

NewsLink

5th - 18th April 2026



CHURCHES OF
**NORTH
BRADFORD
ON AVON
& VILLAGES**

Dear Friends,

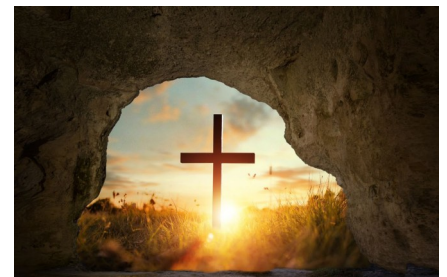
Last week Archbishop Sarah was enthroned at Canterbury Cathedral. As part of this service, and following tradition, she knocked on the door and said, ***'I am a servant of Christ and I come as one seeking the grace of God, to travel with you in his service together.'*** These words are a wonderful reminder that no matter who we are and what our role within the church is, we are called to be servants of Christ, to go where he takes us, and to seek to serve faithfully, reliant on God's grace.

These words feel particularly poignant as we prepare to celebrate Easter. To trust and go where Jesus wants to take us is unlikely to be the easy option. In the darkest moments of Holy Week, the disciples discovered moments where the cost of following Jesus felt too much to bear. We might look at the world we live in today, and feel an overwhelming sense of fear, uncertainty, despondency and as a result wonder where God is within it. But when we lift our eyes to the cross we are reminded that Jesus is right at the heart, right in the middle, of all the pain, suffering and wrongdoing in the world. Jesus' death wasn't an accident, or a misuse of power by the Romans but a selfless choice of love so that darkness and sin don't have the final say.

To follow as a servant of Christ requires us to step into the hurting broken world that we live in, not to hide away from it, and to offer the hope of a new dawn.

***'Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark,
Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed.'
(John 20 v.1)***

Archbishop Sarah said in her address 'may we have the audacity to believe in the promises of God; for with him nothing will be impossible'. Thanks to Jesus' resurrection, we have a hope like no other, nothing is impossible with Him. This is the hope that we hold onto and celebrate once again this Easter.



But reflecting on Archbishop Sarah's words, what does it mean for us to be audacious? Can we step out in confidence, despite the uncertainties around us, trusting that the gospel of salvation is as true today as it was 2000 years ago, can we journey together as servants of Christ into the places where hope is desperately needed, and can we be ready to share the good news of Easter with all those who are searching? To be audacious requires us to be bold...my prayer is that with God's grace, we can all find a new boldness this Easter time and beyond. Happy Easter!

Every blessing,
Katie

Katie will be taking a few days off after Easter (6th -11th April) and Rev Tim Hawkings will be covering for anything urgent. Kate in the Benefice Office will be off 3rd -13th April.

Upcoming Services

Good Friday, 3rd April

10am-12pm - Good Friday Children's Workshop - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon led by Becky Strike

11am - BACT Walk of Witness, Westbury Gardens, Bradford on Avon

2pm - The Final Hour - St Nicholas' Church, Winsley led by Rev Keith Charnley

2pm - The Final Hour - St James' Church, South Wraxall led by Rev Paul Batson

2pm - The Final Hour - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon led by Rev Katie Jackson

Saturday 4th April

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

Easter Sunday, 5th April

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

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

10am - Holy Communion - St James' Church, South Wraxall led by Rev Tim Hawkings

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

Sunday 12th April

10:30am - Benefice Service - Lay Worship Leader Commissioning - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon led by Archdeacon Louise and Rev Katie Jackson

Monday 13th April

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

Sunday 19th April

10am - Refresh (café-style worship) - Winsley Church Hall, led by Alison Wells and Zoe Yeomans

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

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

GOOD FRIDAY WORKSHOP
FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

FRIDAY 3RD APRIL
10:30AM - 12PM

JOIN US FOR EASTER THEMED ACTIVITIES, CRAFTS, GAMES, MUSIC & HOT CROSS BUNS.

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

*Please email Becky Strike at childrenandfamiliesnboa@gmail.com for a registration form

CHRIST CHURCH BRADFORD ON AVON BA15 1SJ

NORTH BRADFORD ON AVON & VILLAGES



Many thanks to everyone who contributed to our **Church of England The Children's Society** annual box opening. We raised £474.89!

This is from the change people put in their box over the year. No sum is too great or too small so if you would like to hold a box (which can be unregistered

with the society if do not

The Children's Society

want contact) please speak to Anne Hilton.



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK **10th-16th MAY 2026**

There will be no door-to-door collection again this year. However, envelopes will be available from St Nicholas Church from 9th May. Please collect one if you wish to support this worthy charity. Winsley has always collected a significant sum towards their work which is now even more important than ever. I hope we may be able to continue even in these difficult times. You may also contribute online. Details may be found on their website www.christianaid.org.uk

Envelopes may be returned direct to Christian Aid—details will be on the envelope. Otherwise, they may be returned to me at 22 Late Broads, Winsley. Thank You, Alison Wells

LAY WORSHIP LEADERS

On **Sunday 12th April at 10:30am** at our Benefice service at Christ Church 4 new Lay Worship Leaders will be commissioned by Archdeacon Louise Ellis.

Lay Worship Leaders play a vital role in the life of our Benefice by leading a wide variety of worship including Morning Prayer, Compline and our café-style worship Refresh. They each bring their own individual gifts, ensuring that our worship is creative, enriching and steeped in prayer and praise.

Please come along to celebrate and support our new Lay Worship Leaders as they begin this special role in our benefice.

Easter Garden at The Ark

This week at The Ark toddler group at Christ Church, we told the story of Easter by building an Easter garden together. We listened to the story and using pebbles, stones, flowers and sticks, the children helped to create a beautiful Easter garden.



Social Events Across the Benefice

Friday 3rd April - 10:30am - **Children's Good Friday Workshop** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon
Saturday 4th April - 10-12pm - **Christ Church Café** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon
Wednesday 8th Apr - 10:30am - **Sunbeams** - Winsley Church Hall, Winsley
Wednesday 8th Apr - 10:30am - **Coffee & Company** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon
Wednesday 15th Apr - 10am - **Kettle's On** - Winsley Church Hall, Winsley
Wednesday 15th Apr - 10:30am - **Coffee & Company** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon
Thursday 16th Apr - 3pm - **BOA Youth Drop In** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

SAVE THE DATE!



Sunday 26th April -
South Wraxall Village Breakfast

Saturday 20th June -
Monkton Farleigh Village Fete

Many thanks to all those who contributed to the Easter flowers. We will be in church on Saturday 4th April arranging flowers alongside the Saturday cafe whilst enjoying the piano music from Richard Thompson.

Valerie Isaacs

NORTH BRADFORD & VILLAGES MEN'S & LADIES' GROUPS

Wednesday 22nd April 2026 - 7pm
St Nicholas Church Hall, Winsley

INTERINED BY THE JAPANESE - A PERSONAL ACCOUNT

Margaret Dodge will talk about her experiences as a young girl living in China, when the family was interned during the 2nd World War.

Supper will be a Chinese meal (wide selection of dishes)

Bring your own drinks or buy from the Social Club

All men and ladies in the four parishes, whether church members or not, are warmly invited.

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



Christ Church Café

SATURDAY 4TH APRIL
10AM - 12PM

COFFEE & CAKE



MUSIC



CHILDREN'S
ACTIVITIES

ALL WELCOME

Churchfield the Village School & St Peter's Church

Monkton Farleigh Scarecrow Trail

Nursery Rhymes
May 2nd - 4th

Last year's scarecrow trail was such a brilliant success—thanks to all of you!—and we're thrilled to be launching it again!

We'd love your help!

You can get involved by:

- Hosting a school-made scarecrow, or
- Designing and displaying your own in your garden or outside your home

If you'd like to join in, please let us know by 17th April so we can put the trail together



If you are interested in participating

Please contact the school office on 01225 703026 or email us on cvsmfreception@palladianacademytrust.com

News of an old drawing of Winsley Church

Among the pleasures of being churchwarden are the chance encounters with visitors to the church and churchyard. Recently I met Claire Wild and her partner Dave who were on the church path holding a picture up, trying to work out if they had the right church.

It was soon clear that they did. The confusion was that the picture, being made in the early 1800's, prior to the rebuilding in the mid 1800's of the Chancel and Nave whilst leaving the tower intact, accounted for the difference in the scene.

How had they come by this picture? Claire explained that she is, very probably, the three times great-granddaughter of the artist: William Walter Wheatley.

Wheatley was born in Bristol in 1811 (?) and died in Bath in 1885. He probably lived in Bristol at some point but certainly lived in Rode for a number of years and so presumably painted the picture of Winsley church whilst there. He also lived in Bath for many years before his death.

Richard Mann, Churchwarden

Image: Copyright Wiltshire Museum, Devizes. (Used with permission)



NewsLink

The next edition of NewsLink will be on **19th April**. Please send any relevant contributions to the Benefice Office at nboabenefice@gmail.com by **Monday 13th April**.

KETTLE'S ON

Community Café



1ST & 3RD
WEDNESDAY
OF EACH
MONTH

ST NICHOLAS' CHURCH HALL

10AM-12PM

COFFEE, TEA, CAKE AND CONVERSATION.
EVERYONE IS WELCOME.
BRING YOUR FRIENDS, NEIGHBOURS AND
THOSE NEW TO VILLAGE.



Parent & Toddler Group
Winsley Church Hall
2nd & 4th Wednesday of month
10:30 - 11:30am

Toys & games, coffee & cake for adults, squash & healthy treats for children followed by a bible story.

Next Sunbeams Wednesday 8th April

Contact Mary Hewetson - 01225 722210

Electoral Roll Revision

Ahead of our Annual Parochial Church Meetings in May, the Electoral Roll for all four churches will soon be revised and final numbers on the electoral rolls will be reported to the ACPMs.

St Nicholas' Church (APCM 10th May) revision during the period 21st March - 23rd April 2026. Application forms are available on the noticeboard at the back of the church. If you are interested in being included on the Roll, please contact Electoral Roll Officer, Mary Anne Baxter at: jbma40@btinternet.com or 01225 863072.

Christ Church (APCM 17th May) revision during the period 28th March and 26th April 2026. If you are interested in being included on the Roll, please contact Electoral Roll Officer, Hilary Pike at: hilary.pike@btinternet.com or 01225 782527.

St Peter's Church (APCM 6th May) revision during the period 25th March and 22nd April 2026. If you are interested in being included on the Roll, please contact Diana Dobson at: di.dobson@btinternet.com or 07884 321238.

St James' Church (APCM 3rd May) Revision details TBC

Deanery Synod Elections

Could you represent your church?

Deanery Synod members bring the voice of their parish into conversations across the deanery and help shape the life of the Church locally and nationally.

If you are on your church's electoral roll, you can stand for election at your church's APCM meeting. Find out more by talking to a leader in your church or visiting:

salisbury.anglican.org/deanery-synod-elections



CHURCHES OF WILTSHIRE



Wilsford PCC invites you to
A MORNING MEETING with LUNCH
to discuss and share ideas for parish fundraising
SATURDAY 25TH APRIL

Wilsford Village Hall, SN9 6HB
MEETING 10.30 - 12.30
LUNCH 12.30 - 2.00

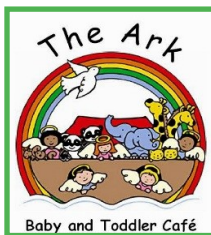
Lunch is on us, with vegetarian/vegan options and water included
there'll be a Cash/Card Bar for other drinks

We hope to have as many Wiltshire parishes as possible represented, especially rural churches. Please bring pen and paper, ideas and contacts from any successful previous events.

TO HELP US PLAN FOR SEATING, FOOD AND DRINK PLEASE
RSVP TO THE CHURCHWARDEN ON 07733 431748
OR EMAIL CLARISSA@DIGGERANDMOJO.COM

Baby & Toddler Group
Christ Church

Thursdays in term time
10am - 11:30am



The Ark is back Thursday 23rd April

Come along with your little ones for fun with toys, story/songs, craft & snacks.

Contact Hilary - 01225 782527

POTS NEEDED!

FOR THE CHRIST CHURCH PLANT STALL 2026



Seedlings are up and ready to be potted on, plus cuttings looking for their next size pots please!
Desperately needing small square 9cm and also 6" round pots please!

Plant stall will be
Saturday 2nd & Sunday 3rd May - 13 Newtown

We would be grateful if you could drop off pots at 13 Newtown asap
If you have spare seedlings, potted cuttings or plants to donate please do drop off on Friday 1st May.
Many thanks all, Gillian, Val and Barbara

Ministry Team:

Rector: Rev Katie Jackson (01225 722230)
Rev Tessa Mann (309374)

Lay Pastoral Assistants:

Stephen Pike (782537), Denise Davies (863678)
Gill Fairhurst (867560), Daphne Cox (868224)
Elizabeth Bush (866624)

Benefice Office: Kate Davies (865046)
nboabenefice@gmail.com

Church Wardens:

Winsley: Richard Mann (309374) Penny Pierce (723284)

Christ Church: Margaret Thompson (571305)
Deputy - Wendy Brown (862857)

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

Monkton Farleigh: Rachel & Colin Exley (851485)