

Free - *donations welcome*

**May 2026**

# BATHWICK NEWS

[www.bathwickparishes.org.uk](http://www.bathwickparishes.org.uk)



... When Jesus had finished speaking, as His disciples watched intently, He was taken up into heaven and a cloud hid Him from their sight. Acts 1:7-9



**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: <a href="mailto:garyc.desmond@gmail.com">garyc.desmond@gmail.com</a> 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](mailto:office@bathwickparishes.org.uk)**

**[www.bathwickparishes.org.uk](http://www.bathwickparishes.org.uk)**

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

## MAY 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

Sunday evening services at 6pm:

- Choral Evensong: 3rd May

- (said) Evensong: 17th May, 24th May and 31st May



### 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

Sunday evening services:

- Evensong & Benediction: 10th May 6pm



## SPECIAL SERVICES IN MAY and early JUNE

### ASCENSION DAY,

Thursday 14th May

Mass at St John's at 10.30am

Sung Mass at St Mary's at 7.30pm

### PENTECOST, Sunday 24th May

Sung Mass at St John's at 9.00am

Sung Mass at St Mary's at 10.30am

(followed by bring-and-share lunch)

### CORPUS CHRISTI,

Thursday 4th June

Sung Mass at St John's at 7.30pm

members of Confraternity of the Blessed  
Sacrament

and all Eucharistic ministers  
encouraged to attend



## LETTER FROM OUR PARISH PRIEST, FR PETER EDWARDS

Dear brothers and sisters

May I begin this short letter by saying a huge ‘thank you’ to all who made our Holy Week and Easter celebrations so meaningful. It is always a risk to list specific groups of people in case anyone is left out – but taking this risk, may I thank our sacristans and altar servers, musicians and bellringers, lesson readers and intercessors, welcomers, flower arrangers, and those who cleaned and tidied our two churches – and especially to all those who contributed to our worship by attending and praying the church’s liturgies over these most important days of the Christian year.

There are many celebrations and events taking place in our churches over the course of this next month, many of which are highlighted in this edition of Bathwick News. Can I please encourage you all to support these over the course of this month of May.

Forty days after Easter (see Acts 1:1-11) we celebrate the **Ascension of the Lord**, this year on Thursday 14 May. Our principal services of the day will be held at 10.30am and 7.30pm (at St John’s and St Mary’s respectively). And ten days after the Ascension, the great “week of weeks” of Easter comes to its climax at **Pentecost** when we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit, Sunday 24 May when our services will be held at the usual Sunday morning Eucharist times (9am at St John’s and 10.30am at St Mary’s) (**you might like to wear something red in celebration!**)

These two celebrations bring Eastertide to its joyful conclusion as we celebrate the Lord’s return to Heaven and the coming of the Holy Spirit. As the Lord ascends to the heavenly realm we remember his promise – ‘I am with you always’ (Matthew 28:20). At Pentecost, the Church received the gift of the Holy Spirit, whom Jesus called the ‘Advocate’ and ‘Helper’ (John 16:7), to renew the face of the earth and the life of the Church, both then and now.

The days between Ascension and Pentecost is a traditional time to pray for the gifts of the Holy Spirit – in our own lives, in our churches, and throughout the world.

And May ends with the celebration of the central Christian belief that God is a Trinity of three Persons – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – as we celebrate **Trinity Sunday** (31 May). Again, our churches offer worship at the usual Sunday times.

May I offer you all my love and continued prayer throughout this joyful Easter season.

*Fr Peter*

## Lost Property table at St Mary's

On Sunday 10th May there will be a table set up in St Mary's Church Hall after the morning service with 'Lost Property' items. Please check for items you may have lost. Any items unclaimed will be donated to a local charity.

## Pentecost and Bring & Share Lunch at St Mary's

On Sunday 24th May (Pentecost) - the gift of the Holy Spirit and the Church's birth - Sung Mass will be held at St John's at 9am and at St Mary's at 10.30am. Followed by a parish bring-and-share lunch at St Mary's. All welcome to join us!



## St John's Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2026

St John's church will be holding their Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in a few weeks time – following Mass on Sunday 31 May. In advance of this meeting, copies of the church Annual Reports and Accounts for 2025 will be available in the church.

### **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*

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

*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 10th May at 5pm at St John's.**

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



## **Pilgrimage to Walsingham 29th June to 3rd July.**

Bathwick Parish Pilgrims are again sharing transport with Swindon New Church Pilgrims. There are a few more spaces on the coach for anyone wishing to go, but please let me know very soon so that I can book accommodation for you at the Shrine. If you haven't been before and are not sure about going, my advise is, "Try it and if you didn't enjoy your time on Pilgrimage to The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, then you need never go again!" Better to experience it than to wish later on that you had gone as it sounds so lovely there!

*Chris Plummer*  
*Bathwick Pilgrimage Organiser*  
01249 712894

## **Holy Water Stoup at St John's**

We are very grateful to Charles McCall for the wonderful repair he has done to the Holy Water Stoup in St John's porch. It is transformed from a sad broken piece into a beautiful item again, much admired by everyone.

The Stoup is thought to be from the 1300s or 1500s and possibly made in Germany. It is made from wood and had a lead base for the Holy water. Quotes for the repair by a conservator were just over £2000, which was felt unreasonable. Up stepped Charles and what a wonderful repair he has done! He has even altered the water container and put in a ceramic dish that can be taken out and cleaned from time to time. Gold leaf on the halos adds a beautiful finishing touch.

Thank you, Charles, for your most sympathetic repair of this treasured Stoup. And thank you for saving us this money. We are very grateful to you.

**Then**



**Now**





**THURSDAYS, 12.30pm-1.10pm 2026**

- |                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>May 7<sup>th</sup></b>       | <b>Young Musicians<br/>from The Royal High School, Bath</b>                   |
| <b>June 4<sup>th</sup></b>      | <b>Carolyn Craig – Organ<br/>Assistant Director of Music, Wells Cathedral</b> |
| <b>July 2<sup>nd</sup></b>      | <b>Bath Society of Recorder Players</b>                                       |
| <b>August 6<sup>th</sup></b>    | <b>Dewi Rees – Organ<br/>Assistant Director of Music, St Alban's Abbey</b>    |
| <b>September 3<sup>rd</sup></b> | <b>Richard Johnson – Organ<br/>Westbury-on-Trym Parish Church, Bristol</b>    |
| <b>October 1<sup>st</sup></b>   | <b>Quercus Wind Quintet, Bath</b>   |

*Light refreshments available before and after each recital  
Retiring collection in support of Music @ St Mary's*

# 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](http://www.bathboxoffice.org.uk)

## SOME CHARITY FOR OTHERS IN MAY

**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.

**Charity for May: THE GOA ANGLICAN CENTRE** The Goa Anglican Centre is a family of people registered as a Charity with the aim of living out a simple faith in Christ by helping those most in need in Goa and the areas around it. We are guided by the Christian message of loving one another as we love God.

One of the major problems in Goa is the number of children on the streets. Often they are the sons and daughters of those involved in gangs and crime, those whom are seriously ill, sex workers and migrant workers. Sometimes it is possible to help whole families back into a better way of life but we work mostly with local charities in Goa to help in those extreme cases where children have to be taken into long-term care. Sometimes the children are orphans, and often we care for the children of those who are in prison or who have abandoned their children. We and the Goan charities that we work with, believe in changing lives and breaking the cycle of poverty by providing these incredibly vulnerable young people with a caring and loving home environment and a good education.

The Goa Anglican Centre helps in many ways. We provide volunteers with specialist skills to help teach the children and care for them. We make the homes safe and welcoming for the children. Over the five years of our existence as a Charity, we have helped six orphanages and made a difference in the lives of well over 200 vulnerable children. We are currently fundraising to sponsor one of the children in the Margaret Bosco Bal Sadan home, near our main centre in Goa.

*Mary Barry*

**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.

The charity of the month is the Bath Food Bank and on Sunday May 10<sup>th</sup> there will be a collection for Christian Aid week. The Bath Foodbank now covers Bath, Keynsham and Somer Valley. During 2024/25 9258 people were supported, including 2905 children. 78,900 weight in kilogrammes of food was distributed to families and individuals in crisis. The emergency food parcels provide enough food to last 3-5 days and enable nutritional meals to be made.

Christian Aid has, since 1957, seen itself as the premier Christian agency for overseas aid to try and bring about lasting change for people living in poverty. One fund-raising tool is Christian Aid Week which this year is May 10-16. This year there is a focus on Kenya with initiatives such as that to aid mothers in Nairobi facing the reality of urban poverty by funding small farming projects with specialist training from their local partners.

*Robin and Sarah Davies*



The next meeting of the Bathwick Book Club will be  
on  
**Tuesday 26th May**  
at 3pm  
in St Mary's Church Hall.

News of the next book we will be discussing will be coming soon. Please keep a look out on the notice sheet.

See you there and why not bring a friend?

**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.

## **St Mary's Summer Fete 13<sup>th</sup> June: HELP NEEDED!!!!**

This is our largest single fund-raising activity, and as we reported in last month's Bathwick News 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.

While two new people did come to the special Open RAG meeting on 16 April and generously offered to help, it is clear than unless others are willing to step forward, we will not be able to have the usual range of stalls, which would be very sad.

Below is a list of **planned stalls** which need people to run them:

### **B-B-Q**

**Pimms Bar and Ice Creams**

**Main Draw (Raffle)**

**Bottle Tombola**

At the meeting we decided to replace the usual White Elephant/ Bric-a-Brac Stall with a **Costume Jewellery Stall** which **Karen Slegt** will be running. So, have a look through your dressing table and other drawers and see if there are any items you could donate for this new venture. Other stalls (with the stall holder where known) that need items are:

**Cakes and Preserves** (Helen Moss)

**Crafts** (Dawn Lennard)

**Bottles for Tombola** (try and think out of the box or should that be bottle!) so we can have a wide range of bottles – full of course, to attract people to the stall. Why not add a bottle to your next supermarket shop?

**Main Draw.** We really need a few star prizes so if you have contacts with any local businesses who might be able to help please speak to Nicky Parker. Other possible ideas for prizes include a hamper or selection of wine.

**Soft Toys** (Marilyn Kirby) If there is a particular toy you would like, please speak to me and I will see what I can do! There will be a wide range of soft toys available on the stall including everyone's favourite: Teddies in all sizes and colours! There will also be animals and birds from my popular Aussie collection.

**It is vital that new people offer to help if we are going to make this event a success. If you are unsure about what's involved and want more information, just speak to me, or Nicky and Andy Parker.**

*Marilyn Kirby Secretary RAG*



**St MARY'S CHURCH BATHWICK**

**SUMMER FETE**

**SATURDAY 13**

**JUNE**

**2-5pm**

**Great stalls from Cakes to Cuddly Toys!**

**Plus**

**Delicious Refreshments: B-B-Q,**

**Cream Teas & Pimms Bar**

**(in aid of St Mary's Restoration Appeal)**



## MONTH'S MIND

### Please pray for those whose anniversary of death falls in May

- 1st Mary Fish, Ann Wakefield  
2nd Annie Deacon  
3rd Cecil Garlicke, John Fry, Albert Teale, Leonore Morris, Noelene Richmond, Ivy Smale, Earnest Hayward  
4th Dorothy Grimshaw, William Jones, Aubrey Emonet  
5th John Reynish (Priest), Winifred Hobbs, Leslie Copsey  
6th Harriet George, Ernest Loades, Winifred Wheeler, Emily Stansbury, Edward Abrahams, William Davis, Elsie Hobbs  
7th Winifred Hobbs, Peter Jack Packham, Ronald Corp (priest)  
8th Clarice Bent, Phyllis Curtis, Lille Loos, Hugh Godden, Lettice Hill, May Pickett, Mary Jocelyn Suffrin  
9th Elizabeth Inman, Edward Abrahams, William Davis  
10th William Watts  
11th Emma Awdry, Marjorie Girling, John Pring, Francis Weeks, Lydia Leigh, Betty Lymposh, Kathleen Cook  
12th Ada Bennett, Hilda Rolfe, Marjorie Hanks  
13th Mary Reed, Gladys Allen, William Walls  
14th Betty Wren  
15th Kathleen Wills, Gwendolene Burden, Cecelia Ingham, Irene Corbold  
16th Rose Rogers, Roland Hamilton, Ivy Shergold, Doris Smales, Penelope-Ann Kerr, Gladys Ricketts, John Carson, Muriel Cockle, Sylvia Jarvis, Valerie Palmer  
17th Alfred Smart, Barrie Smart, George Oldfield, Eunice (Nessie) Clark, Eugenie Semple, Josephine Waring, Laura Mills, Elsie Keeling  
18th Kathleen Longman, Alec Bennett  
19th Fanny Phillips, Evelyn Duge  
20th Constance Margary, Muriel Wells  
21st John Ost, Minnie Ozzard, Leslie Harding, Nita Hunt  
22nd Vivian Swallow, Robert Grubb  
23rd Frederick Fisher, Maryon Winifred Gottschling, Isabella Chalklen, Francis Louis Skelton, Michael Moors  
24th Frances Stobbart, Elizabeth Cockerham, Howard Tudor, Frank George, Michael Harrison, Ada Davis, John Davenport, Joyce Stillman  
25th Donald Bandy  
26th Beatrice Fishlock, Esther Loades, Reginald Tudor, Thomas Toone, Mary Dunn, Victor Smith  
27th Charlotte Lynn, Dorothy Tollerton  
28th Flora Godfrey, Mark Stilman, Sarah Joll, Florence Burton  
29th Mildred Hole, Alec Avery, Emily Jenkin, Peter Wedge, Robin Ledbury, Peter Uncles  
30th Valerie Clewett  
31st Walter Phillips, Stewart Robinson

**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 21 May.**

## Green News

If ancient trees could talk what history they could recount. Yews are known for their exceptional longevity. They are not considered ancient until they are over 900 years old. Many of these are found today in churchyards and in ancient historical sites. The Llangernyw Yew in Clewyd Wales is found on an early saint site but predates Christianity by over 2,000 years. The girth of the Fortingall Yew in Scotland, thought to be over 3,000 years old, measures 16-17metres (52-56ft) Tisbury in Wiltshire boasts of a yew which is estimated to be over 4,000 years old. It is marvellous to find young yew trees. These are often in shaded areas amongst young hollies or woodland undergrowth. Infact there are two of these young Methuselahs growing amongst the bluebells in our church car park garden! What will their lifespan be? Yews are known to be poisonous yet their pointed needles belong to life as they are used in a powerful chemotherapy drug.

*Keith and Helen Moss*

## THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Where there is no penitence there can be no progress.

Fr. Andrew SDC. *Meditations for Every Day*

## PRAYER OF THE MONTH

Holy Spirit, mystery of a presence, you say to each one of us: "Why be worried? One thing alone is necessary: a heart attentive to understand that God loves you and always forgives you".

Amen.



## 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!**



# Ascension Day Thursday - 14<sup>th</sup> May 2026



Ascension Day commemorates the last earthly appearance of the Risen Christ, who, according to Christian belief, ascended into heaven in the presence of many witnesses. It is an ancient feast, dating back to as early as 68 AD - one of the four most important Feasts in the Christian calendar. It is known as the Feast of Ascension, taking place on the Thursday 40 days after Easter, marking the end of the Easter season and falling ten days before Pentecost.

In the past, attendance at Church was mandatory and I can vouch for this. As an Infant teacher in a Church School, we had to take the whole school to Church on Ascension Day, the Church being a long, uphill walk away!

The significance of Ascension Day in Christianity today is that it affirms the belief in the exaltation of Jesus and his continued presence with his followers.

In Western churches many believed that, when Christ ascended, the sky was blessed, so all water that falls from the sky on Ascension Day is also blessed.

- In some areas, people collected any rainwater that fell on Ascension Day, believing that it would heal the sick, but work of any sort was thought to be unlucky.
- Washing clothes was a particularly bad idea – some even said that if you did the laundry on Ascension Day someone in the family would die.
- Just as you couldn't wash clothes you couldn't make them or mend them either. as clothing that had been touched by a needle was thought to attract lightning.
- Fishing doesn't count as work because Ascension Day is the start of the fishing season in some places.
- According to old legends you were more likely to drown on this day than any other, therefore rivers and lakes were considered particularly dangerous on Ascension Day

Ascension Day across Britain is associated with various local festivals ranging from

- Planting of the 'Penny Hedge' (or 'Horngarth') in the harbour at Whitby, Yorkshire.
- Well Dressing in Derbyshire - (*we visited many when living in Sheffield*)

Beating the Bounds, or Boundaries, of a church's parish. The custom was

once found in almost every English parish but now is only carried out in a few places. In modern times, it involves people in the locality walking around their farm, manorial church or civil boundaries, pausing as they pass certain trees, walls and hedges that denote the extent of the boundary to exclaim, pray and ritually 'beat' particular landmarks with sticks.

- In England, eggs laid on Ascension Day are said to 'never go bad' and will guarantee good luck for a household if placed in the roof.
- If the weather is sunny the summer will be long and hot. If it rains, then crops will do badly and livestock will suffer from disease.
- In Devon, it was an ancient belief that the clouds always formed into the familiar Christian image of a lamb on Ascension Day.



For many Christians, Ascension Day still provides a sense of hope that the glorious and triumphant return of Jesus is always there. It is a reminder of the ever-present Spirit of God, watching over and protecting them as they spread the light of Jesus' truth throughout the world.

*Jenny Jones*

## St. Mary's Garden Update

*"Grass is the cheapest plant to install, and the most expensive to maintain."*



How true this quote is proving to be! As reported in the March magazine, action has already been taken to help recovery of the grass area so badly damaged by the hot spell last summer.

Unfortunately, it has not recovered as hoped therefore, it has to be scarified again, reseeded and then top dressed. This means that this patch will be out of bounds while the seed grows. All

this is taking longer than we had anticipated. but please bear with us until there is a beautiful green area once more.

Thank you for your understanding and patience.

Dawn and Jenny, the Gardening Team.

# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Samuel 8:1-10:1, 17-24

Samuel had been a good leader of Israel  
but he was now old. The leaders of the  
twelve tribes came to talk to him...

We want a king like all  
the other countries



God told Samuel

It's not you they are  
rejecting but Me.



If you have a king, he will  
take your sons to be his  
army and your daughters to  
work in his palace.

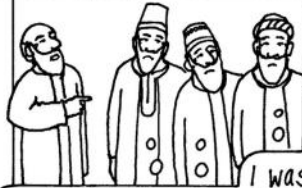


He will take the best of  
your land, your crops  
and your animals



We still want a king.

Samuel sent them home.



I was  
hoping he would choose me..

Saul and his servant were  
looking for some donkeys  
that had run off.



They decided to ask  
Samuel to ask God  
where the donkeys were



God told Samuel that  
Saul was to be the  
king



Samuel called everyone to a  
meeting and told them that  
God had chosen a king.

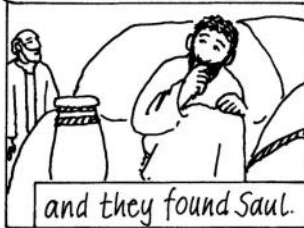


God told them that Saul  
was to be their king...



but Saul was hiding.

He's behind the luggage.



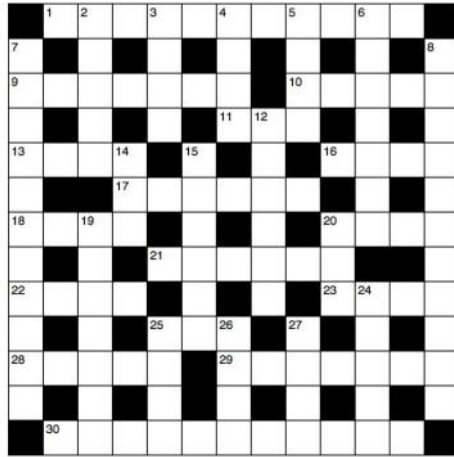
and they found Saul.

The people cheered!



Long live the King!

# CROSSWORD



## Across

- 1 Overpowered (Deuteronomy 11:4) (11)  
 9 'The — are mantled with corn' (Psalm 65:13) (7)  
 10 'Each man—a sword to his side' (Exodus 32:27) (5)  
 11 On the death of Jesus the curtain in the temple was torn from— to bottom (Matthew 27:51) (3)  
 13 Stagger (Isaiah 28:7) (4)  
 16 'Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought—and doesn't do it, sins' (James 4:17) (2,2)  
 17 Stir up or provoke (Acts 13:50) (6)  
 18 Burden (Luke 11:46) (4)  
 20 'As far as the east is from the—, so far has he removed our transgressions from us' (Psalm 103:12) (4)  
 21 Sign (Luke 23:38) (6)  
 22 'After that, Jesus poured water into a basin and began to—his disciples' feet' (John 13:5) (4)  
 23 The nature of the seven ears of corn which swallowed up the good ears in Pharaoh's dream (Genesis 41:23) (4)  
 25 Has (anag.) (3)  
 28 'This is the account of Shem, Ham and Japheth, —sons' (Genesis 10:1) (5)  
 29 'I will...make them drunk, so that they...sleep for—and— awake' (Jeremiah 51:39) (4,3)  
 30 Paul said of him, 'he often refreshes me and is not ashamed of my chains' (2 Timothy 1:16) (11)

## Down

- 2 Worth (Matthew 13:46) (5)  
 3 'A bruised — He will not break' (Matthew 12:20) (4)  
 4 'Suddenly a great company of the heavenly — appeared with the angel' (Luke 2:13) (4)  
 5 Slip (anag.) (4)  
 6 'Take an awl and push it through his — — into the door, and he will become your servant for life' (Deuteronomy 15:17) (3,4)  
 7 Bountiful (2 Corinthians 8:2) (11)  
 8 'Therefore, as we have —, let us do good to all people' (Galatians 6:10) (11)  
 12 Acquire (2 Timothy 2:10) (6)  
 14 Container cover (Numbers 19:15) (3)  
 15 'He...became obedient to death, even death on—!' (Philippians 2:8) (1,5)  
 19 Refrain (1 Peter 2:11) (7)  
 20 'She began to—his feet with her tears' (Luke 7:38) (3)  
 24 One who worships Brahma, Vishnu or Shiva (5)  
 25 'Give to everyone who—you' (Luke 6:30) (4)  
 26 'I lift up my eyes to the hills; where does my—come from?' (Psalm 121:1) (4)  
 27 One of those whom the Lord said would be taken from Jerusalem and Judah as judgment on them (Isaiah 3:2) (4)

# COMMUNITY

## Dorothy House Service of Celebration at Bath Abbey



Our 50th Anniversary service is happening at Bath Abbey on Friday 1st May - we will be remembering the lives of over 75,000 patients who have been supported by the hospice.

We will celebrate the people who helped make that possible and recognise the vital role that spiritual care, offered by us all, will continue to play in the years ahead. This event is just one of the ways we are celebrating 50 years of care.

Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7pm start.

If you would like to attend you can book your ticket at:  
<https://www.dorothyhouse.org.uk/get-involved/events/50th-anniversary-service/>

Best wishes,

*Clare - Dorothy House*



dorothyhouse.org.uk

**You are invited**  
to a service of thanksgiving  
to celebrate 50 years of care.

CLICK  
HERE TO  
RSVP

This will be a moment to remember the more than 75,000 lives and deaths supported in that time, celebrate the people who helped make that possible and to recognise the vital role that spiritual care, offered by us all, will continue to play in the years ahead.

**1 May 2026,  
6.30pm doors  
for a 7pm start,  
Bath Abbey**

For more information contact [james.byron@dorothyhouse-hospice.org.uk](mailto:james.byron@dorothyhouse-hospice.org.uk)



## COMMUNITY

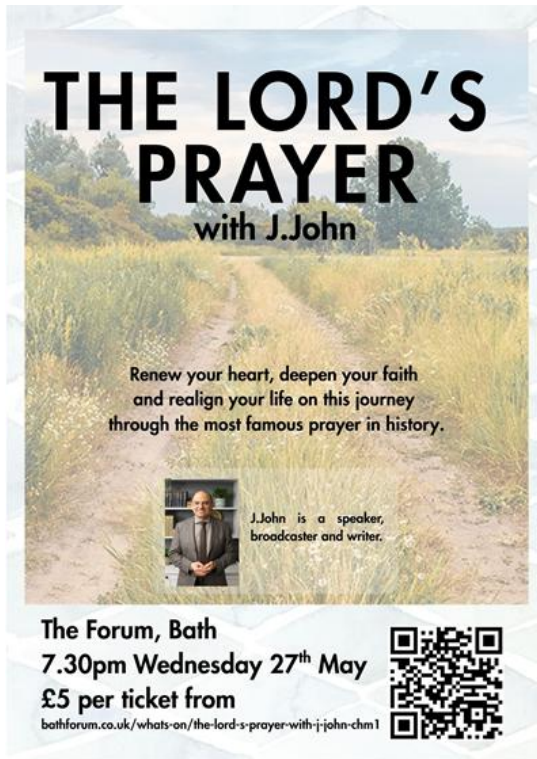
### The Lord's Prayer

This year, as a Diocese, we are being encouraged to focus on the Lord's Prayer. As part of this, and together with churches across Bath, we are delighted that J. John will be coming to speak on this vital and inspiring prayer. It is over 20 years since he came to lead a series on the Ten Commandments, and we look forward to this new series being a focus for us as churches in Bath.

The event will take place at The Forum on Wednesday 27th May, with tickets at only £5. We would love you to join us, and we would also be very grateful if you could share this event with others in your church and consider bringing a friend along.

Tickets can be purchased through this link:

[bathforum.co.uk/whats-on/the-lord-s-prayer-with-j-john-chm1](http://bathforum.co.uk/whats-on/the-lord-s-prayer-with-j-john-chm1)




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[bathforum.co.uk/whats-on/the-lord-s-prayer-with-j-john-chm1](http://bathforum.co.uk/whats-on/the-lord-s-prayer-with-j-john-chm1)



*Revd Roger Driver—Area Dean & Rector St Michael's  
without)*

## Answers to April crossword

**ACROSS:** 1, Cosmic. 4, Thomas. 8, In his. 9, Delaiah. 10, Falwell. 11, Water. 12, Recovered. 17, Sidon. 19, Radiant. 21, Centaur. 22, Broil. 23, Eleven. 24, Prison.

**DOWN:** 1, Cliffs. 2, Scholar. 3, Issue. 5, Holy war. 6, Moist. 7, Sphere. 9, Deliverer. 13, Candace. 14, Deacons. 15, Psyche. 16, Stolen. 18, Dance. 20, Debar.

## 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**

The Bathwick Baby and Toddler Group meet at Bathwick St Mary's Church Hall on Wednesday and Friday mornings between 9.30am-11.30am (including school Holidays except August).

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.

Sessions are set up and run on a rota basis by church volunteers. We are always thankful for anyone who is able to offer his or her time to help.

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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](http://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.*