



## Living a Resurrection life

*From the priest-in-charge...*

### **Revd Lore Chumbley writes:**

In the July edition of the *Link* I asked what it would mean for us to be “Resurrection people.” This autumn we are beginning to think about that question. On 1 October Revd Jacques Desrosiers, Rector of Warminster, launched our autumn Pilgrim series. He cracked open the question some of us have been fretting over during the summer, “What is the nature of the Resurrection?” In answer he offered us poems including RS Thomas’s “Resurrection,” which ends:

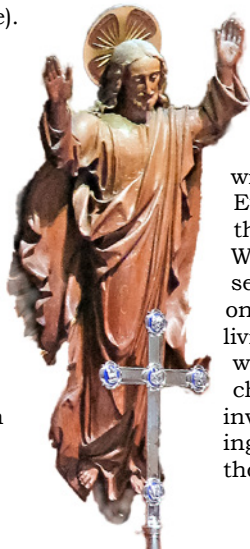
*a child  
tells us how the accident  
of last year, a machine stranded  
beside the way for lack  
of petrol, is crowned with flowers.*

He suggested metaphors for the Resurrection: Christ as bridge between mankind and God (echoed in the word *pontiff* used for the Pope). In Christ, he suggested, God has “cleared a space for us where we can rest in God’s presence.” In the practice of prayer, we are experiencing living in the presence of God. Most memorably he noted that God says No to the Crucifixion – but not by a show of strength. God could have destroyed the Roman soldiers as they nailed Christ to the cross. But instead, God’s No to the Crucifixion was manifested in a colossal Yes to eternal life. The Resurrection is God’s

totally unexpected response to the worst we can do. Perhaps, he concluded, living Resurrection lives is something to do with taking the presence of God into ourselves and living countercultural lives as disciples of Jesus Christ.

RS Thomas’s poem “Resurrection” surfaced at the end of the evening. Its image of an abandoned car being transformed into a thing of beauty by summer flowers matches the metaphor we came up with of a God who transforms the despair of death into Resurrection life. Jacques taught us many things, but in particular to look for the presence of God – or, as was suggested from the floor, “the kingdom of God” – in every moment. Eternity is now.

Our exploration of the meaning of the theme will continue. On Thursday 15 October at 7:30 Peter Ellis will lead a Zoom discussion on “How do we think about miracles? The views of GK Chesterton.” Then on 25 October Marcus Braybrooke will join us for our Sunday Eucharist and preach on the theme of Resurrection. Nick Wells will lead a Zoom evening session on Thursday 29 October on “Resurrection People: ways of living and loving.” Everyone is welcome. Contact the priest-in-charge if you would like a Zoom invitation to the Thursday meetings. And please, give it some thought yourself.



# Ordinations in Bath and Wells



The new deacons ordained this year, pictured on the green in front of Wells Cathedral.

With the pandemic restrictions in place, this year's ordinations in the diocese may have been delayed, but following a series of services during Petertide we now have 18 new deacons and 12 new priests.

The ordination of the deacons took place at Wells Cathedral, with the priesting taking place in three parish churches, one in each archdeaconry – St Andrew's in Burnham, St Cuthbert's in Wells and St Swithin's in Bath. With only 30 people able to be present at each service, it was still not the usual gathering of friends and family in person, but many were able to witness the events online at [www.facebook.com/bathandwells](http://www.facebook.com/bathandwells).

## From lamentation to hope

A service to remember those who have died during the Covid pandemic is available online from the diocese and Wells Cathedral.

Led by Bishop Ruth and the Dean of Wells, the service includes a reading of the names of those who have died over the last several months, submitted by their families. Candles were lit in the Cathedral for each of those who have died.

Bishop Ruth said: "So many people weren't able to attend funerals or grieve properly

when their loved ones died in the last few months, because of restrictions imposed by the pandemic. We hope this service will offer people a chance to come together online and mourn their loved ones by name, alongside others who have also been bereaved.

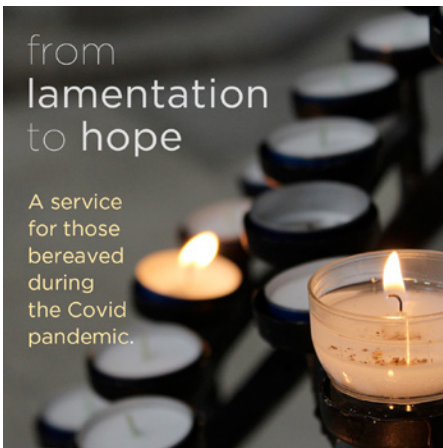
"We are of course on the edge of a winter which threatens to contain dark days. The message of this service and to those who mourn is that we have hope in the future, through our belief in the resurrection of Jesus Christ."

The service features a reflection from Revd Narinder Tegally, chaplain at the Royal United Hospital in Bath, who ministered to many Covid patients. Her own husband Oosman was seriously ill with Covid in intensive care.

The video of the service is available now, to watch at a time to suit you. You'll find it at [www.bathandwells.org.uk/2020/09/online-service-remembers-those-who-have-died-during-covid-pandemic/](http://www.bathandwells.org.uk/2020/09/online-service-remembers-those-who-have-died-during-covid-pandemic/)

*We remember before God those who have died during the Coronavirus pandemic, and those who continue to suffer.*

*And we give thanks for the dedication, skill and courage of those who have served selflessly throughout. Amen.*



# Tackling slavery together

## 30 years of Bath Interfaith Group

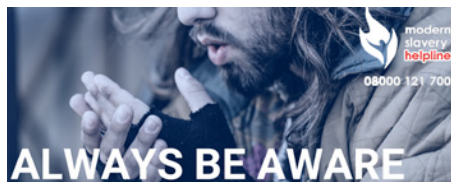
Volunteers from across the diocese are being trained up by Hidden Voices Somerset (HVS) to support victims of modern-day slavery and exploitation in Somerset.

Hidden Voices is a church and community resource developed by the Church of England to help groups learn about modern-day slavery and how they can take action against it. Bath and Wells was one of the first dioceses to sign up to the initiative and has worked closely with local groups to develop HVS.

Official figures show 62 victims in the Diocesan area applied to enter the support system called the National Referral Mechanism (the NRM) in the year to March 2020. However, national figures show that probably 90-95% of victims do not wish to enter the NRM when offered the opportunity to do so, meaning there may be 850-900 current potential victims in the Diocese.

HVS is a local response to modern-day slavery and exploitation concerned with the provision of victim support and building a self-sustaining anti-slavery network across Somerset. HVS has developed relationships with voluntary and statutory organisations, and after cross-agency consultation is running a six month pilot (1 October 2020 to 31 March 2021) Victim Support project for victims and those at risk. The project will be carried out in partnership with The Clewer Initiative (the national Church of England's anti-slavery programme) and the National Victim Support Helpline.

To learn more about the issue of modern-day slavery visit [www.theclewerinitiative.org](http://www.theclewerinitiative.org). To find out how you can play your part in challenging it locally, including volunteering and local training opportunities, contact [david.maggs@bathwells.anglican.org](mailto:david.maggs@bathwells.anglican.org).



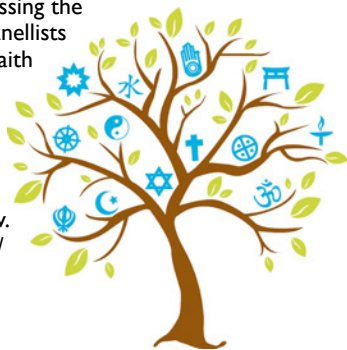
## 30 years of Bath Interfaith Group

Bath Interfaith Group is marking its 30th anniversary on Sunday 25 October at 4pm with a special event to be live-streamed from Christ Church. The theme is "Faiths Together in Bath: Past, Present and Future."

The Bath Interfaith Group was founded by Revd Dr Marcus Braybrooke in late 1990. Marcus, then incumbent of Christ Church, has since been awarded the Lambeth Doctorate of Divinity by the Archbishop of Canterbury "in recognition of his contribution to the development of inter-religious cooperation and understanding throughout the world."

We welcome Marcus back as keynote speaker, addressing the theme with panellists from various faith traditions.

The event will be available to view on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/bathinterfaith>.



## Online services

Our 10am Sunday Eucharist is live streamed at [www.facebook.com/christchurchbath](http://www.facebook.com/christchurchbath). Join the Facebook group or our mailing list to receive the readings and weekly notice sheet by e-mail.

Do send prayer requests – by e-mail to [lore.chumbley@me.com](mailto:lore.chumbley@me.com), by text, or by post to Christ Church, Julian Road, Bath BA1 2RH. Note that services will be online, so be mindful of the privacy of friends and loved ones.

Every weekday morning at 8am a group of us are saying Morning Prayer together on Zoom, or you can phone in. If you would like an invitation, please e-mail Lore.

## Pilgrim Group starts new term this month

Our Pilgrim Group restarted on Thursday 1 October when Revd Jacques Desrosiers, Rector of St Denys' church, Warminster, introduced this term's theme, "Being Resurrection People". The programme for the rest of October is:

• Thursday 15 October: "How do we think about miracles? The views of GK Chesterton" – Peter Ellis

• Thursday 29 October: "Resurrection people: ways of living and loving" – Nick Wells

Each session is scheduled to begin at 7:30pm. If you are interested in attending by Zoom please let Lore know by emailing her at [lore.chumbley@me.com](mailto:lore.chumbley@me.com), so she can send you a Zoom invitation.

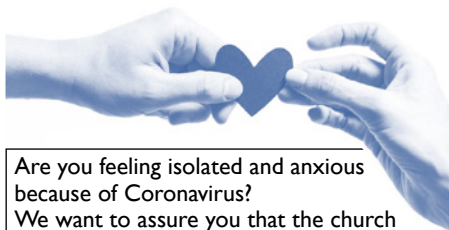
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## Double Eco silver



*Two more churches in the Diocese of Bath and Wells have been awarded silver Eco Church awards – Wells Cathedral and Holy Trinity, Yeovil. The awards are made by Christian charity A Rocha, who want to demonstrate that the gospel is good news for God's earth. Both churches are working on further eco improvements.*

## Need pastoral care?



Are you feeling isolated and anxious because of Coronavirus?

We want to assure you that the church community remembers and prays for those who are in any kind of need.

If you would like prayer, conversation or support, please call

Rebekah Cunningham on 07821 251956 or e-mail [rebekah.spanner@gmail.com](mailto:rebekah.spanner@gmail.com).

If you have any concerns about anyone you feel would like some support, either members of our church or people in the area of Christ Church, please get in touch. The pastoral care group are regularly phoning the elderly and housebound, and along with some other volunteers will try to help with practical needs such as shopping.

## Community Hub

The Compassionate Community Hub works closely with food banks and volunteers to ensure people can access direct support when they need it. Visit [www.3sg.org.uk/pages/compassionate-community-covid-19](http://www.3sg.org.uk/pages/compassionate-community-covid-19).

- If anyone needs support with buying food or medicines, send an email with the subject "Support" to [compassion@3sg.org.uk](mailto:compassion@3sg.org.uk) and they will pick up the query within 24 hours.
- Alternatively, telephone the Compassionate Community hotline **0300 247 0050**. It is open seven days a week from 9am to 5pm.
- To volunteer with the Compassionate Community Hub, complete the form via <http://bit.ly/communityvolunteersignup>.
- For people in need of food and looking for an alternative to going into the shops during the pandemic, there is a list of local businesses offering food delivery: [www.3sg.org.uk/pages/sustainable-food-partnership](http://www.3sg.org.uk/pages/sustainable-food-partnership).

# Bishop's Message for October

*A time to listen*



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

I was expecting to be on sabbatical as I write this but of course you will all now be aware that Bishop Peter is receiving treatment for leukaemia and thus I am back in the diocese. He is as cheerful as ever and very much values your care, thoughts, prayers, cards, flowers and so many warm messages. Thank you! Please keep praying for him, Jane and the family.

Coping with the “unexpected,” whether it is news about health, the pandemic or a personal diagnosis like +Peter’s, or a change of plan such as my sabbatical, can set us in a spin. We don’t always know how to respond. It requires us to adapt, to change, to rethink how we will live.

I’m reminded of the story of Elijah, who felt overwhelmed by the circumstances around him. A national drought

both from rain and faith left him feeling vulnerable and alone. And although God made Himself very evident in the events of Mount Carmel, Elijah still felt under siege and fearful, wanting to die rather than face the wrath of Jezebel. And so he ran! And in the book of Kings we find God meets with him, first of all bringing him refreshment of body and mind through sleep and food. And then, when his well-being is restored, he discovers the voice of God, not in the strength of storm or wind but in a “still small voice.”

I wonder where and how you might hear the voice of God? Across the diocese we are entering into a listening project to hear what God might be saying to us, in and through the strange times in which we now live. We welcome your thoughts, so please do share them with us.

Praying God’s blessing on us all,

**+Ruth Taunton**

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## Daily Hope

A free national phoneline offers a simple way to bring worship and prayer into people’s homes while church buildings are closed. It will be particularly welcome to those who do not have internet access to watch streamed services. Daily Hope offers hymns, prayers, daily reflections and a choice of church services over the phone, 24 hours a day.



# Charity of the month: Women's Refuge

*This month an optional retiring collection will go to Libra Women's Refuge. (Donations in collection envelopes will continue to go to Christ Church.)*

## **Rebekah Cunningham writes:**

We have all heard how the incidence of domestic abuse, including actual deaths resulting from abuse, has risen significantly during lockdown, and it's easy to imagine how this could be happening, with so many different contributory stresses .

The Libra Project, run by Julian House, provides safe and supported short-term accom-

modation for women and children experiencing domestic violence abuse. Women can stay for a short period or longer term whilst they look for safe new housing. Staff provide a range of support for women including access to benefits, housing and legal advice to enable women to make their own decisions. Women moving on from the Libra Project are offered support with settling into their own accommodation. The Libra Project also provides a 24-hour on-call service for women staying at the Libra Project.

As usual we will collect donations at church via the loose collection plate on the second and fourth Sundays of the month (10th and 24th October), or you can donate online at <https://localgiving.org/fundraising/XchCharityoftheMonthOctober>



## Sexual abuse: “We will listen, learn and act”

The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) released its final report in the Church of England in early October. The Bishops of our Diocese responded: “We accept with great shame the findings of the IICSA, which Bishop Peter, then lead safeguarding bishop for the Church of England, appeared before on behalf of the Church.

“We know that apologies will not ever be enough on their own, yet we are truly sorry for all those who have been failed by the Church. The failure to respond to survivors correctly and with compassion has compounded the abuse perpetrated by those they should have been able to trust.

“We pledge ourselves to listen, to learn and to act in every way we can to support survivors, and to ensure our churches are safe places for everyone.

“Currently in this diocese, as across the Church of England, an independent reviewer is reviewing all our files and paperwork to re-examine historic safeguarding decisions. All parishes have been asked to submit details and files and they are participating willingly in this process. We will report the findings of

the review to the national Church on time by the end of the year and will act immediately on anything that may not have been correctly or compassionately dealt with in the past.”

Survivors of abuse, and anyone who has been distressed by the report, can contact the new independent Safe Spaces service for survivors of church-related abuse ([www.safespacesenglandandwales.org.uk](http://www.safespacesenglandandwales.org.uk)), which ensures survivors can access independent specialist support and advice.

A widely reported criticism made by the IICSA is that the Church was more concerned for clergy who may have perpetrated abuse than for their victims. The way issues are handled has already changed, and the clerical hierarchy is no longer in control. Diocesan Safeguarding Manager Glensy Armstrong said: “Since Bishop Peter came to Bath and Wells he has made very clear that any decisions made about safeguarding are to be made by those with appropriate professional responsibility and qualifications.”

The Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted at [www.bathandwells.org.uk/diocesan/safeguarding/](http://www.bathandwells.org.uk/diocesan/safeguarding/).

# Christ Church calendar Oct 2020

1 Thu 11am Eucharist

4 Sun *The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity*  
10am Eucharist

8 Thu 11am Eucharist

11 Sun *The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity*  
10am Eucharist  
Christ Church Annual Church Meeting (about 11:15am)

15 Thu 11am Eucharist  
Pilgrim Group meeting, 7:30pm

18 Sun *Luke the Evangelist*  
10am Eucharist

22 Thu 11am Eucharist

25 Sun *The Last Sunday after Trinity*  
10am Eucharist

28 Wed *Simon and Jude, Apostles*

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29 Thu 11am Eucharist  
Pilgrim Group meeting, 7:30pm

**Nov 1** Sun *All Saints*  
10am Eucharist

2 Mon *Commemoration of the Faithful Departed (All Souls Day)*

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5 Thu 11am Eucharist

8 Sun *Remembrance Sunday*  
10am Eucharist

**Sunday Eucharist is also streamed at** [www.facebook.com/christchurchbath](https://www.facebook.com/christchurchbath)

**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](mailto:magazine@christchurchbath.org). For the weekly notice sheet, e-mail [notices@christchurchbath.org](mailto:notices@christchurchbath.org)**

# Prayer Cycle for October 2020

<b>Thursday</b>	<b>1</b>	For our Pilgrim Group, meeting tonight
<b>Friday</b>	<b>2</b>	For the mentally ill
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>3</b>	That we may be peacemakers
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>4</b>	For Mark and the choir
<b>Monday</b>	<b>5</b>	For journalists and those who work in the media
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>6</b>	For the chaplaincies at Bath's Universities
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>7</b>	For all who produce publicity for Christ Church
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>8</b>	For prisoners and prison workers
<b>Friday</b>	<b>9</b>	For those who have been forced to flee their homes
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>10</b>	For those who have been baptised, confirmed or married in Christ Church
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>11</b>	For our Archbishop, bishops and clergy
<b>Monday</b>	<b>12</b>	For those who work in financial services
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>13</b>	We give thanks for our blessings
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>14</b>	For all those taking on new responsibilities at Christ Church
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>15</b>	For adoptive and foster families
<b>Friday</b>	<b>16</b>	For the lonely and depressed
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>17</b>	For our charity of the month
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>18</b>	For Angela our Verger
<b>Monday</b>	<b>19</b>	For scientists and engineers
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>20</b>	For the Fairtrade movement
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>21</b>	For countries in conflict
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>22</b>	For Bible scholars and theologians



<b>Friday</b>	<b>23</b>	For all in hospital
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>24</b>	We give thanks for beauty in creation
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>25</b>	For our Local Ministry Group partners
<b>Monday</b>	<b>26</b>	For our government and politicians
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>27</b>	For the work of Julian House
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>28</b>	That we may have the gift of patience
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>29</b>	For those who live or work in care homes
<b>Friday</b>	<b>30</b>	For those who are persecuted for their faith
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>31</b>	We give thanks for those who enrich our lives

## Long-term Prayer List

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

Dillon  
 Ray and Meryl Newbegin  
 Revd John Brown  
 Liza  
 Charlotte  
 Jean Warren  
 Keith and Marie Pigot  
 Joyce Knight  
 Bishop Peter  
 Nick Johnson  
 Tony Buss  
 Geoff Stead  
 Lizzie

**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.**

# Rotas for October 2020

*Readers and readings, Sunday 10am Eucharist*

	<b>Old Testament</b>	<b>New Testament</b>	<b>Gospel</b>	<b>Intercessions</b>
<b>4 Oct</b> 17th after Trinity	<b>Angela Soboslay</b> Isaiah 5:1-7	<b>Isaac Elliott</b> Philippians 3:4b-14	<b>Ian Hay Davison</b> Matthew 21:33-end	<b>Mark Elliott</b>
<b>11 Oct</b> 18th after Trinity	<b>Judith Anderson</b> Isaiah 25:1-9	<b>Rebekah Cunningham</b> Philippians 4:1-9	<b>Janet Mahto</b> Matthew 22:1-14	<b>Nick Wells</b>
<b>18 Oct</b> Luke the Evangelist	<b>Richard Gabe</b> Isaiah 35:3-6	<b>Clive Tilling</b> 2 Timothy 4:5-17	<b>Jonathan Stead</b> Luke 10:1-9	<b>Georgina Bowman</b>
<b>25 Oct</b> Last after Trinity	<b>Nick Wells</b> Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18	<b>Virginia Knight</b> Colossians 3:10-end	<b>Thomas Wolker- Darley</b> Matthew 22:34-end	<b>Ian Hay Davison</b>
<b>1 Nov</b> All Saints	<b>Zoë Bushell</b> Revelation 7:9-end	<b>Alex Soboslay</b> 1 John 3:1-3	<b>Sylvia Ayers</b> Matthew 5:1-12	<b>Rebekah Cunningham</b>

# Who's who at Christ Church

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**Tower Captain,  
Ringing Master** Will Willans

Revd Beryl Bowes  
Revd Dr Peter Bowes

**Tower Secretary** Ian Hay Davison  
07932 160482  
bells@christchurchbath.org

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

**Steeple Keeper** David Kelly

**Churchwarden,  
Safeguarding officer** Lewis Boyd  
07739 989639  
lewis.boyd@christchurchbath.org

**Publicity co-ordinators** Janet Mahto  
Lewis Boyd

**Churchwarden,  
Cedar Tree café organiser** Janet Mahto  
01225 424860  
janetmahto@gmail.com

**Laity rotas** Judith Bishop

**Prayer cycle** Virginia Knight

**Junior Church** Emma Elliott

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

**Churches Together in Bath,  
USPG** Rebekah Cunningham

**Traidcraft orders** Judith Bishop

**Chair of Trustees** Charles Rice  
01225 332915  
charles.rice@btopenworld.com

**Mission to Seafarers** Sylvia Ayers

**Deanery Synod Reps** Sarah Kerr  
Jane Nicholson  
Brenda Wall

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

## Christ Church Link

**Event/concert bookings,  
weekly notice sheet** Judith Bishop  
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concerts@christchurchbath.org  
notices@christchurchbath.org

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)



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. There is the option of separate activities for children in Junior Church groups at our 10am Sunday service.

As well as worship on Sunday and Thursday mornings, there are many other activities going on in our community. Our weekly community café will resume when safety restrictions permit. Our musical tradition continues to thrive, with our choir active even during lockdown; new singers of all ages are always very welcome. Our ecumenical Pilgrim 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 Sunday of every month – resumption date TBC*
- 10am Sung Eucharist with Junior Church activities for children and young people  
*Every Sunday – also streamed at [www.facebook.com/christchurchbath](http://www.facebook.com/christchurchbath)*
- 4:30pm Choral Evensong  
*Usually on the third Sunday of every month – resumption date TBC*

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



## Contacting us

Christ Church,  
Julian Road,  
Bath BA1 2RH  
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(answer phone)  
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