



TWYNING PARISH CHURCH NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2025

Taken from an article in The Guardian newspaper, 5th October 2025:

The next archbishop of Canterbury has no time to waste in making change – this is what she will be up against

People all over the country will have rejoiced on Friday at the news of the first ever female archbishop of Canterbury. After literally centuries of women seeking to serve as leaders in the church, a woman will now hold the most senior position in the Church of England. And the news was welcomed not simply because Sarah Mullally is a woman, but because she is a wise, intelligent, courageous and compassionate leader.

Of course, some people are unhappy – either because of her sex or because of her support for the blessings of same-sex relationships. And some raise concerns about a serious safeguarding case five years ago that was not handled well on her watch by the diocese of London safeguarding team.



Nonetheless, Bishop Sarah – while quite diminutive in stature – has broad shoulders, which she will need. She has survived seven years as bishop of London, which covers one of the most polarised parts of the country when it comes to female priests and bishops. One in five churches in London have passed resolutions to limit women from being vicars or from consecrating the bread and wine. She has been on the receiving end of misogynistic behaviour: in February of this year at General Synod, the church's national assembly, she broke down in tears as she brought to mind the many "micro-aggressions" she has been subjected to. I would hazard a guess that some of those incidents were not micro at all.

As archbishop of Canterbury, Bishop Sarah will preside over a church that is open to women being priests and bishops but, at the same time, has seven serving bishops who welcome her as their new archbishop but would not personally receive communion from her (the bishops of Blackburn, Chichester, Beverley, Fulham, Oswestry, Richborough and Lewes); and one bishop (the bishop of Ebbsfleet) who does not believe women should be in authority over men in the church. Furthermore, there are still nearly 600 churches, according to Women and the Church, that continue to limit women, where she might not be able to preside over the bread and wine or preach.

In her global role as head of the Anglican communion – the 85 million people in more than 165 countries who call themselves Anglicans – Bishop Sarah will also face challenges because of her sex. Although most provinces in the Anglican communion do now accept female priests and

bishops, some do not. Her position on same-sex relations – she is supportive of allowing clergy to bless same-sex relationships, if they agree to do this – is also criticised by some. Significant and powerful factions of the Church of England and Anglican communion resist this. Gafcon (the Global Anglican Future Conference), a network of conservative churches, has already announced that it receives the news of Bishop Sarah's appointment "with sorrow".

So how will this all play out?

By the time Bishop Sarah is "enthroned" as archbishop in March next year, she will only have six years before she will be expected to retire at age 70. There is nonetheless a lot she can achieve in that time. To do that, I believe, she will need to demonstrate leadership that takes the church in a clear direction. In the past, the rallying cry has been unity and our leaders have gone round in circles to agree with everyone – despite there being proper processes for making difficult decisions through prayerful debates and votes at General Synod.

This has got us to a point where we have extra bishops appointed solely for those clergy and churches who do not accept female priests or bishops. The temptation will be to ask for more alternative episcopal oversight on other issues, such as same-sex blessings. But this direction will lead to further division and more people being unable to give or receive the bread and wine together (something that is at the very heart of what it means to be a church). Having the courage to follow due process, take decisions and not always make complicated and expensive provision for those who don't win the vote will bring not only clarity, but ultimately greater unity too.

Recently, I was in a Church of England school teaching a sixth-form class and one young woman said that a boy she knew had told her that the Bible says women need to be under the authority of men. I would have liked to have been able to tell her that this is not what the Church of England believes, full stop. But I could not – as churches are allowed to teach this. In a world with so many problems, so much hatred, misogyny and racism, it would be good for the Church of England to have an authentic voice at its top that calls out the systems of male privilege that drive violence and abuse against women and addresses the institutional misogyny that is currently being ignored. Hopefully, the appointment of our first female archbishop of Canterbury will be a big step towards this.

written by The Rev Martine Osborne, chair of Women and the Church (Watch) and vicar of St Michael's Church in Chiswick, London

Prayer for Archbishop Sarah Mullally

Heavenly Father, we thank you for calling **Sarah Mullally** to serve as the **Archbishop of Canterbury**. We ask that you pour upon her the strength, wisdom, and vision she needs as she leads and serves your Church. May she be filled with your Holy Spirit, guiding her in unity and love as she seeks to draw the nation and the Anglican Communion into a deeper love of you and a stronger love of neighbour. **We pray:**

- **for her leadership:** Grant her the courage to lead with integrity and compassion, and the wisdom to navigate the challenges ahead.
- **for the Church:** Empower your Church to walk together under her guidance, fostering grace and unity among all members.
- **for the nation:** May her ministry inspire hope and healing in our communities, reflecting your love and light in the world.

We ask this through our Lord and Saviour, **Jesus Christ**. Amen.

November is a busy month

- **All Soul's Day is on 1st November**
- **All Saints Day on Sunday 2nd November** - we shall be remembering our loved ones and names will be read out. The list of names used previously has been augmented with those who have recently died.
- **Remembrance Sunday on Sunday 9th November** (see page 7)
- **The Feast of Christ the King on Sunday 23rd November.**

Here is an explanation of this from our vicar:



The Feast of Christ the King is a fairly recent introduction into the liturgical life of the Church which was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925 in response to the rise of secularism and atheism. Within the Anglican lectionary the Feast comes at the end of the kingdom season when our Gospel readings have focused on the Kingdom of God and its challenge to the Kingdoms of this world.

It is a reminder of kings within the Old Testament who tried, and too often failed, to live up to the standards of the Good Shepherd protecting the sheep. It is a reminder also of the coming of Christ as king of kings whose birth was seen as an immediate threat by Herod. The feast is also a challenge to each one of us to work for God's coming Kingdom here on earth and to know ourselves to be his ambassadors of justice, mercy and peace.

Wishing you peace and every blessing! Canon Nick

From the Parish Records

Funeral and Burial 23.10.2025 **Tony James Bayliss** RIP

Baptism anniversaries

This month we celebrate the anniversaries of Baptisms of

Samantha May Angelina on 6 November 2022

James Harry on 20 November 2022

Please remember them and their families in your prayers.



'People were bringing little children to Jesus. And he took them in his arms, laid his hands on them and blessed them.' Mark 10.13, 16

Advent "House Group" - an advanced notice from Ven. Ron Hesketh

As the Lent Group sessions were so well received, Ron is offering similar for this Advent on three Thursdays before Christmas: December 4th, 11th and 18th at 2.30pm at his house. We shall be looking at Paula Gooder's *Journey to the Manger* & a Church of England booklet *O Come Emmanuel*. Ron will be getting copies in beforehand so all you need to bring is yourself. Please let him know if you are interested in joining the group – newcomers are most welcome. And the tea / coffee is good too!!

RIDE & STRIDE & DRIVE FOR HISTORIC CHURCHES SAT 13 SEPT

Here is a note prepared for Glos Historic Churches Trust. The Riders left Twyning at 9.30am and travelled to churches at Strensham; Earls Croome; Hill Croome; Ripple and Twyning. We were 33 people ranging from 2 years to 87 years. All had a great day with lots of conversations and fellowship – and we raised money by sponsorship for the restoration of historic churches.

GCHT already received on 1 Oct 2025 our annual standing order membership fee of £20.00. The funds raised on this event totalled £480.00 AND there is the Gift Aid GHCT recovers too!

This brings our total contribution to £500.00 this year. Since we started making records in 2003 this makes the TOTAL raised for GHCT £10,410 !!

Churchyard Volunteers THANKS

Twyning PCC would like to thank you all so much for the efforts you have put in last year, for doing the regular mowing of your 'patch' and/or for joining us at the Working Parties. Many visitors to the Churchyard have commented most favourably on the condition of the Churchyard.

The Churchyard Working Party on Saturday 11th October was very successful with sixteen of us volunteers and two young trainees ! People said how much fun it was 'like a family' working together.

The Churchyard is looking great before Harvest, which always brings many visitors.

If you know anyone who might like to join our team, please ask them to contact us.

If you have any comments or suggestions for improvements, please let us know.
good wishes

All



Ron Hesketh
Richard Bailey

01684 299 773
01684 298 268

ronhesketh@gmail.com.
RABailey@btinternet.com.

Harvest Festival

This year's Harvest on Sunday 12th October was an all-age celebration led by our vicar, Canon Nick, followed by a shared lunch in the Ann Townend Hall. As usual, donations of harvest produce and groceries were welcome in Church. The non-perishable gifts were donated to the Tewkesbury Food Bank. The Harvest-tide collection was again sent to



two charities that support those in great need: **Gloucestershire Farming Friends** - a group of volunteers who assist those working or connected with agriculture who are in need and **Mary's Meals**, a charity which sets up school feeding programmes in some of the world's poorest communities. Thank you so much for your generous contributions.

SERVICES AND EVENTS

Nov 2nd **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY 9.30am** **PARISH COMMUNION**
remembering loved ones

Nov 9th **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**
9.30 short parish communion in Church - no refreshments
10.45 service at War Memorial



Nov 16th **Sunday** 9.30am **MORNING PRAISE**



Nov 17th **Monday** 1.30pm **Open the Book** Twyning School



Nov 20th **Wednesday 10-12** **PARISH COFFEE MORNING**
with Angela and Chris Cole, Shieling, Fleet Road

Nov 23rd **Sunday** 9.30am **PARISH COMMUNION + Refreshments**

Nov 30th **ADVENT SUNDAY** 9.30am **PARISH COMMUNION**

Dec 1st **Monday** 1.30pm **Open the Book** Twyning School

Dec 7th **Sunday** 9.30am **PARISH COMMUNION + Refreshments**

Dec 14th **Sunday** 9.30am **PARISH COMMUNION**

Dec 15th **Monday** 6pm **Twyning School Carols in Church [tbc]**

Dec 17th **Wednesday 10-12noon** **Parish Coffee Morning**
with Richard Bailey, Birds Farm

Dec 21st **Sunday** 4pm **Candlelit Service of Lessons and Carols**
followed by 'a glass and mince pies'

(Holy Communion available in the benefice at Tewkesbury Abbey at 8am BCP & 10.30am Parish Mass)

Dec 24th **Tuesday Christmas Eve -** **CHRISTINGLE** 5pm

Dec 25th **Christmas Day Family Communion** 9.30am

Dec 28th **Sunday** 9.30am **PARISH COMMUNION**

Everyone is always welcome at all our services and events.

Vicar:	Revd Canon Nick Davies	01684 850 959
Reader & Parish Lay Minister:	Angela Cole	1684 294 325
Churchwarden:	Chris Cole	01684 294 325
Hon. Treasurer:	Richard Bailey	01684 298 268

Services, Readers & Hymns for Nov. & Dec. 2025

9.30am unless time given	readings [small lectionary]	1st & 2nd readings	hymns NEH unless otherwise given
2 nd November <i>All Saints Sunday</i> Parish Communion	Daniel 7.1-3,15-18 p931 Ephesians 1.11-23 Luke 6.20-31	Muriel Russell	478 Ye watchers & ye holy 381 Jerusalem the golden 457 The King of love 197 For all the saints
9 th November <i>Remembrance Sunday</i> Parish Communion	Job 19.23-27 p936 2 Thess 2.1-5,13-17 Luke 20.27-38	Robert Cockrell	124 Ye choirs of new Jer. 377 Immortal invisible 272 All for Jesus 436 Praise my soul 489 National Anthem
16 th November 2nd Sun before Advent Morning Praise	<i>contemporary</i> Luke 21.5-19	Lucy Jones	109 Longing for light RED 69 Help us to help each other 127 Make me a channel
23 th November <i>Christ the King</i> Parish Communion	Jeremiah 33.1-6 p944 1 Timothy 6.6-19 Luke 16.19-31	Pam Dell	346 City of God 360 Firmly I believe and truly 334 All people that on earth 336 Angela voices
30 th November <i>Advent Sunday</i> Parish Communion	Isaiah 2.1-5 p1 Romans 13.11-14 Matthew 24.36-44	Nicola Marples	25 Christ triumphant JP 41 Father hear the prayer 156 Lord Jesus Christ 298 Your hand O God
7 th December Advent 2 Parish Communion	Isaiah 11.1-10 p3 Romans 15.4-13 Matthew 3.1-12	Vera Hesketh	tbc
14 th December Advent 3 Parish Communion	Isaiah 35.1-10 p7 James 5.7-10 Matthew 11.2-11	Dorothy Williams	tbc
21 st December <i>Carol Service</i>	"Five Lessons and Many Carols"	tbc	
25 th December <i>Christmas Day</i> Family Communion	Isaiah 52. 7-10 p20 Hebrews 1. 1-4 John 1. 1-14	Mike Jones	tbc
28 th December 1 st Sunday of Christmas – Holy Innocents Parish Communion	p1032 Jeremiah 31.15-17 1 Corinth 1.26-29 Matthew 2.13-18	Chris Cole	tbc
NB An induction loop for those with hearing aids is available at all services in Twyning Church			

The History of the Poppy



The red poppy is worn as a symbol of both remembrance and hope for a peaceful future. Poppies are a show of support for the Armed Forces Community. During World War 1, much of the fighting took place in Western Europe. The countryside was blasted, bombed and fought over repeatedly. Previously beautiful landscapes turned to mud: bleak and barren scenes where little or nothing could grow. But out of this devastation the delicate but resilient bright red Flanders poppies grew and flourished in their thousands. In the Spring of 1915, shortly after losing a friend in Ypres, a Canadian doctor, Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae was moved by the sight of these poppies and that inspiration led him to write the now famous poem - "In Flanders Fields". The poem then inspired an American

Remembrance Sunday - 9th November

academic, Moira Michael, to adopt the poppy in memory of those who had fallen in the War. She campaigned to get it adopted as an official symbol of Remembrance across the United States and worked with others who were trying to do the same in Canada, Australia and the UK. Also, involved with those efforts was a French woman, Anna Guerin, who was in the UK in 1921, where she planned to sell poppies in London. There she met Earl Haig, the founder of the Royal British Legion (RBL), who was persuaded to adopt the poppy as our emblem in the UK. The RBL, which had been founded in 1921, ordered 9 million poppies and sold them on the 11th November - they sold out immediately. This first Poppy Appeal made £106,000 to help veterans with housing and jobs - this was a huge sum at that time. Today, 40,000 volunteers distribute 40 million poppies each

year. Major George Houson set up the Poppy Factory to employ disabled ex-servicemen and today the factory and warehouse in Aylesford in Kent are still producing poppies. Today, only donations from the sale of our red poppies go directly towards helping the Armed Forces Community. Thank you for your donations.

In Flanders Fields **by John McCrae**

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

TWYNING CAROL SINGERS 2025

There has been singing in and around the village since the 1960s. To continue with tradition, we are offering these days, times and venues. If you and your family would like to sing carols around the village this Christmas, please join us. Everyone is most welcome.

Every year we raise money for charities who have made a difference to the lives of people within our village or county. Charities that support individuals, families and the community.

Please can you give any suggestions for charities to Gemma before the 7th Dec.

LEADER(S)	DATE	TIME	VENUE
Gemma	Sun 7 th Dec	4-5pm	Twyning Church A brief practice to indicate availability and give out details for the indoor events.
Angela	Tues 16 th Dec	8.45pm	Masons meet Spring Gardens Car Park, Concert Dress
Gemma	Weds 17 th Dec	8.45pm	Masons meet Spring Gardens Car Park, Concert Dress
Lucy	Sat 20 th Dec	10am for 30 - 40 minutes	Outside Village Shop come & sing - in aid of chosen charities <i>families welcome</i>
Lucy	Sat 20 th Dec	11.30am	Tewkesbury Hospital <i>Families welcome</i>
Gemma + Organist	Sun 14 th Dec	4pm	Church Carol Service Carol Singers giving a couple of well-known carols: casual dress
Gemma	Mon 22 nd Dec	6pm	Family Night: Paxhill Lane, The Mayalls & Orchard Drive Meet @ Twyning Chapel <i>Families welcome</i> Kindly invited back to Ron and Vera Hesketh (Whistledown, Twyning Green) at the end of the evening
Ellie	Tues 23 rd Dec	6pm	Family Night: Lynworth Lane, Hillend Road and Freemans Close Meet @ end of Lynworth Lane <i>Families welcome</i> Kindly invited back to Richard Bailey (Bird's Farm) at the end of the evening

THE STORY OF THE CHURCH PROJECTS 2006–14 **Final Part**



NEARING COMPLETION MARCH 2010



CAR PARK COMPLETED
JULY 2011

NAVE CARPET



A contract for **new lights** to be installed was let in July 2009 to Lewis & King of Stratford at a cost of £10,566.

The task of **redcoration** of walls & ceilings was given to Tony Amphlett of Pershore in January 2010 costing £18,002, scaffolding placed so services continued.

Monuments, including the Hancock Monument, were dismantled & restored with damp-proofing membranes: cost £17,235.

A new purpose designed **carpet** was woven at Kidderminster and laid along the nave aisle (£2,357) – mostly funded by a local family.

A **heating oil pipeline** was laid alongside the sewer trench and a new fuel tank installed near the road for easy access from tankers. The **heating boiler** was replaced.

These contracts cost £54,483, funded by Appeal events and personal donations from many parishioners, villagers and visitors.

For some years the PCC had been searching for additional **car parking**. In 2010, part of the large garden next to the church became available and 13 more parking spaces achieved. The cost was £25,411, raised from parishioner regular giving and fund raising and the project completed in July 2011.

As historic pins were rusting and swelling, the **font** was refurbished at a cost of £780 with a grant from the Glos. Historic Churches Trust.

Finally, a larger **boiler** and **wall mounted heaters** were installed – at a cost of £7979.

The result is a church which offers more open space for gatherings. It is warmer, lighter and more versatile – better equipped to welcome and service the whole community here in Twynning.

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We do hope you have enjoyed this resumé.

There are free copies of the booklet in church to take to read the whole story.



Tewkesbury Benefice



We are part of the Benefice of **Tewkesbury with Walton Cardiff & Twynning** with Revd Canon Nick Davies as our vicar & Revd Hannah Barraclough as associate vicar.

Don't miss the last few days of the **Museum of the Moon** at the Abbey which ends on 4th November 2025. This awe-inspiring artwork by Luke Jerram has transformed the Abbey into a space of wonder, reflection & imagination. Measuring seven metres in diameter and featuring detailed NASA imagery, the internally lit Moon sculpture floats amidst the gothic arches, accompanied by a tranquil soundscape composed by Dan Jones.

To celebrate its arrival, we curated a vibrant and varied program of moon-inspired events for all ages. From atmospheric evening viewings to sunrise yoga, concerts, storytelling & a special opening night, there is something for everyone under the Moon. Worship has also played a central role throughout this period and alongside our usual service pattern we will be hosting a number of additional service that capitalize on the presence of this awe-inspiring installation.

You are welcome to the final clergy-led event under the Moon: *A Time for Reflection with the Sentinel of Stillness* on Monday 3rd and Tuesday 4th November 2.30-3.00pm
Experience the Abbey like never before.



THE CHRISTMAS FAIR

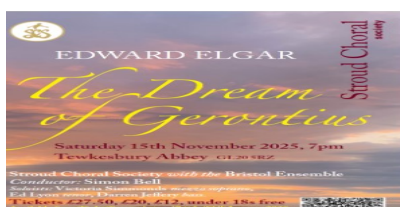
The annual Christmas Fair is back at the Abbey on Saturday 29 November from 10am till 4pm. It's a perfect place to get into the spirit of Christmas!

WHAT ELSE IS ON:

The Planets and Starwars Sat 1 Nov 7:30pm.

A concert of Holst: The Planets alongside music from John William's mighty Star Wars Soundtracks.

See Abbey website to book



Elgar's Dream of Gerontius

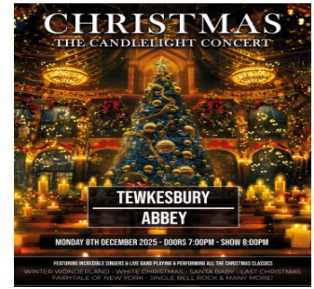
The Stroud Choral Society

Saturday 15th November

Tickets available online + Abbey shop

Monday 8th December at 7.30pm

See Abbey website to book



10th December 7pm

Established as one of the most successful female-led, early music and folk ensembles in Europe; lush, ethereal harmonies will transport the listener through a myriad of ancient and forgotten languages. See Abbey website to book

Sunday	7.30am	Morning Prayer	Wednesday	9am	Morning Prayer
	8am	Holy Communion BCP		4pm	Centering Prayer
	10.30am	High Mass	Thursday	9am	Morning Prayer
	5pm	Evensong		11am	Holy Communion (BCP)
Monday	9am	Morning Prayer		5.30	Choral Evensong*
	5.30	Choral Evensong*	Friday	9am	Morning Prayer
Tuesday	9am	Morning Prayer		5.30	Choral Evensong*
	12 noon	Holy Communion	Saturday	9am	Morning Prayer
	5.30	Choral Evensong*		4pm	Evening Prayer
*Choral Evensong sung by Schola Cantorum in			* term-time, otherwise said Evening Prayer 4pm		

Have you been baptised but not yet confirmed? Do you want to make your own public commitment to follow Christ, strengthened by the gifts of the Holy Spirit?

This November at Tewkesbury Abby, we will host a service of Confirmation with baptism if you haven't done this yet with The Rt Revd Robert, Bishop of Tewkesbury on **Sunday 23rd November at 10.30am.**

Group preparations sessions began on 12th October. If you'd like to explore being confirmed or are simply curious, please speak to the parish office on 01684 850 959.

The Touching Souls Tea Room opens Monday to Saturday from 9am till 4pm and Sunday 11am to 3pm. ***The Abbey Shop*** opens Monday to Saturday from 10am till 4pm and Sunday after the morning service till 4pm

Revd Canon Nick Davies	vicar@tewkesburyabbey.org.uk
Revd Hannah Barraclough	associate.vicar@tewkesburyabbey.org.uk
Benefice Administrator Claire Redstone	info@tewkesburyabbey.org.uk



Why did the *Granny Smith* apple cry? Its peelings were hurt.

Sorry!!!!

Peace and blessings to you all,

angelacole135@hotmail.com

See our website: <http://www.achurchnearyou.com/twyning-st-mary-magdalene>



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Ann Townend Hall, Church End, Twynning, provides the perfect location for social, educational and club activities. It is conveniently situated to Twynning Church for christening parties and funeral teas. Fully modernised, with disabled access, large secure patio/grass area to the rear, kitchen area & local parking, the hall can accommodate up to 60 persons.

Bookings Phone Bill Chescoe on 01684 295 352 or email beckyhallett@btinternet.com

HALL FOR HIRE

Twynning Village Hall, Fleet Road. Capacity 100 persons Disabled access
Licensed bar State of the art kitchen Full PA system with hearing loop.

Booking Secretary: Delta Ferguson To request a booking please use this link:

<https://www.twynningvillage.co.uk/village-hall> email: bookings@twynningvillagehall.org.uk

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Mike Bennett **1 Abbots Court Drive, Church End -** www.piedpiperappeal.co.uk

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Certified Chimney Sweep, Sweep & Vacuum, Insurance Certificate Issued, Chimney & Stove Maintenance & Repairs, Bird Guards & Cows.

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