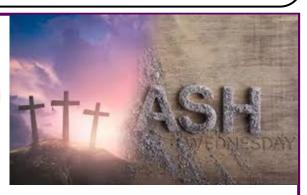
Dear friends,

Last year, when starting to advise everyone that my retirement date was coming up in 2023, and that we would be wise to start planning for it, retirement seemed a lifetime away. Now it is imminent, the weeks are rushing by, and it all starts to feel very real now that I have formally advised the Diocese that my last service will be 28<sup>th</sup> May, Pentecost Sunday.



Life feels very uncertain at the moment. 'What's your new address,' the Diocesan Admin staff ask? 'We don't know.... We haven't yet exchanged and completed....'

'Do you have a date for leaving the Rectory?' No, the staff in Property Office aren't answering emails or telephone calls at the moment.... They have moved out of their offices so that Church House can be sold and are working elsewhere or at home.....life is uncertain for them too.

The Church of England is going through turbulent times following controversial decisions taken in Synod, and that makes its future, and the future of the Anglican Communion uncertain as well.

We are not alone in our uncertainty. Some of us want to fly to the other side of the world to see loved ones, only to find that painful knees or hips preclude long flights. Others who were fit and healthy one day, find that they wake up the next needing GP consultations and results from hospital tests. Yet others, find they have a home and family one day, but an earthquake destroys it all.



Now, here we are in Lent, a time when we are encouraged to explore how we deal with the challenges and uncertainty in our lives and our world. Let's journey together to find God in the mess and uncertainty of everyday life. Do please join a group, Zoom lunches or go online *CofE.io/DustAndGlory*. All the details are in last week's *NewsLink for Lent*.

Let's travel together and see where a life centred on Christ takes us.

With my love and prayers

Ann, Rector

#### **Sunday 26th February 2023**

10am Holy Communion Service, St James Church, South Wraxall. Led by Revd. Tim Hawkings, keyboard: David Ouston

10am Together in Worship, St Nicholas Church, Winsley. Led by Revd. Ann Keating, music: Pippa & the music group, IT Geoff

10am Holy Communion Service, St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh. Led by Revd. Bernard Hughes, organist Keith B.

10.30am Refresh Service, Christ Church, Bradford on Avon. Led by Cedric & Penny Pierce, music: Tricia & the Music group

3pm Forest Church walk St Nicholas Church Hall. Led by Richard Mann, followed by drink and biscuits.

#### Wednesday 1st March 2023

10.30am Holy Communion Service, Christ Church, Bradford on Avon. Led by Revd. Tim Hawkings.

#### Sunday 5th March 2023

10.00am Benefice Service with Holy Communion at St Nicholas Church, Winsley. Led by Revd. Tessa Mann, organist Keith B.

#### Wednesday 8th March 2023

6.30pm Compline Service at St James Church, South Wraxall. Led by Revd. Tim Hawkings.

#### Funeral of the late Jackie Rice

# 12.30pm 17 March 2023 at St James Church, South Wraxall

Led by Revd. Paul Batson and Revd. Ann Keating
Private cremation at Semington Crematorium

#### **Zoom Lent Group—joining instructions**

Time: Mar 1, 2023 12:00 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us04web.zoom.us/j/72476330511? pwd=uRRpeaJnTqMznKGbmBCT7g3698puse.1

Meeting ID: 724 7633 0511

Passcode: 1uRJfk

# Lent Course at home Tuesday evenings 7.30pm—9.30pm Led by Bernard and Judith Hughes

At 6, Priory Park, Bradford on Avon

28th February, 7th March, 14th March and 28 March.

For further details, please contact them by ringing 868679

Please find the joining instructions to the left of this notice for the Zoom Lent Group led by Revd. Tessa Mann on Wednesday 1st March 2023.

#### **NewsLink**

The next edition of NewsLink wlll be on **Sunday 12th March 2023**. Please email any relevant contributions to the Benefice Office at nboabenefice@gmail.com by **9.30am Tuesday 7th March 2023**. You can read the full version on our website at <a href="https://www.nboachurches.co.uk">www.nboachurches.co.uk</a>

#### Ministry Team:

Rector Rev Ann Keating

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

Rev Tessa Mann (309374) LLM: Rachel Pound (862223)

#### **Benefice Office:**

Bridge Duncombe (865046), nboabenefice@gmail.com Website www.nboachurches.co.uk

**Church Wardens:** 

Winsley: Roy Ludlow (868779) Linds

Batson (720069)

Christ Church: Hilary and Stephen Pike (782537)

South Wraxall: Dave Wyper (865384)

Valentine Thornhill (862552)

Monkton Farleigh: Rachel and Colin Exley: (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



## Children & Families News



## Serenata Guitar Trio

John Mills - Wendy Partridge - Cobie Smit



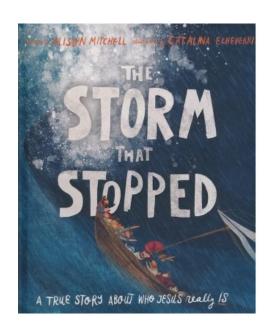
"An Afternoon of Beautiful Music"

St. Nicholas' Church, Winsley BA15 2HN
Saturday 25th March, 2023 at 3 p.m.

Free admission - donations welcome which will go entirely to the Church (Refreshments available following the performance)

Works by Mozart, Schubert, plus music from Spain and Latin America

John Mills is a former student of John Williams, Julian Bream and Andres Segovia -Wendy Partridge attended the Royal Academy of Music, London and also studied with Julian Bream - Cobie Smit studied at the Rotterdam Conservatorium and the Royal Conservatorium of the Hague, Holland.



A great morning was had by everyone at 'Storm Stoppers' holiday club last Friday. Based on the story of 'The Storm that Stopped!' over 20 children designed some beautiful paintings on canvas, created Lego models inspired by the story, decorated boat biscuits at snack time and learnt about windy weather by creating an anemometer and storm in a bottle! It was such a windy day that the anemometer was most appropriate! It was wonderful to share the morning with all the children and we finished with some parachute games too. Thank you so much to everyone involved.

Zoe Yeomans Children and Families Worker

#### **Traidcraft News**

Pippa Tate has faithfully facilitated monthly orders for Traidcraft products for many years.

Very sadly Traidcraft has ceased trading. The piece to the right explains these circumstances.

We are so grateful for Pippa's hard work in enabling regular Traidcraft orders within St Nicholas Church community and beyond. Despite this setback, as she says, there remain many fair-trade outlets. Let's continue to support this vital initiative in whatever ways we can.

Thank you, Pippa for all your efforts. It has been greatly appreciated.

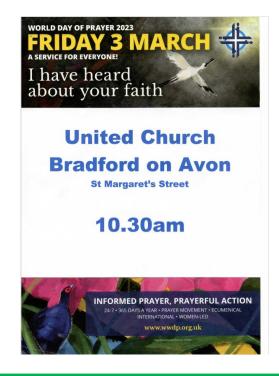
Tessa Mann

On the 20th January, Traidcraft plc announced that it had gone into administration, ending its vital work supporting producers around the world and fighting for fairness and justice in all aspects of trade. The immediate impact is that we can no longer buy Traidcraft's delicious products or easily help to make a difference by buying from their wide range of suppliers. Traidcraft has been a major force for good for over 40 years and they have championed better standards that protect the rights of producers and arowers all over the world so it is sad day for anyone who used to buy their products. We are amazingly fortunate to have Christine's Sustainable Supermarket and 2 Co-op shops right here in BoA so do continue to make a difference by choosing to buy as much as possible with the Fairtrade symbol-thank you!

Pippa Tate

Many of you may recall Roger Bishton who was, from 1977 to 1983, the organist at Christ Church when Rev John Sargant was the incumbent. Roger died aged 77 on 25th January. He also was the resident organist at Holy Trinity Trowbridge until its closure and he worked at the nearby County Hall for most of his life. Roger was Secretary until 2019 of the Friends of Cathedral Music which exists to promote excellence in choral and organ music. His funeral is on Tuesday 7th March at 11.30 am at St John The Baptist, Frome where he was organist and lesson reader until 2014 when ill health and mobility problems caused his resignation. Donations in his memory are to be given towards the Disasters Emergency Committee and if anyone wishes to remember Roger in this way cheques payable to the DEC can be sent to DJ Bewley, Manvers Street Trowbridge BA14 8EH.

John Baxter



#### **MEN'S NIGHT MEETINGS**

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February - PROGRAMME PLANNING EVENING Meet in the Seven Stars, Winsley at 7.30 pm and bring ideas for this year's programme – or offer to give a talk.

<u>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March – SPORTING POETRY</u> Meet in <u>Winsley Church Hall</u> at 7.30 pm. To coincide with the RU Six Nations championship, Bob Williams will be taking a light-hearted look at Sporting Poetry - a variety of popular (and less well-known) sports, through the eyes of poets famous, or still emerging.

Please book for both of these with Paul Billingham as soon as possible; (pr24bill@aol.com or 01225 722229). All men in the four parishes, whether church members or not, are warmly invited.