



## Season of commitment

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

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

This autumn in Christ Church is a season of commitment. Four of our young people will be confirmed in Wells Cathedral on Saturday 13 November. Please pray for them in the days leading up to the service. At the moment of confirmation the Bishop will lay hands on them in a ceremony which is as old as the Church itself, invoking the Holy Spirit for each one of them. Confirmation marks one's coming of age within the Church and we should celebrate the integrity and faith of young people who have chosen it. Felix will then receive his first Communion on Sunday 14 November.

November is also the month in which Christ Church will declare an environment and climate emergency. In preparation for the declaration our "Eco church" group has been looking at our use of resources, our carbon footprint and ways in which we can steward our "patch of earth" responsibly. They have advised that we are now ready for a declaration of environment and climate emergency, Council has agreed to it and we will do so during the Eucharist on the first Sunday in November. On its own such a declaration would be empty posturing. But it is to be accompanied by a review of our commitment to recycling, to reducing our carbon footprint, to living with an awareness of the effects our lifestyle decisions have on the planet, and to encouraging each other in responsible living.

Also in November, the leadership team will meet to recommit to the

Christ Church vision – following the Lord Jesus Christ in seeking God through beauty in worship, honesty in our faith and doubt, and service in our community.

All three commitments – to confirm one's membership of the Church, use the resources of the earth responsibly and reaffirm the vision of Christ Church – flow from an awareness of life as God's gift. We are not here by chance. We are created in God's image and live within God's created world. All of us are precious as children of God. And all of us are called to steward the world God has created for our own and our neighbours' children and grandchildren.



*In September, on Climate Change Sunday, our young people presented to us a "grey earth" and invited us to make personal commitments to reduce our carbon footprint and our impact on the environment. Many of these commitments were hung on a tree, which is now part of a display at the west of the church. This month we are invited to review and renew these commitments.*

## Safeguarding in diocese



The Diocese of Bath and Wells has appointed a new Safeguarding Manager. Ben Goodhind has a background in residential childcare and working with autistic children, and has spent 20 years in public protection work in the Probation Service. He manages the diocesan safeguarding team and is the point of contact for safeguarding advice and new referrals. You can reach Ben on 07834 514842, [ben.goodhind@bathwells.angican.org](mailto:ben.goodhind@bathwells.angican.org).

For details of the work of the safeguarding team visit [www.bathandwells.org.uk/safeguarding](http://www.bathandwells.org.uk/safeguarding). Anyone can contact the team for help and advice if, for example, you would prefer to deal with a full-time safeguarding professional or someone at greater distance from your own circumstances.

Our own Safeguarding Officer is Virginia Knight, 07896 916840. Anyone with safeguarding concerns can also contact Lore or one of the Churchwardens, or call Childline, free, on 0800 1111.

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## Daily Hope

A free national phoneline offers a simple way to bring worship and prayer into people's homes when they can't go to services in person. It will be particularly welcome to those without 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.



## Services live and online

Our weekly 10am Sunday Eucharist is open to all in person. For the time being, we will maintain social distancing, and will encourage people to wear masks but will not insist. The congregation is now permitted to sing, but it will show care for others to remain masked as you do so. The service is live streamed at [www.facebook.com/christchurchbath](http://www.facebook.com/christchurchbath).

Our weekly Thursday 11am Eucharist takes place live in church, not online or on Zoom. The church also remains open for private prayer on Wednesday afternoons 2pm – 4pm.

This month an All Souls service takes place in church at 5pm on Sunday 7 November. Choral Evensong is on the third Sunday of each month at 4:30pm and also streamed.

An informal reflective service takes place on the fourth Sunday of each month at 5pm. This is led by members of the congregation and initially will be using the form of evening service in *A Wee Worship Book (Fifth Incarnation)* compiled by the Iona Community and published by their Wild Goose Resource Group. All are welcome. If you'd like further information, please contact Jonathan Stead.

Do send prayer requests – by e-mail to [lore.chumbley@me.com](mailto:lore.chumbley@me.com) or phone or text to Lore on 07595 294146, 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.

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### **Bath Independent Market**

*What is it?* A local event supporting local independent traders, makers and artists, with a strong emphasis on community and inclusion. On offer will be art, ceramics, jewellery, hand-made gifts, retro and vintage clothing, and more. For more details, look for the poster in the church and in the weekly notice sheet. *When?* Saturday 20 November, 11am – 4pm *Where?* Museum of Bath at Work (the big building up the steps behind Christ Church!) *Admission free*

## Moon landing in Abbey



*Broaden your appreciation of God's creation! The Museum of the Moon, a touring artwork by Luke Jerram pictured here in Wells Cathedral, comes to Bath Abbey from 19 November to 26 December, for Christmas carols, storytelling and moon-gazing with the Bath Astronomers. Look for details at [www.bathabbey.org/south-west-moon-landing](http://www.bathabbey.org/south-west-moon-landing).*

## Last month...



*In October, artist and church member Ling Zi held a private exhibition of her paintings in the Lower Mews. As a result £3,200 was generously donated to Christ Church.*

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## Jane Fletcher RIP



*It is with great sadness that we announce that Jane Fletcher died unexpectedly on Saturday 23 October. The photo shows her two weeks earlier at a Holy Communion and tea party organised by the pastoral care group for older members of Christ Church. Jane's funeral will take place in Christ Church at 11:30am on Wednesday 17 November. Our condolences and prayers are with Jane's brother David and sister-in-law Anna.*

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## Fighting modern slavery

On Anti Slavery Day on 18 October, churches across Somerset were lit in bright red as part of a campaign by the Church of England's Clewer Initiative to show their stand against modern slavery.

Bath Abbey – whose recent Monuments, Empire and Slavery exhibition explored its past connections with the transatlantic slave trade – was one of these churches. Yet, 200 years after the abolition of the slave trade, there could still be up to 136,000 men, women and children trapped in modern slavery in the UK.

Find out more at <https://theclewerinitiative.org>. Everyone can learn to spot the signs and make a call. You can call the Modern Slavery Helpline on 08000 121700, the local police on 101 or the Gangmasters & Labour Abuse Authority on 0800 432 0804. You can also report your suspicions on their website (<https://www.gla.gov.uk/>).

# Book review: Thunder Dog

*Thunder Dog* by Michael Hingson with Susan Flory (Thomas Nelson, 2012, 256 pages. ISBN: 978-1400204724). RRP £10.99 paperback.

**Canon Simon Tatton-Brown writes:** “How many of you have heard of...?” the blind lecturer asks his audience of advocacy enthusiasts. Up go the hands. “That’s a pretty good example of inclusivity!” he jokes in reply.

Mike Hingson is there to talk about his escape from the 78th floor of the World Trade Center on 9/11. But the real story is not about how a blind person and his guide dog got out. Of greater interest is how a blind person gets to have a high-paid, high-powered job there in the first place.

Mike was diagnosed blind at six months. Rather than think of his blindness as a handicap, he prefers to think of it as a characteristic, like left-handedness or the colour of a person’s skin. His parents refused to treat him any different from his older brother. He rode his bike to mainstream school, avoiding obstacles by listening to the echo of his tyres on the roadside kerb and the parked cars. Aged 14, he gets his first guide dog. He gradu-

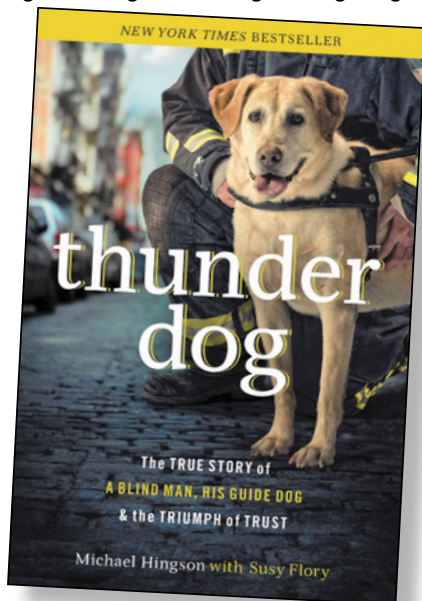
ates from university.

The obstacles Mike encounters weren’t his lack of sight. They were the attitudes of sighted people. Like the neighbour who complained about him riding his bike, or the school authorities who banned animals on the school bus. “Turn your liability into your opportunity” is Mike’s response. Not by “playing the blind card”. That’s to invite being patronised and confirm exclusion. It’s the card he wasn’t going to play on 9/11.

Mike thinks his blindness gave him an advantage that morning. When others were beginning to panic he was listening to his dog Roselle’s mood. She wasn’t panicking, so while recognising danger he concluded he wasn’t in immediate danger either. What if the lights on the stairwell fail? He told those around him that his dog navigated by smell, sound and touch and was showing the way. Shortly after they exited the north tower, the south tower fell. They were engulfed by the choking cloud of toxic debris. Struggling to breathe, he sensed an opening and commanded Roselle to guide him in. It was the subway station at Fulton Street. She stopped (as she was trained to do) at the top of the staircase, then he commanded her down. At the bottom there was a woman, temporarily blinded by the dust, panicking lest she fall on the tracks. “I’m blind too,” he told her. “Hold my arm. Roselle won’t let us fall.”

Like the audience at his speaking engagement, most of us think we’re pretty enlightened – until we inappropriately patronise someone in a wheelchair or raise our voice when speaking to someone who is blind. *Thunder Dog* invites us not to “let sight get in the way of our vision” and see the world from their point of view. A bonus is his profound meditation on Psalm 23 when Mike literally passes through the valley of the shadow of death, the debris from the south tower funnelling towards him between the skyscrapers.

■ See the video of Mike Hingson’s talk at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=mwV5P6OE0\\_Q](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mwV5P6OE0_Q)



# Bishop's Message for November

*There is much to do*



**From the Rt Revd Dr Alastair Redfern,  
Assistant Bishop of Bath and Wells  
and Chair of the Clewer Initiative**

Our church faces many challenges about funding, organisation, credibility and appropriate approaches to mission. Where might modern slavery fit in?

Bath and Wells is a leading light within the Church of England in terms of a positive and effective response to the growing evil of modern slavery. On behalf of the Clewer Initiative, which coordinates the Church of England's work in this area, I would like to say a huge thank you to David Maggs, Sian Owen and others. They have helped the diocese lead the way in raising awareness, offering training to establish community resilience, fight back against the phenomenon of "county lines" (the involvement of children and young

people in drug trafficking), and pioneered the development of partnerships which enable the church to play a key role in both care and prevention. Bath Abbey has been doing some ground-breaking work about monuments and the transatlantic slave trade with an approach which will be very helpful to others. Yet, with modern slavery increasing, there is much to do.

Jesus calls us to love God and love our neighbour as ourselves. The gospel makes clear that the neighbour is not just the person next door, but is particularly the person everyone easily passes by – while they are suffering without hope. In Matthew 25 Jesus makes it clear that we meet Him in the poor and oppressed – or in Clewer's words, Hidden in Plain Sight.

In the modern rush to grab cheap goods and services, we rarely notice those who may suffer and are criminally controlled in order to provide them. As we rightly reorder our priorities as churches, our ways of working, our mission and service – modern slavery is a key indicator of whether we aim to serve the church as our own safe place, or whether we aim to be out on that road between Jerusalem and Jericho, looking to encounter and rescue and raise up those who are trapped and suffering and generally ignored.

Let us not rest on our laurels, but build upon our work so far, so that others may be brought good news, embraced into our communities, and given confidence to know the love of God through the love of their neighbours.

Every blessing,

**+Alastair**

# This month's charity: USPG Malawi

The loose collection in the plate on the second and fourth Sunday of the month – 14 and 28 November – will go to USPG's Malawi project. (Donations in collection envelopes will continue to go to Christ Church.)

## **Rebekah Cunningham writes:**

This month we are again supporting USPG's project in Malawi. This has four areas of focus:

- education for girls,
- protecting livelihoods,
- management of the environment,
- hygiene and sanitation.

USPG recently sent this message to us:

*Dear Friends,*

*Thank you so much for continuing to stand in solidarity with Churches across the globe. Your support means that the Anglican Council in Malawi is implementing the Church and Community Integrated Programme, a three year project that aims to promote social justices of vulnerable families in targeted parishes in the four dioceses of the Anglican Church in Malawi.*

*Naomi (pictured below) joined the programme and used a soft loan from her savings group to start her own small business. With the profits that she is getting from her business, she decided to build a better house for her family. She said this is a dream come true. "I never expected to have a good house with iron sheets. But I thank the Anglican Church here, which introduced this project in our village. When you visit me next time, you will find me in my new house."*

*Naomi is also working to ensure that her*



*family has food throughout the year. During this winter season, she has grown maize on a half-acre of land. All this she said because of the skills and knowledge that she has gained from participating in the programme.*

*Thank you for your continued support.*

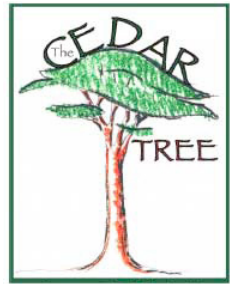
USPG's support has enabled five mission referral hospitals operated by the Anglican Church in Malawi (ACM) to increase their capacity to respond to Covid-19. The ACM has purchased and delivered personal protective equipment (PPE) and other medical supplies to frontline healthcare workers to help prevent the spread of the virus. The PPE includes gowns, aprons, face masks, goggles and biohazard bags. According to the internet, only about 3.5% of Malawians have been fully vaccinated against Covid. Low numbers in part are due to poor supplies but also fears and misinformation about the vaccine. Keep Malawi in your prayers.

You can also give by visiting USPG's donations page at <https://donations.uspg.org.uk/>. If you would like to set up a direct debit, do specify that you are part of Christ Church, supporter number RE103, or ask Rebekah for a direct debit form. USPG are able to collate all our donations and give us a yearly total.

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## 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, please consider dropping in for a cup of tea, homemade cake and a chat, to support this important part of our outreach to the local community.



*"Under every kind of bird will live"*

Bath  
**Julian Road**

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# Christ Church calendar Nov. 2021

4 Thu 11am Eucharist

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5 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

**7 Sun** *The Third Sunday before Advent*  
*223rd anniversary of the consecration of Christ Church*  
10am Eucharist  
5pm All Souls Service

11 Thu 11am Eucharist

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12 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

**14 Sun** *Remembrance Sunday / The Second Sunday before Advent*  
8am Holy Communion (BCP)  
10am Eucharist

17 Wed Jane Fletcher's funeral, 11:30am

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18 Thu 11am Eucharist

19 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

**21 Sun** *Christ the King / The Sunday next before Advent*  
10am Eucharist  
4:30pm Choral Evensong

25 Thu 11am Eucharist

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26 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

**28 Sun** *The First Sunday of Advent*  
10am Eucharist  
5pm Contemplative Service (Iona)

30 Tue *Andrew the Apostle*

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**Dec** 2 Thu 11am Eucharist

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3 Fri Cedar Tree café, 11am – 1:30pm

**5 Sun** *The Second Sunday of Advent*  
10am Eucharist

**Our Sunday 10am Eucharist, and other services as advertised, continue to be live-streamed at** [www.facebook.com/christchurchbath](http://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 November 2021

<b>Monday</b>	<b>1</b>	For shopkeepers and shop workers
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>2</b>	For hospices
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>3</b>	We give thanks for the fruits of the earth
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>4</b>	For refugees
<b>Friday</b>	<b>5</b>	For the ministry of the Cedar Tree
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>6</b>	For adoptive and foster families
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>7</b>	For Mark our Lay Reader
<b>Monday</b>	<b>8</b>	For the emergency services and police
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>9</b>	For peace
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>10</b>	For our Local Ministry Group partners
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>11</b>	For all at school
<b>Friday</b>	<b>12</b>	For those who are confined to their homes
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>13</b>	For our own personal witness
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>14</b>	For Kara our curate
<b>Monday</b>	<b>15</b>	For volunteer organisations
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>16</b>	For the work of Genesis
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>17</b>	We give thanks for those who enrich our lives
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>18</b>	For those on our church rotas
<b>Friday</b>	<b>19</b>	For the unemployed
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>20</b>	That we may have grace to love
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>21</b>	For our link Dioceses in Zambia
<b>Monday</b>	<b>22</b>	For those who work in medicine
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>23</b>	For good relations between different faiths



<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>24</b>	For our Church Council
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>25</b>	For our charity of the month
<b>Friday</b>	<b>26</b>	For those who are unable to keep warm
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>27</b>	For countries experiencing economic problems
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>28</b>	For our Archbishop, bishops and clergy
<b>Monday</b>	<b>29</b>	For those who work in social services
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>30</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...*

Joyce K  
 Revd John  
 Evelyn  
 Jean  
 Dillon  
 Amber  
 David  
 Jenny  
 Nick Johnson  
 Hannah  
 Bishop Peter  
 Chris  
 Thomas  
 Joyce W  
 Ajay  
 David  
 Roger and Frances

**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 Lore, the Verger or one of the Church-wardens know.**



### **Bath Abbey Remembrance Concert**

*What is it?* Join the Abbey choirs as they sing beautiful and comforting music for Remembrance including Tavener's *Song for Athene*, famously sung at the Princess of Wales's funeral in 1997. Other pieces include Durufle's poignant *In Paradisum* from his Requiem, William Harris' *Faire is the heaven*, Schubert's *Litanei Alle Seelen*, and *For the Fallen* by Mark Blatchly, based on the poem by Laurence Bunyon.

*When?* Saturday 13 November, 7pm – 9pm

*Where?* Bath Abbey

*Tickets* £20, £15, £10 (16s & under half price) available to book at <https://bathboxoffice.org.uk/whatson/remembrance-concert/>

# Rotas for November 2021

*Readers and readings, Sunday 10am Eucharist*

	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel	Intercessions
<b>7 Nov</b> 3rd before Advent	<b>Beryl Bowes</b> Jonah 3:1-5,10	<b>Judith Anderson</b> Hebrews 9:24-end	<b>Thomas Wolker-Darley</b> Mark 1:14-20	<b>Peter Bowes</b>
<b>14 Nov</b> Remem- brance	<b>Rebekah Cunningham</b> Daniel 12:1-3	<b>Sylvia Ayers</b> Hebrews 10:11-25	<b>Mark Elliott</b> Mark 13:1-8	<b>Nick Wells</b>
<b>21 Nov</b> Christ the King	<b>Isaac Elliott</b> Daniel 7:9-10,13-14	<b>Peter Bowes</b> Revelation 1:4b-8	<b>Nick Wells</b> John 18:33-37	<b>Ian Hay Davison</b>
<b>28 Nov</b> 1st Sun. of Advent	<b>Clive Tilling</b> Jeremiah 33:14-16	<b>Georgina Bowman</b> 1 Thessalonians 3:9-end	<b>Morny Davison</b> Luke 21:25-36	<b>Rebekah Cunningham</b>
<b>5 Dec</b> 2nd Sun. of Advent	<b>Kara Maylor</b> Baruch 5 or Malachi 3:1-4	<b>Alex Soboslay</b> Philippians 1:3-11	<b>Richard Gabe</b> Luke 3:1-6	<b>Beryl Bowes</b>

# Who's who at Christ Church

**Priest-in-charge** Revd Lore Chumbley  
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lore.chumbley@me.com

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**Supporting clergy**  
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Revd Beryl Bowes  
Revd Dr Peter Bowes

**Reader, Director of Music** Mark Elliott  
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**Churchwarden,  
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**Treasurer** David Bishop  
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**Organist and Assistant  
Director of Music** David Winters

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**Steeple Keeper** David Kelly

**Publicity co-ordinator** Janet Mahto

**Laitie rotas** Judith Bishop

**Prayer cycle** Virginia Knight

**Junior Church** Emma Elliott

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

**Mission to Seafarers** Sylvia Ayers

**Deanery Synod Reps** Brenda Wall  
Pauline Swaby-Wallace

## 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)



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 concerned about the health risks of congregational singing, we will not sing at the 11am Thursday Eucharist, 8am BCP Communion or 5pm Quiet Service. For now, all services continue to be socially-distanced.

As well as worship on Sundays and Thursday mornings, there are many other activities going on in our community, including our weekly community café every Friday. 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](http://www.facebook.com/christchurchbath)*
  - 4:30pm Choral Evensong – *Usually on the third Sunday of every month – also streamed*
  - 5pm Contemplative Quiet Service (Iona) – *Provisionally on the fourth Sunday of every month*
- Baptisms, marriages and funerals by arrangement – please contact us!



## Contacting us

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