#### Dear friends

Bishop Karen has received an update on the Government's scheme to receive refugees. Currently, the government's <a href="Homes for Ukrainians scheme">Homes for Ukrainians scheme</a> means people can only seek refuge here if they have a sponsor. This can be difficult, and people are being advised not to use Facebook or other social media for linking up because of safeguarding concerns. Two reputable charities are currently working on linking refugee families with UK accommodation providers and can also give advice on organising transport - a responsibility that otherwise lands solely on the shoulders of the refugee and sponsor. These two charities are:

Reset, is helping communities and refugees register and match refugees.

Citizen's UK is supporting group sponsorship so this may be something that our local community group, or deanery might think about.

Hosting a refugee or refugee family is an incredible act of generosity and welcome, but it shouldn't be undertaken lightly. We have some experienced refugee groups in the diocese who are already responding and Archdeacon Penny and Archdeacon Alan can put you in touch with these.

We have all watched the unfolding conflict in Ukraine and seen the heart-breaking stories of people fleeing violence, not knowing when they'll see their loved ones again. Over two million people have fled Ukraine. Many more have been forced from their homes to seek shelter. Lives have been lost and families torn apart. Homes have been destroyed and many roads are blocked. No one is safe.

Christian Aid and Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, with its 23 sponsoring denominations, are inviting churches across Britain and Ireland to join together in an act of witness to pray and light candles for Ukraine on <u>Sunday 3rd April</u>, for an end to the conflict and for all those affected by the terrible impact of war.

On this Sunday it is hoped that churches and Christians from across the UK and Ireland will come together in an act of witness to pray and light candles for Ukraine, for an end to the conflict, and to pray for peace and reconciliation.

There will be a main event at 2pm outside the Ukrainian embassy in London where Christians will join together to pray. So, we are being invited to take part in a moment of prayer either in Sunday worship or at 2pm in the community on 3rd April. Churches are encouraged to work together within their community and to also invite individuals to light a candle at home and use the prayer for peace (see page 3). You can also use the hashtag: #WePrayForUkraine in any social media posts you may be using.

More details on: https://www.christianaid.org.uk/news/pray-for-ukraine

Together as Christians in these islands and with our sisters and brothers in the churches of Ukraine, we pray for an end to the conflict and for peace in our world.

God Bless you.

Ann, Rector

## **Events and Notices**

# **Upcoming Services**

## Sunday, 3rd April - Fifth Sunday of Lent

10.30am Benefice Service with Holy Communion at **Christ Church, BoA** (note change from St Peter's, Monkton Farleigh)

## Wednesday, 6th April

10.30am Holy Communion at Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

#### Sunday, 10th April - Palm Sunday

10.00am Holy Communion at St James, South Wraxall, joint with Monkton Farleigh

10.00am Refresh at Winsley Church Hall

10.30am Holy Communion at Christ Church, BoA

3.00pm Forest Church at St Peter's, Monkton Farleigh (more information on page 5)

## Monday, 11th April - Holy Monday

8.00pm Compline (night prayer) at Christ Church

#### Tuesday, 12th April - Holy Tuesday

8.00pm Compline at St Peter's Monkton Farleigh

7.15pm Images and Poetry for Holy Week, St Nicholas Church Winsley

#### Wednesday, 13th April - Holy Wednesday

8.00pm Compline at St James, South Wraxall

8.00pm Taize music for meditation, St Nicholas Church, Winsley

#### Thursday, 14th April - Maundy Thursday

8.00pm Holy Communion at St Nicholas, Winsley with foot and hand washing followed by night-time vigil. Bishop Andrew presiding and preaching

#### Friday, 15th April - Good Friday

11am - Walk of Witness with Churches Together, leaving Westbury Gardens in BoA and ending at Christ Church for coffee and hot cross buns (see page 5 for more information)

2.00pm The Final Hour at St James, South Wraxall, joint with Monkton Farleigh.

2.00pm The Final Hour at St Nicholas, Winsley

2.00pm The Final Hour at Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

#### 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

## **Car Parking at Mount Pleasant for Holy Week**

Derek Robins will be at Mount Pleasant from 7.30pm on Holy Monday for Compline and from 1.30pm on Good Friday to help organise the parking at Christ Church for Holy Week. Thank you Derek.

The next edition of NewsLink wlll be on the **17th April** Please email any relevant contributions to Caroline at <a href="mailto:nboabenefice@gmail.com">nboabenefice@gmail.com</a> by Tuesday,12th April. You can read the full version on our website (6 pages) at <a href="https://www.nboachurches.co.uk">www.nboachurches.co.uk</a>

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 Bat-

son (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

## **Prayer for Peace**

God of all peoples and nations,

who created all things alive and breathing,

united and whole.

show us the way of peace that is your overwhelming presence.

We hold before you the peoples of Ukraine and Russia,

every child and every adult.

We long for the time

when weapons of war are beaten into ploughshares,

when nations no longer lift up sword against nation.

We cry out to you for peace;

protect those who only desire and deserve to live in security and safety.

Comfort those who fear for their lives and the lives of their loved ones.

Be with those who are bereaved.

Change the hearts of those set on violence and aggression

and fill leaders with the wisdom that leads to peace.

Kindle again in us a love of our neighbour,

and a passion for justice to prevail

and a renewed recognition that we all play a part in peace.

Creator of all hear our prayer

and bring us peace.

Make us whole.

Amen



The Hub@BA15 continues to offer food parcels, welfare benefits and debt advice in addition to general support to the local community. The Easter food parcels are being prepared to deliver to families identified by the schools. If you wish for more information, additional foodbank vouchers or require access to the online vouchers please contact us.

Our fundraising coffee mornings take place at The Hub on Church Street, Bradford on Avon on the **2nd Friday of the month**, where coffee and homemade cake are on offer for a donation. The April coffee morning includes a 'Spring Sale' on Friday 8th April at 10.30am - Midday.

**Best Wishes** 

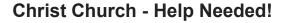
Avril Clarke, Coordinator. Tel 01225 920748 (10-1pm)

#### **Easter Lilies**

There is a list at the back of St Nicholas Church for the ordering of Easter lilies. For £5 each, they can be bought and displayed in church in memory of people we especially wish to remember at this time.

Angela Symonds





This Easter we would like to transform the South Porch at Christ Church into a large Easter Garden and would be very grateful for donations of any plants (in pots please) that you can spare - e.g. primroses, pansies, polyanthas etc. At the end of the Easter season we plan to plant them in the unadopted graves in the churchyard where they will be a lasting sign of hope and love.

We will be creating the garden on the morning of **Saturday 16th April** and ask that contributions are brought to the church by then. Many thanks.

The South Porch Team



# St. Michael, the Archangel of Will, Strength and Courage is the protector of Kyiv, the capital of Ukraine

A statue of Saint Michael the Archangel stands in the centre of Kyiv with a shield and a sword and as the protector of the capital of Ukraine and the entire country, now threatened by the invasion of Russia. Placed in 2002, the statue, constructed of bronze and gold, stands above the Lyadsky Gate in Independence Square in Kyiv. St. Michael the Archangel is the patron saint of Kyiv and is also at the centre of the coat of arms of the Ukrainian capital.

In the 16th century, St. Michael the Archangel appeared on the coat of arms of Kyiv. But in 1969, during the regime of the Soviet Union, the authorities replaced his figure with chestnut leaves.

This remained the case until after the fall of the USSR, when the archangel was returned to the coat of arms in 1995.



It is no coincidence that the Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel in Monte Sant'Angelo in Italy and the golden monastery of St. Michael the Archangel in Kyiv are linked in prayer with the request to intercede for the people of Kyiv and all the nations of the world.

Letter Press 28cm x 21cm Block Print, by Bath artist Caroline Waterlow. Issued in a limited edition of 200. £12 Unmounted (Plus £1.40 P&P, if required). **Proceeds donated entirely in support of the DEC** (Disasters Emergency Committee) Ukraine Appeal.

These will be available both at 'Refresh' at Winsley Church Hall on the 10th April and at St Nicholas on Tuesday evening, 12th April (see below) when Caroline Waterlow will herself be participating in the 'Images and Supporting Poetry for Holy Week' presentation.

**Bob Williams** 

# **Images and Supporting Poetry for Holy Week**

As part of our Holy Week focus, you are invited to join us for an evening on **Tuesday 12th April** at **7.15pm at St Nicholas, Winsley** where Bob Williams will be offering a discourse best

described as part illustrated talk, part meditation, as appropriate to the occasion. We shall be engaging with the rich vein of works, all relating to the Easter Story, held in the prestigious Methodist Modern Art Collection. A number of these images featured in the 'Paintings, Poems and Prayers' resource originally prepared for Easter 2020 and still available on our Benefice website.

Bob is a former trustee of the MMAC and he will be joined by a local, Bath artist whose work we shall be featuring and who is also well acquainted with the treasures of the Collection. The evening will conclude with a short Q&A and hopefully, the opportunity to take the conversation further over a cup of coffee.





#### **Online Benefice Diary**

From Monday April 4th, 'Church Diary 2022' will appear on the homepage of our website <a href="www.nboachurches.co.uk">www.nboachurches.co.uk</a>. This is a calendar of meetings, groups and events taking place in our four churches, and any church-related meetings and groups taking place at Winsley Church Hall. Please continue to book your venue as you currently are and/or email Caroline from the Benefice Office at <a href="mailto:nboabenefice@gmail.com">nboabenefice@gmail.com</a> with any comments about the online calendar, which will then be reviewed by the Communications Group when they meet in mid May. Many thanks, Caroline



# The High Sheriff of Wiltshire

Congratulations to Sir Charles Hobhouse of Monkton Farleigh in completing his year of Office as our High Sheriff. The Office of High Sheriff is over 1,000 years old and is the oldest continuous secular office under the Crown. Its origins date back to Saxon times, when the 'Shire Reeve' was responsible to the King for the maintenance of law and order and for the

collection of taxes due to the Crown.

Whilst the duties of the role have evolved and reduced over the years to a mainly ceremonial role, the High Sheriff remains the Sovereign's representative in the County for all matters relating to the Judiciary and the maintenance of law and order. As the Office is voluntary, independent and non-political, the High Sheriff is well placed to bring together a range of people within the communities that they serve, offering encouragement and support where needed.

Rev Paul Batson has been chaplain to Sir Charles and has written more about this ancient office. Please click here for more information.

Revd Paul Batson

Photo of Sir Charles Hobhouse in the Sheriff's outfit



#### A Reminder of the Lent Courses Available:

# **Opportunities at St Nicholas for Prayer during Lent**

During Lent we will be creating space in St Nicholas for regular private and corporate prayer as follows: Starting on Monday 7th March at 10.30am, there will be a weekly prayer time in the church lasting for one hour and led by a member of the congregation. Primarily, this will be to pray for our local community and will include a time of worship and thankfulness. The sessions may also touch on other issues for example the current world situation. The final session will be on Monday 4th April. Please drop in to these sessions for whatever time you have available. Any queries, please contact Penny on 723284 or email penny@thepierces.me

Penny Pierce

# **Monkton Farleigh Lent Group**

Tuesday afternoons from 2.30pm for about an hour at my house in Monkton Farleigh. There will be 6 sessions starting on 1st March. We will be looking at 'Women of Holy Week' by Paula Gooder. I have some copies here.

All are welcome for tea, biscuits and a chat, whether regular church goers or not. Please call me, Di Dobson on 07884 321238 or email me for my address at: di.dobson@btinternet.com if you would like to come along. Many thanks.

Di Dobson

# **Avon Park Village Lent Group**

I shall be leading a Lent Group each Tuesday during Lent (8th;15th; 22nd; 29th March 5th April) at 3pm in the Community Room. We shall be using Paula Gooder's Lent book, 'Women Of Holy Week'. All are welcome. If you have any queries please contact me - *Paul Batson* on Tel. 720069.

#### Our Benefice Lent Course on Zoom

Revd Paul Batson, Revd Tessa Mann and I will be exploring **Women of Holy Week** by Paula Gooder on Wednesdays from 9th March to 6th April. Bring your lunch, relax in front of your PC, iPad or phone, and join us for reflection and discussion from 12.00 – 13.00. If you want to join in, just contact Caroline in the office with your email address and you will be sent an invitation. Help is available if you haven't used Zoom before. **Revd Ann** 

Here is the link for seven weekly devotionals with reflections and prayers from the Bishop of Sherborne, the Bishop of Ramsbury and more:

https://www.salisbury.anglican.org/worship/renewing-hope-journeying-together-through-lent/LentDevotionals20222.pdf

# **Holy Week**

#### **Holy Monday - 11th April**

Compline (Night prayer) at Christ Church 8.00 pm

#### Holy Tuesday - 12th April

Compline at St Peter's Monkton Farleigh 8.00 pm

Images and Poetry for Holy Week, St Nicholas Church Winsley 7.15 pm

#### Holy Wednesday - 13th April

Compline at St James, South Wraxall 8.00 pm

Taize music for meditation, St Nicholas Church, Winsley 8.00 pm

#### Maundy Thursday - 14th April

Holy Communion at St Nicholas, Winsley with foot and hand washing followed by night time vigil. (Bishop Andrew will be with us for this service) 8.00 pm

#### Good Friday - 15th April

11am -Walk of Witness with Churches Together leaving Westbury Gardens ending at Christ Church and joining in with the Children's Activity Club worship

#### The final Hour

- 2.00 pm at Christ Church
- 2.00 pm at St James, South Wraxall combined with St Peter's, Monkton Farleigh
- 2.00 pm at St Nicholas, Winsley