



6th April - 26th April 2025 (3 week edition)

Dear Friends

What brings you joy?

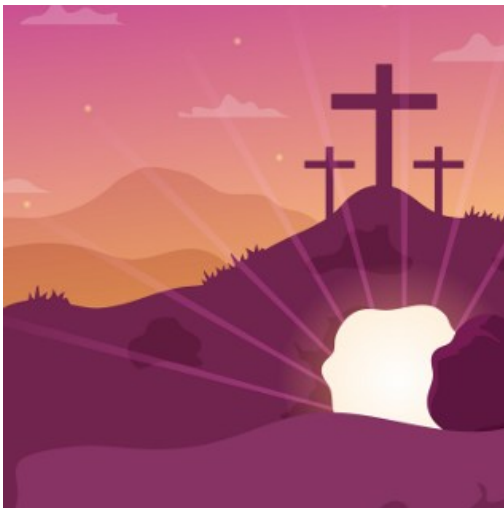
Maybe it's watching winter turn into spring, seeing the lambs that are now playing in our fields and getting outside? Time with family or friends, the feel of the warm sun on our faces, curling up with a good book, or watching a film? There are so many things that can bring us a moment of joy. As I write this, we are preparing our home for the arrival of a new family member, and as you can imagine there is much excitement and anticipation as we count down the days until we collect Poppy, our golden retriever puppy.



Joy is a difficult thing to define but I think it is that overwhelming feeling of contentment that comes from deep within. Easter Day is a day filled with deep joy for Christians around the world. It is a day where we celebrate new life, new possibilities, unbridled hope. As Mary met with Jesus in the garden that first Easter morn, what a turn around in emotions there must have been for her, as she realised that Jesus, far from dead, was very much alive. No wonder she raced off to tell the others, making her the first evangelist.

But as we know, in order to celebrate that first Easter morning, we first have to journey with Jesus through the loneliness, the abandonment, the rejection and the pain. The joy that Jesus offers is hard won, not by us, but by Him. As he met with Mary that morning, he carried the scars both mental and physical, of what had gone before.

I think that knowing that Jesus carried those scars after his resurrection is a powerful reminder that hope can be found in the most difficult of places. As we celebrate the joy of Easter, we do so in the reality of what we face each day. We each carry our own burdens, scars, pain, hurts and we may during Holy Week, like to spend time placing these at the feet of Jesus, the foot of the cross. But into our realities, comes the resurrected Jesus, calling our names and showing us that through him, new life isn't just possible, but a promise.



I am sure that our puppy will cause a huge amount of joy and a huge amount of work! The two go hand in hand. In the same way, the joy that comes from the Easter story brings with it responsibility. Mary, filled with joy, raced off to tell the others....who can we tell this Easter?

Every blessing,
Katie

Katie is taking a few days off after Easter (21st-25th April) and Tessa will be covering for anything urgent.

Upcoming Services

Sunday 6th April

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

4pm - Family Service - St Nicholas' Church, Winsley, led by Rev Tessa Mann & Zoe Yeomans

Monday 7th April

4:30pm - Christian Meditation, St Nicholas' Church, Winsley, led by Rev. Paul Batson

Sunday 13th April - Palm Sunday

10am - Refresh - St Nicholas' Church, Winsley, led by Penny & Cedric Pierce

10am - Holy Communion - St James' Church, South Wraxall (joint with St Peter's) led by Rev Tessa Mann

10:30am - Holy Communion - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon, led by Rev Katie Jackson

Monday 14th April

4:30pm - Christian Meditation, St Nicholas' Church, Winsley, led by Rev. Paul Batson

6pm - Compline - St James' Church, South Wraxall, led by Rev Tessa Mann

Tuesday 15th April

6pm - Celtic Evening Prayer - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon, led by Rev Katie Jackson

Wednesday 16th April

6pm - Taize - St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh, led by Linds Batson and Pippa Tate

Thursday 17th April

8pm - Maundy Thursday - St Nicholas' Church, Winsley, led by Rev Katie Jackson & Rev Tessa Mann

Friday 18th April - Good Friday

11am - Walk of Witness (BACT) - Starting at Westbury Gardens & finishing at Christ Church, Bradford on Avon, led by Rev Katie Jackson

2pm - The Final Hour - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon, led by Rev Tessa Mann

2pm - The Final Hour - St Nicholas' Church, Winsley, led by Rev Katie Jackson

2pm - The Final Hour - St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh, led by Rev Tim Hawkings

Saturday 19th April

8:30pm - The Vigil - St James' Church, South Wraxall, led by Rev Tim Hawkings

Sunday 20th April - Easter Sunday

10am - Holy Communion - St James' Church, South Wraxall led Rev Katie Jackson

10am - Holy Communion - St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh, led by Rev Paul Batson

10am - Holy Communion - St Nicholas' Church, Winsley, led by Rev Tessa Mann

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

Sunday 27th April

10am - Holy Communion - St Nicholas' Church, Winsley, led by Rev Katie Jackson & Cedric Pierce

10am - Morning Prayer - St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh, led by Rev Tim Hawkings

10:30am - Morning Prayer - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon, led by Stephen Pike

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)

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

Social Events Across the Benefice

Wednesday 9th April - 10:30am - **Coffee & Company** - Christ Church (knitting optional)

Wednesday 9th April - 10:30am - **Sunbeams** - St Nicholas' Church Hall

Wednesday 9th April - 1:30pm - **Mothers' Union - Jill Wright, Spiritual Places to Pray** - Holy Trinity Church

Wednesday 16th April - 10am - **Kettle's On** - St Nicholas' Church Hall

Wednesday 16th April - 10:30am - **Coffee & Company** - Christ Church

Friday 18th April - 10:30am - **Good Friday Workshop for Children & Families** - Christ Church

Wednesday 23rd April - 10:30am - **Coffee & Company** - Christ Church (knitting optional)

Wednesday 23rd April - 10:30am - **Sunbeams** - St Nicholas' Church Hall

Wednesday 23rd April - 1:30pm - **Conversation & Craft** - Christ Church

Lent Course 2025....a short reflection

Lent for me, this year has been something of a pilgrimage or journey....from responding to Rev Tim's idea to base a course on a film, working together on making that idea a reality and being part of a group during Lent. Harold and Maureen – the main characters in the film/book now feel like friends, as we have shared their journey and our own, in companionable fellowship.

One of the aspects of our group that I have found especially wonderful is our collective ability to notice different elements of the film. We don't all recall the same moments/conversations in the film, but each of us, at different times shares insights which may have passed the rest of us by! This returns me to the joy of having 4 Gospels, each having particular insights, context and emphasis. We need different voices and insights from different perspectives to apprehend a full picture. So I say, thank God for Lent Groups and our shared pilgrimage of faith and fellowship!

Rev Tim and I would love to hear your experiences of the course. Do let us know what was helpful and what was not. Most of all we'd love to know where your pilgrimage of believing and belonging is leading you towards Easter and beyond!

One of our group members bought everyone a glass light catcher, (see photo!) similar to the one Harold presents to Queenie in the film. What a wonderful gift to remind us of the light of Christ we will welcome on Easter morning.

May all our journeys to Good Friday and Easter Day be blessed,

Rev Tessa



South Wraxall Village Breakfast

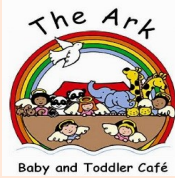
We look forward to welcoming you to **South Wraxall Village Hall** on **Sunday 27th April** for our last breakfast of the season. Come and relax with family and friends, while enjoying our delicious menu.

From 9am until at least 11:30am, we will be serving a Full English Breakfast, which also includes toast, homemade marmalade, tea, coffee and fruit juice.

All the profits go towards the upkeep of St James's, our parish church.

You are welcome to take pot luck and turn up on the day. However, it does help us to know how many people to expect if you reserve your table by emailing southwraxall@outlook.com

Parent and Toddler Group
Christ Church, Bradford on Avon
Thursdays during term time
10am - 11:30am



Easter break - starts back 1st May

Come along with your little ones for a fun time with toys, story, songs, craft and snacks to finish.

For more details, contact Hilary Pike
01225 782527 or thearkatboa@gmail.com

DESPERATELY SEEKING SMALL PLANT POTS!

Christ Church Plant Stall presently have far more seedlings than pots!! More stock also very welcome so please do grow on spare cuttings and seedlings for the plant stall. Please if anyone has small plant pots especially the 9cm square ones, please do save and pass to either Val or Gillian, or drop them off at 13 Newtown. Many thanks, Gillian Ellis-King & Val



Next Service 6th April

Tea Time Service for all the Family



First Sunday of Every Month
4pm
St Nicholas' Church, Winsley

A short child-focussed service followed by tea

All very welcome



KETTLE'S ON

Friendly café-style morning on
1st and 3rd Wednesday of the
month

Our next Kettle's On will be
Wednesday 16th April 2025 at 10am
St Nicholas' Church Hall
All very welcome

GOOD FRIDAY WORKSHOP

FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

FRIDAY 18TH
APRIL
10:30AM - NOON

JOIN US FOR EASTER THEMED
ACTIVITIES, CRAFTS, GAMES,
HOT CROSS BUNS AND MORE.

STAY, OR DROP OFF* YOUR
CHILDREN WHILE YOU JOIN
THE GOOD FRIDAY WALK OF
WITNESS FROM WESTBURY
GARDENS AT 11AM

CHRIST CHURCH
BRADFORD
ON AVON
BA15 1SJ



*PLEASE EMAIL ZYEOMANS3@GMAIL.COM
FOR A REGISTRATION FORM



You are warmly invited
to a Fundraising Coffee
Morning



On Thursday 24th April 10am – 12pm
St Nicholas Church Hall

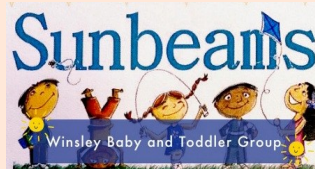
All proceeds going to Alzheimer's Society

On 10th May, a group of 8 people from across our church and wider community, including Rev Tim and Rev Tessa, are walking a 13 mile fundraising trek around Stonehenge.

We would love your support!

Donations can also be made via our Team Just Giving Page or cash.

www.justgiving.com/team/allforoneandoneforall



Parent and Toddler
Group
St Nicholas' Church
Hall, Winsley

2nd and 4th Wednesday at 10.30am

For more details please contact
Mary Hewetson on 01225 722210

NewsLink

The next edition of NewsLink will be on
27th April 2025.

Please email any relevant contributions to the
Benefice Office nboabenefice@gmail.com by
21st March 2025.