NEWSLINK

CHURCHES OF NORTH BRADFORD ON AVON & VILLAGES

22nd November - 5th December 2026 | Rev Katie Jackson | www.nboachurches.co.uk

Dear Friends

Last Sunday we focused on Safeguarding Sunday. Yes, safeguarding involves policies, procedures, training and more, but at it's heart it is all about people: precious, valued people, made in the image of God. Our scriptures, from the old to the new testament, are full of passages and stories that refer to God's heart for the vulnerable, the marginalised, the outcasts and those without a voice. At the heart of safeguarding is a call for us to take seriously the greatest commandment we have been given: to love others as God loves us.

Thirtyone:eight is the UK's independent Christian Safeguarding Charity. The name comes from Proverbs 31:8 which says **'speak out on behalf of the voiceless, and for the rights of all who are vulnerable'**. Salisbury Diocese use 31:8 as our 24 hour safeguarding helpline as well as the organisation through which DBS checks are completed. In preparation for Safeguarding Sunday, Thirtyone:eight offered the prayer opposite.

My thanks goes to Marian, Verity, Caroline and Valerie, our Safeguarding Officers, for all that they do quietly behind the scenes. But I also want to thank all of you, for your engagement with this important part of our ministry and mission, as together we seek to ensure that our churches are safe places for all people.

Every blessing
Katie

God of love, who loved us first,
and who in Jesus, showed us how to love others,
forgive us for the times we've looked away,
or stayed silent when we should have spoken up.
Teach us to love as you love.

God of compassion, who sees the overlooked,
and draws near the hurting and exploited,
help us to see with your eyes, listen with your ears,
and give us courage to stand with those who are not heard.
Teach us to love as you love.

God of truth, who shines light into darkness
who reveals what is hidden and unspoken,
free us from our shame, our denial, and fear,
lead us in the way of honesty, openness and healing.
Teach us to love as you love.

God of protection, our place of safety and refuge,
may your church be a place where:
power is used to serve,
people find belonging,
and love is made real in what we say and do.
Teach us to love as you love,
with love that protects, always.
Amen

Just a couple of useful reminders about how to keep ourselves safe:

-keep an eye out for suspicious emails or telephone calls, especially those which are asking for money or personal details. The safest course of action is NOT to reply to these emails but speak with the individual/utilities company/bank which the email is supposedly from, to double check that it is genuine.

-If something you have seen or heard concerns you, never think that it is irrelevant. Please share it to your church Safeguarding Officer. We all hold different pieces of a jigsaw, and it is only through sharing our piece that the picture begins to be seen.

-if you would like to volunteer for any of the activities our churches run where there are children or vulnerable adults, please don't be offended when you are asked to follow our safer recruitment process. Your engagement in this process is an act of love, designed to help keep everyone safe.

Upcoming Services

Sunday 22nd November

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

Monday 23rd November

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

Wednesday 25th November

10:30am - **Holy Communion** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon
led by Rev Tim Hawkings

Sunday 29th November

10am - **Holy Communion** - St James' Church, South Wraxall
led by Rev Katie Jackson
10am - **Holy Communion** - St Nicholas' Church, Winsley
led by Rev Tessa Mann
10:30am - **Together in Worship** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon
led by Stephen Pike
6pm - **BACT Advent Carol Service** - Holy Trinity, Bradford on Avon

Monday 30th November

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

Wednesday 2nd December

3pm - **Avon Park Holy Communion**- Avonpark, Limpley Stoke
led by Rev Paul Batson
6pm - **Compline** - St Nicholas' Church, Winsley
led by Stephen Pike

Sunday 6th December

10:30am - **Benefice Service** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon
led by Rev Katie Jackson & Margaret Thompson
4pm - **Advent Family Teatime Service** - St Nicholas' Church, Winsley
led by Rev Tessa Mann & Zoe Yeomans
6pm - **Advent Service of Light** - St James' Church, South Wraxall
led by Rev Katie Jackson & Penny Pierce







Remembrance Services










Across the benefice our churches were thoughtfully prepared for Remembrance with beautiful handmade knitted poppies displayed inside and throughout the churchyards. There were many opportunities to honour and remember with each church having a Remembrance Sunday service as well as services in each of our schools and at Avonpark and Wiltshire Heights.







Social Events

Wednesday 25th November

10:30am - **Sunbeams Baby & Toddler Group** - Winsley Church Hall

Thursday 26th November

10am - **The Ark Baby & Toddler Group** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

3-4pm - **BOA Youth Drop In** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

Wednesday 2nd December

10am - **Kettle's On** - Winsley Church Hall, Winsley

10:30am - **Coffee & Company** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

Thursday 3rd December

10am - **The Ark Baby & Toddler Group** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

3-4pm - **BOA Youth Drop In** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

Saturday 5th December

10am-12pm - **Christmas Creative Café** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

Christ Church Café

It has been a year now of running our **Christ Church Café** on the first Saturday of each month. As well as all the wonderful cakes and fresh coffee that's been served, we have had some great features taking place such as a Morning with Bishop Andrew, a Macmillan Coffee Morning and a Creative Café showcasing some wonderful talents.

Thank you to all who plan, bake, serve, play music and come along to the Christ Church Café which has become such a community event.

Our December café will be full of festive cheer as we dress the Christmas tree and sing carols around the piano. Please come along an join us in the fun.







12 Weeks of Christmas at The Hub

As a benefice we are supporting The Hub's Christmas campaign where each week they will be collecting a particular item to go in their Christmas food parcels. Please support this appeal if you can and leave any donations in the collection boxes in each church or donate direct to The Hub.



Baby & Toddler Groups



On the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month we have **Sunbeams** in Winsley Church Hall. Starting at 10:30am we have lots of toys and games to play with and we finish with a bible story. Coffee and cake for the grown ups and healthy snacks for the children.
Contact Mary on 01225 722210.



Every Thursday during term time at Christ Church we have **The Ark** starting at 10am. We have lots of fun with toys, stories, songs, craft, always accompanied by lovely refreshments.
Contact Hilary on 01225 782527





NORTH BRADFORD AND VILLAGES
MEN'S AND LADIES' GROUPS

Wednesday 25th November 2026
7pm in St Nicholas Church Hall, Winsley

RAILWAYS, GOD AND PRISONS – A LONG STRETCH

Cedric Pierce will talk about his career in the rail industry and the Parole Board, and discuss his involvement with the Baptist and Church of England denominations.

Supper will be pizza and a home-made salad.
Bring your own drinks, or buy from the Social Club.

All men and women 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)

Seeking Independent Examiner

St Peter's are looking for a new independent examiner to check the PCC's annual accounts. The examiner does not need to be a qualified accountant but they should have some familiarity with financial and business matters. If you, or someone you know, can help or would like to find out more please get in touch.
Colin Exley (01225 851485)

Four Churches Forum

Our next Four Churches Forum will be on **Monday 30th November** in Winsley Church Hall. 9:30am for Morning Prayer and then the meeting will start at 10am.

NewsLink

Our next NewsLink will be on **Sunday 6th December**. Please send any relevant contributions by email to nboabenefice@gmail.com by **Monday 30th November**.

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)

Church Wardens:

St Nicholas Church:
Richard Mann (309374)
Penny Pierce (723284)

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

St James' Church:
Dave Wyper (865384)
Valentine Thornhill (862552)

St Peter's Church:
Colin & Rachel Exley (851485)

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