



Alleluia, Alleluia, Christ is Risen He is Risen Indeed!

We have reflected on our faith in Christ during Lent, and we have walked alongside Jesus at the most difficult time of his ministry, a time that we could describe as the most significant event in history.

We have cried 'Hosanna' with the crowds on Palm Sunday, experienced the Passover meal, celebrating with bread and wine, and then have come before the cross, only too aware of our own failings, silent and moved, sometimes to tears by the passion of Christ.

Yet here we come on Easter Sunday, crying "Alleluia, Alleluia, Christ is risen. He is risen indeed". Death could not hold the love that God wants to pour down on us and in gratitude we offer to serve him, with our souls, our lives, our all.

On Easter Sunday, up and down the land, we join in these words of celebration, crying out in joy and hope. Our churches, bare and sombre will be filled once again with flowers, scent, and colour, and all around us there are the signs of Spring and new life.

This year is especially poignant as we have not been able to fully celebrate Holy Week and Easter together, in our churches since 2019! As I speak to people this week, the sense of anticipation and excitement is tangible!

Thank you to all who have worked so hard to make our Holy Week such an inspired and holy experience. Thank you to those who will be decorating our churches for this weekend. I have no doubt that they will all look splendid!

I hope you had a very blessed Lent and can now rejoice in the celebration of Jesus alive once again as love in our hearts.

A Very Happy Easter to you all.

With my love and prayers

Ann, Rector

Thanksgiving Services

A Thanksgiving Service to celebrate the life of **Jean Allen** will take place on **Saturday 23rd April at 2pm** in St Nicholas Church, Winsley. Revd Ann and Revd Paul Batson taking. All those who knew Jean are very welcome.

Following a private cremation earlier that day, a Thanksgiving service to celebrate the life of **Reg Green** will take place on **Wednesday 27th April at 2pm** in Christ Church. Revd Ann will be taking. Do join me and his family to celebrate his life.



***St Peter's Easter Cross
Visitors are invited to tie a
ribbon to the cross and
pray for someone in their
heart.***

Events and Notices

Upcoming Services

Sunday, 17th April - Easter Day

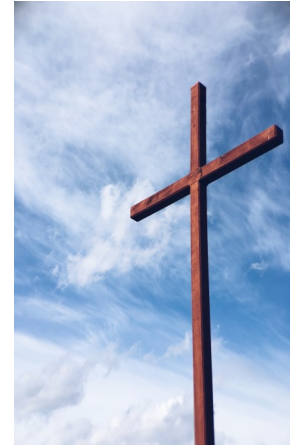
10.00am Holy Communion at St James, SW
10.00am Holy Communion at St Peter's, MF
10.00am Holy communion at St Nicholas, Winsley.
10.30am Holy Communion at Christ Church, BoA.

Sunday, 24th April - Second Sunday of Easter

10.00am Holy Communion at St Peter's, joint with SW
10.00am Informal/Together in Worship at St Nicholas
10.30am Refresh at Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

Sunday, 1st May

10.00am Benefice Service with Holy Communion at St Peter's, Monkton Farleigh. (Revd Tim Hawkings preaching)



Funeral of Canon Humphrey York

The coffin of Canon Humphrey York will be received in **Christ Church on Thursday, 28th April at 6pm**. All are welcome to attend this short service which will be conducted by Revd Keith Charnley and Revd Paul Batson.

The funeral will take place the following day, **29th April at 10.45am**. Family flowers only. The cremation will follow this service and is for family members only. There will be a reception at The Mount Pleasant Community Centre after the service to which all are welcome and which the family will join as soon as possible. Incense will be used during the service.

Revd Paul Batson

Electoral Roll Revision

If you are interested in joining **St Peter's** Electoral Roll, please contact Di Dobson this week on 01225 851176. Closing date for any changes is **22nd April**. The numbers on the Electoral Roll will be reported to the APCM on 8th May, 2022. *Rachel Exley*

Benefice Directory

...has been updated and will be sent out to the church leaders in each church after Easter. If your contact details have changed in the last 2 years, please email the amendment to your church warden (details on this page).

If you would like to be added to the Benefice Directory, please pick up a form at the back of church from next week and return it to your church leader by the **8th May**. Thank you!

The next edition of NewsLink will be on the **1st May**. Please email any relevant contributions to Caroline at nboabenefice@gmail.com by Tuesday 26th April. You can read the full version on our website at www.nboachurches.co.uk

If you would like an electronic version of NewsLink or require a hard copy, please email or leave a message for Caroline at the Benefice office on 01225 865046.

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

Christ Church Project News

Wonderful news!!! We have now been granted a second faculty for new lighting, the restoration of the nave walls and wall paintings and for restoration of the steeple clock. This is in addition to the earlier consent for a kitchen, toilets, office, storage and new flexible open areas.

We are very grateful for the following offers of grants

Bradford on Avon Preservation Trust: £7,500 (wall painting and clock restoration)

ChurchCare and Pilgrim Trust: £4,000 (wall painting restoration)

We have so far raised a further £7,069 from community fundraising towards both of our projects. Many thanks to those whose time, effort and determination is making this happen.

We now move into serious fundraising mode, so that our vision can become a reality. Please watch this space! The full update can be found on our website.

Stephen Pike

Christ Church Plant Stall 2022

The seedlings are growing well, and we are desperately in need of small square 9cm/ 3 1/2" pots. Please drop off at 13 Newtown Bradford on Avon. We will run the stall from our 'farm gate' again this year. All proceeds to the Future for Christ Church projects. Thank you!

Gillian Ellis-King (866503)

Palm Sunday Forest Church

A special Palm Sunday Forest Church was held at St. Peter's, Monkton Farleigh. We processed from the Village Hall with Darcy the Donkey! Zoe shared the story of Palm Sunday along the way. We lined the path and waved our palms, singing together.

In the churchyard we created a giant cross with our palms. Zoe showed us how to make our own Palm crosses. We toasted marshmallow on a fire pit and we enjoyed a cup of tea and squash together. Richard shared a thought around the cross and we ended by praying together.

Our next Forest Church will be at **3pm on Sunday 8th May at South Wraxall**. All welcome!

Tessa Mann



Electoral Roll Revision at St Nicholas, Winsley

The annual Electoral Roll is being revised during the period 27th March and 20th April 2022. The final numbers on the electoral roll will be reported to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on the 10th May 2022.

Application forms are available on the noticeboard at the back of the church. If you are interested in being included on the Roll, please contact the Electoral Roll Officer, Mary Anne Baxter at: jbma40@btinternet.com or Tel: 01225 863072.

Mary Anne Baxter

An Undiscovered Wildflower Meadow At Our Feet

I am Dave Green Ecologist/ Botanist, and for over forty years I have been involved in recording and protecting rare and valuable plant habitats, mainly in Wiltshire. In 2020, with the agreement of Revd Ann Keating, I contacted the churchwardens of South Wraxall and Monkton Farleigh churches with a view to discuss the options for creating conservation areas/wildlife Meadows in each churchyard.

This work continues an initiative that I was first involved with over 30 years ago, when it was called God's Acre; it has perpetuated in some form ever since. Many parishes have taken on board such initiatives over the years, following the principle of wildlife conservation in some way. Often this means setting aside sections of church grounds to allow wildflowers to flourish. Many close-mown churchyards hold a wealth of wild flowers, often species that are rare in the area. This is because when these pieces of ground were originally included in the church's curtilage, they would have been part of the meadow landscape of the day.

Many churchyards are full of such wildflowers that have survived for a very long time (often thanks to lack of harmful herbicides used on agricultural land) but which never get the chance to flower and so reproduce. These species have perpetuated themselves often by vegetative means over time.

My role as a botanist is to identify areas of high plant diversity and potential, so that such sections can be marked out, and left without cutting during the spring and early summer, to allow these plants to flower and set seed. The cutting regime is then resumed until the back end of the year.

I visit each site up to 3 times and identify and record what wildflowers appear. The resulting records are included in the National Plant database, and I always send the parish a full list of what has been found. I am always happy to meet interested people in late spring to show them what I have found and give a brief talk on the significance of the grassland that forms part of their churchyard.



So, when you visit your churchyard this spring, you will notice one or more areas fenced off with posts and string. These are the wildflower plots. Do keep an eye on them as the season progresses, all manner of flowers WILL appear.

Dave Green

Images of a Bee Orchid. It's not that rare but very few people see it. And it grows in quite a number of churchyards nationally. With a bit of luck we might find it in one of ours this year! Dave