



Building on the past for the future

From the priest-in-charge...

Revd Lore Chumbley writes:

In October, with Kara our curate and Jonathan, one of our churchwardens, I journeyed on pilgrimage to the holy island of Iona. Iona is an ancient site off the west coast of Scotland where the rocks are some of the oldest in the world and Christian worship dates back to the arrival from Ireland of Columba in 563 AD. Columba founded a community and built a small church, which was destroyed in 825 AD by Viking raiders. It was rebuilt in the 12th and 13th centuries by Benedictine monks and stood until it was dismantled in the Scottish reformation.

I would guess many of you spent childhood days exploring “bare ruined choirs” – ruins of monastic foundations – and wondering what they once looked like. In Iona you can see those ruins regenerated, because in 1938 George MacLeod, a Church of Scotland minister, rebuilt the abbey.

We pilgrims were able to worship daily in the reconstructed abbey, where original Celtic carvings are still in place from earlier buildings but modern masonry and a wooden roof keep out the elements. At the east end of the church, ferns are encouraged to cling to the internal walls, reminding us that Columba revered God’s creation.

In what feels like a modern parable, the group who rebuilt the abbey, working together summer after summer,

gradually became a worshipping community. They continued to meet even after they had returned to their “real” lives, and so the modern Iona Community was born. Now it stretches as a network of prayer throughout the world, committed to mission, social justice, healing, and worship.

On 5 November we celebrate our 225th anniversary with Bishop Ruth at a festal Eucharist to which we will welcome old friends of Christ Church, former clergy and the newest members of Christ Church. We too have a history and a network of friends and supporters. Our foundations, laid by Charles Daubeny and the founding Trustees in 1798, are solid. Like the Iona Community, we can look back to our past with gratitude and forward to the future with hope for the next two hundred and twenty-five years.



Lore, Jonathan, Kara and Kara's mum in front of the abbey on Iona. Photo courtesy of Lore.

Stamps for Seafarers

Sylvia Ayers writes:

As Christmas approaches, you will expect to receive a much increased post through your door, all suitably adorned with attractive Christmas stamps. Of course, the cards will find a ready home on your mantelpiece, but what about the envelopes? There is still a market for Christmas stamps, even when they have been used to post items to you. Please would you therefore cut AROUND the used stamps, leaving a two centimetre frame, and either pass them to me at Christ Church or leave them for me in the A pigeonhole at the back of the church (whilst it is still there). I can then send them on to the Missions to Seafarers office in London, who can sell them to collectors to raise funds.

My request for used stamps does continue throughout the year, so if you get any unusual picture stamps in your post, I will be very pleased to receive them from you at any time.

Christ Church 225



As part of the refurbishment of the west wall of the nave, the photos of past incumbents of Christ Church have been scanned and restored, repairing foxing, staining, fading and deterioration. New prints have been made on archival quality paper and mounted in new frames on the south wall (the Julian Road side), and the originals will be archived to preserve them for the future.

This month's charities

The loose collection on the second and fourth Sundays of the next two months – 12 and 26 November, then 10 and 24 December – plus other collections at services this month as notified will be divided between Julian House and The Genesis Trust. (Donations in collection envelopes will continue to go to Christ Church.)

As a Christian charity, Genesis works with local churches and volunteers in the wider community



in Bath and the surrounding area to help disadvantaged and vulnerable individuals and families to change their lives. Offering immediate practical help with food, clothing and furniture, as well as long-term opportunities, training and work experience, Genesis supports people on their journey from crisis to independence.

For more information on the charity's activities, visit <https://genesistrust.org.uk>. For more about its Christmas appeal, plus links to ways to donate and ways to buy the Genesis Christmas cards or Calendar, visit <https://genesistrust.org.uk/about/christmas-page>.

Julian House is a Bath-based charity working



across the South West supporting vulnerable and at-risk individuals including men, women and young people experiencing homelessness, women and children escaping domestic abuse, adults with learning difficulties and people who need support after leaving prison.

The charity says: "Homelessness doesn't take a break, especially during the festive season. For our Christmas appeal we want to raise awareness of the reason why the people we support have fallen into difficult circumstances. These can include domestic abuse, mental health issues, family breakdown, childhood trauma and addiction." Find out more or donate online at www.julianhouse.org.uk.

Curate's Corner

Revd Kara Maylor writes:

I pray you are all enjoying our beautiful city resplendent in its autumn colours. I and a number of our wonderful students were fortunate to go and see Will perform in the musical "9 to 5" at the University. In addition to being a talented organist he is also a gifted clarinet and saxophone player, and it was an entertaining and joyful evening. The next show is in March, so I will be sure to let people know if they want to join us next time.

I feel so privileged to have just returned from a wonderful pilgrimage to Iona. It is a beautiful and special place. I hope you enjoy the photos on this page, which give you a glimpse of the landscape. I know we are all looking forward to our great 225 celebration on Sunday and feel so thankful and blessed to be part of our Christ Church community.



Christ Church and the slave trade

Last month we reported that a new website, www.bathabbeymemorials.org.uk, gives details of Bath Abbey's memorial wall tablets and ledgerstones, telling the stories of the people they commemorate. Of the 1,500 memorials, at least 200 relate to the British Empire and colonialism from the 1600s onwards, and so have some connection with the slave trade.

Christ Church has few memorials, but we have been looking into our founders and early benefactors. *Simon Tatton-Brown writes:* We must acknowledge that, at the time of the

foundation of Christ Church, much of Bath's wealth derived, either directly or indirectly, from the trafficking and exploitation of enslaved people, including plantations across the Atlantic and shares in the companies that trafficked enslaved human beings. Although William Wilberforce was among the founders of Christ Church, his 1807 act abolishing the slave trade was still in the future when funds were raised in the 1790s, and it is inevitable that some of the funds donated ultimately derived from this source.

Joelle and Carol



Joelle Davies writes:

Carol Rice and I bonded many years ago at Christ Church once we discovered that she and Charles knew Antigua well and in fact always stayed at The Curtain Bluff Hotel there. My cousin Wendy has been a manager there for many years and, thanks to their regular visits, was also a friend of Carol and Charles. This summer when I went to see my family and get a dose of Caribbean sunshine and culture, Wendy organised for us to meet up with Carol. We met at the house that she and Charles had for many years been dreaming of, which is now under construction. Its view over Falmouth Harbour in the south of the island is stunning. After a tour we went for a sundowner overlooking the sea, then on to a restaurant nestled in the harbour, where we had a lovely dinner.

Carol was heading back to Canada to see her family. She is well but says she has her good days and bad days. Hopefully she will be coming to Bath again more often, as she was planning on selling their home in Dartmouth and making her England home here again.

Pilgrim Group meeting

A reminder that our Pilgrim Group meets on alternate Thursdays – this month, 9 and 23 November – at 7:30pm in the Lower Mews. We will continue looking at emerging monasticism using *The City is my Monastery* by Richard Carter and *Finding Sanctuary* by Christopher Jamieson. All are welcome!

Christmas invitation

Last December, thousands of churches extended “The Great Invitation” from the Church of England to *Follow the Star* to their local church in person once again. Helped, of course, by a return to a more normal Christmas, 2022’s *Follow the Star* saw significant growth in engagement across a wide range of indicators.

This year’s theme – *Follow the Star: Join the Song* – highlights how singing can help draw us closer to God and each other through the journey from Advent to Epiphany.

“The shepherds were astonished to find the night sky filled with angels singing God’s praise. And before long they were singing, too... Centuries later, singing is still central to how many of us celebrate Christmas.

“We invite you this Christmas to follow the star, journey to the manger, join the song and come into the presence of Jesus Christ.”

– Archbishops Justin Welby
and Stephen Cottrell

A range of resources is being prepared to help churches, choirs, singing groups, schools and communities to take part, including a Reflections Booklet, Prayer Bookmark, Family Prayer Card and Advent Calendar coming from Church House Publishing, plus family activities, pop-up nativity plan and online Advent reflections for all ages via the *Follow The Star* app (coming soon).

For more information, visit the website at <https://bit.ly/follow-the-star-2023>.



Bishop's Message for November

Time to re-member



**From the Rt Revd Ruth Worsley,
Bishop of Taunton**

I am shortly leaving Bath and Wells for a time to serve as interim Acting Diocesan Bishop in the Diocese of Coventry. You may know that the city of Coventry saw some very heavy shelling during World War II, which resulted in the destruction of the Cathedral. A new Cathedral has since been built and stands alongside the old ruin as a testament of hope. Though different in style, there's a harmony of old and new. It shows us where conflict can destroy, peace can be found as we seek to live together as the people of God.

This marrying of modern and traditional styles of architecture helps us to consider how we fashion the life we are called to live as Christians in our communities. It is not that we put aside our differences nor require others to

conform to our own shape or form.

Rather we recognise the value of listening fully to others and learn to hear the voice of God, determining to value the worth of each contribution and discerning together a faithful walk with God.

This season of Remembrance encourages us to look back and to value the contributions of those who have gone before us, giving their lives in the service of others. It is not about glorifying the concept of war and conflict but the desire to establish a peaceful world for all. As we look back, so we are invited to look forward and commit to establishing a world where all have a place and where the Prince of Peace, Jesus, is our example.

Coventry is home to the Community of the Cross of Nails, a community of reconciliation based around the cross fashioned by iron nails found within the ruins of the Cathedral following the fire. Its mission is to live out the practice of peace-building, encouraging people across the world to learn to be reconciled with themselves and one another, as they find reconciliation with God, through Christ.

As I leave here, I do so with plenty of memories, many happy, occasionally sad. Often the latter are those where I have got things wrong and failed to live up to my calling to be the grace-filled child of God I long to be. So, if I have let you down, I am sorry and please pray for me, as I will for you, that God continues to reconcile us to Himself and to one another.

And as we hold our acts of remembrance this month, may we become **re-membered** (put back together), as the people of God.

+Ruth Taunton

Book review: Red Notice

Red Notice, by Bill Browder (Corgi / Penguin Books, 2016, 480 pages. ISBN 978-0552170321). RRP £10.99 (available in paperback, in hard cover or on Kindle)

Simon Tatton-Brown writes:

What is evil? The prayer “deliver us from evil” trips off our tongue so easily, doesn’t it? But as so few of us experience evil directly, I suspect it’s a sentence in the Lord’s Prayer we give little thought to.

But we all know evil when we see it. I saw it when I read *Red Notice* by Bill Browder.

In November 2009, a young Russian lawyer called Sergei Magnitsky was beaten to death by eight police officers in a freezing cell in a Moscow prison. He had been investigating high-level corruption in the Russian Republic on behalf of Bill Browder, a London-based hedge fund manager. He had uncovered high-level corruption involving oligarchs, corrupt government officials, police, judges, prison staff and others. Magnitsky then had the courage to try to prosecute them in the Russian courts. In 2015 Bill Browder published Sergei Magnitsky’s story. He sheds a well-focused beam into the corruption of President Putin’s state.

The Salisbury poisonings took place three years after *Red Notice* was published. They show how the long arm of Putin’s state reaches

into western countries like ours.

Red Notice digs below the surface of the Russian state. It will tell you how Putin and his accomplices operate – the means they use to manipulate law, in-

timidate opponents, imprison them on trumped-up charges, and murder them. Sergei Magnitsky died and Bill Browder has been threatened because they had unearthed not only dates and events. They name people.

Sergei Magnitsky’s memory lives on in the so-called Magnitsky Acts and Magnitsky Sanctions enacted by the USA, the UK, the EU and other western nations. These laws and sanctions penalise Russian officials, politicians, businessmen and others who behave in such ways that led to Sergei Magnitsky’s death. Whether such measures are enough to deliver us from such evil remains to be seen, not least on the battlefields of Ukraine.

Coming events

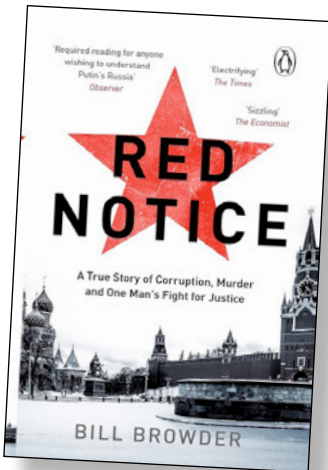
Bath Minerva Choir concert

What is it? Bath Minerva Choir (Gavin Carr, Conductor) presents “Across the Vast, Eternal Sky”, a concert of Scandinavian and British Choral Masterpieces including Elgar, Paul Mealer, Aulin, Ola Gjeilo, Sibelius and Paul Carr. Featuring Florian Störtz (Baritone), Mark Rogers (Piano), Steven Hollas (Organ/piano). More at www.bathminervachoir.co.uk.
When is it? Saturday 25 November, 7:30pm
Where? St Swithin’s Church, The Paragon, Bath
Tickets £20 / £15 (all seats unreserved), from Bath Box Office, bathboxoffice.org.uk or 01225 463362.

Pray for Bath



All are warmly invited to join Christians from across Bath to pray as one for our city and the surrounding area, for our neighbours and our communities, in Bath Abbey at 7:30pm on Tuesday 7 November, followed by refreshments and fellowship.



Christ Church calendar Nov. 2023

1	Wed	<i>All Saints Day</i>	
2	Thu	11am Eucharist	
3	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm	
5	Sun	<i>All Saints / The Fourth Sunday before Advent</i> 10am Festal Eucharist for Christ Church's 225th anniversary	
7	Tue	<i>225th anniversary of the consecration of Christ Church</i>	
9	Thu	11am Eucharist Pilgrim Group meeting, 7:30pm	
10	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm	
12	Sun	<i>Remembrance Sunday / The Third Sunday before Advent</i> 8am Holy Communion (BCP) 10am Eucharist	
16	Thu	11am Eucharist	
17	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm	
19	Sun	<i>The Second Sunday before Advent</i> 10am Eucharist 4:30pm Choral Evensong	
23	Thu	11am Eucharist Pilgrim Group meeting, 7:30pm	
24	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm	
26	Sun	<i>Christ the King</i> 10am Eucharist 5pm Iona Contemplative Service	
30	Thu	<i>Andrew the Apostle</i> 11am Eucharist	
Dec	1	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm
	3	Sun	<i>The First Sunday of Advent</i> 10am Eucharist

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

Got an event you want to let everyone know about? Send an e-mail with all the details to magazine@christchurchbath.org.
For the weekly notice sheet, e-mail notices@christchurchbath.org

Prayer Cycle for November 2023

Wednesday	1	For peace
Thursday	2	For our link Dioceses in Zambia
Friday	3	For those who have been forced to flee their homes
Saturday	4	For the mentally ill
Sunday	5	We give thanks for 225 years of ministry at Christ Church
Monday	6	For architects and designers
Tuesday	7	For countries which have experienced storms and flooding
Wednesday	8	For those who organise and attend events at Christ Church
Thursday	9	That we may be good stewards of creation
Friday	10	For those finding it hard to earn a living
Saturday	11	For the elderly
Sunday	12	For Kara our Curate
Monday	13	For our government and politicians
Tuesday	14	We give thanks for artists, poets and musicians
Wednesday	15	For those who live and work in the streets around Christ Church
Thursday	16	For our charity of the month
Friday	17	For carers
Saturday	18	For countries in conflict
Sunday	19	For our Local Ministry Group partners
Monday	20	For those who work in social services
Tuesday	21	For our Church Council
Wednesday	22	That we may have the gift of faithfulness
Thursday	23	For Christian unity

Friday	24	For victims of violence
Saturday	25	For our bell-ringing team
Sunday	26	For Churches, Cathedrals and communities named Christ Church
Monday	27	For those who teach
Tuesday	28	For those on our long-term prayer list
Wednesday	29	For those recently baptised or preparing for baptism
Thursday	30	We give thanks for beauty in the world around us

Long-term Prayer List

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

Chris
David
Hui Tao Ling
Jean and John
Joyce K
John and Sheila
Kat
A J Kninchi
Roger and Francis
Evelyn
Mary Elizabeth Bull
Natalia Bull
Sheila
Win
Jon and family

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

Cedar Tree is open

The Cedar Tree community café is open every Friday from 11am to 1:30pm. All are welcome! If you live or work in the area, do consider dropping in for a chat, a cup of coffee, home-made cake or a light snack, to support this important part of our outreach to the local community. If you can help on a Friday or make a cake we can sell, then please contact Jenny Hesketh. Your offers will be very gratefully received.



Rotas for November 2023

Readers and readings, Sunday 10am Eucharist

	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
5 Nov All Saints / Festal Eucharist	TBC Revelation 7:9-end	Nick Wells 1 John 3:1-3	Tim Jones Matthew 5:1-12
	Intercessions: Peter Bowes		
12 Nov Remem- brance / 3rd before Advent	Emma Elliott Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16 or 6:17-20	Kara Maylor 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	Morny Davison Matthew 25:1-13
	Intercessions: Jonathan Stead		
19 Nov 2nd Sunday before Advent	Jane Hoe Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18	Isobel Powell 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11	Brenda Wall Matthew 25:14-30
	Intercessions: Georgina Bowman		
26 Nov Christ the King	Beryl Bowes Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24	Rachel Preston Ephesians 1:15-23	Simon Tatton- Brown Matthew 25:31-46
	Intercessions: Mark Elliott		
3 Dec First Sunday of Advent	Judith Anderson Isaiah 64:1-9	Marcus Bull 1 Corinthians 1:3-9	Malcolm Wall Mark 13:24-37
	Intercessions: Simon Tatton-Brown		

Who's who at Christ Church

Priest-in-charge	Revd Lore Chumbley 07595 294146 lore.chumbley@me.com	Organist and Assistant Director of Music	David Winters david.winters@christchurchbath.org
Curate	Revd Kara Maylor	Deanery Synod Reps	Brenda Wall Pauline Swaby-Wallace
Supporting clergy	Revd Canon Simon Tatton-Brown 01225 835404 simon@tattonbrown.myzen.co.uk	Christ Church Link editor	Alex Soboslay 07769 655927 alexs@christchurchbath.org
	Revd Beryl Bowes Revd Dr Peter Bowes	Tower Captain, Ringing Master	Will Willans
Reader, Director of Music	Mark Elliott 01225 445360 mark.elliott@christchurchbath.org	Tower Secretary	Maggie Willans 07773 244024 maggiewillans@hotmail.com
Churchwarden	Jane Nicholson 07990 552413 jane@janemnicholson.com	Steeple Keeper	David Kelly
Churchwarden	Jonathan Stead jonathanstead20@gmail.com	Cedar Tree café organiser	Jenny Hesketh jenny.hesketh@me.com
Verger	Angela Soboslay 01225 333297 angela.soboslay@christchurchbath.org	Junior Church	Emma Elliott
Chair of Trustees	Nick Wells 07774 104584 nicholaswells5@btinternet.com	Laity rotas	Judith Bishop
Treasurer	Zoë Bushell zoe.bushell@christchurchbath.org	Prayer cycle	Virginia Knight
Event/concert bookings, weekly notice sheet	Judith Bishop 01225 858816 concerts@christchurchbath.org notices@christchurchbath.org	Charitable Giving co-ordinator	Jonathan Stead
Safeguarding officer	Virginia Knight 07896 916840 christchbathsafeguarding@gmail.com	Mission to Seafarers	Sylvia Ayers

Christ Church Link

This magazine is published on the first Sunday of each month. Please send any contributions of news and articles by the 15th of the preceding month to the editor, Alex Soboslay, or by e-mail to magazine@christchurchbath.org



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

About Christ Church

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

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

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

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

organist. New singers of all ages are always very welcome.

For anyone still concerned about the health risks of congregational singing, we do not sing at the 8am BCP Communion or 5pm Quiet Service.

As well as worship on Sundays and Thursdays, there are many other activities going on in our community, including our weekly community café every Friday. Our ecumenical Pilgrim Group provides a space for exploration and discussion of faith in an open and non-judgemental setting. Visit the website to check service times and events.

Regular Sunday services

- 8am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) – *On the second Sunday of every month*
- 10am Sung Eucharist with Junior Church activities for children and young people – *Every Sunday – also streamed at www.facebook.com/christchurchbath*
- 4:30pm Choral Evensong – *Usually on the third Sunday of each month*
- 5pm Contemplative Quiet Service (Iona) – *On the fourth Sunday of every month*

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

Contacting us

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(answer phone)
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