

NewsLink



Churches of North
Bradford on Avon
& Villages

12th January - 25th January 2025

Dear Friends

Happy New Year!

New year is often the time when we make resolutions, seeking to start the new year with a fresh perspective or telling ourselves that 'this will be the year when...'. I know I have made a few resolutions of my own, and I hope they will last just a little bit longer this year. (Lottie has reliably informed me that most resolutions are broken by 17th January!)

But there is one resolution that we could all make; and that is to be a benefice that continues to be grounded in prayer. At Christ Church's Refresh service last Sunday, we were talking about the gifts of the magi and one of the discussion groups shared that one of the greatest gifts we can offer is coming before God in prayer. I wonder what our prayers are for this year; for the world, the nation, the church, and our benefice?

In Psalm 141, verse 2 it says:

***'may my prayer be set before you
like incense;
may the lifting up of my hands be like the
evening sacrifice'.***



When I was in India I saw incense burning everywhere I went, and I particularly remember the way it left a constant trail rising into the air. When I imagine prayer like this, it speaks to me of a free flowing conversation between us and God, where there is no beginning or end. So with this in mind, I want to encourage each of us to choose something within the life of the church or the benefice and then commit ourselves to pray for whatever that is; for those who lead, volunteer, and enable it, for all those who receive through it, for the conversations and relationships that are built and for growth, be that in numbers or depth. Perhaps if you feel able to, share with those who are involved in whatever it is you are praying for, as I am sure this will be a source of encouragement to them.

We don't build the church, God does that, but if we re-commit ourselves to being a benefice built upon prayer, watching with expectancy, who knows what the future may hold.

Every Blessing,

Katie

Upcoming Services

Sunday 12th January

10am - Holy Communion - St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh (joint with St James') led by Rev. Paul Batson

10:30am - Holy Communion - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon, led by Rev. Keith Charnley

10:30am - St Nicholas' Church will be joining the Methodist Church for their Covenant Service

Monday 13th January

11am - Joan Colvin's Funeral - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon, led by Rev. Katie Jackson

Wednesday 15th January

6pm - Compline - St James' Church, South Wraxall, led by Rev. Tessa Mann (rescheduled from last wk)

Sunday 19th January

10am - Refresh - St Nicholas' Church Hall, Winsley, led by Alison Wells & Zoe Yeomans

10am - Morning Prayer - St James' Church, South Wraxall (joint with St Peter's) led by Rev. Katie Jackson

10:30am - Holy Communion - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon, led by Rev. Tessa Mann

Wednesday 22nd January

10:30am - Holy Communion - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon, led by Rev. Keith Charnley

Sunday 26th January

10am - Holy Communion - St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh, led by Rev. Katie Jackson

10am - Holy Communion - St Nicholas' Church, Winsley, led by Rev. Tim Hawkings

10:30am - Holy Communion - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon, led by Rev. Paul Batson

A Heartfelt Thank You

Thank you to all for the dedicated work throughout our benefice over the Christmas and Advent season. A lot of hard work goes on behind the scenes both in making our churches look so beautiful and in all the service preparations, not forgetting all of our talented knitters who produced the doves which went home with every child who came to any of our Christmas services over the festive period. It was so wonderful to have so many people of all ages join us in celebrating Christmas.

On behalf of the ministry team, we thank you.



Open the Book team at St Nicholas' Nativity

Prayer for Christ Church

There are amazing things happening at Christ Church. The scaffolding is up for the work to be done on the side walls and back of the church, and there is hope that 2025 will see the start of the work on the kitchen and toilets. There is much to give thanks and pray for, although it is not just the fabric of the Church that we need to bring before the Lord.

We would like to start a dedicated group to pray for all the work at Christ Church, for the needs of the community and the activities taking place each week, for the members of the congregation, helping out in many different ways, and for our Christian witness in this part of Bradford on Avon. The idea is to meet, in person, once a month to pray together and to draw up a list of items to take in to our private times of prayer. If you are interested in being part of this group please get in touch with Verity on 07905 487739, or come to the initial meeting on **Monday 20th January at 10.30am at 18 Budbury Place, BA15 1QF**

Social Events Across the Benefice

Wednesday 15th January - 10:30am - **Coffee & Company** - Knitting optional - Christ Church

Wednesday 15th January - 10am - **Kettle's On** - St Nicholas' Church Hall

Thursday 16th January - 10am - **The Ark** - Parent & Toddler Group - Christ Church

Friday 17th January - 12-3pm - **Soup's Up** - Winter Lunch - St Nicholas' Church Hall

Wednesday 22nd January - 10:30am - **Sunbeams** - Parent & Toddler Group - St Nicholas' Church Hall

Wednesday 22nd January - 1:30pm - **Conversation & Craft** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

Thursday 23rd January - 10am - **The Ark** - Parent & Toddler Group - Christ Church

The **Discover Christ Church!** Project are delighted to be continuing our intergenerational cafes working alongside St Laurence Year 7 children. This vital community work aims to bring together people of all ages for conversation and a craft activity to create connections and shared positive experiences for all people. Everyone is very welcome to join this event, which is taking place **every 2nd and 4th Wednesday**, term-time starting 22nd January.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH St Laurence School, Discover Christ Church, Dementia Action Alliance

CONVERSATION & CRAFT

CHRIST CHURCH, BRADFORD-ON-AVON

2025 DATES ✂️ **1.30PM - 3PM**

WED 22 JAN	WED 26 FEB	WED 26 MAR	WED 14 MAY
WED 12 FEB	WED 12 MAR	WED 23 APR	WED 18 JUN

DELICIOUS CAKES

HOT DRINKS

FRIENDLY CHAT

GAMES & QUIZZES

VARIETY OF CRAFT

Free community event - all welcome

With grateful thanks to our funders



CELEBRATING OUR SCHOOLS

CHRIST CHURCH BRADFORD ON AVON

SUNDAY 2ND FEBRUARY - 10.30AM

**YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED TO A SPECIAL SERVICE
IN WHICH WE WILL CELEBRATE THE LIFE AND WORK OF
OUR WONDERFUL LOCAL PRIMARY SCHOOLS.**

**EVERYONE FROM OUR
SCHOOL AND CHURCH
COMMUNITIES ARE VERY
WELCOME!**

**PARKING AVAILABLE
AT CHRIST CHURCH
SCHOOL OR
SURROUNDING AREAS**

Ministry Team:

Rector: Revd. Katie Jackson (01225 722230)
Revd. Tessa Mann (309374)

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

Church Wardens:

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

Christ Church: Vacancy

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

Monkton Farleigh: Rachel & Colin Exley (851485)

Benefice Office:

Kate Davies (865046),
nboabenefice@gmail.com

