

NewsLink

11 July—24 July 2021



Churches of North
Bradford on Avon
& Villages

Signs of Hope...

On Tuesday (29th June), Zoe and I had the pleasure of welcoming two classes of Foundation Year children to Christ Church. Their RE teacher had explained that this was the children's first external visit this academic year, their first to their church and the first time they had seen me and Zoe in person, rather than on video. She told us that the children were very excited!

Each class of 30 had been learning the different parts of the church building and they had various questions to ask along their theme of 'Why is a church building important to Christians?'

In groups of six children plus teacher, Zoe and I joined in to answer any questions as they explored the building. Naturally, being 4 or 5 years old, having seen the bell ropes up in the tower, they asked if they could go up there, but one question from a little boy was a first for me. "Can I climb up those?" he asked, pointing up to the organ pipes!

We majored on Jesus welcoming little children and Zoe read them two very short stories from The Children's Bible, one relating to The Lord's Prayer and the second focused on Jesus' remonstrating with his disciples. *Let the little children come unto me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.* The children were fascinated to discover that one of the stained-glass windows in the Sanctuary features this very saying, and the enormous centre pane is Jesus holding a small child in his arms.

This led us nicely into baptism and between us, Zoe and I enacted a baby's baptism. Zoe had brought in her family Baptism Gown, used to baptise many babies over the centuries and I baptised one of The Ark's dolls! Three children volunteered to be Godparents and there was an audible gasp when we actually lit the baptism candle that one of the Godparents was holding.

Fortunately, over the pandemic my rosemary bushes have really blossomed, so I cut over 60 sprigs for the children to dip into holy water and sprinkle on us, and each other, saying 'Remember your Baptism'. They might have arrived excited! They left as high as kites!!! And Zoe and I were very wet!

It is events like this, mostly unseen by our congregations, that can now start again and give us so much joy and hope. It was a real privilege to be alongside these little ones. Their questions showed real insight and genuine interest. At least five of the children present had been baptised in our churches, so do please continue to pray for them on their Christian journey, and for all the children we met that day.

May you too experience signs of hope as you journey through the week.

Revd Ann, Rector

Upcoming Events

Funerals

Evelyn Windo (formerly of South Wraxall)
Semington Crematorium on 22nd July at
14.00
Conducted by Revd Tessa Mann

Brian Pollock (formerly of St Nicholas,
Winsley)
Haycombe Crematorium on 28th July at
12.30
Conducted by Revd Ann

Climate Change Walk, Monday 19th July!

As mentioned in NewsLink last time, the YCCN (Youth Climate Change Network) have begun their all age relay walk to the Climate Change Conference of Parties 26 (COP26) in Glasgow.

The plan is to join them on the morning of **Monday, 19th July** at Dundas Viaduct and walk to Winsley. If you would like to join the walking group or assist with refreshments, please contact Zoe for more information.

Benefice Picnic!

Come and join us for a picnic on **Sunday, 25th July at 12 noon at the Play-ground, South**



Wraxall. Walking from the Village Hall, turn left for an entrance to the field on the right hand side. Toilets will be available at the Village Hall and parking is available there (next to the church). **Please bring your own chairs and picnics.** Any queries, please contact the Benefice Office.

The Ark meets at **Christ Church every Thursday 10 -11.30 in term time. Booking Essential:**

Email Zoe Yeomans
thearkatboa@gmail.com

Ark in the Park!

Thursday, 22nd July at 10am. Bring a picnic and rug!



Don't forget, **Kettle's On** returns on **Wednesday 21st July at 10- 12 in Winsley Church Hall.** Tea, coffee, cake and good conversation to be enjoyed!

Upcoming Services

Booking is essential, please contact the following people from your Parish. When joint services are held, please contact your usual Parish person.

St Peter's, Monkton Farleigh:

Rachel Exley: 01225 851485

St Nicholas, Winsley:

Roy Ludlow 01225 868779

St James, South Wraxall: **David Wyper 01225 865384 or Valentine Thornhill 01225 862552**

Christ Church:

Stephen and Hilary Pike 01225 782537

Sunday July 11 (contact Wendy Brown on 01225 862857)

10.30 am Joint Service at Christ Church (all churches)

Sunday July 18

10 am St Peter's, Monkton Farleigh (MF, SW)

10.30 am Christ Church (CC, W)

Sunday July 25

10 am St Nicholas, Winsley (CC, W)

10 am St James, South Wraxall (SW, MF)

Sunday August 1st

10am St Nicholas, Winsley. All churches joined with Winsley Methodist Church

Ministry Team:

Rector Rev Ann Keating

Rev.ann.keating@btinternet.com (722230)

Rev Tessa Mann (309374)

LLM: Rachel Pound (862223)

Benefice Office:

Caroline Brydon (865046), nboabenefice@gmail.com

Website www.nboachurches.co.uk

Church Wardens:

Winsley: Roy Ludlow (868779) Linds Batson (720069)

Christ Church: vacant, Contact Rev Ann Keating

South Wraxall: Dave Wyper (865384) Valentine Thornhill (862552)

Monkton Farleigh: Vacant. Contact Rachel Exley PCC Secretary (851485)

Lay Pastoral Assistants:

Stephen Pike (782537), Denise Davies (863678)

Gill Fairhurst (867560), Daphne Cox (868224)

Elizabeth Bush (866624), James Middleton (920564)

Children's and Families Worker:

Zoe Yeomans - zyeomans3@gmail.com

Future for Christ Church Community Project Update



Progress Update: 23 June 2021

We are very pleased to report that following many months of discussion, negotiation and us waiting, the Diocesan Advisory Committee has just decided that, once our architect has provided two short supplementary points of information, we can progress to the formal stage of consultation with statutory bodies. We are also very heartened to read the DAC's conclusion that:

'The PCC should be complimented on the very highly detailed set of drawings and complete specifications, and in reading the documents there is no doubt a lot of thought has gone into not only this application but the whole project. The scheme is well argued and should improve the church's mission for generations to come.'

For further details about the Christ Church project, including a breakdown of the funds raised so far, go to Churches at the top of the website's home page and Christ Church.

'We are so grateful for this amazing support at this early stage. Any offers of help or support for the scheme should be forwarded to Stephen Pike (stephen@sandhpike.co.uk) or Gillian Ellis-King (gillellisking@btinternet.com). Thank you!'

Open meeting for the congregation of Christ Church

Thursday 22nd July at 7.30pm in Christ Church. Come and hear about the progress of our project, to include a kitchen and toilets in the church.

Thank you to Denise Button...

Many thanks to Denise from me and everyone in the Benefice for her sterling work supporting us with NewsLink, and other administrative tasks, whilst Tess was furloughed, and before Caroline started her post. We are extremely grateful for all her ongoing support.

Ann, Rector

A thank you from Amy Keating...

Thank you so much for the Amazon Voucher for my role in editing our online services over the past year. That was a lovely surprise and I am very grateful. Thank you!