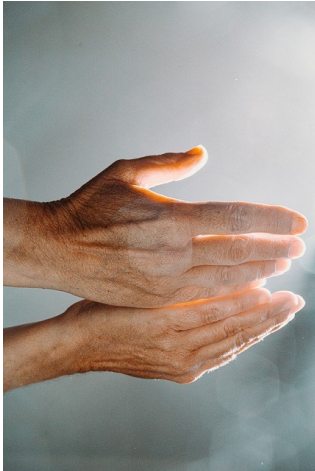




Dear Friends,

## Praying for a New Rector



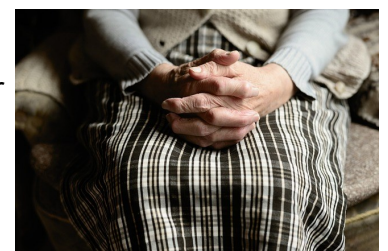
Have you heard the story of the man who fell over a cliff and was falling to his death, when he managed to cling on to a branch that happened to be sticking out. As he swayed there, holding on for dear life he prayed, "God if you are there please help me". To his surprise God replied, "It's alright my son, I will save you, just let go into my arms." There was a long silence and then the man said, "Is there anybody else there please"?

We are being asked to pray for the appointment of a new Rector. Prayer is a many faceted experience which certainly involves trust and much more. Our situation is not one of life or death, but nonetheless it's very important for the life of our four parishes and no less important for the person seeking to know the direction of their life for some years to come.

There are 'sign up sheets' in all of our four churches which indicate hourly prayer slots from 8am until 8pm on Tuesday, 31st October and 8am until 2pm Wednesday, 1st November. The idea is that we put our names down in one or more of the slots to pray sometime during that hour. Hopefully there will be more than one person for each slot so that you will know of others praying at that time.

Please pray wherever you want in whatever way you want and for as long as you want. There is no expectation that you will be praying for the whole hour. You might choose to pray when you are out on a walk, or preparing a meal, or before a meal, or when doing the washing up, first thing in the morning or early evening, maybe in the garden or in the car but best not if you are driving.

In praying over these days I don't think we are trying to tell God something God is unaware of or that He needs our advice. In some ways I think prayer is partly talking to ourselves in that it can help us open our hearts and minds as we share our hopes and concerns before God. It is only natural to express our hopes and concerns in words, but we can also quietly hold in our minds the people we are praying for. I also suggest that it is important that we are quiet and reflective, waiting patiently to discern what God might be saying to us. Our praying may help us be aware of our own self-centred thoughts too. Am I praying for someone who will keep me happy? Or am I prepared to be led by a Rector who might broaden and deepen my Christian faith and service?of



Prayer can be about falling into the hands of God – an act of trust – seeking His guidance and blessing. Gently repeating a line from a Psalm can help us to do this. You might like to use these words from **Psalm 62 v 5-8** or just some of them.

**Wait on God alone in stillness, O my soul; for in Him is my hope. He alone is my rock and salvation. My stronghold, so that I shall not be shaken. In God is my strength and my glory; God is my strong rock; in him is my refuge. Put your trust in him, always my people; pour out your hearts before him, for God is our refuge.**

Rev Paul Batson

## Upcoming Services

### Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October

10.00am Holy Communion Service at St James Church, South Wraxall with St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh. Led by Revd. Paul Batson.

10.00am Refresh Service at St Nicholas Church Hall, Winsley. Led by Roy Ludlow.

10.30am Harvest Holy Communion Service at Christ Church, Bradford on Avon. Led by Revd. Tessa Mann.

4pm Singing in the Harvest, St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh. Led by Revd. Tessa Mann.

### Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October

6.00pm Compline Service at St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh. Led by Revd. Tessa Mann.

### Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October

10.00am Holy Communion Service at St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh, with St James Church, South Wraxall. Led by Revd. Paul Batson.

10.00am Holy Communion Service, St Nicholas Church, Winsley. Led by Revd. Tim Hawkings.

10.30am Together in Worship – Celebration of Experience Church and the restoration of the church clock. Led by Revd. Tessa Mann and Zoe Yeomans.

### Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October

10.00am Holy Communion Service, at St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh with St James Church, South Wraxall. Led by Revd. Tessa Mann.

10.00am Morning Worship Service, St Nicholas Church, Winsley. Led by Roy Ludlow.

10.30am Refresh Service, Christ Church, Bradford on Avon. The Refresh team.

### ALL SOULS SERVICE

2.30pm Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2023

St Nicholas Church,  
Winsley, BA15 2LH

Please join us for this very special  
service to remember loved ones.  
Followed by tea in the church hall.

### The Baptism of Rory Jones

12.30pm Saturday 28<sup>th</sup>  
October

Christ Church,  
Bradford on Avon

Led by Revd. Tim  
Hawkings

## MEN'S GROUP - Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023

**7.00 pm** in St Nicholas Church Hall,  
Winsley

### WHERE IS THE HOPE IN THE CLIMATE CHANGE DEBATE?

The planet is warming and there are many changes in weather patterns. Richard Swarbrick (formerly a petroleum geologist) will be discussing what we should expect to see in the future and what can be done now. All men in the four parishes, whether church members or not, are warmly invited - supper will be a Chinese meal (bring your own drink).

Please book with Paul Billingham as soon as possible  
([pr24bill@aol.com](mailto:pr24bill@aol.com) or 01225 722229)

St James' Church  
South Wraxall, Bradford-on-Avon  
a joint fundraising concert for St James & St Peter's of Monkton Farleigh  
**Saturday October 14th 7:00pm**  
**The City of BATH MALE CHOIR**  
from the BBC's 'LAST CHOIR STANDING'  
A musical evening with a variety of genres  
Special Guests  
**Tenby Male Choir**  
Tickets **£10**  
Available from: Carolyn Walker on 01225 858412 or email [cwalker2019@gmail.com](mailto:cwalker2019@gmail.com) or David Wyper 01225 865384

## Neem Tree Trust Coffee Morning



There will be a special coffee morning on **21st October at 10am - 1pm** in Holy Trinity Church to celebrate 20 years of this charity's work to support disadvantaged young people and leprosy patients in Tamil Nadu, South India. There will be stalls plus tea, coffee and cakes.

As many of you know this is a very worthwhile, small charity so I encourage you to come.

Thank you. Alison Wells

## South Wraxall Village Breakfast

It's that time of year again: crunchy leaves, conkers, pumpkins and South Wraxall breakfasts. We invite you to join us in the village hall on Sunday 22nd October to enjoy a delicious breakfast. A great start to the day!

We will be serving Full English Breakfast, which includes toast, homemade marmalade, tea, coffee and fruit juice, from 9:00 am until at least 11:30 am.



You are welcome to take pot luck and turn up on the day, but it does help us to know how many people to expect. So, if possible, please reserve your table by emailing [southwraxall@outlook.com](mailto:southwraxall@outlook.com).

## NewsLink

The next edition of NewsLink will be on **Sunday 22nd October 2023**. Please email any relevant contributions to the Benefice Office at [nboabenefice@gmail.com](mailto:nboabenefice@gmail.com) by **9.30am Tuesday 17th October 2023**. You can read the full version on our website at [www.nboachurches.co.uk](http://www.nboachurches.co.uk)

### Ministry Team:

Revd. Tessa Mann (309374)  
LLM: Rachel Pound (862223)

### Benefice Office:

Bridge Duncombe (865046),  
[nboabenefice@gmail.com](mailto:nboabenefice@gmail.com)  
Website [www.nboachurches.co.uk](http://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](mailto:zyeomans3@gmail.com)



# Children & Families News

## Forest Church Fun!

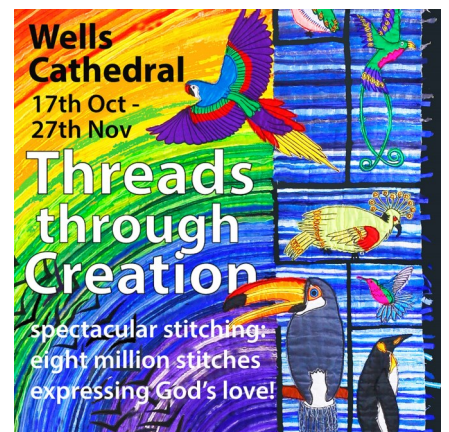
Harvest and Veggies was the theme of Forest Church. We met in Winsley Churchyard and enjoyed games, prayers, veggie soup and a host of activities together! Much fun was had by the children and grown ups chopping veggies for the delicious soup, creating potato characters, grinding corn to find flour and making posies of corn to give away. All linked and inspired by the story of Ruth and themes of kindness and sharing. Rev Tessa made a special loaf which one family took as a present to their neighbours with a newborn as a way of demonstrating kindness to others. Many thanks to everyone who came and to all those involved.



### Bath Abbey Installation

#### *Something to do during half-term*

This world installation is one of two spheres by the well known artist Luke Jerram. Previously his other piece, the moon hung in the same place. It is in there until the 29th October as part of the Treasuring Creation Festival. It measures seven metres in diameter. Gaia features detailed NASA imagery of the earth's surface and provides the opportunity to see our planet floating in three-dimensions. **From the Bath Abbey News**



### ***First Aid Course*** ***Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 9:30am – 4:30pm,*** ***Christ Church, Bradford on Avon BA15 1SJ***

We have 7 spaces on our upcoming first aid course with added child and infant CPR. This course is ideal for church wardens or anyone involved in children and toddler groups.

The cost for the course is around £65 per person. If you are interested, please contact [admin@discoverchristchurch.org.uk](mailto:admin@discoverchristchurch.org.uk) for more information.