

Free - donations welcome

April 2026

BATHWICK NEWS

www.bathwickparishes.org.uk

Hosanna!
Crucify him!
Finished!
He is risen!
Alleluia!



St John's
(opposite the fire station)



St Mary's
(by Bathwick Hill roundabout)

WHO'S WHO IN THE BATHWICK PARISHES

(All telephone numbers are Bath 01225- unless otherwise stated)

CLERGY

Parish Priest The Revd. Peter Edwards Contact Church Office
Bathwick Rectory, Sham Castle Lane, Bath BA2 6JL
(Normal day off: Monday)

Asst Priests The Revd. Richard Hunt 938529
The Revd. Robert Webb 484042

READERS Dr Marilyn Kirby 835765
Mr Stephen Howard 466590

READER EMERITUS Mr Marcus Wedge 07493 198778

DIOCESAN SYNOD *(House of Clergy)* Fr Peter Edwards

DEANERY SYNOD *St Mary's:* Mr S Howard, Mrs N Parker
(House of Laity) *St John's:* Mr David Wright, Mr Mark Humphries

CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

affiliated to The Society of St Wilfred & St Hilda

St John's Road, BA2 6PT

CHURCHWARDENS

Mrs Di Shelley 722917
Mrs Chris Plummer 01249 712894

HON PCC SECRETARY

Mrs Esther Shape 07971 620475

HON TREASURER

Mr Mark Humphries 07717 814508

ORGANIST

Dr David Hyatt 571037

ALMSGIVING SECRETARY

Mrs Mary Barry 464139

ELECTORAL ROLL SECRETARY

Mr Charles MacCall 428391

SACRISTAN

Mr Adrian Plummer 07880 701139

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Mrs Nadia MacCall 428391

FLOWERS

Mrs Jackie Newman 422450

CHURCH HALL HIRE

Parish Office (see page 3 for details) 447450

CHURCH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN
Darlington Street, BA2 4EB

CHURCHWARDENS

Mrs Clare Goodhart	315638
Mrs Nicola Parker	834108

HON PCC SECRETARY

Dr Marilyn Kirby	835765
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FINANCE TEAM

Mr Nick Lennard (Hon Treasurer)	07980 591449
Mr Keith Moss	445234

PLANNED GIVING AND GIFT AID

Mrs Dawn Lennard	429277
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ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER

Mr Andrew Parker	834108
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BATHWICK NEWS

<i>Advertisements</i> Mr Nick Lennard	07980 591449
<i>Distribution</i> The Parish Office	447450

SACRISTY TEAM

Mrs Molly Wedge	07493 198778
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SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Mrs Nicola Parker	834108
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HEALTH & SAFETY OFFICER

Mr Andrew Parker	834108
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TOWER (*Bell Ringers*)

<i>Tower Captain</i>	
<i>Correspondent</i> Molly Waterson	07790 230767

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Mr Gary Desmond	07980 818445
Email: garyc.desmond@gmail.com or via the Parish Office	

JUNIOR CHURCH AND BABIES & TODDLERS GROUP

Mrs Nicola Parker	834108
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BATHWICK ST MARY PRIMARY SCHOOL

<i>Head Teacher:</i> Mr Kevin Purkiss,	465654
St. Mary's School, Darlington Road, Bath	

FLOWERS

Parish Office (see below for details)	447450
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CHURCH HALL HIRE

Parish Office (see below for details)	447450
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The Parish Office for both churches is based at St Mary's

Telephone and Answerphone 01225 447450

Email: office@bathwickparishes.org.uk

www.bathwickparishes.org.uk

(Mrs Kerry Hughes is usually in the church office Tuesday and Friday 9am - 12noon)

APRIL SERVICES

ST MARY'S CHURCH (*Bathwick Hill roundabout*)

10.30am every Sunday, Parish Eucharist & Sermon

10.30am every Wednesday, traditional language Eucharist

9.30am every Friday, said Eucharist

Evensong every Sunday at 6pm: (4pm on 12th April)



ST JOHN'S CHURCH (*opposite the Fire Station*)

9am every Sunday, Parish Mass & Sermon

9.30am every Tuesday and Saturday, said Mass

10.30am every Thursday, said Mass

No Sunday evening service this month



SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

at the BATHWICK PARISHES

PALM SUNDAY, 29 March

9.00am Sung Mass St John's; 10.30am Sung Eucharist St Mary's

6.00pm devotional performance of Fauré's *Requiem* at St Mary's

MONDAY-WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK, 30 March-1 April

10.30am said Mass each day: Mon, Weds at St Mary's | Tues at St John's

MAUNDY THURSDAY, 2 April

10.30am Stations of the Cross St John's

7.30pm Mass of the Last Supper St Mary's *followed by Watch in Garden of Gethsemane*

GOOD FRIDAY, 3 April

12 noon Liturgy of the Passion St Mary's

2.00pm Liturgy of the Passion St John's

HOLY SATURDAY, 4 April

8.00pm Easter Vigil and First Mass of Easter St John's

EASTER DAY, 5 April

9.00am Sung Mass St John's; 10.30am Sung Eucharist St Mary's

LETTER FROM OUR PARISH PRIEST, FR PETER EDWARDS

Dear brothers and sisters

During the 40 days of Lent we have been journeying together in a period of preparation, anticipating the great joy of the paschal celebration at Easter, and seeking to renew our own discipleship as we walk with Jesus on the road to the cross. As March ends and April begins we will travel through the events of Holy Week, the greatest and most important week of the church's calendar.

Each year the church bids us celebrate this week with devotion and worship. But as we do so, we are doing more than merely recalling the events of the week. When we join in these special liturgies of Holy Week we mysteriously enter into what really happened, and our faith is renewed.



Gospel readings for the days of Holy Week—

aim to read these at home if unable to attend worship in Church

Palm Sunday: Matthew 21:1-11

Holy Monday: John 12:1-11

Holy Tuesday: John 13:21-33,36-38

Holy Wednesday: Matthew 26:14-25

Maundy Thursday: John 13:1-17

Good Friday: John 18 & 19

Easter Vigil: Matthew 28:1-10

Easter Day: John 20:1-18

On Palm Sunday, 28th March, we commemorate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, the Holy City, as this great week begins with a cry of triumph shouted by the crowds, 'Hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!' Over the next few days we read from the gospel accounts of Jesus' activities as the crowds prepared for the Passover festival, and Jesus continues to teach the disciples in anticipation of his forthcoming passion, death and resurrection. We will break bread together and hear these scriptures and a short devotional address each morning at 10.30am.

And so we then reach the climax of Holy Week – the 3 great days (or Triduum) of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday & Holy Saturday. As in previous years may I strongly urge you all to be present at the three principal services of the Triduum:

- **7.30pm at St Mary's on Maundy Thursday** (when we remember the events of the Last Supper and the Watch in the Garden of Gethsemane)
- **12pm at St Mary's or 2pm at St John's on Good Friday** (when we commemorate the events of Christ's trial, passion and death on the cross), and
- **8pm at S John's on Holy Saturday** (the Easter Vigil, the first great celebration of the night of the Resurrection) when we renew our baptismal commitments to walk faithfully in the way of Jesus Christ, and celebrate the first Eucharist of the night "when Christ broke the prison bars of death and rose victorious from the underworld."

Each of these great services follow a pattern observed in the early centuries of the church, and each of them are unique and beautiful. A book I have been reading during Lent (Haselock J, *The Sacrament of Easter*, revised edition) reminds us that the Easter Vigil is ‘the centre, the climax, the highlight of the whole Christian year, [and it] should be regarded as little short of an imperative by the committed and instructed Christian.’

Details of these services can be found on the opposite page, I look forward to seeing you!

May I take this opportunity of wishing you all a fulfilling Holy Week that you may also experience a very happy and blessed Easter, full of the joy of the resurrection.

Fr Peter

WALSINGHAM PRAYER GROUP

Prayer meetings are usually on the 2nd Sunday of each month at 5pm.

The next prayer meeting will be on:

Sunday 12th April at 5pm at St Mary's. (Please note change of usual venue).

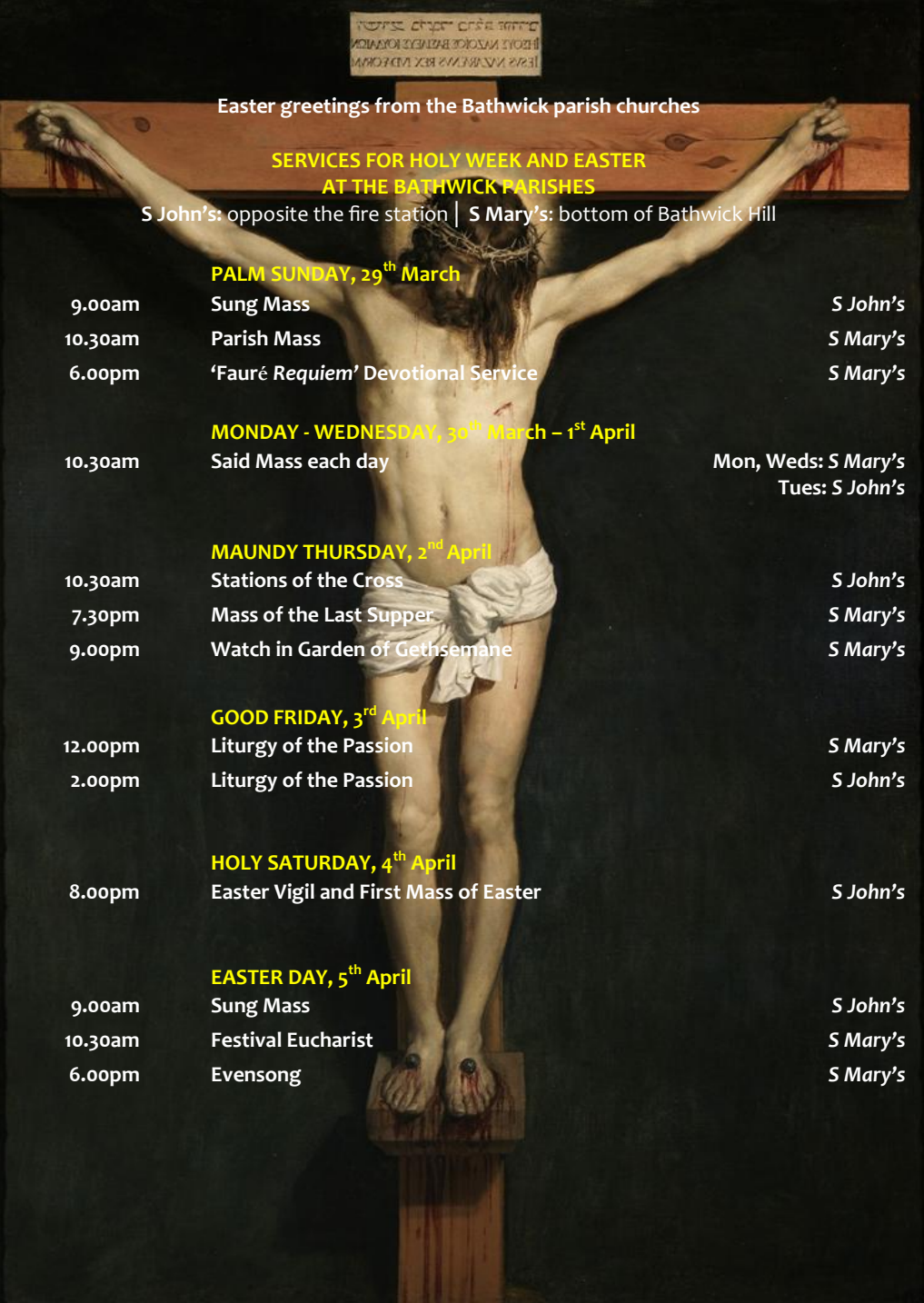


See Chris Plummer at St John's for more information or telephone her on 01249 712894 - *All welcome.*

Pilgrimage to Walsingham

If anyone in the parish would be interested in going on the Pilgrimage to Walsingham - Monday 29th June to Friday 3rd July please let me know straight away so that I can ensure a place for you.

Chris Plummer
01249 712894



Easter greetings from the Bathwick parish churches

**SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER
AT THE BATHWICK PARISHES**

S John's: opposite the fire station | S Mary's: bottom of Bathwick Hill

PALM SUNDAY, 29th March

9.00am	Sung Mass	S John's
10.30am	Parish Mass	S Mary's
6.00pm	'Fauré Requiem' Devotional Service	S Mary's

MONDAY - WEDNESDAY, 30th March – 1st April

10.30am	Said Mass each day	Mon, Weds: S Mary's Tues: S John's
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MAUNDY THURSDAY, 2nd April

10.30am	Stations of the Cross	S John's
7.30pm	Mass of the Last Supper	S Mary's
9.00pm	Watch in Garden of Gethsemane	S Mary's

GOOD FRIDAY, 3rd April

12.00pm	Liturgy of the Passion	S Mary's
2.00pm	Liturgy of the Passion	S John's

HOLY SATURDAY, 4th April

8.00pm	Easter Vigil and First Mass of Easter	S John's
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EASTER DAY, 5th April

9.00am	Sung Mass	S John's
10.30am	Festival Eucharist	S Mary's
6.00pm	Evensong	S Mary's

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

St Mary's Choir will be singing Choral Evensong in Wells Cathedral on Saturday, 2nd May at 5:15pm, with music by Sanders, Harwood and Stanford.

Do join us, if you can!



Lent Lunches

Throughout Lent we have held Lent Lunches at St John's Church on a Thursday after Mass. We raised £350 to be split between RUH Safe Sanctuary (a new Children's Mental Health safe space) and the Goa Anglican Centre.

My thanks to Di and Clare for making the soups, those who helped serve and wash up, and to those who came along and supported the lunches. It was a very happy time of fellowship for all.

Chris Plummer

Annual Parochial Church Meetings 2026

Our churches will be holding their Annual Parochial Church Meetings (APCMs) in a few weeks time – St Mary's meeting will be held after Eucharist on Sunday 26 April, and St John's meeting will be held following Mass on Sunday 3 May.

In advance of these meetings, copies of our churches' Annual Reports and Accounts for 2025 will be available in both churches.

If you are interested in standing for membership of the Parochial Church Council or in representing our parishes on Deanery Synod, nomination forms are available at the back of each church – or speak to myself or one of the churchwardens to find out more about what is involved.

Many thanks

Could this be you?

We need willing people to join our Finance Team at St Mary's—please speak to me if you can help

Fr Peter

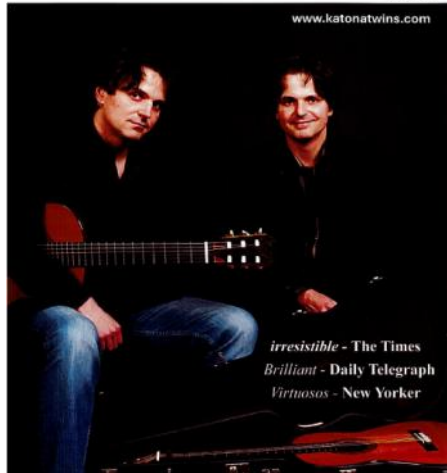
Fr Peter

Guitar concert
KATONA TWINS - UK Tour
 Alhambra Inspirations
 Spanish Night

Mary's Church, Thursday, 09-April-2026, 7:30pm
 Darlington St, Bathwick, Bath BA2 4EB



TICKETS



Early lute songs on the Continent

Musicke in the Ayre's first concert this year explores some of the earliest printed music for voice and lute. The pairing of voice and plucked strings has captivated listeners since medieval times, but it was the invention by the end of the 15th century of music printing with movable type—alongside the lute emerging as “King of Instruments”—that helped popularise the intimate genre of lute song. Soprano Jane Hunt and lutenist Din Ghani trace this rich repertoire from Venice around 1500 to Flanders a century later. Along the way, they delve into feisty *frottole*, elegant *chansons*, and refined *madrigale*—works originally written for three to five voices, republished in idiomatic and appealing arrangements for voice and lute. As well as his lute, Din will be playing a *viola da mano* – a guitar-shaped relative of the lute popular at the time. This is music designed to please!

In the Church Hall, 11th April, 3 – 4pm

Tickets £12 at the door, £11 from Bath Box Office (01225 463362, bathboxoffice.org.uk)
 Refreshments available after the concert.

St Mary the Virgin, Bathwick
 Darlington St, Bath BA2 4EB
 In the Church Hall
 Sat 11th April 2026
 3.00 – 4.00pm

Tickets £12 at the door
 £11 in advance from
 Bath Box Office:
 Tel: 01225 463362
 Web: bathboxoffice.org.uk

**Early Lute Songs
 on the Continent**

Jane Hunt
 soprano

Din Ghani
 lute, viola da mano

Musicke in the Ayre

Celebrating 30 Years!

I'm not quite sure how this has happened, but 2026 marks 30 years of me singing in St Mary's Choir!

To celebrate, I've persuaded Gary to let me choose the music for evensong on Sunday 3rd May, and to invite extra singing friends along to join in – by way of compensation I'm putting on an afternoon tea in the church hall, to which you are also invited!



My life with St Mary's actually began round at St John's church – I graduated from what is now Bath Spa University in the summer of 1995, and a friend from my music degree course had organised a service at St John's that December for AIDS Day; the Bathwick organist at the time, playing for that service, was Colin Hunt. As so often happens in Bathwick, there was wine and nibbles afterwards, and somebody (sorry, I can't remember who) said 'Colin's looking for extra singers for a performance of Handel's Messiah, let me introduce you'.

So I was roped in for that concert, and then invited to join in the 9 Lessons & Carols service too. I kept getting asked back for more services, until at some point in 1996 I found I was in the choir stalls more Sundays than I wasn't, and eventually realisation dawned: *I think I might have joined the choir!*



Being in St Mary's Choir has given me so many experiences over the years – we've been on trips abroad, sung for the National Trust at Stourhead, and provided music for the wider area - for example at citizenship ceremonies at the Guildhall, community memorial services, and concerts and services in churches which don't have a choir of their own. I'm always grateful for the solo opportunities that come my way, whether it's a few bars on a Sunday morning or a whole lunchtime recital (both of which bring their own challenges!), and even more grateful for the friendships that have formed within the choir and the congregation.



So thank you Bathwick, for welcoming me all those years ago, I think it's safe to say you're stuck with me now!

Please come along to afternoon tea in St Mary's church hall at 4.30pm on Sunday 3rd May, and stay on for evensong at 6pm.

Sara xxx

GALA ORGAN CONCERT

In memory of
Dr Anthony Crossland
(formerly of Wells Cathedral)

given by

TIMOTHY PARSONS
Director of Music, Wells Cathedral

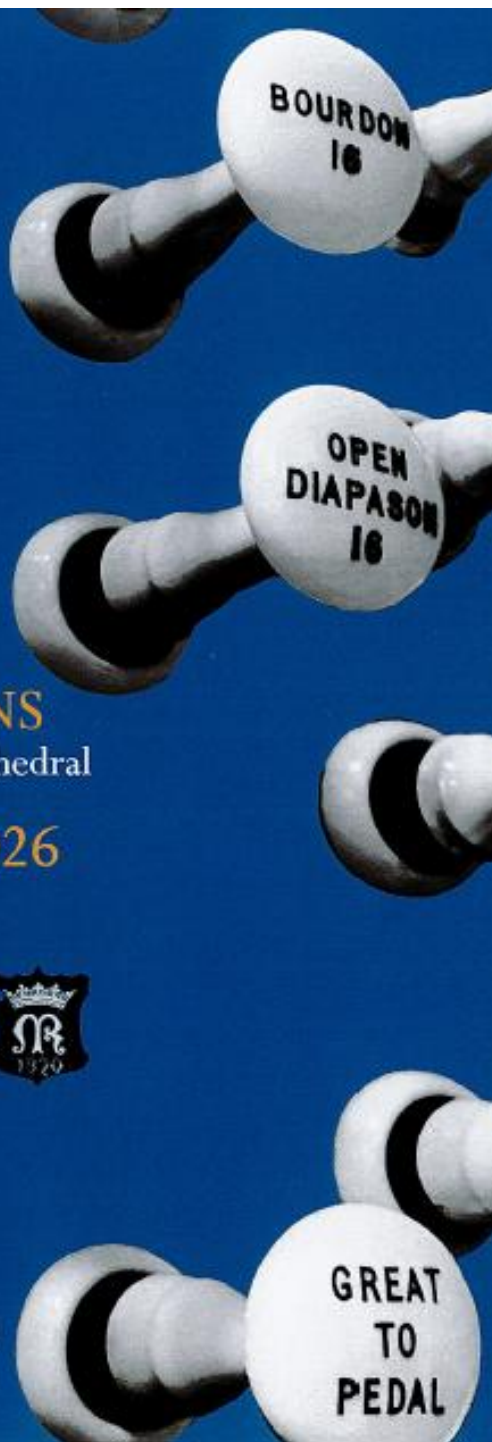
Saturday 23 May 2026
7:30pm

St Mary the Virgin
Bathwick, Bath BA2 4EB



Tickets £20 /
£10 under 25's

Available from
Parish Office 01225 447450
Bath Box Office 01225 463362
www.bathboxoffice.org.uk



SOME CHARITY FOR OTHERS IN APRIL

ST JOHN'S CHURCH gives away 10% of its general income at the end of each year to support 6 charities. Each month we remember the work of one of these charities. Please support these good causes.

ST MARY'S CHURCH make weekly collections during the Sunday services using the blue "Alms" envelopes which are given away to a different charity each month.

Throughout this month of April, both churches will be supporting **Dorothy House**.

It may be hard to believe but Dorothy House is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. It was founded by Prue Dufour (Clench) who saw the need for palliative care in people's own homes. It was literally founded round her kitchen table in her home in Bloomfield Road, and this focus of delivering care in the community continues today. To quote the current Chief Executive, Wayne de Leeuw:-

"With the launch of our three-year strategy entitled 'It's personal', we are ensuring our services remain at the heart of the community and neighbourhood teams, working closely with GPs, District Nurse and community partners, whilst also reaching into our local hospitals where people need us."

Although Dorothy House did benefit from an additional £886,978 in capital funding (for buildings and infrastructure) from the Department of Health and Social Care's national £100 million government hospice grant, it still only receives 20% of its annual running costs from the NHS.

Robin and Sarah Davies



UPCYCLING FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

In continuing support for the Bath Women's Refuge, run by a team of volunteers, please consider their request for the collection of used candles and appropriate glass containers - akin to the dessert dishes in the photograph.

One of the volunteers melts the candles and recreates a new candle gift, to be sold in the shop.

Naturally, all funds contribute to the costs involved in providing Refuge for Women, in Bath.

Collections of candles and containers will be arranged weekly, by Adrian at St John's and, on the last Sunday, by Nicky, at St Mary's.

Tess Gillbard

Food items Bath Foodbank are currently in need of:

Custard (tinned), rice pudding (tinned), vegetable meals (tinned), tomatoes (tinned), pasta sauce (jars), mash (instant), vegetables—peas and carrots (tinned), squash / long life juice, coffee (small jars), and (UHT) milk.

Non-food items Bath Foodbank are currently in need of:

Deodorant, razors, shaving cream and washing-up liquid.

Green News

With the persistent rain this winter we could be forgiven for thinking that winters are getting wetter. One wet winter does not mean that the climate is changing as there are fluctuations from year to year. However, six of the ten wettest periods in England and Wales, covering October to March, have happened in this century and records go back as far as 1767. Figures for the UK show that rainfall over the past 30 years has increased by 14.4mm every ten years. The driving force is the warming climate.

As temperatures rise the atmosphere can hold more moisture which leads to more rain. Apparently, we are experiencing changes in UK winter rainfall which are predicted for 2040s which is about 20 years ahead. UK is also experiencing more extreme rainfall and torrential downpours which can lead to very saturated soils and heavy flooding. Flooding is made worse by growing urban developments, roads, paved gardens etc. Tarmac, concrete and other hard surfaces lead to heavy, rapid runoff leading to blocked drains and flooding thus causing more damage to houses, roads, railways and farming.

Helen and Keith Moss



The next meeting of the Bathwick Book Club will be
on
Tuesday 31st March
at 3pm
in St Mary's Church Hall.

The book we will be discussing will be 'Orbital' by
Samantha Harvey.

Then the next meeting will be on
Tuesday 28th April
at 3pm
in St Mary's Church Hall.

The book we will be discussing will be 'The Land in Winter' by
Andrew Miller.

See you there and why not bring a friend?

MONTH'S MIND

Please pray for those whose anniversary of death falls in April

- 1st John Danson, Muriel Bird, Martha Bell, Frances Brady, Thomas Leigh
2nd Arthur Payne, John England, Brian Carter
3rd Amy Mogg, Laura Maslen, Ethyl Medlycott, Sam Bailey, Renaut Drayson
4th Thomas Brown, Arthur Fudge, Peter Brown
6th Alice Worthington, Emily Hill, Reginald (Rex) Thynne
7th Herbert Dutton
8th John Craddock, Thomas Macknight-Heward (Priest), Alfred Wyatt,
Frederick Gane, Daisy Slade, Florence Curtis
9th Donald Tibbenham (Priest), Angelina Dunn, Sydney Walter Wellington Terry
10th Irene Cannings
11th John Fudge, James William Pimm, Bruce Eyers
12th Marion Stack, Elizabeth Bacon, Cecil Pitcairn, Beatrix Hardick, Leslie Jones,
Jean Kemmery
14th Alice Mary Moon
15th Francis Heriz-Smith
16th Phyllis Staddon, Norah Elizabeth Rowe, Margaret Yates, Sheila Lockyer
17th Amy Turner, Robert Harding, Kathleen Thynne
18th Laura Bradford, Herbert Pinchin, Agnes Drake, Sara Tilley, Eila Harper,
Alfred Ledbury, Frederick Dyer
19th Richard Merrett, Maud Norton, Olive Preddy, Colin Carruthers
20th Barbara Rumbold, Aileen Young, James Pimm, Edmund Kirby
21st Eliza Lockyer, Lilian Winter, Helen Ward
22nd Douglas Moore, John Rowe (Priest), Leslie Coward, Leonard Davies,
Lucy Redpath, Beatrice Ellis
23rd Ellen White, Douglas Fear, Anna Thompson, Aileen Godden, Cecilia Ozzard,
Brian Fenton
24th Ernest Hayward, Bryan Shelley, Barbara Munro
25th Mary Lavington, Master Baster, Francis Jarvis (Priest), Mabel Harrold,
Alice Jefferis, Wallace Hamilton Barker (Priest), Gillian Ann Roessler
26th Elizabeth Owen, Lucy Rogers, Harold Kirkham (Priest), Norman Stillman
27th James Brown, William Young, Charles Maslen, Alice King, Lilian Schilling, Di Gibb
28th Wallington Cox, Elsie Cook, Winifred Shrewsbury, Alice Harrison,
Hattie Lowe, Peter Nicholls, Albert Gear, Noreen Gilliat
29th Barbara Meyrick, Matthew Powell
30th Maud Stephens, Julie Tudor

**Rest Eternal Grant To Them O Lord and Let Light Perpetual Shine On Them.
May They Rest In Peace and Rise In Glory.**

**If you would like a name included in the Month's Mind,
please speak to the Clergy or leave a message at the Parish Office.
These will be remembered by name at St John's Mass at 10.30am
on Thursday 30 April.**

Restoration Action Group News:

The last of our travel lectures before our summer break is on **Thursday 23rd April: An Australian Outback Adventure: Winton to Adelaide via the Birdsville track**. This covers the second part of an epic 17-day 4WD tour from Mount Isa to Adelaide which we began in last month's lecture. However, "no worries" as they say in Australia if you missed the first part as we will begin with a brief recap to set the scene at the start of the lecture. Although the town of Winton may be unfamiliar, it has a very special place in Australian culture as it is the home of that famous song *Waltzing Matilda*! The main part of the evening covers the "trials and tribulations" of traversing the famous/infamous Birdsville Track, something that had been on my Aussie Bucket list for a longtime! Another was to see Budgerigars, the smallest of the Australian parrots in the wild. As their home is in the remote outback and they are nomadic it is difficult to predict the best places to see them, but as you discover not only was I lucky enough to see them I was also able to get some great photos too! Other special bird experiences included an encounter with a mob of emus and great view of rare Elegant Parrots. Another highlight was seeing yellow tailed rock wallaby in the Flinders Ranges for the second time.

Add in stunning outback scenery and it's clear this will be a great evening!

As usual there is no admission charge. However, we invite donations (Gift Aided if possible as this raises more for Restoration Funds). There will also be a raffle with the star prize being a bottle of Australian wine.

Everyone is warmly welcome, so why not invite a friend or neighbour to come along with you? I can certainly promise you some great photos during the evening.

If you would like any more information, please have a chat with me.

Future Dates for your diary

We are holding an **open RAG meeting on 16th April at 7:30 pm in St Mary's church hall**. for anyone who can help in any way with the **Summer Fete on Saturday 13th June**. This is our largest single fund-raising activity, and we really need to make a BIG EFFORT this year as the Quinquennial Buildings Survey has identified a range of building works that we need to complete to ensure St Mary's continues to be well maintained into the future. The PCC were informed at their recent meeting that these works are likely to cost in the region of £50,000 which means RAG Funds are likely to be reduced to zero, so it is vital that we do all we can to support both the Summer Fete and other fund-raising activities.

We really need new people and new ideas if we are going to make this event a success!

Marilyn Kirby Secretary RAG

Thursday 23rd April
7:30 pm, in St Mary's Bathwick Church Hall

An Australian Outback Adventure: Winton to Adelaide via the Birdsville Track

An illustrated travel lecture by
Dr Marilyn J. Kirby



Themed Raffle and Light Refreshments

Retiring collection in aid of
St Mary's Restoration Appeal

PRAYER OF THE MONTH

O Lord, I'm so thankful that the peace you died to procure was the peace of victory over sin. Amen



THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

If all pulled in one direction the World would keel over.

Yiddish Proverbs.

Hanan J Ayalti



St MARY'S CHURCH BATHWICK

SUMMER FETE

SATURDAY 13

JUNE

2-5pm

**Great stalls from Cakes to Cuddly Toys
and White Elephant too!**

Plus

Delicious Refreshments: B-B-Q,

Cream Teas & Pimms Bar

(in aid of St Mary's Restoration Appeal)





Palm Sunday 29th March 2026

Palm Sunday is the first Day of Holy Week and it is the only Sunday in the year when the 10.30 Service at St Mary's begins in the Church garden. This reminds us how Jesus entered Jerusalem riding on a donkey, and when we process into church holding our palms and singing "*All Glory Laud and Honour!*" it is our public recognition of the day. It is called Palm Sunday because the people were happy to see Jesus. They took branches from the Palm and Olive Trees that lined the road then waved them in the air shouting, 'Hosanna' - which means '*God Saves*' in Hebrew - and placing some on the road to make it easier for the donkey to walk.

As palms were often used in ancient cultures to honour royalty and heroes, early Christians continued this tradition by using palm branches in their worship on Palm Sunday. Over time, these branches were woven into crosses, making them more portable and easier to preserve, especially in regions where palm trees are not native, thus allowing Christians worldwide to partake in this meaningful tradition.



At St Mary's, we take our crosses into the garden where they are blessed by the priest; afterwards we take them home to keep in our Bibles or some special place for the whole year. In the days preceding Lent, churches - including ours - place baskets to collect these palms, which are then ritually burned on Shrove Tuesday to make the ashes for the following day, Ash Wednesday.

In Eastern Christianity, where Ash Wednesday is non-existent, it is typical to return them on Palm Sunday before receiving new palm crosses. Most Christian denominations, including Orthodox, Catholic, Lutheran, Methodist, Anglican, Moravian and Reformed, all distribute palm crosses to their congregations during their Palm Sunday services.



Wishing you all a Happy and Blessed Easter.

Jenny Jones

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Luke 22:24, John 13:3-17

Jesus and his disciples were celebrating the Passover with the special meal. The disciples were bickering again.

I'm most important because I've known him the longest

But

I've given up the most to follow him!

I'm the oldest!



There was a reason why no-one wanted to be the least important - the roads were mud and everyone's feet got very dirty.

It was the job of the least important servant to wash everyone's feet...



The disciples didn't have a servant, and none of them wanted to do the foot washing...



Jesus took off his outer robe and tied a towel around his waist.



He filled a large bowl with water and started washing the disciples' feet.

Peter couldn't believe what he was seeing!



Are you really going to wash my feet?

You will understand later why I am doing this.



I can't ever let you serve me like this!

If you don't let me, you will no longer be my disciple



Then wash all of me!

If you've had a bath, then you only need your feet washing!

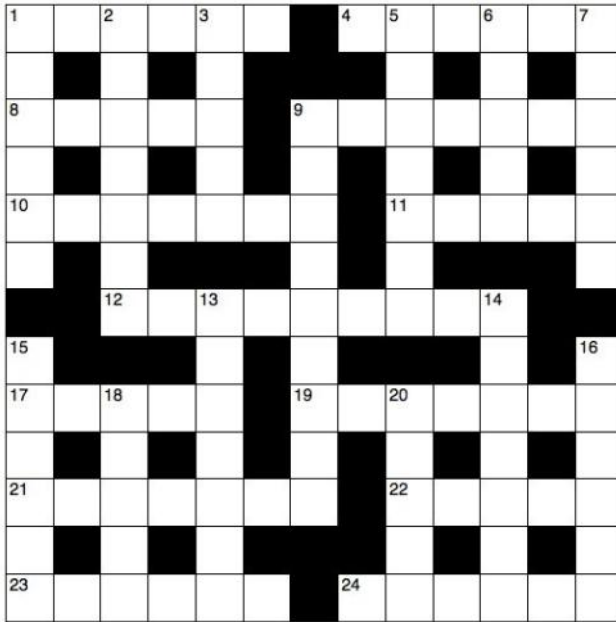


Once Jesus had washed all their feet, he put his robe back on and sat down.



Do you understand why, your teacher, did this? I am setting you the example of how you are to serve each other. Do it, and God will bless you.

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Across

- 1 Relating to the whole universe (6)
- 4 The disciple who made the remark in 8 Across (John 20:24) (6)
- 8 'Unless I see the nail marks — — hands, I will not believe it' (John 20:25) (2,3)
- 9 He urged King Jehoiakim not to burn the scroll containing Jeremiah's message (Jeremiah 36:25) (7)
- 10 Baptist minister and controversial founder of America's Moral Majority, Jerry — (7)
- 11 'Look, here is — . Why shouldn't I be baptized?' (Acts 8:36) (5)
- 12 Repossessed (Genesis 14:16) (9)
- 17 Port from which Paul sailed on his last journey to Rome (Acts 27:3-4) (5)
- 19 'Moses was not aware that his face was — because he had spoken with the Lord' (Exodus 34:29) (7)
- 21 Roonwit, C.S. Lewis's half-man, half-horse (7)
- 22 Grill (Luke 24:42) (5)
- 23 'The lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the — apostles' (Acts 1:26) (6)
- 24 'I was sick and you looked after me, I was in — and you came to visit me' (Matthew 25:36) (6)

Down

- 1 Coastal rockfaces (Psalm 141:6) (6)
- 2 Academic (1 Corinthians 1:20) (7)
- 3 Publish (Daniel 6:26) (5)
- 5 For example, the Crusades (4,3)
- 6 11 Across is certainly this (5)
- 7 He reps (anag.) (6)
- 9 Liberator (Psalm 18:2) (9)
- 13 Man who asked the question in 11 Across was in charge of all her treasury (Acts 8:27) (7)
- 14 They must be 'worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine' (1 Timothy 3:8) (7)
- 15 The human mind or soul (6)
- 16 'O Lord, while precious children starve, the tools of war increase; their bread is — ' (Graham Kendrick) (6)
- 18 'We played the flute for you, and you did not — ' (Matthew 11:17) (5)
- 20 Bared (anag.) (5)

Answers to March crossword

ACROSS: 1, Awaken. 4, Quench. 8, Hit me. 9, Sadness. 10, Semitic. 11, Ridge. 12, Testimony. 17, Psalm. 19, Indulge. 21, Deserve. 22, Ariel. 23, Rose as. 24, Beggar.

DOWN: 1, Aghast. 2, Attempt. 3, Eject. 5, Undergo. 6, No end. 7, Hasten. 9, Sacrifice. 13, Samaria. 14, Yelling. 15, Spider. 16, Dealer. 18, Asses. 20, Drake.

Bathwick Baby & Toddler Group Job Vacancy

We are looking for someone to lead our Babies & Toddlers Group on Wednesday and Friday mornings. For full job specification and details of remuneration please contact the parish office on (01225) 447450.



Fun and friendly drop-in group for babies, toddlers and their parent/carers.

**Wednesday & Friday mornings 9.30am-11.30am inc. school holidays except August
at Bathwick St Mary's Church Hall
£3 per family**

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We are a fun and friendly drop-in group for babies, toddlers, and their parents, grandparents and carers, currently offering indoor and outdoor activities and play for babies and toddlers and singing at the end of each session.

The entrance fee is £3 per family, which includes fruit juice, breadsticks and fresh fruit for the children, and coffee and tea all morning for the adults.

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PUBLIC WORSHIP WITH THE CHURCH DAY BY DAY

SUNDAYS

ST JOHN'S



9.00am MASS & SERMON

followed by breakfast in the hall

6.00pm EVENSONG & BENEDICTION

*(usually 2nd Sunday of each month;
4pm November-March)*



ST MARY'S

10.30am EUCHARIST & SERMON

followed by tea/coffee and biscuits in the hall

*(this service is live-streamed whenever possible
on YouTube—search 'YouTube Bathwick parishes')*

6.00pm CHORAL EVENSONG *(usually 1st Sunday of each month)*
or **(SAID) EVENSONG** *(usually 3rd/4th/5th Sunday of each month)*

*For changes and details of other services please see the weekly Sunday leaflet
and p.6 of this magazine*

USUAL WORSHIP ON WEEKDAYS

TUESDAYS: St John's	9.30am	MASS
WEDNESDAYS: St Mary's	10.30am	TRAD. LANGUAGE EUCHARIST
THURSDAYS: St John's	10.30am	MASS
FRIDAYS: St Mary's	9.30am	EUCHARIST
SATURDAYS: St John's	9.30am	MASS

Morning Prayer is usually said around 9am and Evening Prayer around 5.30pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) by arrangement:
Please speak to Fr Peter (01225) 460052

Applications and Enquiries for Baptisms, Weddings, etc,
Please ask at Church or Tel (01225) 447450 for an appointment

***The "Bathwick Parishes Weekly Noticesheet" is available in Church,
by e-mail on request and at www.bathwickparishes.org.uk***

*The Clergy wish to receive information about people who would welcome a visit
at home or in hospital. The Sacraments of Holy Communion and Holy Oils are
reserved for ministry to the sick and housebound. For further information about
any aspect of the Christian Faith, please contact the Church Office.*