

# Split over same-sex marriage

Anglican Communion avoids schism... by formalising division

The Anglican Primates, the senior bishops of the 38 Anglican Provinces worldwide, met for a week in mid-January to formulate a response to the decision last year by the Episcopal Church, the US branch of Anglicanism, to conduct same-sex marriages. They declared that the Episcopalian position is "a fundamental departure from the faith and teaching held by the majority of our Provinces on the doctrine of marriage.

"The traditional doctrine of the church in view of the teaching of Scripture," the Primates stated, "upholds marriage as between a man and a woman in faithful, lifelong union. The majority of those gathered reaffirm this teaching."

By unilaterally changing its teaching, the Episcopal Church has departed from "the mutual accountability and interdependence implied through being in relationship with each other in the Anglican Communion," the Primates



Anglican Primates at Canterbury Cathedral, 14 January 2016. (Photo: www.primates2016.org)

said. "Such actions further impair our communion and create a deeper mistrust between us."

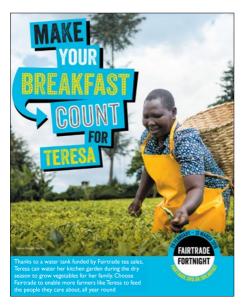
Accordingly, while declaring that "it is our unanimous desire to walk together," the Primates "formally acknowledge this distance" by barring the Episcopal Church from representing the Anglican Communion on ecumenical and interfaith bodies, serving on standing committees within the Communion, or taking part in "decision-making on any issues pertaining to doctrine or polity."

The Archbishop of Canterbury later emphasised that the three-year ban is a "consequence" of the Episcopal Church's unilateral action, not a punishment. The Episcopal Church had made a change to a "basic understanding of doctrine, ahead of the rest of the Communion and without consultation," he said. "We are not sanctioning them. We do not have the power to do so. We simply said, if any province, on a major issue of how the Church is run or what it believes, is out of line, there will be consequences in their full participation in the life of the Communion."

The Primates added that they "condemned homophobic prejudice and violence and resolved to work together to offer pastoral care and loving service irrespective of sexual orientation. The Primates reaffirmed their rejection of criminal sanctions against same-sexattracted people.

"The Primates recognise that the Christian church and within it the

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## Sit down for breakfast, stand up for farmers

Millions of farmers and workers in developing countries work hard to grow the food we eat. Yet many don't earn enough to know where their next meal is coming from, and about 795 million people are undernourished globally. If we all started our day with Fairtrade, many more could feed the people they care about. Will you help us get as many people as possible to eat a Fairtrade breakfast in your community during Fairtrade Fortnight, from 29 February to 13 March 2016?

When people are paid a fairer price, they can have more control over their lives when times are hard, and worry less about how they will feed their families. Whether it's the extra cash in their pockets or being able to expand their farms to grow more food to eat, Fairtrade means many farmers and workers are able to fulfil a basic human need - to put enough food on the table for the people they care about, all year round.

For more details about the campaign, visit fairtrade.org.uk/breakfast

## Coming events

#### Bach complete organ works recital 8

What is it? Chorale Preludes for Lent and Passiontide. The eighth in the bi-monthly series of organ recitals surveying the complete organ works of IS Bach over six years, played by Matthew Owens (Organist and Master of the Choristers, Wells Cathedral). For details visit wellscathedral.org.uk When is it? Thursday 10 March, 1:05-1:40pm Where? Wells Cathedral, BA5 2US Admission free; retiring collection in aid of Wells Cathedral Music

#### Installation of Priest-in-Charge

What is it? The licensing and installation of Revd Lore Chumbley as Priest-in-Charge of Christ Church.

When is it? Saturday 12 March, I Iam Where? Christ Church

#### **Palm Sunday: St Mark Passion** (John Joubert)

What is it? This major new setting of the St Mark Passion by John Joubert is given its World Premiere by Wells Cathedral Choir, within a service, on the day of the composer's 89th birthday. With Wells Cathedral Choir, Richard May (cello), Jonathan Vaughn (organ), Matthew Owens (conductor). For details visit wellscathedral.org.uk or call Wells Cathedral Shop Box Office (01749 672773) When is it? Sunday 20 March, 3pm-4pm Where? Wells Cathedral, BA5 2US Admission free: retiring collection in aid of Wells Cathedral Music

#### **Christ Church Annual General Meeting**

What is it? Our AGM, to receive reports on the past year's activities, elect members of the church Council, etc. Please note new date. When is it? Sunday 24 April 2016, I Iam (after 10am Eucharist)

Where? Christ Church

All are welcome to attend, but in order to vote you must be on the church electoral roll. If you're uncertain whether you are, contact our electoral roll officer, Judith Anderson.

## Mothers' Union report

#### Sylvia Ayers writes:

This report is a summary of what your Mothers' Union ladies have been up to during 2015. We began the year with six paid-up members, three of whom subscribed to the MU "Families First" Magazine, but sadly both numbers were reduced when Canon Angela left us. During her time with us, we had several meetings at her home, and also some midweek Communions, but since her departure these have all ceased.

Financially, we are "solvent" and have been able to carry out some projects during the year. We have managed to collect and distribute a total of £202.25, which includes £80.00 from the Christ Church congregation for our Overseas Appeal in June, and six ladies bought a total of 51 items from our Christmas Catalogue. In addition to this, in November we also gave away 75 much-needed items to the Bath Women's Refuge.

At present we are soldiering on with a reduced and fairly elderly membership, carrying on with only the basic projects which have been in place for some time. We really need a dynamic new younger leader to come forward to put some fresh life into the Branch, the way that Angela tried to do. With the prospect of a new vicar at the helm, there is a possibility that our numbers will increase, and maybe we can really hope for an active Group in the future.

Sylvia Ayers (Branch Treasurer)

## Same-sex marriage

▶ Anglican Communion have often acted in a way towards people on the basis of their sexual orientation that has caused deep hurt. Where this has happened they express their profound sorrow and affirm again that God's love for every human being is the same, regardless of their sexuality, and that the church should never by its actions give any other impression."

#### Last month in Christ Church



Saturday 9 January saw the largest event that Christ Church has held for some time, when almost 400 people attended a Toppings book signing with Ruby Wax.



On Thursday 14 January a funeral service and burial took place at Haycombe for Arthur Dilwyn Jones, who had died peacefully in his sleep on Wednesday 23 December aged 86. Arthur (as we knew him; apparently his family called him Dilwyn) was a regular at our 8am Eucharists.

## Ecumenism flourishes at Christ Church

#### Margaret Heath, Christ Church rep to Churches Together in Bath, writes:

It was a delight to welcome members of other churches in the area of different denominations to our Advent Carols and to include our Roman Catholic friends from St Mary's at our Christmas Carol Service. Father Jeremy played an active part and the church was wonderfully full for the latter.

Tributes to our music and thanks flowed at our CTB north east region meeting today, 13 January. Our Chairman, who had missed the Advent carols as she had flu, begged to be invited this year. I said all were most welcome and thanked Pam Cavallini for her help.

We also reviewed the talk given on "invisible refugees"; it had clashed with other events and been on a day of torrential rain but money was raised for a good cause. Carols at Larkhall had gone well; we had very short notice of this.

Looking ahead, a number of our participating churches had planned or were planning Lent Courses. It is just too complicated to attempt to set out who is studying what, where, when. I suggest you google the different churches or, if you are digitally disadvantaged, as they say, ring a church office. You may find just the topic you wish at place and time convenient to you.

The preparatory meeting for WWDP (Women's World Day of Prayer) is to be held at Larkhall URC at 2pm on Friday 5 February and the actual day is Friday 4 March, 2pm,

same venue, all welcome. The Christians of Cuba have prepared the programme this year.

Our Larkhall festival is to be on Sunday I May, with bring-your-own picnic from 12.30 and event starting at 2pm in Alice Park. A small group will plan this event, to include Philip Hawthorn it is hoped. We plan to go to Woolley again, if invited, and to a Harvest Festival - and have carol services (see above).

Several of us think we are getting old and should retire. A morning meeting is not suitable for the working young nor the hands-on grandparents and it was discussed whether we should let small ad-hoc groups run events and meet less frequently. We all like each other's company but think we could go on too long. We decided we could delay our next gathering until September, when we could meet at St Saviour's.

That church has raised the fine total of £328,000 in donations and pledges, so building works are going ahead! Temporary homes have been found for all but the Brownies. Nexus Methodists were excited to be hosting "Any Questions", which will have taken place by the time you read this. Larkhall URC had so far only £20,000 and needed more to start alterations. Swainswick was positive as ever. St Stephen's has changed its entry criteria for the church school; a letter of support is no longer needed, I understand. And you can imagine how happily I reported the news from Christ Church, circulating the photograph of Lore.

## Bath Deanery Confirmations 2016



This year's Confirmation service for the Bath Deanery will take place at 7pm on Tuesday 9 February at St Bartholomew's Church, I King Edward Road, Oldfield Park BA2 3PB. This year there are no Confirmation candidates from Christ Church, but we are all invited to this short service to show our support and welcome those being confirmed from our sister churches in the area.

# Bishop's Message for February

The message of hope for the world



#### From the Rt Revd Peter Hancock, Bishop of Bath and Wells

As the new year gets underway, so our thoughts turn to springtime and new growth. Even in the midst of a wet winter and the sometimes seemingly relentless flow from news channels of strife between nations and stories of sadness for individuals, we look forward in hope.

Hope is a peculiarly Christian virtue which St Paul puts alongside faith and love, and it's a mindset for everyday life, not just for the afterlife. Our trust is in the promises of Christ that this life is

not the end, but those same promises can also renew us daily. The world is God's good gift and we are a special and much-loved part of it – individually and collectively. Shaping our future is a part of what following Christ is all about.

As I write I am preparing for a Bishop's Staff residential at Abbey House. We will meet in a spirit of prayerful reflection, seeking wisdom in the quiet and listening carefully for the voice that calls us and compels us to action. We are looking for ways to grow the church and to shape the future of what "church" means in this part of the world. We will be rejoicing in all that we have and love, and looking forward to see where the Lord is leading us. Seeking prayerfully and carefully to the call and leading of the Holy Spirit will be at the heart of all we will discuss together.

At the heart of our faith is the call to worship God, to proclaim Christ, to make disciples, to serve our communities and to further the Kingdom. The words Sumorsæte ealle (all the people of Somerset) come from the County motto. God's love is for "all the people of Somerset" and it is our task to be channels of that love.

As 2016 unfolds may it bring you much joy as we continue to put our faith and trust in Christ.

With warm Christian greetings,

+Peter Bath and Wells

#### Reconnect with God's Earth

The Psalms tell us how the fields, trees and mountains also express God's glory, and lesus reminds us how the birds of the air and the lilies of the fields are equally a part of God's plan. This Lent (10 February to 26 March) we can deepen our love of God and appreciate and protect the planet for the future.

EcoChurch Southwest is combining spirituality with direct action. Daily e-mails with bible readings, reflections and practical ideas will heighten awareness of the web of life and our interconnectedness with all things. In particular there will be encouragement to use our senses more to recognise God in the very breath of life, in the garden, through streams and rivers, stars and flowers. Sign up on the website: ecochurchsouthwest.org.uk



#### Pilgrim Group continues

How should Christians behave and how should we live? Our Pilgrim Group is continuing its exploration of the Christian faith using the Church of England Pilgrim course, this term focusing on the Commandments.

- Rest: Thursday 4 February. Further explore the theme of reverence in the third commandment and the linked theme of rest and the Sabbath in the rhythm of our lives.
- · Respect: Thursday 18 February. Focussing on the honour shown within the family and respect for the sanctity of life.
- Righteousness: Thursday 3 March. Looks at the commandments about adultery and theft and their implications for our daily lives.
- · Reliability: Thursday 17 March. What are the dangers of dishonesty and covetousness? This session looks at the damage they may cause.

Meetings are held on Thursdays at 7:30pm at the home of Beatrice Varma, 21 Richmond Place, Bath BAI 5PZ, phone 01225 420491.

# Local Ministry Group weekend away 2016

We are invited to a church weekend away with our Local Ministry Group partners from St Stephen's, Lansdown, and St Mary's, Charlcombe. It's on Friday 23rd to Sunday 25th September 2016 at Lee Abbey in Devon.

Lee Abbey is a Christian conference, retreat and holiday centre on the dramatic North Devon coast. The 280-acre estate is located in the beautiful Exmoor National Park.

The weekend will include a programme of activities and workshops; opportunities for worship, quiet times and pastoral care; lively youth and children's ministry; entertainment

and leisure time. It is an occasion for renewal, and for strengthening our relationships with one another and with God.

The cost - including accommodation, all meals and use of facilities - is around £150 per adult, with reduced rates for children, but please talk to one of the churchwardens if you wish to come but the cost is an obstacle.

There's more information on the noticeboards at the back of church. We are asked to sign up in order to confirm numbers and secure our booking. For information about Lee Abbey, see http://leeabbey.org.uk/devon



# THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND INFOCUS

February 16 Welcome to the latest edition of *InFocus*. Our aim is to help you keep in touch with the activities of the National Church Institutions. Do have a look at *InReview*, our sister publication, designed as an A3 version for notice boards.

## Archbishop of York's 6-month Pilgrimage continues

The Archbishop of York is continuing on his Pilgrimage of Prayer, Witness and Blessing across the Diocese of York, which is due to finish in May 2016.

Archbishop Sentamu said, "My prayers have led me to this pilgrimage. St Paulinus, St Aidan, St Cuthbert and St Hilda of Whitby in their time shared the good news of Jesus Christ with the people of the North. Praying for those who come to know Christ is a great privilege and a joy. During this pilgrimage, I would like to encourage everyone I meet to commit themselves afresh to try praying, be open to encountering Jesus Christ, pray for a mighty outpouring of the Holy Spirit, and receive the gift of the joy provided by Jesus Christ – and be thankful. Pray with me, and join me on the road!"

Another visit this month included Helmsley, where he toured the town's Walled Garden and to find out more about the garden's work as a social enterprise, supporting vulnerable adults through the provision of horticultural therapy, funded through tourism, and the work the garden does in the wider community, such as supporting school projects and working with fledgling entrepreneurs to sell their products in its shop.

Mike I'Anson, garden manager at Helmsley Walled Garden, said: "It is a real honour to welcome Archbishop Sentamu to Helmsley Walled Garden and to share with him our work supporting vulnerable adults through horticultural therapy and our social commitment to the wider community in Ryedale."

Rev. Tim Robinson, the Rural Dean of Northern Ryedale and Vicar of All Saints Church in Helmsley, added: "The Archbishop of York is visiting the whole of Northern Ryedale...and will be walking through Southern Ryedale in the next few weeks. Helmsley Church is delighted to be working in partnership with Helmsley in Business and we are glad to be celebrating this with Archbishop Sentamu."

Archbishop Sentamu began his Pilgrimage at Whitby last December and has since journeyed through Guisborough, Middlesbrough, Stokesley, Mowbray and Northern Ryedale. His Pilgrimage will finish in York Minster on Trinity Sunday (22 May 2016).

For the opportunities to walk with the Archbishop, to pray with him and to follow and share in his journey, please visit pilgrimage.archbishopofyork.org

## Church Urban Fund fasting for Lent

Congregations are being invited to take part in a new Church Urban Fund campaign encouraging people to take up a fasting challenge this Lent in solidarity with people who struggle to put food on the table.

The CUF Give it Up for Lent campaign is inviting congregations and individuals to take part in some form of fasting during the Lenten season including giving up a meal on Fridays or hosting a frugal lunch.

Youth groups are also being encouraged to consider the possibility of doing a 24-hour fast from breakfast on a Saturday and ending with a shared breakfast on Sunday morning before a main morning service in church.

The campaign aims to draw inspiration from the ancient Christian tradition of fasting during Lent with the money saved or raised donated to CUF's work tackling poverty and social exclusion in England.

The campaign by CUF, the Church of England's poverty charity, comes after joint research was published last year showing that two thirds, or 66%, of Church of England churches are involved in running food banks.

Support from churches includes collecting food, providing volunteers and offering premises as well as helping to manage the food banks, according to the joint study from the Church of England and CUF.

The cross-party Feeding Britain inquiry, cochaired by the Bishop of Truro Tim Thornton, and updated in December has shown that the number of people relying on food parcels remains at a level previously unseen since the Second World War.

17% of Anglican churches are also involved in helping support the growth of credit unions, in many instances through the Church Credit Champions Network.

Paul Hackwood, executive chair of CUF, said:

"The Give it Up for Lent campaign is firmly rooted in the Christian tradition of prayer and fasting during the Lenten season as a way of drawing closer to God and preparing for Easter.

"We hope that congregations will use this opportunity to show solidarity with the poorest and most marginalised as well as raise money for those who struggle to put food on the table."

For more details of how to take part as well as prayer and worship resources see www.cuf.org.uk/giveitupforlent

## The Joy of the Gospel - New Lent study guide now available

Explained as a six-week study in sharing faith and written by Paula Gooder, this course is based on Pope Francis' much acclaimed reflections on mission and evangelism, Evangelii Gaudium, widely recognised as being full of realistic wisdom and infectious enthusiasm for reaching out to others.

The Joy of the Gospel will help parishes and Lent groups rediscover the joy of encountering Jesus and the transformation that occurs when his good news is communicated in the world today.

Each session includes prayer, a guided refletion on a Bible passage, and an opportunity to explore a key theme of sharing faith, such as working together, the role of the Holy Spirit, and the social justice dimension.

Paula Gooder is an internationally known writer, speaker, educator and broadcaster and is closely involved with Anglican - Roman Catholic relations at the international level.

You can order the study guide online at bit.ly/JoyGospel

## Church urged to work with local councils in celebration planning HMQ90

Churches have been encouraged to partner with their local council as they plan festivals, special services or exhibitions over the weekend of 11th and 12th June as part of the national celebration of Her Majesty The Queen's 90th Birthday.

Sir Tony Baldry, Chair of the Church Buildings Council said, 'The Church of England is a presence in every community, Her Majesty is the head of our Church and so it makes perfect sense that celebrations in the local church should be at the heart of wider community plans. This is a great opportunity for partnership between church and local government to pool resources and ideas to create really special events that will bring people of all faiths and none together to give thanks for the decades

of service she has given us and to celebrate this special birthday.'

Councils have begun to advertise community celebrations on their websites and some have indicated that road closures will be possible for residents planning street parties.

Church of England schools are holding a competition to design a logo that churches will be able to use for their events which will be available to download from the Church Care website.

Churches are encouraged to register their plans by emailing queensbirthday@churchofengland.org and tweeting using #HMQ90.

Advice and resources for planning events can be found at bit.ly/HMQ90

## Bishop of Leeds speaks in House of Lords on flood management

Bishop Nick Baines led a debate in the House of Lords on the government's long term strategy for flood management:

The Bishop of Leeds asked Her Majesty's Government how they intend to review their long term strategy for flood management, particularly in rural areas that do not qualify for large-scale flood defences

He began by commenting on some of the experiences in his own Diocese: "It is important to note the destructiveness of recent flooding given that the news agenda moves on very quickly and communities that found themselves at the heart of a sympathetic nation quickly feel themselves to be forgotten. For some of the communities in my own diocese the recent floods come in the wake (almost literally) of other occurrences in recent years, and for them the need for longer-term and more joined-up measures is obvious.

To read Bishop Nick's whole speech by visiting bit.ly/NickHOLFloods

For more about the contribution that the Church makes in the Houses of Parliament: www.churchinparliament.org

## Publication of pilot audits in safeguarding arrangements

The outcomes of four pilot independent audits into safeguarding arrangements in the Church of England have been published today.

The dioceses of Blackburn, Durham, Portsmouth and Salisbury all volunteered to be part of the House of Bishops commissioned project to take a look at current safeguarding practice. The audits will now be rolled out across all other Church of England dioceses during 2016/17.

The independent audits were carried out by The Social Care Institute for Excellence, SCIE, a charity and leading improvement support agency specialising in safeguarding. SCIE has pioneered a particular collaborative approach to conducting case reviews and audits in

child and adult safeguarding called Learning Together focusing on the reasons why things go well, the cause of any problems and solutions.

The audit process in each diocese involved examination of safeguarding leadership arrangements, local policies and practice guidance, the quality of case work, recruitment and training. The auditors also looked at the progress being made in reaching nationally agreed standards informed by central House of Bishops approved policies.

For more information, visit bit.ly/SafeguardingPilot

## Consultation on the Church Buildings Review open for feedback

Comments are currently invited on a Church Buildings Consultation Report published on 13 October 2015. The report was jointly commissioned by the Church Commissioners and Archbishops' Council and produced by a working

group chaired by the Bishop of Worcester (lead bishop on church buildings). The report is available to download online and comments are invited by emailing Andrea Mulkeen by 29 January 2016.

Synod unanimously approved, with amendment, The motion of Bishop of Worcester:

'that this Synod, acknowledging both a blessing and the burden of the Church of England's stewardship for so many historic buildings:

- welcome the report from the Church Buildings Review Group;
- commend it for discussion in dioceses, deaneries and parishes; and

invite the Archbishops' Council, the Church Commissioners and the Church Buildings Council to work together on the detailed implementation of the proposals in the report so as to enable the Business Committee, in the case of those proposals which require legislation, to schedule the start of the relevant legislative process by July 2016.'

For further information please see the Church of England's press release by visiting bit.ly/ChurchBuildingsReview and the report which is availabe atbit.ly/CofEBuildings

Comments are invited by emailing Andrea Mulkeen by 29 January 2016 at andrea.mulkeen@churchofengland.org

## Christ Church calendar Feb. 2016

Feb	4	Thu	Pilgrim Group meeting 7:30pm		
	5	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am–1:30pm		
	6	Sat	Accession of Queen Elizabeth II		
	7	Sun	Sunday next before Lent 4:30pm Choral Evensong Christ Church rostered to assist at Genesis Sunday Centre		
	9	Tue	Bath Deanery Confirmation Service, 7pm, St Bartholomew's		
	10	Wed	Ash Wednesday 7:30pm Holy Communion with Ashing		
	12	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am-1:30pm		
	14	Sun	The First Sunday of Lent 8am Holy Communion (BCP)		
	18	Thu	Pilgrim Group meeting 7:30pm		
	19	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am-1:30pm		
	21	Sun	The Second Sunday of Lent		
	23	Tue	Christ Church Council meeting, 7:40pm		
	24	Wed	11am Holy Communion, followed by Lent Lunch with St Mary's RC Church		
	26	Fri	Cedar Tree café, 11am-1:30pm		
	28 Sun The Third Sunday of Lent		The Third Sunday of Lent		
Mar	4	Fri	Women's World Day of Prayer Cedar Tree café, 11am–1:30pm		
	6	Sun	The Fourth Sunday of Lent / Mothering Sunday 4:30pm Choral Evensong		
	12	Sat	11am Licensing and Installation of Revd Lore Chumbley as Priest-in-Charge of Christ Church		

Got something you want to let everyone know about? Pop a note in the "Magazine Editor" pigeonhole at the back of church or 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 February 2016

Monday	1	For the Queen and other heads of state
Tuesday	2	For the mentally ill
Wednesday	3	For our flower arrangers and those who look after the church
Thursday	4	For countries affected by the economic downturn
Friday	5	For the ministry of the Cedar Tree
Saturday	6	We give thanks for those who inspire us
Sunday	7	For all clergy taking services at Christ Church
Monday	8	For those who work in social services
Tuesday	9	For the chaplaincies at Bath's Universities
Wednesday	10	That we may have a spirit of penitence
Thursday	11	For all at school
Friday	12	For refugees
Saturday	13	That we may work for the kingdom of heaven
Sunday	14	For Lore and Colin as they prepare to join us
Monday	15	For journalists and those who work in the media
Tuesday	16	For victims of natural disasters
Wednesday	17	For our Diocese of Bath and Wells
Thursday	18	For those who care for the sick
Friday	19	For those finding it hard to earn a living
Saturday	20	For our neighbours at St Mary's Catholic Church
Sunday	21	For Alex and Malcolm our Churchwardens
Monday	22	For our armed forces and police
Tuesday	23	That we may have grace to love

Wednesday	24	For the work of Genesis
Thursday	25	For our link dioceses in Zambia
Friday	26	For those who lack food or water
Saturday	27	For those who mourn
Sunday	28	For our servers and others who assist at the altar
Monday	29	We give thanks for the blessings of the past month

# Long-term Prayer List

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

Rachel Sillett Cyril Selmes Mariorie Nicholson Ned Townshend Joyce Fairburn Val Curtis Martin Palmer

Rosemary Bethel Derek Wrigley Katharine David Slater David Lavis Margaret Muir

Want to add a name to the prayer list, either long-term or shortterm, 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

# Rotas for February 2016

Readers and readings, Sunday 10am Eucharist

	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
7 Feb 1st before Lent	Jane Fletcher Exodus 34:29-35	David Bishop 2 Corinthians 3:12 – 4:2	Margaret Heath Luke 9:28-36
14 Feb Lent 1	Janet Mahto Deuteronomy 26:1-11	Alex Soboslay Romans 10:8b-13	Mark Elliott Luke 4:1-13
21 Feb Lent 2	Emma Elliott Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18	Rebekah Cunningham Philippians 3:17-4:1	Rowena Hall Luke 13:31-35
28 Feb Lent 3	<b>Morny Davison</b> Isaiah 55:1-9	Lewis Boyd 1 Corinthians 10:1-13	Penny Edwards Luke 13:1-9
6 March Mothering Sunday	Andrew Sillett Joshua 5:9-12	Brenda Wall 2 Corinthians 5:16-21	Virginia Knight Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

#### Laity rota, Sunday 10am Eucharist

	Chalice assistants	Sidespeople	Intercessions
7 Feb	Keri Chivers, Andrew Sillett	Ken Ayers, Sylvia Ayers	Canon Simon Tatton-Brown
I4 Feb	Malcolm Wall, Clive Tilling	Jane Nicholson, Margaret Silver	Penny Edwards
21 Feb	Brenda Wall, David Rawlings	Andrew Sillett, Janet Mahto	Revd Cliff Burrows
28 Feb	Andrew Sillett, Keri Chivers	Ken Ayers, Sylvia Ayers	Mark Elliott
6 March	Janet Mahto, Jane Fletcher	Morny Davison, Margaret Heath	Sarah Jones

## Who's who at Christ Church

Priest-in-charge (Pending) Concert bookings, weekly notice sheet Judith Bishop Supporting clergy Revd Prof. Cliff Burrows 01225 869409 Revd Preb. Angela Berners-Wilson concerts@christchurchbath.org Revd Canon Simon Tatton-Brown notices@christchurchbath.org Reader, Director of Music Mark Elliott Pastoral care coordinators Keri Chivers 01225 445360 01225 421265 mark.elliott@christchurchbath.org keri.chivers@christchurchbath.org Revd Canon Simon Tatton-Brown Churchwarden. 01225 835404 Council Treasurer Malcolm Wall simontb@christchurchbath.org 01225 864933 malcolm.wall@christchurchbath.org **Organist and Assistant Director of Music** Keith Pigot Churchwarden, 01225 723801 Secretary to Trustees Alex Soboslay keithpigot@gmail.com 07769 655927 Sarah Cade alexs@christchurchbath.org Laity rotas Verger Angela Soboslay Prayer cycle Virginia Knight 01225 333297 angela.soboslay@christchurchbath.org Cedar Tree café. **Publicity co-ordinator** lanet Mahto **Chair of Trustees** Sarah Jones 01225 443284 **Junior Church** Emma Elliott sarah.jones@christchurchbath.org United Society, Treasurer David Bishop Traidcraft stall Rebekah Cunningham 01225 869409 Mothers' Union david.bishop@christchurchbath.org Margaret Burrows 01225 334743 Chair of Church Council David Rawlings Sylvia Ayers 01225 463976 **Secretary to Council** Judith Bishop 01225 869409 **Churches Together in Bath** Margaret Heath Safeguarding officer Lewis Boyd 01225 428272 07739 989639 lewis.boyd@christchurchbath.org Mission to Seafarers Sylvia Ayers Tower Captain Ian Hay Davison Deanery Synod Reps Morny Davison 07932 160482 Andrew Sillett bells@christchurchbath.org Brenda Wall Ringing Master Will Willans

David Kelly

Steeple Keeper

## About Christ Church

THE CHURCH We're a liberal, inclusive and open church, OF ENGLAND 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

Holy Communion (Book 8am of Common Prayer) On the second Sunday of every month

Sung Eucharist with Junior 10am 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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