

Free - donations welcome

March 2025

BATHWICK NEWS

www.bathwickparishes.org.uk



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 Bp Alastair Redfern 07706 076203
The Revd. Antony Claridge 427462
The Revd. Richard Hunt 938529
The Revd. Robert Webb 484042

READERS Dr Marilyn Kirby 835765
Mr Marcus Wedge 07493 198778
Mr Stephen Howard 466590

READER EMERITUS Cdr. Thomas Bunn 723222

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

DEANERY SYNOD *St Mary's:* Cdr T Bunn, Mr S Howard, Mrs N Parker
(House of Laity) *St John's:* Mr David Wright

CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

affiliated to The Society of St Wilfred & St Hilda

St John's Road, BA2 6PT

CHURCHWARDENS

Mr Adrian Plummer 07880 701139
Mrs Di Shelley 722917

HON PCC SECRETARY

Please contact the Churchwardens

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

FINANCE TEAM

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

PLANNED GIVING AND GIFT AID

Mrs Dawn Lennard 429277

ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER

Mr Andrew Parker 834108

BATHWICK NEWS

Advertisements Mr Nick Lennard 07980 591449
Distribution The Parish Office 447450

SACRISTY TEAM

Mrs Molly Wedge 07493 198778

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Mrs Nicola Parker 834108

HEALTH & SAFETY OFFICER

Mr Marcus Wedge 07493 198778

TOWER (*Bell Ringers*)

Tower Captain
Correspondent 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

BATHWICK ST MARY PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

FLOWERS

Parish Office (see below for details) 447450

CHURCH HALL HIRE

Parish Office (see below for details) 447450

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)

MARCH 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: 2 March (Choral) Evensong

16 March (sung) Evensong and 23 March (said) Evensong



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

9am every Sunday, Parish Mass & Sermon

9.30am every Tuesday, said Mass

10.30am every Thursday, said Mass

9.30am every Saturday, said Mass



Sunday evening services:

9 March 4pm Evensong & Benediction and 30 March 4pm Evensong & Benediction

ASH WEDNESDAY, 5 MARCH

- 10.30am Mass at St John's
- 7.30pm Sung Mass at St Mary's



LENT IN THE BATHWICK PARISHES

We will study *Jane Austen, Bath and the Future of the Church*—see p.11 of this magazine for further details.

Meetings at 7.30pm on Thursdays in Lent starting on 6th March at St Mary's Church Hall—all welcome.

If you would like to attend please either email the parish office at office@bathwickparishes.org.uk or telephone the parish office on (01225) 447450 so we know the approx. number of people attending.

The devotional meditation on the Passion of the Lord known as Stations of the Cross will be prayed each week:

- 10am on Thursdays at St John's (from 6th March)
- 10am on Fridays at St Mary's (from 7th March)

A LETTER FROM BISHOP ALASTAIR REDFERN

Lent- Don't Give Up

Lent is traditionally a time of discipline – the time when Christians try harder to be more faithful disciples and followers of the Way. It has often been characterised by the discipline of giving up something – a habit, a pleasure, chocolate..... Ways of reminding ourselves of our tendency to build our disciplines around who we think we should be and how we choose to behave. We think that to give something up, will strengthen us and our witness.

On Good Friday, when Jesus was being asked to give up His life, He said ‘ Father into your hands, I commend my spirit ‘. He did not give up, He gave away. He gave away to God’s greater and richer new life.

This should be our focus in Lent – not to give up something – which tends to reinforce how we choose to live out our Christian calling, but we should try to give away, to create space for the gift of new life, new opportunities, encounters, priorities – a taste of Resurrection .

If we want to use Lent to follow our Lord in His way of the cross, perhaps we should be wary of observing this season by giving up things – we might better develop our spiritual and personal discipleship by seeking the courage and guidance to give something away – some part of our life – a habit, a pleasure, a priority – not to seek improvement for ourselves, but to give God room to inspire and call us in His service in new ways. Could this Lent be a time of asking for guidance to be ready to receive new life in the Easter season – a new life which is possible because we have been able to give away what might be limiting or hindering our better fulfilment of our calling.

Father into your hands may we learn to commend our spirit.

As we continue to pray for Father Peter and Claire during this time of sabbatical, may I offer a huge thanks on behalf of the church to so many people who are undertaking roles and responsibilities to enable our worship and our witness to flourish.

Blessings,

Bishop Alastair

SERVICE MUSIC AT ST MARY'S for MARCH 2025

2 March - Sunday before Lent C

10.30am Sung Mass (Fr Richard Hunt)

E: Christ is the world's true light NEH494 (t NEH413)

O: Jesus, these eyes have never seen NEH389

C: Christ upon the mountain peak NEH177

R: 'Tis good, Lord, to be here NEH178

setting: Greening

psalm: 99

motet: Whitlock: Here, O my Lord

organ: Whitlock: Paean

6pm Choral Evensong (Fr Richard Hunt)

Off: O Jesu, king most wonderful NEH386 (t NEH385)

R: Saviour, again to thy dear name we raise NEH250

introit: Bednall:

responses: Clucas

psalms: 89:1-18

setting: Noble in B minor

anthem: Shepherd: Jesu, dulcis memoria

5 March - Ash Wednesday

7.30pm Sung Mass (Bp Alastair Redfern)

E: I heard the voice of Jesus say NEH376

Ashing: The Lent Prose NEH507 or other suitable music

O: Take up thy cross, the Saviour said NEH76

C: Lord Jesus, think on me NEH70i

R: O for a heart to praise my God NEH74

setting: Darke in A minor

psalm: 51

motet: Purcell: Thou knowest, Lord

9 March - Lent 1C

10.30am Sung Mass (Bp Alastair Redfern)

E: Forty days and forty nights NEH67

O: O for a closer walk with God NEH414

C: Thee we adore, O hidden Saviour, thee NEH308

R: God is working his purpose out NEH495

setting: Lotti: Missa Brevis in D

psalm: 91

motet: Rachmaninov: To Thee, O Lord

organ: Rheinberger: Prelude (*Sonata 1*)

16 March - Lent 2C (Bath Half Marathon)

10.30am Sung Mass (Fr Richard Hunt) (NO CHOIR)

E: At the name of Jesus NEH338 (*omit**)

Gr: Word of the Father, source of all things living NEH315

O: Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart NEH339

C: Be still for the presence of the Lord CHE72

R: Ye servants of God, your master proclaim NEH476

setting: Inwood

psalm: 27 (if used)

organ: Bach: Aus tiefer Not BWV687

6pm Sung Mass (Bp Alastair Redfern/Dr Naomi Heffer)

E: At the name of Jesus NEH338 (*omit**)

O: Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart NEH339

C: Jesu, grant me this, I pray NEH382

R: Ye servants of God, your master proclaim NEH476

setting: Harker in G

psalm: 27

motet: Tallis: O nata lux

organ: Vivaldi/Bach: Concerto in A minor (i)

23 March - Lent 3C

10.30am Sung Mass (Bp Alastair Redfern/Mr Stephen Howard)

E: Praise the Lord! ye heavens adore him NEH437

O: My faith looks up to thee NEH72

C: Rock of ages, cleft for me NEH445

R: Firmly I believe and truly NEH360

setting: Viadana: Missa 'L'Hora Passa'

psalm: 63

motet: Farrant: Call to remembrance

organ: Bach: Fantasia in C minor BWV 562

30 March - Lent 4C (Mothering Sunday)

10.30am Sung Mass (Fr Richard Hunt/Bp Alastair Redfern)

E: All ye who seek a comfort sure NEH63

Gr: The God of love my shepherd is NEH77

O: Songs of praise the angels sang NEH451

C: Jesu, my Lord, my God, my all NEH384

R: Now thank we all our God NEH413

setting: Archer: Bath & Wells Mass

psalm: 32 (if used)

motet: Rutter: For the beauty of the earth

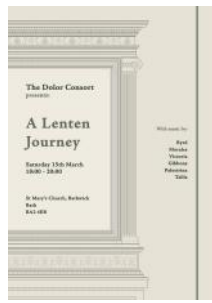
organ: Gawthorp: Toccata Brevis

CONCERTS IN MARCH

Tuesday 4th March - Edith Pageaud Concert at St Mary's Church 7.30pm-8.45pm

Chords of Light and Shadow

More information and tickets available from:
www.concerteventsglobal.com/edith



The Dolor Consort presents:

A Lenten Journey

Saturday 15th March at St Mary's Church 6pm-8pm

A choral recital programme of 16th century polyphony.

Tickets £5/£8 available from www.eventbrite.co.uk

Bath Cantata Group Concert

Saturday 29th March at St Mary's Church 7.30pm

Louis Vierne *Messe Solennelle*

John Rutter

Requiem

and more

Tickets available from www.bathcantatagroup.co.uk, Bath Box Office (01225) 463362 and on the door.



Choral & Orchestral University of Bath Easter Concert

Sunday 30th March at St Mary's Church

More information to follow on:
www.thesubath.com/chaos/concerts and the weekly notice sheet.

UNIVERSITY OF BATH
Chaos
CHORAL & ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY

St Mary the Virgin Church, Bathwick



Organist: Gary Desmond
Conductor: Michael Painting

CONCERT

DURUFLÉ REQUIEM

and music by

Palestrina, Lotti, Gibbons and others

Saturday 22nd March, 7.30 pm

Admission free: Retiring collection
for St Mary's Choral Bursaries and the Chamber Choir

UNIVERSITY OF BATH
ChaoS
CHORAL & ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY

**Restoration Action Group News:
New Series of illustrated Travel Lectures focusing on Orkney starts
Monday 3rd March**

After our series of Travel Lectures on Australia last year, we will be returning nearer home, well relatively speaking, for the first three lectures of 2025 on the Orkney Isles which I revisited in May 2023. The main focus was exploring the less visited islands of Westray and Papa Westray (which are the subject of the second and third lectures respectively) with a few days in and around the island capital of Kirkwall

First Lecture: Orkney Revisited, Kirkwall Plus. Monday 3rd March (7:30pm in St Mary's Church Hall)

During the first part of the evening, we will be discovering more about the islands' rich history, dating back to neolithic times. Indeed, it has a designated UNESCO World Heritage site which includes the Ring of Brodgar, which we will be visiting. While no account of Orkney's history would be complete without looking at Viking history and the role of the Orkney Earls, we will also discover Orkney's links with the 17th century Scottish Covenantors and a tragic shipwreck in 1679, as well as uncovering the story of John Rae Orkney's forgotten Artic explorer!

Not only does Orkney have a fascinating history, it also has wonderful wildlife, especially birds, which Jean Ross (Great Orkney Tours) helped me discover during a special birding day. Highlights included Little Terns (a first for me), great views of a short-eared owl in flight and something I wasn't expecting to see, a cuckoo!

As usual there is no admission charge as we invite donations (Gift Aided if possible as this raises more for Restoration Funds). There will also be a raffle with the star prize of a bottle of Aussie Wine that fits in with the evening. Confused? Australian Wine? Want to discover the link? Well, you will just have to come to the lecture to find out!

Everyone is warmly welcome, so why not invite a friend or neighbour to come along with you to these evenings? There will be great photos to enjoy, and the opportunity to learn more about Orkney, a fascinating area of Scotland. If you would like any more information, please have a chat with me.

Future Travel Lecture Dates for your Diary:

Monday 28th April 2025: Exploring Westray (7:30pm in St Mary's Church Hall)

Monday 2nd June 2025: Exploring Papa Westray (7:30pm in St Mary's Church Hall)

We then take our usual summer break before restarting **Monday 29th September** with the first of a new series of Aussie Lectures beginning with Cairns in northern Queensland.

Marilyn Kirby

Monday 3rd March
7:30 pm, in St Mary's Bathwick Church Hall

Orkney Revisited: Kirkwall Plus

An illustrated travel lecture by
Dr Marilyn J. Kirby



Themed Raffle and Light Refreshments
Retiring collection in aid of
St Mary's Restoration Appeal

LENT GROUP 2025

**Jane Austen, Bath
and the Future of the Church**

**A Series of Six Lectures and
Discussions**

**St. Mary's Bathwick
7.30pm Thursdays
March 6,13,20,27 & April 3**



SOME CHARITY FOR OTHERS IN MARCH

ST JOHN'S CHURCH gives away 10% of its general income at the end of each year to support 12 charities. Each month we remember the work of one of these charities. Please support these good causes.

Charity for March: BRIDGEMEAD CARE HOME

Bridgemead Care Home is supported by a Christian Charity and provides support for older people in the later stages of their lives. It caters for all levels of need including short and long term stays with levels of nursing care according to need. It is situated opposite St. John's Church and there is regular contact between members of the Clergy and congregation including regular Communion Services and special events.

Our financial support offers a small opportunity for 'extras' in the Home which is appreciated by the staff and residents together with social visits.

Mary Barry

ST MARY'S CHURCH makes weekly collections during the Sunday services using the "Alms" envelopes which are given away to a different charity each month. At St Mary's during March we will support:

For the first four weeks of March, we will be supporting Bath Women's Refuge and, on the 5th Sunday of March, which is Mothering Sunday, we will be sending the money to our Zambia Link, St James Buchi.

Bath Women's Refuge

Each year around 8,400 individuals in Bath and North East Somerset experience domestic abuse (both familial and intimate partner abuse). This number includes approximately 1500 adults over 60 and 4,500 (54% of the victim population) disabled adults. The majority of domestic violence victims are female, aged between 21 and 50. Hence the need for high quality refuge accommodation for survivors of domestic abuse, with or without their children. Julian House is the single point of access for this accommodation which is provided in partnership with BANES Council and Curo. Access is via a professional or self-referral.

Each survivor is allocated a support worker to be alongside the survivor. It is a huge decision to come into a refuge, but survivors will be listened to and supported to recover and live a life free from abuse. As well as high quality safe refuge accommodation, survivors have access to legal and financial advice and specialist children and family support.

St James Buchi, our Zambia link

In the February edition of the Bathwick News, Jo Hunt shared some photos from Buchi showing the church's housing project which our donations last year helped to fund. Our

financial support gave them “renewed hope and motivation” to see their housing projects through to completion. They also used some of the money to buy Christmas hampers of food for their elderly and vulnerable people and bought a new amplifier to improve their sound system for church services and community events. Our donations this year are likely to provide further assistance with their housing projects.

Robin and Sarah Davies

BLANKETS NEEDED!

Do you have any blankets hidden away in a cupboard that you no longer need? If so, Bath City Pastors would be very grateful to have them. We give them out to those who are sleeping rough or who do not have enough warm clothes to wear in this very cold weather that we have been having. Size doesn't matter as we can cut large ones in half to give out. Please bring them to church and I will collect them. I am at St Mary's on Sundays, and I can arrange to collect any from St John's.

*Sarah Davies
Bath City Pastor*

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Some people think reconciliation is a soft option...that it means papering over the cracks. But the biblical meaning means looking at the facts in the face and it can be very costly; it cost God the death of His own Son.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu quoted Peter Godwin *Sunday Times magazine* 8 June 1986.

PRAYER OF THE MONTH

Jesus, You did not live apart from humanity or above humanity but alongside humanity. You identified with us in everything-except sin. Amen



ST MARY'S CHARITIES FOR 2025

This is based on the decision made by the PCC on 20th November 2024 to have one local charity a month and three national charities in those months where there are 5 Sundays in the month.

January

Mercy in Action

February

Bath Life Project (this is proposed as an alternative to Bath City Pastors who have requested a pause in donations. It is a Christian local charity working with people with learning disabilities)

March (5 Sundays)

Bath Women's Refuge

April

Dorothy House

May

Bath Food Bank with Sunday May 11th for Christian Aid as we also give food donations to the charity

June (5 Sundays)

Developing Health and Independence with June 9th 2025, Pentecost, having a collection for Bathwick honorary/assistant clergy

July

Genesis Trust

August (5 Sundays)

Bath Welcomes Refugees with one Sunday for a collection for the Mission to Sea Farers as Sea Sunday falls in July

September

Bath Open Christmas

October

Goa Anglican Centre

November (5 Sundays)

Pastoral Fund with Combat Stress on Remembrance Sunday, November 9th

December

Julian House (to include the Christmas collections or The Clewer Initiative as 2024)

Bathwick Pilgrimage September 15th to 19th 2025

Dear Bathwick Congregation,

I am very pleased to confirm that St John the Baptist, Midsomer Norton pilgrims and the church group from Swindon New Town will be sharing our journey to Walsingham by coach this year. This cuts the cost of travel quite a bit!



I estimate the cost to be £400 per person, and have based that on us being 15 pilgrims.

It would be lovely to have some new or returning faces amongst our group, so please let me know by Sunday 30th March if you wish to go on this years Pilgrimage. I can be contacted on:

Home: 01249712894 Mobile: 07870216479

Email: christine.a.plummer@gmail.com

Kind regards,

Chris Plummer, Bathwick Cell Secretary

WALSINGHAM PRAYER GROUP

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

The next prayer meeting will be on:

Sunday 9th March at 5pm at St John's.



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

Food items Bath Foodbank are currently in need of:

Rice (dry), tinned fruit, tinned carrots and peas, long life juice and (UHT) milk.

Non food items Bath Foodbank are currently in need of:

Single bars of soap and deodorant.

Donations can be left at the back of both churches.

Lent Lunches at
St John's Church Hall, St John's Road
Thursday from 12pm to 1.30pm



Starting 13th March for 4 weeks

All proceeds to various local Charities

Green News

Rewilding projects are taking place nationwide. Beavers are being introduced into a designated natural area near Shrewsbury in Shropshire. This is in order to bring water naturally into an old dried out river bed. Elk introduced in the Norfolk fens, Lynx in Scotland (unauthorised), Storks introduced in London.

Google on line has found that Otters have been in the centre of Bath including near Pulteney Bridge and out at Batheaston. The BBC News has reported other sightings on the rise in the centre of Bath and Otters are now considered a tourist attraction in the City.

The February 03 to 09 Big Issue weekly magazine had an article on 'These pioneering rewilding projects' helping to bring back nature to Britain which noted that Youngwilders is putting on a youth rewilding summit in the north of England. And the charity Trees for life has brought together 120 individuals and groups as part of the Common Ground Forum to figure out how to best help deer thrive alongside residents and the natural world in the Scottish Highlands.

Keith and Helen Moss

MONTH'S MIND

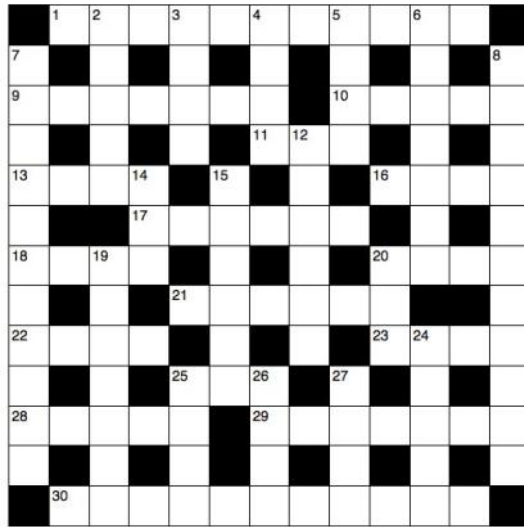
Please pray for those whose anniversary of death falls in March

- 1st Clara Holland, Ada Colley, Edward Humphreys, Helen Wilton, Betty Rising, Kathleen Edythe Young, Jack Manaton
- 2nd Alfred Newing, Frank Jones
- 3rd Eleanor Francis, Emma Lisle, David Robinson, Mary Sainsbury, Douglas Hanks
- 4th Isabel Shickle, Bill James, Robert Gurney Hodges
- 5th Albert Angell, Eliza Tagg, Marjorie Turvey
- 6th Catherine Jones, Hannah Trace, Aline Forester, Mabel Stubbs, Alfred Whitson, John Brown
- 7th Joan Burges, Blanche Fenton, David Norton, Amy Minnett, Mary Musgrave, Charles Watson
- 8th George Moir, Noel Staddon, Hilda Wyman
- 9th Victoria Styles, Florence Haxell, Alec Coles
- 10th Clara Toone, Louisa Petheram, Paul Corbould, Thomas Leach (Priest), Theodora Hossack, Rosa Julia Ost, Betty Venables, Frank Stubbings (Priest)
- 11th Mary Craddock, Winifred Grubb, Edna Gavin, Ellen Brinkworth, Doreen Winnicott
- 12th George Semple, Gladys Speed, Stanley Fudge, Grace Bright, Anne Trueman, Neil Stevens, Doris Emily Wheatland
- 13th Frederick Hunt, Reginald Ross, John Pegg (Priest), Stanley Moorcroft Epps (Priest), Ernest William George (Bill) Portnall (Priest)
- 14th Sarah Rose, Ann Hooper, Gladys Mary Payne
- 15th Emma Loades, Lily Ingham, Alan Fenton
- 16th James Rivers, Jane Brockliss, Thomas Harding, Marguerite Perrett
- 17th Peter Whitfield
- 18th William Wills, Helena Harris, Stanley Pearce
- 19th William Randolph (Priest), William Patch, Graham Hamilton
- 20th Jane Semple, Blanche Tylee, George Herbert, Ivy Chivers, Dennis Hughes
- 21st Henry Davies, George Bond, Fanny Capel, John Lethbridge
- 22nd Josephone Merrett, Edward Clark
- 23rd Luninta Salisbury, Edith Wynell-Mayow, Emily Barber, Kathleen Herbert, Emma Mackintosh, John Stevenson, Sarah Huntley, Jack Soltys
- 24th Annie Turner, Gilbert Maggs, Charles Trevelyan (Priest), Geoffrey White, Marie Ireland, Frances Rae, Alex Beardsley, Edward Antony Claridge, Aidan Portnall, Mary Hughes
- 25th Elspeth Inverain, Margaret Beaumont, John Atwell (Priest), Norah Bailey, Ivy Willis
- 26th Emily Willis, Hilda Holmes
- 27th Minnie Webster
- 28th Grace Lansley, Alice Romily, Fred Holland, Agnes Poynton, Margaret Fry
- 29th Thomas Keepence, Emily White, Dorothy Tennant
- 30th Agnes Strong, Gladys Holbrook
- 31st Alice Wills, George Heslop (Priest), Nora Holmden, Kate Mountford

**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.**

CROSSWORD



ACROSS:

- 1 These letters come between Romans and Galatians (11)
- 9 'You will not — me to the grave' (Psalm 16:10) (7)
- 10 King of Moab to whom the Israelites were subject for 18 years (Judges 3:14) (5)
- 11 Town possessing mineral spring (3)
- 13 Mede (anag.) (4)
- 16 High-fidelity (abbrev.) (4)
- 17 He succeeded his father Rehoboam as king of Judah (1 Kings 14:31) (6)
- 18 A son of Simeon (Genesis 46:10) (4)
- 20 Controversial religious book of the 1970s, The — of God Incarnate (4)
- 21 'He has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you — — and hear' (Acts 2:33) (3,3)
- 22 'You — me together in my mother's womb' (Psalm 139:13) (4)
- 23 Edit (anag.) (4)
- 25 'Who has believed our message and to whom has the — of the Lord been revealed?' (Isaiah 53:1) (3)
- 28 Abraham's brother (Genesis 22:23) (5)
- 29 'When Mordecai learned of — that had been — , he tore his clothes' (Esther 4:1) (3,4)
- 30 Sympathetic (Proverbs 11:16) (4-7)

DOWN:

- 2 'That was why his parents said, "He is — —; ask him"' (John 9:23) (2,3)
- 3 Integrated Services Digital Network (1,1,1,1) 4
- 4 'Saul has slain his thousands, and David his — of thousands' (1 Samuel 18:7) (4)
- 5 Concept (John 8:14) (4)
- 6 'Do we, then, — the law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, we uphold the law' (Romans 3:31) (7)
- 7 Industrious (2 Timothy 2:6) (11)
- 8 'I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be — in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you' (Ephesians 1:18) (11)
- 12 'Out of the same mouth come — and cursing' (James 3:10) (6)
- 14 This was how many of the Jewish leaders described Jesus (John 10:20) (3)
- 15 Vitality (Job 20:11) (6)
- 19 He urged David to kill Saul at Hakilah (1 Samuel 26:8) (7)
- 20 'So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul — with the church and taught great numbers of people' (Acts 11:26) (3)
- 24 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord — — ' (Deuteronomy 6:4) (2,3)
- 25 Parched (Matthew 12:43) (4)
- 26 'In the image of God he created him; — and female he created them' (Genesis 1:27) (4)
- 27 Disparagement (Psalm 15:3) (4)

Open yourself afresh



Did you ever wonder where the term 'Lent' comes from? The word is a gift from our Anglo-Saxon past. It means 'lengthen', a naming of the longed-for reality of this time of year when we become aware that, at last, the short days of winter are coming to an end, the nights are drawing out and the days are getting longer, they're lengthening.

As well as naming what we're seeing, Lent has its meaning within the life of the Church. Its season of 40 days is a time of preparation for the coming of Easter, our annual celebration of Jesus rising from the dead. It reflects the 40 days that Jesus was tempted in the wilderness after his baptism. So, for much of Christian history it's been a time of prayer and fasting - the origin of our 'giving something up for Lent'.

Lent developed from the practice of the early Church. Back then, as still happens today, converts entered into the faith through baptism. The main time that baptism took place was Easter Eve, the night before Easter Sunday. Lent marked the final, intensive 40 days of preparation experienced by those to be baptised (known as catechumens) in readiness for their embarking fully on their new life with Christ.

The time to get ready for Lent is now. This year its first day, Ash Wednesday, falls on the 5 March. There's so much we can do to bring this season home into our hearts. Why not join your church's Lent Group? Read one of the Lent books available at this time of year? Take something up? Commit to a regular time of prayer? Find out about getting confirmed? Lent is a rich gift to us to go deeper into our Christian life. As the days lengthen and the light comes, I encourage you to use this time to open yourself afresh to the one who comes to us afresh with new life at Easter - the risen Lord, Jesus Christ himself.

Michael Beasley
Bishop of Bath and Wells



St David's Day - 1st March

Wales celebrates St David's Day on 1st March and events across Wales will mark this greatest Welsh Saint who has been their Patron Saint since the 12th Century. But what do we actually know about him?

He established many religious communities and gives his name to the smallest city in Britain, but much of what we "know" is based on the Latin writings of Rhygyfarch some 500 years after St David lived. His image has changed over the centuries as many of the early pictures portray him as a very powerful Archbishop but, that was never the case. In fact he was more a hermit, scholarly, humble and down-to-earth.

So, whether meek or mighty, here are some points to ponder.

- An angel foretold his birth to St Patrick some 30 years before it happened - sometime between 462 and 515 AD.
- He lived more than 100 years and died on 1 March 589 - hence St David's Day.
- Whenever it was, legend says his mother Non (a nun who later canonised herself) gave birth on a cliff-top in Pembrokeshire during a fierce storm. A bolt of lightning from heaven is said to have struck the rock splitting it in two, where a nearby holy well is said to have healing powers.
- His father was Sant, the Prince of Powys, and his grandfather King Ceredig who founded Ceredigion.
- David was the name he was baptised with but Non named her son Dewidd - Dewi to the locals.
- He was educated at a monastery becoming a missionary and renowned preacher, spreading Christianity and founding monastic settlements and churches in Wales, Brittany and south-west England.
- He visited Glastonbury to rededicate the abbey and donated a travelling altar that included a great sapphire which was stolen 1,000 years later.
- Like any seaside tourist, David reputedly brought back a rock (not the pink boiled sugar kind) from his pilgrimage to Jerusalem. That stone now sits in an altar at St David's Cathedral, which was built on the site of his original monastery.
- He is said to have cured his tutor of blindness with the sign of the cross and brought a dead boy back to life by splashing the child's face with tears.
- The ground beneath his feet in Llanddewi Brefi rose up to form a hill so people at the back of a large crowd could hear him speak before a white dove, sent by God, settled on his shoulder.
- His shrine was so important that Pope Callistus II said two pilgrimages to St David's were worth one to the Vatican.
- His last words to his followers came from a sermon he gave on the Sunday



before his death: 'Be joyful, keep the faith, and do the little things that you have heard and seen me do.'

The phrase 'Gwnewch y pethau bychain' - 'Do the little things' - is still well-known in Wales.

Jenny Jones

MUSICAL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



On Thursday, 6th March St Mary's Choir will be singing Choral Evensong in Salisbury Cathedral at 5:30pm. If a day visiting Wiltshire's capital seems attractive, this could be the perfect way to end the day! We are excited to have been offered this date and we shall be pleased to see you there if you are able to join us. The service should last about forty minutes.

Since the restoration of the organ in St Mary's, it has been an ambition of mine to establish an annual Gala Recital to commemorate this historic event in the life of St Mary's and I am very pleased to say that the first of these will take place this year on Friday, 6th June at 7:30pm.

It will be given by the distinguished organist and choral director Martin Baker, formerly Organist and Master of the Music at Westminster Cathedral where there resides a magnificent four-manual Henry Willis III instrument, built between 1922 and 1932, which was fully restored in 1984 by Harrison & Harrison.

Further information to follow so – watch this space!

Gary Desmond

St Mary's Restoration Action Group Meeting

Monday 3rd March 2pm at St Mary's Choir Vestry.

All welcome, especially anyone interested in helping at St Mary's Summer Fete (14 June) or with ideas for other fundraising events.

Answers to February crossword

ACROSS: 8, Cross-examined. 9, Ash. 10, Apocrypha. 11, Sci-fi. 13, Typical. 16, Visited. 19, Offer. 22, No account. 24, RAC. 25, Sovereign Lord.

DOWN: 1, Oceans. 2, Hophni. 3, Islamist. 4, Exhort. 5, Omar. 6, On spec. 7, Add all. 12, CBI. 14, Plotting. 15, Awe. 16, Vanish. 17, Starve. 18, Daub it. 20, Furrow. 21, Recede. 23, Cure.

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.



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Wednesday & Friday mornings 9.30am-11.30am inc. school holidays

**at Bathwick St Mary's Church Hall
£2 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).

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 £2 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.

Come and join us!

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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

4.00pm EVENSONG & BENEDICTION

*(usually 2nd Sunday of each month;
6pm April-October)*



ST MARY'S

10.30am EUCHARIST & SERMON

followed by tea/coffee and biscuits in the hall

*(this service is live-streamed whenever possible
on the Bathwick Benefice News Facebook page)*

6.00pm CHORAL EVENSONG *(usually 1st Sunday of each month)*
or **(SAID) EVENSONG** *(except 2nd Sunday of each month)*

USUAL WORSHIP ON WEEKDAYS

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) by arrangement:
Please speak to a member of the ministry team

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.