwells Park, Weston, BA1 2YE Tel: 427462

**ASSISTANT CLERGY**

The Rev Cliff Burrows, Stonecroft, Entry Hill Drive, BA2 5NL. Tel: 334743

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# ***CHRIST CHURCH, JULIAN ROAD***

## **DIOCESE OF BATH AND WELLS IN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND**

### **PAST HISTORY**

Christ Church was built at the end of the 18th Century by the socially concerned clergy and lay people for those excluded from worship by the system of pew rents. It was probably the first church of that time to provide seating free of charge. Early supporters included the Archbishops of Canterbury and York; the great evangelical campaigner against slavery, William Wilberforce; Philip Pusey, the father of E B Pusey; and Martin Stafford Smith, the godfather of John Keble, who were both founders of the Oxford Movement. The building was designed by the famous Bath architect John Palmer, who was responsible for the completion of the Great Pump Room, Lansdown Crescent and St Swithin's, the parish church of Walcot. In November 1998, the congregation, friends and well-wishers from all over the world celebrated the bicentenary.

### **MINISTRY**

Christ Church is unusual in not being a parish church. Much of the vitality of its life and worship derives from the fact that the congregation comes from all areas of the city and the surrounding districts. Whilst there is no full-time paid vicar, there is a non-stipendiary priest-in-charge, who leads a ministerial team of ordained and lay people. Worship at Christ Church largely reflects the traditions of those responsible for its foundation and the rich diversity of the Church of England as a whole. Thus, preaching and Bible-based teaching is firmly set within a liturgical setting which is best described as liberal and catholic.

### **SERVICES**

The 8am Holy Communion is either Book of Common Prayer (1662) or Common Worship. At 10am the Eucharist is celebrated according to Common Worship. On the first Sunday of each month, there is a full Choral Evensong. A Junior Church and a Crèche cater for the children and young people who attend the 10am service. We hold special all-age services once a month and at festivals such as Easter, Christmas, Mothering Sunday and Harvest.

There are a variety of mid-week activities including Holy Communion at 11am every Wednesday during Lent, followed by lunch). The notice board and the weekly notice sheet provide details of discussion and prayer groups which are held at different times throughout the year. An all-age choir, which rehearses on Friday evenings maintains the much-admired music tradition at Christ Church.

### **CHURCH COMMUNICATIONS**

Published on the first Sunday of every month, Christ Church Challenge brings news of the church locally, in the Diocese, and throughout the world. Our website is constantly updated and can be found at [www.christchurchbath.org](http://www.christchurchbath.org)

**The deadline for articles for the magazine is the  
15th of the preceding month.  
Thank you.**