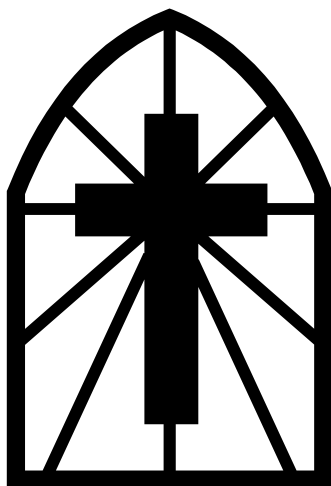


CHRIST CHURCH CHALLENGE



June 2005

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

Chris and Angela, 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.

Thank you for reading this edition of Christ Church Challenge!

We hope that you will find it interesting and informative. Thank you, as ever, to all of our contributors. We are always grateful to receive articles on a wide variety of subjects, however we would remind all our contributors that late submission of articles puts unnecessary pressure on the editor, and that's putting it mildly.

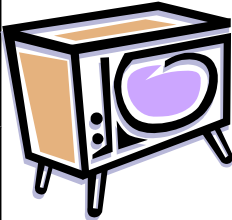
If you've been / you're going on holiday this year and you'd like to write a short piece about a church you've visited, we'd love to include it in the August or September magazine - please leave your contributions, however short, in the magazine pigeon hole in the Vestry.

Forum...



Searching for Reality

Reality TV is all the rage. One of the latest on BBC2 was called The Monastery. The three part series followed five laymen on a spiritual journey in a Benedictine monastery to discover if the 1,500-year-old monastic tradition has any thing to offer a new generation. Although from very different backgrounds, all five participants shared a desire to see if life held any greater meaning. They were expected to abide by the monastery's rules, with a strict timetable of instruction, study, prayer, reflection and routine work duties.



Of the five, only two came from overtly religious backgrounds. One was a PHD student at Cambridge researching Buddhism as part of a 10-year spiritual journey. The other, a Protestant Ulsterman and former member of the UDA who had served a prison sentence for involvement in the troubles during the nineties. A high-earning legal publisher, a teacher and poet, and sex chat line publicist joined them.

The monks were given no information about their guests beyond the fact that they were volunteers. The Abbot said, " We saw in this project an opportunity to discover what our way of life offers to people today who do not share our beliefs. We had distinct hopes for the participants and for the viewers. For the participants, we hoped that they would discover hidden depths in their lives and in those hidden depths encounter God".

The first programme gave viewers a glimpse into the unseen world of the monks' community. We watched the five men as they tried to come to terms with monastic life, including getting up at 6 every morning, praying six times a day and eating their meals in silence.



By programme two they'd begun to adapt to the austere monastic routine, but tensions within the

group started to boil over. It seemed doubtful if the five would be able to put their differences aside and apply St. Benedict's teachings of patience, tolerance and understanding.



The final programme was a revelation. Everyone was changed by the experience. The publisher came within touching distance of inner peace, and the teacher and poet rediscovered spiritual tools in his quest for the meaning of life. The Ulsterman crossed the socio-political divide of his upbringing, declaring that among Catholic monks he had experienced a kindness and compassion previously unknown to him. The PHD student left the monastery resolved to explore the possibility of training for the Anglican priesthood.

The most moving scenes in the final programme were those in which the porn-industry worker experienced an encounter with the reality of God. Speaking to camera he said, "Something happened; something touched me; something spoke to me, very deeply, very profoundly."

Who can say what will happen to the monastic five. But whatever doubts one might have about reality TV in general, there is evidence that this programme set many viewers on a voyage of self-discovery. That it did so is a further reminder of the spiritual famine suffered by many in contemporary life. And the blessing given by Father Christopher towards the end of the programme seems to me to be one which speaks to our hearts' desire.



May your soul calm, console and renew you. May the light of your soul guide you. May the light of your soul bless the work you do with the secret love and warmth of your heart. May the day never burden you. May dawn find you awake, alert, approaching your new day with dreams, possibilities and promises. May you go into the night blessed, sheltered and protected.

Antony

Church Calendar for June

Jun	5	Sun	THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	
			6.30pm	Choral Evensong
	11	Sat	BARNABAS THE APOSTLE	
	12	Sun	THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	
	19	Sun	THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	
	22	Wed	EMBER DAY	
	24	Fri	BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST, EMBER DAY	
	25	Sat	EMBER DAY	
	26	Sun	THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	
	29	Wed	PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES	
	30	Thur	11.00am	Holy Communion / MU Corporate Communion - Rev Antony Claridge followed by lunch
Jul	3	Sun	THOMAS THE APOSTLE	
			4.00pm	Choral Evensong at Orchardleigh
Jun	10	Sun	THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY	

WHAT IS AN EMBER DAY?

Ember days are four separate sets of three days within the same week - specifically, the Wednesday, Friday and Saturday - roughly equidistant in the circuit of the year, formerly set aside for fasting and prayer in the liturgical calendar of the Western Churches, but significantly not in the Eastern Orthodox Church (where Celtic traditions were not a concern). These days are set apart for special prayer and fasting, and considered especially suitable for the ordination of clergy.

Laity Rota for June

Readers		OT Readers	NT Readers	Gospel
June	5	David Bishop	Chris Graham	Mark Elliott
	12	Jane Fletcher	Matthew Jones	Chris Mundy
	19	Sarah Hiscock	Ann Kemp	Sarah Jones
	26	Judith Anderson	Margaret Burrows	Judith Bishop
July	3	Rosanne Gabe	Sylvia Ayers	Audrey Sheppard
	10		Junior Church	

Chalice Assistants

June	5	Jane Fletcher	Cyril Selmes
	12	Bob Siderfin	Penny Edwards
	19	Margaret Burrows	Chris Graham
	26	Rev Sandy Munday	Cyril Selmes
July	3	Jane Fletcher	Penny Edwards
	10	Bob Siderfin	Margaret Burrows

Intercessors

June	5	Penny Edwards
	12	Georgina Bowman
	19	Bev Pont
	26	David Marles
July	3	Rev Cliff Burrows
	10	Junior Church



Sidespeople		8am	10am
June	5	Clive Tilling	John & June Metcalfe
	12	Elizabeth Iden-Hart	Chris Tanner Ann Charman
	19	Arthur Jones	Tessa Claridge Jean Ferguson
	26	Dorothy Twissell	Nicky & Joshua Gladstone
July	3	Barbara Hayward	Margaret Silver Frank Twissell
	10	Clive Tilling	Ken & Sylvia Ayers

Lectionary for June

	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
Jun 5	The Second Sunday after Trinity		
	Hosea 5.15-6.6	Romans 4.13-25	Matthew 9.9-13, 18-26
12	The Third Sunday after Trinity		
	Exodus 19.2-8a	Romans 5.1-8	Matthew 9.35-10.8
19	The Fourth Sunday after Trinity		
	No Reading	Romans 6.1b-11	Matthew 10.24-39
26	The Fifth Sunday after Trinity		
	No Reading	Romans 6.12-23	Matthew 10.40-42
Jul 3	Thomas the Apostle		
	Habakkuk 2.1-4	Ephesians 2.19-22	John 20.24-29

Mothers' Union News

We have received an invitation from St Luke's (Wellsway) MU to join them at their Overseas Bring and Buy Sale to be held on Saturday June 18th. For this reason, we have delayed our own Sale until the following month, so that the dates are not too close together.

Christ Church Mothers' Union Branch therefore invites you to join us on **Saturday July 2nd** at our Summer Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy Sale. This is also in aid of the Mothers' Union Overseas Fund, and will be held from 10am until 12 noon at the back of Church. Your donation will help us to beat last year's total: for this, we need the support of every member and friend of the Branch.

The MU Branch will also hold a Corporate Communion on Thursday June 30th, to be followed by lunch. We hope to see all members at this service.

Sylvia M. Ayers (MU Secretary)

High Days and Holidays

The Feast of SS Peter & Paul falls on 29th June. We thought they deserved a special "two page spread"...

St Peter (d. c. 64AD), originally called Simon, was a married fisherman from Bethsaida, near the Sea of Galilee. He met Jesus through his brother, Andrew. Jesus gave him the name of Cephas (Peter) which means rock. Peter is always named first in the list of apostles. He was one of the three apostles who were privileged to witness the Transfiguration, the raising of the daughter of Jairus, and the Agony in the Garden.

Peter played a big part in the early Church, and is mentioned many times in the Book of Acts, where in the early chapters he organised the choice of Judas' successor, preached with stirring authority at Pentecost; and was the very first apostle to work a miracle. Peter went on to defend the apostles' right to teach at the Sanhedrin. It was Peter who first realised that Christianity was also for the gentiles, after his meeting with Cornelius. Later he took a prominent part in the council at Jerusalem, and went on to clash with St Paul at Antioch for hesitating about eating with gentiles.

Early tradition links Peter with an apostolate and martyrdom at Rome. The New Testament does not tell us either way, but Peter being in Rome would make sense, especially as Peter's first epistle refers to 'Babylon', which was usually identified with Rome. Peter's presence in Rome is mentioned by early church fathers such as Clement of Rome and Irenaeus. Tradition also tells us that Peter suffered under Nero and was crucified head-downwards. There is no conclusive proof either way that St Peter's relics are at the Vatican, but it is significant that Rome is the only city that ever claimed to be Peter's place of death.

St Peter was a major influence on Mark when writing his gospel, and the First Epistle of Peter was very probably his. (Many scholars believe that the Second Epistle was written at a later date.) From very early times Peter was invoked by Christians as a universal saint. He was the heavenly door-keeper, the patron of the Church and the papacy, a saint both powerful and accessible. In England there were important dedications to Peter from early times: monasteries such as Canterbury, Glastonbury, Malmesbury, Peterborough, Lindisfarne, Whitby, Wearmouth, and especially Westminster. Cathedrals were named after him, too: York, Lichfield, Worcester and Selsey. In all, it has been calculated that 1,129 pre-Reformation churches were dedicated to St Peter, and another 283 to SS Peter and Paul together.



Images of Peter are innumerable, but his portraiture remains curiously the same: a man with a square face, a bald or tonsured head, and a short square, curly beard. Not surprisingly, his chief emblem is a set of keys, sometimes along with a ship or fish.



Like Peter, Paul (d. c. 65) also started life with another name: Saul. This great apostle to the Gentiles was a Jew born in Tarsus, and brought up by Gamaliel as a Pharisee. So keen was he to defend the god of his fathers that he became a persecutor of Christianity, and even took part in the stoning of Stephen. He hunted Christians down and imprisoned them, and it was while on his way to persecute more Christians in Damascus that he was suddenly given his vision of Christ.

From then on Paul seems to have lived a life full of hazard and hardship. He made many Jewish enemies, who stoned him, and wanted to kill him. Nevertheless, Paul made three great missionary journeys, first to Cyprus, then to Asia Minor and eastern Greece, and lastly to Ephesus, where he wrote 1 Corinthians, then to Macedonia and Achaia, where he wrote Romans, before returning to Jerusalem. After stonings, beatings and imprisonment in Jerusalem he was sent to Rome for trial as a Roman citizen. On the way he was shipwrecked at Malta; when he finally reached Rome he was put under house-arrest for two years, during which time he wrote the four 'captivity' epistles. Later Paul may have revisited Ephesus and even have reached Spain. Tradition tells he was eventually martyred at Rome during the persecution of Nero, being beheaded (as a Roman citizen) at Tre Fontane and buried where the basilica of St Paul 'outside the walls' now stands.

Paul was not only a tireless missionary, but a great thinker. His epistles played a major part in the later development of Christian theology. Paul's key ideas include that Redemption is only through faith in Christ, who abrogated the old Law and began the era of the Spirit; that Christ is not just the Messiah, but the eternal, pre-existent Son of God, exalted after the Resurrection to God's right-hand; that the Church is the (mystical) body of Christ; that the believers live in Christ and will eventually be transformed by the final resurrection. It is difficult to overemphasise the influence of Paul on Christian thought and history: he had a major effect on Augustine, Thomas Aquinas, Luther, Calvin and others.

In art, Paul is depicted as small in stature, bald and bandy-legged, with a long face, long nose and eyebrows meeting over deep-set eyes. His usual emblems are a sword and a book. In England he was never as popular as St Peter, and ancient English churches dedicated to him alone number only 43.

The history of the relics of Peter and Paul is not very clear. Tradition says that Peter was buried at the Vatican and Paul on the Ostian Way under his basilica. Certainly both apostles were venerated from very early times both in the Liturgy and in private prayers, as testified by Greek and Latin graffiti in the catacombs of the early 3rd century.

Churches Together in Bath: Meeting at Abbey Church House on April 21st

At this meeting, several speakers thought that the worshipper in the pew should be encouraged to take a more active part in the combined events arranged in Bath. For example, the number of people actually walking through the City on the Cross Walk continues to fall year by year. There should be a lot more contact between neighbouring churches, and congregational groups could regularly visit others in their local area. (The existing Christ Church/St Mary's Lent Lunch arrangements, ending in a Holy Week Healing Service conducted by Antony were quoted as a shining example of this.) The profile of the Travelling Light would also be raised if, instead of just sending one or two people from its previous location, a group of worshippers came to present the Light to its new home each month.

Members were then reminded of several May events including a meeting of Election Candidates at the URC on 3rd; a VE Day Service at Bath Abbey on 9th; the Christian Aid Service at the URC on 15th; and the CTB Annual General Meeting on 25th when Dr John Emmett was due to be installed as Chairman for the next three years.

Other events taking place during the summer are:

On Thursday June 16th Lord Douglas Hurd will speak on "Faith, Morality and Politics" at 7pm at the Abbey.

- On Sunday 19th June, the outdoor annual Service of Remembrance at Haycombe Cemetery will be held at 3.15pm, during the Crematorium's Open Day. The speaker will be Major Cliff Bradbury from the Penzance Salvation Army.
- The "Praise in the Park" will now take place at 5pm in the Parade Gardens on Sunday July 10th, as the Band Stand is unavailable on the following Sunday. Colin Hunt from Bathwick St Mary's Church will be organising the singers for this, and anyone who would like to join in, whether members of a choir or not, is invited to contact him. It was stressed that PCCs and Clergy should encourage their congregations to attend this public event.
- On Saturday September 10th there will be an Ecumenical Festal Evensong at 6pm at St Mary's Bathwick. This will be a joint Service with the Catholic Community and will be followed by refreshments in the Church Hall.
- On Monday September 26th, a series of ten "Joint Alpha" lunchtime lectures commence at the Guildhall, each being repeated at 7pm on the same day. A "Fishing Net" will be there to collect the names of those needing our prayers.

Reminders of these events will be published in the Church Notices in due course.

Sylvia M Ayers, Christ Church joint CTB representative

Nora Downer

When Nora Downer died in her 90th year, a faithful worshipper was lost to Christ Church. Friends from all over the country joined members of the regular congregation to say goodbye at her funeral on 29th May.

In his address, Antony spoke of Nora as an artist and skilled photographer. Her grandfather had been a photographic pioneer in the late 19th century and her father, also a distinguished painter, had continued with the family business in Watford until the late 1930s. A charming water colour of Christ Church by Nora was exhibited at the West Door on the day of the funeral and for some weeks afterwards.

When Nora's friends from Bath joined with those who had travelled long distances, the picture of Nora's life became complete. As an intensely private person, Nora had shared little of her past life with those who knew her at Christ Church. Antony told the story of her life and for many it was a revelation.



Born in Watford, Nora first trained as a photographer in London. These studies were interrupted by the outbreak of war. Nora volunteered immediately and rose to the rank of captain in the Women's Royal Army Corps. The war years were particularly difficult for Nora. She served her country in the knowledge that her father, stepmother and sister had been taken from their home in Jersey and interned in Germany.

After the war Nora first went into hotel management before embarking on a long career as warden of two Halls of Residence in the University of London. When she first came to Bath it was a warden of a student hostel in Russell Street, now the Queensbury Hotel.

Retirement meant Nora could indulge her passions for travel, painting and music. She was forthright in her views and many people found her a formidable person. However, underneath the reserved formal exterior there was a warm and affectionate friend. People who knew her well over the years, spoke of her lovely letters for she never omitted to write to say thank you and birthdays were seldom forgotten. She spoke of her faith in these words; "You have to believe in something otherwise nothing makes sense".



The Damage Done: Aid, death and dogma

This year's Christian Aid Week report exposes the devastating impact unrestricted "free" trade is having on poor communities in developing countries and calls on the British government to end its support for a ruthless orthodoxy that stretches back quarter of a century.

"The Damage Done: Aid, death and dogma" shows how:

- In India unfettered liberalisation policies backed by the British government have led to a crisis in agriculture, spiralling rural debt and an epidemic of suicide among poor farmers. Shocking new research reveals that more than 4,000 farmers have killed themselves in the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh since the 'reforms' of a hard-line liberalising regime, in part bank-rolled by the UK government.
- In Ghana democratic institutions have been subverted by the demands of doctrinaire free market policies, where the International Monetary Fund (IMF), backed by the World Bank, effectively overturned a law to protect poor farmers.
- In Jamaica increasing numbers of women have been driven to prostitution and drug smuggling by a continuing round of liberalisation that has wrecked their employment opportunities.

Labour's election manifesto said that developing countries should no longer be forced to liberalise and privatise in order to receive aid. While applauding this the policy makes clear that liberalising principles still underpin development policy, particularly at the World Bank and IMF. Legislation is urgently required to turn Tony Blair's rhetoric into reality.

Christian Aid calls upon the new British government to:

- amend the 2002 International Development Act to bar UK aid from being tied to policies of liberalisation or privatisation
- make public all discussions with the World Bank and IMF so that progress can be monitored
- clearly state that poor countries have the right to raise tariffs to protect their infant industries.



Please sign and send off the letter to Tony Blair calling on him to stand up for Trade Justice and to keep his election promises on poverty.

Jenny Wright, Christian Aid Representative

A Friend



In Deed

The Christ Church Friends in Deed scheme is designed to provide a network of good neighbours, called Area Wardens. These Area Wardens 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 Area Warden best able to provide the help that is needed.

World Vision “Phones for Food” Appeal

Do you have an old mobile phone gathering dust somewhere? Probably, because there are some 90 million of them out there. Now your phone can help fight hunger around the world!

For example it could provide the money for a day's food for a child orphaned by AIDS in Zimbabwe. A newer model could even become chickens or fruit trees to provide food and an income for someone's future.

That's why World Vision has launched the “Phones for Food” campaign in partnership with mobile phone recycling company ShP Solutions.

It's such an easy way to make a difference!

Simply put your old mobile phone in a padded envelope or jiffy bag with its battery and charger if possible, and send it to:

World Vision Phones for Food
ShP Solutions
Freepost NEA14439
Lancaster
LA1 1ZZ



Even better, become a “Phones for Food Friend” and seek out phones where you work, where you worship or from among your friends. If you collect 5 or more phones ShP Solutions will arrange for a courier to pick them up. And they can send you a specially designed bin if you want to set up a permanent collection point at your church or workplace. Just call **020 7288 6201 (please mention World Vision)**

By sending in your old phone, not only would you help support our work in communities struggling to make a living and feed their families, you will be helping protect the environment for future generations.

Is there support for a scheme like this at Christ Church? Do YOU have a phone / phones which could be used in this scheme? Please let Chris Gladstone know.

Church Picnic to Orchardleigh

Our own Audrey Sheppard has family links with Orchardleigh, an estate in the North Somerset countryside. Christ Church Choir has been invited to sing Evensong at the Island Church at Orchardleigh on Sunday 3rd July, and everyone is invited to come along for an afternoon trip out.



It is proposed to arrive at Orchardleigh at 4pm, visit the grounds, have a picnic tea (which we can eat inside if it's raining) and then attend / sing at Evensong.

Further details will be available via the Notice Sheet nearer the time, but if you would like to go, then please see Nicky or Chris Gladstone as soon as possible. We're hoping to provide lifts for those people without their own transport, so please let us know how many spare spaces you would have in your car if you're intending to drive.

Let's hear it for Dads!

The third Sunday in June is Father's Day, which started in 1909 in America, when Sonora Louise Smart Dodd heard a church sermon about the merits of setting aside a day to honour one's mother. Mother's Day was just beginning to gather widespread attention in the United States at this time. But Sonora Louise Smart Dodd knew that it was her father who had selflessly raised herself and her five siblings by himself after their mother had died in childbirth. So the sermon on mothers gave Sonora Lousie the idea to petition for a day to honour fathers.



Gradually, other people in other cities caught on and started celebrating their fathers, too. Finally, in 1972, President Richard Nixon signed a presidential proclamation declaring the third Sunday of June as Father's Day - a permanent, national holiday in the USA.

Although Father's Day does not hold the same spiritual significance as Mothering Sunday, it is certainly a great time to celebrate any sort of male role models, like uncles, godfathers or grandfathers, as well as dads.

Prayer Cycle for June

- Wed* 1 For everyone facing exams at this time
- Thur* 2 For journalists and all those who work in the media, that they will be mindful of their responsibilities both to those whom they inform, and those about whom they report
- Fri* 3 For young people in prison for whatever reason; for all who work with them
- Sat* 4 For those facing new challenges at work or at home
- Sun* 5 For our Altar Servers, Sidespeople, Chalice Assistants, Readers, and all who assist in any way at our services
- Mon* 6 Let us pray for the congregation as a whole, and for the success of tonight's "Meet Up", that we may all benefit from the fellowship found there
- Tue* 7 For those considering a vocation to the priesthood or religious life
- Wed* 8 For the work of USPG in general, and especially for St Anne's Hospital, Lake Malawi
- Thur* 9 For couples who can no longer live together due to illness or infirmity, that God will comfort them
- Fri* 10 For David, our Organist, and for Mike, our Organ Scholar. For Mark and all the Choir
- Sat* 11 For peace throughout the world, and for all world leaders
- Sun* 12 For Cyril and Tom, our Readers. For Sarah's ministry at Batheaston. For Mark, as he trains to become a Reader
- Mon* 13 For Rowan our Archbishop and for Peter our Bishop
- Tue* 14 For respect and concern for our environment
- Wed* 15 For David our Treasurer
- Thur* 16 For our colleagues, in particular any who are difficult to work with
- Fri* 17 For parents coping with difficult children, that they will find help and support
- Sat* 18 For all who suffer persecution for their faith
- Sun* 19 For success in the struggle against the distribution of drugs

-
- Mon 20** For Sarah Hiscock who draws up the Laity Rota. For all our readers, chalice assistants, intercessors and sidespeople
- Tue 21** For engaged couples as they prepare for their marriage; for all who are responsible for helping and advising them
- Wed 22** For our brothers and sisters in the Roman Catholic Church, and especially for St Mary's RC Church.
- Thur 23** For our hospitals, nursing homes and local surgeries
- Fri 24** For all who are coming to terms with the death of a loved one. For those who are bearing a grief which they cannot share
- Sat 25** For the success of today's Garden Party, and for Yvonne and Donald Morris, who are kind enough to host it
- Sun 26** For members of our Junior Church, as they take part in today's 10am service
- Mon 27** For children who care for their parents, either due to illness or old age; for families everywhere
- Tue 28** For the work of Churches Together in Bath; for Sylvia and Chris, our CTB representatives
- Wed 29** For all new members of our congregation: for all visitors
- Thur 30** Let us thank God for the blessings of the month now ending, and offer him the challenges of the month that is to come
- July**
- Fri 1** For those who work behind the scenes to assure the smooth running of our church
- Sat 2** For the work of the Mission to Seafarers
- Sun 3** For today's Church Picnic and Evensong at Orchardleigh
- Mon 4** For members of our congregation who can no longer attend church due to illness or infirmity
- Tue 5** We pray for the University Chaplaincy Centre, for Angela the University Chaplain, and for all the chaplains
- Wed 6** For those suffering from depression, and for those who love them; that they will find the strength to seek the help which they need.
- Thur 7** For our Church Council as it meets tonight
- Fri 8** For Church's mission to those with any form of physical or mental difficulties; for those who suffer discrimination because of these issues.
-



Poetry Corner: A Christian Solstice

June is the month of the summer solstice, the month of the Sun. While the Druids worship at Stonehenge and elsewhere, here are some Christian alternatives that honour the Creator rather than the created.

A Canticle for Brother Sun

Praised be You, My Lord, in all Your creatures,
 Especially Sir Brother Sun,
 Who makes the day and enlightens us through You.
 He is lovely and radiant and grand;
 And he heralds You, his Most High Lord.

St Francis of Assisi

God in All
 He inspires all,
 He gives life to all,
 He dominates all,
 He supports all.
 He lights the light of the sun.
 He furnishes the light of the night.
 He has made springs in dry land.
 He is the God of heaven and earth,
 of sea and rivers,
 of sun, moon and stars,
 of the lofty mountain and the lowly valley,
 the God above heaven,
 and in heaven,
 and under heaven.

St Patrick

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

The Rev Sandy Munday, 18 Chestnut Walk, Saltford, BS31 3BG. Tel 342740

READERS

Tom Slade, 42 Rockcliffe Road, Bathwick, BA2 6QE. Tel: 465864

Cyril Selmes, 10 Daffords Buildings, Larkhall, BA1 6SG. Tel: 420039

CHURCHWARDENS

Chris Gladstone, 5 Westwoods, Box Road, Bath BA1 7QE Tel: 859969

Angela Soboslay, 285 Newbridge Road, BA1 3HN. Tel: 333297

HON SECRETARY

Nicky Gladstone, 5 Westwoods, Box Road, Bath BA1 7QE Tel: 859969

HON TREASURER

David Marles, 5 Westwoods, Box Road, Bath BA1 7QE Tel: 859969

CHAIRMAN of the TRUSTEES

Yvonne Morris, 3 Summerhill Road, Sion Hill, BA1 2UP. Tel: 425555

DIRECTOR of MUSIC

Mark Elliott, 32 Broadmoor Lane, Weston, Bath BA1 4JY Tel: 445360

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BATH

Sylvia Ayers, 5 Forester Avenue, Bath BA2 6QD. Tel: 463976

CHRISTIAN AID/CHILDRENS' SOC

Jenny Wright, First Floor Flat, 13 Moorland Road, Oldfield Park, Bath BA2 3PL.

JUNIOR CHURCH

Emma Elliott, 32 Broadmoor Lane, Weston, Bath BA1 4JY Tel: 445360

BOOKINGS AND CALENDAR

Patricia Adelman, 14 The Linleys, Bath BA1 2XE. Tel: 421178

USPG & MISSIONARY COMMITTEE

Adrian Pegg, 68 London Road West, Bath BA1 7DA. Tel: 858809

MOTHERS UNION BRANCH DEANERY

Margaret Burrows, Stonecroft, Entry Hill Drive, BA2 5NL. Tel: 334743

SECRETARY / TREASURER

Sylvia Ayers, 5 Forester Avenue, Bath BA2 6QD. Tel: 463976

MISSIONS TO SEAFARERS

Sylvia Ayers, 5 Forester Avenue, Bath BA2 6QD. Tel: 463976

ORGANIST

David Wrigley, 3 Haydon Gate, Radstock, BA3 3RB. Tel: 01761 439355

MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTOR

Cyril Selmes, 10 Daffords Buildings, Larkhall BA1 6SG. Tel: 420039

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

**The Editor would be grateful if contributors were to submit
articles by the 15th of the month preceding the
publication date.**