



## The floods: how we can help

*How we can help those affected by flooding in the South West*

**From Annie Gurner, Ilminster & Crewkerne Deanery Rural Advisor**

I hope that by the time you read this the floodwater in Somerset will have receded, but the consequences of flooding will be long-term, both in practical and emotional terms.

Despite having seen the TV footage and spoken to some farmers out there, I was shocked by the practical difficulty and time taken to cross to the island village of Muchelney. The fire service operating the shuttle boat across the 10-minute stretch of open water could not be more helpful, but it was sobering to see some of our fellow passengers – some in their 80s, wheelchair and pushchair users, struggling through deep water to board, and waiting up to 30 minutes in the bitter cold. Some had walked a mile to the nearest shop in Langport and were carrying their week's

groceries. Others were cutting short their working day because the boat can safely operate only in daylight.

All the “islanders” spoke of local kindnesses and community spirit, but also the daily struggle to manage in flooded properties: one mentioned having to wash the dogs’ feet four times a day to ensure they didn’t bring in diluted sewage, and of the influx and nuisance of rats to most dwellings. It was clear that the many small businesses were on their knees, and the people are tired – especially when the water is rising again...

The Somerset Community Foundation (01749 344949) is trying to co-ordinate offers and requests for help and is already distributing small grants to flood victims. Among the farming community there are now several initiatives: NFU South West will co-ordinate offers of livestock forage



Photo: [thetimes.co.uk](http://thetimes.co.uk)

# Flooding in Somerset: how we can help

and bedding; the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution, RABI (0300 303 7373) have grants available for farming families and workers; and Farming Community Network in Somerset, FCN (0845 367 9990) is working hard to provide responsive support on request.

I know most people just want to help – I have been encouraged by the offers of fresh fruit and vegetables, and hot meals, to be ferried across, and offers of respite accommodation are now coming in. You might also like to contribute financially:

- Somerset Community Foundation: you can text *Noah95* £10 (or lesser amount) to 70070, or give via the web site [www.justgiving.com/somersetcf](http://www.justgiving.com/somersetcf)
- RABI: [www.rabi.org.uk](http://www.rabi.org.uk)
- FCN: via [www.justgiving.com/fcn/donate](http://www.justgiving.com/fcn/donate) – mark donations “For Somerset Farmers”.

Another practical way to help is via prayer. Visit [www.bathandwells.org.uk](http://www.bathandwells.org.uk) to see prayer requests that the Diocese has received, or use these ideas:

*Dear Lord God,*

*We pray for the people of the Somerset levels affected by flooding;*

*We give thanks for the sense of community and generosity within the villages, and for the hard work of the emergency services to support stranded people.*

*We pray for all those who are isolated, feel abandoned and fearful about their homes; for immediate financial support for businesses facing severe economic hardship, and in particular the farmers; We pray for the recent promises of the government agencies to be delivered; For survival of young and vulnerable livestock, particularly lambs, and for the courage and stamina to continue working with livestock in such conditions, often in dispersed locations; For hope in the future, and in farming this land, when many are more than downhearted.*

*Finally, Lord, we pray for wisdom and compassion from all bodies in grant allocation, and for a dry Spring... Amen.*

**Editor’s note: see also the website of the Arthur Rank Centre, an ecumenical Christian charity founded in 1972 to be a focus and resource for the work of churches in rural areas. [bit.ly/arthurrank](http://bit.ly/arthurrank)**

## A Heart for Mission

*A Lent Bible Study Group at Christ Church*

What is mission? For many, mission is why the church is here, but defining it is more tricky. A Heart for Mission is a Bible study produced by Us (formerly USPG) giving everyone the opportunity to take a fresh look at mission and what it could mean. We’re going to be using that series of studies here at Christ Church to explore the themes of mission. It will be led by Heather Skull from Us, who you may remember talked to us about the work in Zimbabwe last December. The group will meet on Thursdays 6th, 13th, 27th March, and 3rd, 10th April. For more information, contact Brenda Wall.

## Works in progress

Want to find out more about the renovation proposals mentioned in last month’s Link? Come to an Open Day on Saturday 22 March at any time from 11am to 4pm – you’ll be able to view plans and drawings, speak to our architect, and make comments or ask any questions you may have.

Meanwhile, our bell restoration plans have passed the first stage of the Faculty process, the C of E equivalent of planning permission: the Diocesan Advisory Committee has decided to recommend the project. We next need to display a public notice (much like the notice that would be required as part of an ordinary planning application).

# The challenge: cut carbon for Lent

In recent years the six south-west dioceses have worked together on several initiatives to encourage and improve our care for God's creation. This Lent we are asked to honour the tradition of Lenten sacrifice by having a Carbon Fast in cooperation with Tearfund.

What is a Carbon Fast?

For Christians, Lent is the time when we reflect on Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness, where he faced challenge and temptation. We often use Lent to think on God's deeper purposes for us and to discipline ourselves by giving up (i.e. fasting from) something which we normally use or enjoy.

Lent 2014 is a timely opportunity to reduce our consumption of carbon-based fuels and, in so doing, take small steps towards a



more sustainable world, reflecting on the graciousness of God, who both created and walked upon this earth.

Tearfund have done this for some years and have provided material including daily suggestions for action, which can be emailed to individuals or provided in a booklet. Actions are themed for each week and come in the form of symbolic challenges, lifestyle prods, money-saving incentives, adventurous actions and prayer.

Why are we doing it?

We haven't been faithful stewards of God's creation. The Anglican Five Marks of Mission remind us that we're called to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth. This Carbon Fast is an opportunity to take simple actions that will have an impact on the well-being of the world.

To find out more, visit [www.thecarbonfast.org](http://www.thecarbonfast.org)

## CTB Central Group disbanded

*Notes from the meeting of Churches Together in Bath Central Group on Thursday 13 February at St. John's Church Hall, St. John's Road, Bathwick, chaired by Rev. Rachel Borgars.*

As this was the Committee's AGM, the official business was speedily dealt with, and the main part of the meeting was taken up with the decision as to whether this group should be closed. After some discussion, in the light of the changing face of CTB, it was decided to officially close down this Zone Group, and to designate one person as responsible for each future event. We will not meet formally in the future, but members plan to maintain contact through e-mails, and will hold a summer event in June.

The Chairman then issued this statement: "We recognise our commitment to the City of Bath, and we will continue to explore positive ways of working and building relationships in different ways between our

communities. We will support the Cross Walk Service in Abbey Churchyard, and ensure that our remaining event, the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service, will be organised by the District Executive. We give the circulation of the Travelling Light to the URC, who first created it. All our group assets will be transferred to the CTB Executive and our bank account will be closed."

Some future dates for your diaries:

4 March: The Prayer for the City. 7.30pm in Bath Abbey.

7 March: Women's World Day of Prayer. Service at Larkhall URC at 2pm.

22 June: Love Bath Workshop and Social, in and around Bath Abbey.

4 November: The Prayer for the City. 7.30pm in Bath Abbey.

There being no further business, the meeting then closed with the Grace.

**Sylvia M. Ayers, CTB Representative**

# Mothers' Union News

**Margaret Burrows & Sylvia M. Ayers write:**

As mentioned last month, Mothering Sunday in 2014 will be on March 30th, and by now we hope you have all received our booklets/catalogues and plan to support the "Make a Mother's Day" appeal for 2014. This month we are offering two different single Mothering Sunday cards at 70p each, two colouring cards, a selection pack of bookmarks and one single bookmark, and a Mothers "day" and a Fathers "day" card. We also have two Easter Cards depicting either daffodils or tulips, with each pack of five cards costing £2.25; two Easter Prayer bookmarks, priced at 20p and 25p; and one Easter Colouring Card for only 15p. These are all illustrated on the two colourful catalogue pages, which are now

on the MU Noticeboard. Please see Margaret or Sylvia if you would like more information about any of these.

Our six members would welcome more to the group, so if any ladies or gentlemen would like to join us, please see Margaret or Canon Angela today. We now have individual copies of the latest Mothers' Union Prayer, which members can take away for private use, and which will be used at our monthly Corporate Communion. We thank Cliff very much for finding this up-to-date version, and for taking the service in February while Angela was away. The next one will be in the Lady Chapel on Wednesday 12 March at 11am, and will again be followed by tea or coffee at the back of the church. Let us pray for better weather in the near future, so that more people will be able to attend this worthwhile service.

## The Real Easter Egg

Out of the 80 million Easter Eggs sold in the UK every year, the Real Easter Egg is unique: it's Fairtrade, gives money to charity and tells the Easter story. But supermarkets stock it in very limited numbers: as David Marshall from the Meaningful Chocolate Company explains, "Last year one national retailer ordered just 900 Real Easter Eggs for the whole of the UK. So we send hundreds of thousands of eggs to schools and churches that collect orders from their members and order directly from us online or through the post."

The Real Easter Egg has consequently become the UK's top-selling mail order egg, nearly £120,000 has gone to charity and, as David Marshall adds, "the core message of

the faith was also passed on."

There are three Real Easter Eggs in the range:

- The Original Real Easter Egg includes a 24-page Easter story book, a 125g Fairtrade milk chocolate egg and a 25g pack of organic Fairtrade milk chocolate Chunky Buttons. It's £3.99, part of which goes to Traidcraft Exchange.
- The Special Edition Real Easter Egg (£9.99) is made of Belgian Fairtrade milk chocolate. It comes with an olive wood holding cross from the Holy Land (made by a cooperative in Bethlehem), a simple Easter message card, a thick 180g chocolate egg and a 100g orange milk chocolate bar.
- The Sharing box (£19.99) is designed for services, assemblies and events. In the box are 20 6cm midi-milk chocolate eggs (20g) and 20 Easter story booklets.

Traidcraft and a number of independent retailers are stocking all three eggs. Tesco, Waitrose and Morrison's have the Original egg; Tesco also carries the Special Edition.

You can check which shops are stocking the egg or buy it at [www.realeasteregg.co.uk](http://www.realeasteregg.co.uk)



# Bishop's Message for March

*Are we all in this together?*

**From the Right Revd Peter Maurice,  
Bishop of Taunton**

As the credit crunch unfolded in 2009, I remember hearing Robert Peston on the BBC saying that whoever and whatever was to blame for the economic downturn, there was no denying its reality. Excessive lending exercised by some has led to others losing both home and jobs. "So", wrote Howard Jacobson in the Independent at the time, "who is finally going to say it: that there is such a thing as too much? Excess makes you ill. Your humanity goes after too much money. More importantly, the idea of a society for our mutual benefit goes", and that appears to be the case.

Although the rhetoric of the government has been "we are all in this together", those who rely on credit unions and food banks will tell a rather different story.

It is an interesting issue for our reflection as we move into the season we call Lent. Traditionally, it is a time of fasting and prayer, but for many of us, and I include myself, the fasting has become rather tokenistic; Lent lunches are rarely frugal in my experience! This year I have encouraged us to join in a carbon fast for Lent, and Jane Tibbs has produced a really sensible practical guide with ideas to try. (It was written with children in mind, but this adult has found it equally helpful!) Do contact Jane for a copy [e-mail [jane.tibbs@bathwells.anglican.org](mailto:jane.tibbs@bathwells.anglican.org) or see page 3 – Ed].

I have also been further challenged by the charity "Send a Cow", who are inviting people across the UK a little after Lent to live "below the line" on £1 a day between April 28th and May 2nd in order to deepen our understanding



*Bishop Peter dedicating the restored lanterns at Christ Church in November 2013.*

of the challenges faced by those who live in extreme poverty.

I am not one of those who look for the judgement of God when things are difficult, but given the context in which we are now living, perhaps we do have something to say about how we might live differently for the sake of humanity. At the heart of our life as community is the Eucharist. It is always more than a device to nurture our private, individual relationship with God. Indeed, as the couple who met the risen Jesus on the road to Emmaus did not recognise him until they broke bread together, perhaps we will not recognise him unless we break bread with each other until all are satisfied and none are in need.

*Extravagant God, lavishing your love  
on our poverty of heart,  
Inspire us to give without stint,  
To lose life that we might find it again  
So that humanity will be filled with the  
fragrance of your love  
Through Jesus Christ, who offers  
himself for us.*

**+ Peter Taunton**

## Christ Church milestones



Welcome to the newest member of the Christ Church family! Wilfred Robert Hardy Blazeby was baptised on 4 February. Congratulations to him, his parents Bryony and Adam, friends and family, and proud grandparents Sarah and Robin Kerr. On the same day we also congratulated Margaret Silver on a significant birthday ending in a zero (it would be indiscreet to specify which!).



*Buy a Mothering Sunday gift and help transform a life*

This Mothering Sunday, as you remember your mother, help the Mothers' Union to change the lives of people all over the world by buying a Make a Mother's Day gift. These include inspirational ethical gifts for mums from £4 to £100.

Your gift will do so much more than give a handout: our programmes aim to inspire disadvantaged mums by giving them the skills and confidence they need to achieve long-term sustainable change.

Order today at [www.makeamothersday.org](http://www.makeamothersday.org) or see the catalogue and display on the Mothers' Union noticeboard.

## This month's charity: Mothers' Union



*The loose collection in the plate on Sunday 9 March, plus an optional retiring collection for the rest of this month, will go to Mothers' Union.*

Founded in 1876, Mothers' Union is a Christian international family charity with over four million members dedicated to promoting marriage and supporting family life. It realises that the well-being of the family cannot be separated from the welfare of wider communities and therefore undertakes groundbreaking community work in over 83 countries. While members come from all denominations, Mothers' Union as an organisation is usually based in the context of the Anglican Church. Wherever they are in the world, members all strive towards one unified vision, that of a world where God's love is shown through loving, respectful and flourishing relationships.

Promoting social justice is key: speaking out on issues which adversely affect family life, common threads across different countries are gender equality, gender based violence, early marriage and tackling poverty. In the UK, Mothers' Union campaigns against the commercialisation and sexualisation of children; advocates the right to request flexible working for all employees and on parental leave.

The range and depth of work done by Mothers' Union far exceeds its founder Mary Elizabeth Sumner's original vision of a circle of prayer upholding family life. Yet prayer continues to be at the heart of the witness of members who in the Wave of Prayer maintain constant chain of intercession across global membership. Members continue to promote family life through parents' group work, marriage support and advocating for family-supportive policies while at the same time upholding families affected by poverty, homelessness, imprisonment, relationship breakdown and prison sentences. For more information, visit [www.mothersunion.org](http://www.mothersunion.org)

## 'From anecdote to evidence' - Church Growth research published

The Archbishop of Canterbury has said that "There is every reason to be hopeful about the future of the Church of England" as new research reveals churches across the country showing signs of growth in a variety of areas of church life from newly established congregations and churches to ancient Cathedrals and parishes.

The Faith in Research Conference was held in London to publish and disseminate the executive summary of an 18 month systematic multi-method study into Church Growth in the Church of England.

The research is published against a backdrop of decline of 9% in church attendance over the last decade and identifies factors associated with growth as well as identifying factors in churches which are showing numerical decline.

**More info at: [www.churchgrowthresearch.org.uk/](http://www.churchgrowthresearch.org.uk/)**

Key findings of the research include:

- Significant Growth Fresh expressions of Church (new congregations and new churches) with around 21,000 people attending in the 10 surveyed areas of the 44 Church of England Dioceses.
- Significant growth in Cathedrals, especially in weekday attendance. Overall weekly attendance grew by 35% between 2002-2012.
- Declining numbers of children and young people under 16 - nearly half of the churches surveyed had fewer than five under 16s.
- Amalgamations of churches are more likely to decline - the larger the number of churches in the amalgamation, the more likely they are to decline.

## Lent an "excellent" time to run Pilgrim course

Two new books in the Pilgrim series (@pilgrimcourse) were launched in February, as Bishops recommend Lent as an "excellent time" to use the latest resources. To encourage online discussion and story sharing, Church House Publishing will be supporting a twitter hashtag, #pilgrimprogress, throughout Lent.

The new materials, which cover the teachings in the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes, complete the first stage of the course which is intended to introduce newcomers to faith or for those affirming their faith.

The Bishop of Sheffield, Steven Croft said: "Pilgrim aims to be a rich resource for teaching and learning the Christian faith to enquirers and new Christians in every kind of parish. Christians began keeping Lent as a period of preparation for baptism for enquirers. Lent is an excellent time to offer a Pilgrim course to anyone wanting to explore the Christian faith for the first time."

**The Lent twitter campaign, #pilgrimprogress, will provide an opportunity for anyone on a course to tweet their progress and engage with the online community on Twitter.**

## Women Bishops: approval for July vote

Synod voted to pave the way for the legislative process on Women Bishops to be completed this year.

In a series of linked legislative and procedural items the Synod held four debates dealing with differing aspects relating to the process.

The first two debates covered the draft House of Bishop's Declaration, draft Resolution of Disputes Procedures Regulations; and with the Draft Bishops and Priest Measure and Draft Amending Canon No.33.

After debate, the revision stage for both the measure and the canon were completed in Synod without any amendments being made.

The Synod then gave consideration to the draft Act of Synod to rescind the Episcopal Ministry Act of Synod 1993.

The measure was accepted by Synod; and the amending Canon no.33 was passed by 304 votes

to 33 with 45 abstentions.

The final debate in this session was a procedural motion suspending Standing Order 90(b) (iii) so that the reference of the draft Measure and draft Canon to the Dioceses can be concluded within three months rather than six.

After debate the motion, requiring a 75% majority of the whole Synod, was approved by 358 votes to 39 with 9 abstentions.

The legislation now goes to the Dioceses for approval. Provided a majority approve it by the 22nd May deadline Synod will be able to hold the final approval debate in July. If passed, the legislation would then go to Parliament for approval and could be in force before the end of the year.

**Listen to an interview with Bishop James Langstaff on his reaction to proceedings here:**

**<http://bit.ly/1lvJCRL>**

## Action on Gender-based violence passed

A motion to act further to combat gender-based violence received overwhelming support by Synod.

A presentation to the Synod by Mandy Marshall, Co-Director of Restored, a coalition of organizations committed to ending gender-based violence was given prior to a debate.

In the presentation, Mandy Marshall called on Synod to urging the church to take seriously "the devastating issue of gender based violence."

She stated that ending "gender based violence is all of our responsibility" as she ran through a

range of ways in which the church can practically respond to the issue of ending gender-based violence.

Mr Philip Fletcher then moved the motion, inviting Synod "to take this opportunity for the Church of England to stand with the Provinces of the Anglican Communion, recognising our common life in Christ and our urgent desire to work towards a world free of gender-based violence."

**For more about the debate: <http://bit.ly/1b07T2k>**

## Motion calls for Girlguiding promise review

Synod approved a private members motion moved by Mrs Alison Ruoff on a new promise introduced by Girl Guides UK last September.

Synod voted in favour of an amended motion which calls for members to continue to be able

to "promise to love God when enrolled" and "commend a suggestion" for Girlguiding to allow members to preface their promise with "In the presence of God I make my Guide Promise".'

**For more on the debate: <http://bit.ly/1hior7m>**



## Synod commits to role in preventing dangerous climate change

General Synod voted in favour of a motion, brought by the Diocese of Southwark, which re-affirms the Church of England's commitment to play a leading role in the effort to prevent dangerous climate change, including through the Church's ethical investment activities.

The passing of the motion makes clear Synod's desire that the Church's National Investing Bodies continually ensure that their investment policies are 'aligned with the theological, moral and social priorities' of the Church on climate

change and will be reviewing organisational arrangements for co-ordinating and developing the Church's strategic and local response to climate change.

**For more information about the debate:** <http://bit.ly/1gyJzCC>

**To listen to an interview with Canon Giles Goddard:** <http://bit.ly/LUCJfG>

**For more information on the Church of England's national environmental campaign:** [www.shrinkingthefootprint.org.uk](http://www.shrinkingthefootprint.org.uk)

## Archbishop Justin gives Presidential address

In his presidential address to Synod, the Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby spoke of the need for "massive cultural change" within the Church of England so that people can flourish

together despite deeply held differences on issues such as sexuality and women bishops.

**For the full text, audio and video highlights:** <http://bit.ly/1cvkHHW>

## Pilling Report presentation

Sir Joseph Pilling, who chaired a report of the House of Bishops Working Group on Human Sexuality, gave a presentation on the process of working on the report. Following his presentation, Bishop Steven Croft spoke about the process

that will be used for taking forward facilitated conversations. Both then took questions from Synod members.

**For more information about the report:** <http://bit.ly/1c5KZUD>

## Approval given for draft legislation on Safeguarding

Synod voted that proposals for draft legislation to enable the CofE to deal more effectively with safeguarding issues be brought forward.

Synod voted last July to endorse work on legislative and non-legislative changes to enhance the Church's safeguarding arrangements following on from the Chichester Commissaries interim and final reports.

The proposals take into account not just the recommendations of the Commissaries but also other submissions made in the course of the Archbishops' Council's consultation. The intention is to introduce legislation this July.

The Bishop of Durham Paul Butler, Joint Chair of the Churches National Safeguarding Committee said: "This is just one step towards the Church making itself a safer place for all while acknowledging that effects of abuse on survivors can be lifelong. We can never be complacent and we continue to urge any victims or those with information about church-related abuse to come forward knowing that they will be listened to in confidence."

**The draft legislation is available here:** <http://bit.ly/1gDH80t>

**Listen to an interview with the Bishop of Durham here:** <http://bit.ly/1dkggD0>

## Archbishops visit African provinces

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York each visited East African provinces in February, with Archbishop Justin visiting South Sudan, Burundi, Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo; and Archbishop John Sentamu celebrating a centenary with the Diocese of Butere in Kenya.

Archbishop Justin and his wife Caroline met with fellow Primates of the Anglican Communion in the Eastern African churches as part of a plan to visit all of his fellow Primates during his first 18 months in office.

The Archbishop of York, John Sentamu visited the Archbishop of Kenya in the Diocese of Butere for a three day visit to celebrate the 100 years since the Gospel arrived in Butere. During the visit the Archbishop joined in part of the week-long programme of the celebrations, and gave a lecture on Evangelism and Social Action to clergy and lay ministers for the Diocese.

More info on each of the visits is available at:  
[www.archbishopofcanterbury.org](http://www.archbishopofcanterbury.org)  
[www.archbishopofyork.org](http://www.archbishopofyork.org)

## Churchcare events for clergy

This year ChurchCare will be running a series of one-day events designed to help clergy care for and develop their church buildings including *Getting the best out of your building*, and conferences on lighting in church buildings and improving the church visitor experience. *Getting the best out of your building* will give incumbents and curates a chance to consider the challenges of delivering mission within the envelope of a building which might be special for historical, architectural or community reasons, and will include presentations by clergy, seminars and Q&A sessions. Sessions will take

place in Blackburn on 17th March and St Albans in late September.

*Always Welcome* is a conference on 1st April at St Martin-in-the-Fields in central London that will examine ways of improving the experience of all those who visit, be they local residents, pilgrims or tourists.

Finally, a *Lighting Conference* at Manchester Cathedral on 7th May will bring together up to date knowledge and experience of lighting design and installation, energy efficient lighting solutions and effective controls.

**For further info:**

[www.churchcare.co.uk/about-us/our-events](http://www.churchcare.co.uk/about-us/our-events)

## New Church Legacy Website

The Church of England has launched its new Church Legacy website [www.churchlegacy.org.uk](http://www.churchlegacy.org.uk) with essential information for individuals considering leaving a “lasting gift” to their local church in their Will.

The website provides further information on leaving a legacy, example wording for your Will, and information for Solicitors and for PCCs. Church Legacy also shares parish stories where a legacy gift has helped transform a church's future.

**The website is available now:**

[www.churchlegacy.org.uk](http://www.churchlegacy.org.uk)

## Archbishop Sentamu welcomes Nick Baines as next Bishop of Leeds

“On behalf of the Crown Nomination Commission for this new Diocese of Leeds, and as Archbishop of York, I am grateful to Her Majesty the Queen for approving the nomination of Nicholas Baines for election as the first Bishop.

“Bishop Nicholas was the CNC's preferred candidate after prayerful-deliberations, and a rigorous short-listing and interview process.”

*Archbishop of York, John Sentamu*

**To read the full announcement:**

<http://bit.ly/1kRUc4Y>

# Christ Church calendar March 2014

<b>Mar</b>	<b>2</b>	Sun	<i>Sunday next before Lent</i> 4:30pm Choral Evensong
	4	Tue	<i>Shrove Tuesday</i> 6pm Pancakes – see weekly notice sheet for details
	5	Wed	<i>Ash Wednesday</i> 7:30pm Holy Communion, with Ashing
	6	Thu	A Heart for Mission Bible Study Group first meeting
	7	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am–1:30pm
	<b>9</b>	Sun	<i>First Sunday of Lent</i> 8am Holy Communion (BCP)
	11	Tue	12:30pm Lent Lunch at St Mary's RC Church
	12	Wed	11am Holy Communion
	14	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am–1:30pm
	<b>16</b>	Sun	<i>Second Sunday of Lent</i>
	19	Wed	<i>Joseph of Nazareth</i>
	20	Thu	Christ Church Trustees meeting
	21	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am–1:30pm
	22	Sat	Christ Church building proposals Open Day
	<b>23</b>	Sun	<i>Third Sunday of Lent</i> 8am Holy Communion (BCP)
	25	Tue	<i>The Annunciation</i> Christ Church Council meeting
	28	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am–1:30pm
	29	Sat	11:30am Laura Gabe's wedding
	<b>30</b>	Sun	<i>Fourth Sunday of Lent / Mothering Sunday</i>
<b>Apr</b>	2	Wed	11am Holy Communion
	4	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am–1:30pm
	<b>6</b>	Sun	<i>Fifth Sunday of Lent / Passion Sunday</i> 4:30pm Choral Evensong

# Prayer Cycle for March 2014

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<b>Saturday</b>	<b>1</b>	For those in hospital
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>2</b>	For Angela our Verger
<b>Monday</b>	<b>3</b>	For Julian House
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>4</b>	For those in the legal profession
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>5</b>	That we may have the spirit of penitence
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>6</b>	For Matthew who manages our website
<b>Friday</b>	<b>7</b>	For those who have been forced to flee their homes
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>8</b>	We give thanks for family and friends
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>9</b>	For our Diocese of Bath and Wells
<b>Monday</b>	<b>10</b>	For victims of violence
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>11</b>	For Sylvia and the Mothers' Union
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>12</b>	For those who work in medicine
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>13</b>	For our Bible study group, meeting tonight
<b>Friday</b>	<b>14</b>	For those who are finding it hard to earn a living
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>15</b>	For good relationships between the nations
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>16</b>	For the appointment of a new organist at Christ Church
<b>Monday</b>	<b>17</b>	For those who mourn
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>18</b>	For our armed forces and police
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>19</b>	For the mentally ill
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>20</b>	That we may work for the kingdom of heaven
<b>Friday</b>	<b>21</b>	For those who lack food, water or warmth
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>22</b>	For the Trustees of Christ Church
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>23</b>	For our Junior Church

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<b>Monday</b>	<b>24</b>	For shopkeepers and shop workers
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>25</b>	For our neighbours at St. Mary's Catholic Church
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>26</b>	For farmers
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>27</b>	For the elderly
<b>Friday</b>	<b>28</b>	For victims of natural disasters
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>29</b>	For those who work in the transport industry
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>30</b>	For new members to be added to Christ Church
<b>Monday</b>	<b>31</b>	We give thanks for the blessings of the past month

## Long-term Prayer List

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

Kay Clark  
 Rachel Sillett  
 June Metcalfe  
 May Palmer  
 Cyril Selmes  
 Ken Austwick  
 Marjorie Nicholson

Rowena Hall  
 David Ough  
 Ned Townshend  
 George and Sarah Dack  
 John Osborne  
 Joyce Fairburn  
 David Slater

**Want to add a name to the prayer list, either long-term or short-term, or remove one? Please use the lists at the back of the church, or let the Verger or one of the Churchwardens know.**

### 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](mailto:magazine@christchurchbath.org)

# Rotas for March 2014

*Readers and readings, Sunday 10am Eucharist*

	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
<b>2 March</b> 1st before Lent	<b>Martin Palmer</b> Exodus 24:12-18	<b>Daphne Radenhurst</b> 2 Peter 1:16-21	<b>Margaret Burrows</b> Matthew 17:1-9
<b>9 March</b> Lent 1	<b>Emma Elliott</b> Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7	<b>Jane Fletcher</b> Romans 5:12-19	<b>Morny Davison</b> Matthew 4:1-11
<b>16 March</b> Lent 2	<b>Malcolm Wall</b> Genesis 12:1-4a	<b>Mark Elliott</b> Romans 4:1-5, 13-17	<b>Margaret Heath</b> John 3:1-17
<b>23 March</b> Lent 3	<b>Rowena Hall</b> Exodus 17:1-7	<b>June Matthews</b> Romans 5:1-11	<b>Virginia Knight</b> John 4:5-42
<b>30 March</b> Mothering Sunday	(No reading)	<b>Sylvia Ayers</b> Colossians 3:12-17	<b>Penny Edwards</b> Luke 2:33-35
<b>6 April</b> Lent 5	<b>Brenda Wall</b> Ezekiel 37:1-14	<b>Sarah Cade</b> Romans 8:6-11	<b>Janet Mahto</b> John 11:1-45

*Laitly rota, Sunday 10am Eucharist*

	Chalice assistants	Sidespeople	Intercessions
<b>2 March</b>	June Matthews, Bob Siderfin	Morny Davison, Rowena Hall	Rebekah Cunningham
<b>9 March</b>	Janet Mahto, Clive Tilling	Ken Ayers, Sylvia Ayers	Mark Elliott
<b>16 March</b>	Jane Fletcher, Lewis Boyd	Margaret Silver, Jane Nicholson	Georgina Bowman
<b>23 March</b>	Andrew Sillett	Janet Mahto, Margaret Heath	Sarah Jones
<b>30 March</b>	Brenda Wall, Keri Chivers	Morny Davison, Andrew Sillett	Revd Cliff Burrows
<b>6 April</b>	Bob Siderfin, David Rawlings	Ken Ayers, Sylvia Ayers	Penny Edwards

# Who's who at Christ Church

*Who to contact, and how – those vital contact details*

**Priest-in-charge** Canon Angela Townshend  
01225 464194  
angela.townshend@christchurchbath.org

**Supporting clergy** Revd Cliff Burrows  
Preb Angela Berners-Wilson  
Canon Melvyn Matthews

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

**Churchwarden,  
Council Treasurer** Malcolm Wall  
01225 864933  
malcolm.wall@christchurchbath.org

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

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

**Lay Chair of Church Council** David Rawlings

**Secretary to Church Council** Brenda Wall  
01225 864933

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

**Safeguarding officer,  
Home Group leader** Lewis Boyd  
07739 989639  
lewis.boyd@christchurchbath.org

**Organist** *Position Vacant!*

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

**Pastoral care coordinator,  
Cedar Tree café** Keri Chivers  
01225 421265  
keri.chivers@christchurchbath.org

**Publicity coordinators** Matthew & Sarah Jones  
01225 443284  
sarah.jones@christchurchbath.org

**Junior Church,  
Laity rotas** Sarah Cade

**Prayer cycle** Virginia Knight

**United Society,  
Traidcraft stall** Rebekah Cunningham

**Mothers' Union** Margaret Burrows  
01225 334743  
Sylvia Ayers  
01225 463976

**Churches Together in Bath** Sylvia Ayers  
Margaret Heath  
01225 428272

**Mission to Seafarers** Sylvia Ayers

**Deanery Synod Reps** Morný Davison  
Andrew Sillett  
Brenda Wall

**Chairs of Committees  
& Working Groups**  
**Liturgy** Canon Angela Townshend  
**Buildings** Bob Siderfin  
**Outreach** Andrew Sillett  
**Hospitality** Angela Soboslay



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

# About Christ Church

*We're a liberal, inclusive and open church,  
seeking God through beauty in our worship, honesty  
in our faith and doubt, and support in our community*

Christ Church has an unusual history, out of which has developed a distinctive ministry. It was founded at the end of the 18th century by a group of socially concerned clergy and lay people for those excluded from worship through the system of pew rents. It was probably the first church in England since the Reformation to provide seating for all free of charge. Early supporters included: John Moore, the Archbishop of Canterbury; William Wilberforce, the great evangelical and campaigner against slavery; and Martin Stafford Smith, godfather of John Keble, a founder of the Oxford Movement.

Christ Church is not a parish church and does not have a full-time vicar. This has led to the development of a shared ministry where clergy and laity both make important contributions to worship and church life.

Christ Church is part of the Anglican diocese of Bath and Wells, although it still sits outside the normal Church of England parish system. We see ourselves as a traditional and liberal Anglican church. Worship is led by our clergy, and music is provided by our

robed choir and organist. There is the option of separate activities for children in Junior Church groups during our 10am Sunday service.

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

## Regular Sunday services

- 8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)  
*On the second and fourth Sunday of every month*
- 10am Sung Eucharist with Junior Church activities for children and young people  
*Every Sunday*
- 4:30pm Choral Evensong  
*Usually the first Sunday of every month, but see website or notice board for details*

Baptisms, marriages and funerals by arrangement – please contact us!



## Contacting us

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(answer phone)  
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Website: [www.christchurchbath.org](http://www.christchurchbath.org)

