

THE Magazine

35p

ST BARNABAS with CHRIST CHURCH, WORCESTER



MARCH 2024

ST BARNABAS WITH CHRIST CHURCH

PARISH STAFF:

Priest in Charge:	Revd Sarah Northall	074838 07432
Associate Priest:	Revd Rosie Moss	07761 691984
Licensed Lay Minister:	Julie Berrow, Reader	07733 226061
Churchwarden (St Barnabas & Christ Church):	Rachel Chalmers	07787 128345
Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO):	Rachel Chalmers	07787 128345

WEBSITE: www.stbarnabasworcester.org.uk
YOUTUBE: St Barnabas with Christ Church,
Worcester.



SERVICES:

Sunday	10am	Eucharist
Wednesday	10am	Said Eucharist

PARISH OFFICE:

To book a baptism or marriage (or to have banns read), send message through our website: www.stbarnabasworcester.org.uk

MAGAZINE DEADLINE: Penultimate Sunday of each month.
Please e-mail contributions to jackiecampbell@talktalk.net

Registered Charity number 1158894

A LENT-LIKE BICYCLE RIDE

Lent seems a bit bleak to me, it's like choosing to embark on journey that you know will be hard, and why would anyone want to do that?!

One of my recent bicycle rides felt very 'Lent' like; it was an evening ride in to the countryside after declining the kind offer of a comfortable lift to a work meeting. I found myself riding into the darkness having to trust the flow of the street with no lights, to endure the not knowing of what's in front of me, nor beneath me, with the threat of lurking potholes ready to throw me into the hedge. I had to make decisions eg. should I slow down to be safer but would mean I'd be in the dark threatening night alone for longer. I asked myself; 'is this journey safe?'

And 'is the destination worth the journey?'

On a Lent journey we decide not to take the effortless path, and choose to

venture along the unknown road, unsure of what we may encounter, and be thrown into the hedge along the way. We may have to slow down and be in the dark for longer than comfortable.

I am thankful that Jesus took this road before us and for us.

I relaxed into my predicament by reminding myself I had made this choice, and which helped me decide to commit fully to the journey. It was then that I was able to savour the sweet smell of the cake factory, to feel the cold air on my skin. And I slowed down enough to see the

minuscule multitude of moths in the beam of my front light, showing me I certainly was not alone!

So, 'was my journey safe?' As safe as I could make it, and knew I was not alone.

And, 'Was the destination worth the journey?' Mmmm...well without the destination the



journey wouldn't have happened, and the journey definitely was worth it! It was in the journey I met with my creator and felt the presence of Jesus.

Happy Easter!
Sue Martyr
Authorised Lay Minister

2023 ANNUAL REPORTS

Reports for the Annual Reports booklet should be sent to jackiecampbell@talktalk.net by 3rd March
Thank you!

ELECTORAL ROLE

The Electoral Role will close soon in readiness for the Church Annual Meeting—the existing role is on the noticeboard at the back of church. If you would like to be added please ask a Churchwarden or Jackie Campbell for a form.

EASTER LILIES

Easter lilies/flowers in memory of a loved one are £3.50 each. If you would like one, please add name to list on noticeboard and put money in envelope (with name on) and give to Churchwardens by Palm Sunday, 24th March.



GOOD FRIDAY

Following the huge success of last year's Passion Play in Cathedral Plaza, rehearsals are underway for a repeat performance this year.

There will be no service on Good Friday at St Barnabas but we will be serving hot cross buns and tea/coffee from 8.30am, then making our way to town for the 10.30am start.

PRAYER TREE

The Prayer Tree by the font will remain during Lent. Please add a label with your prayer as you come into church.

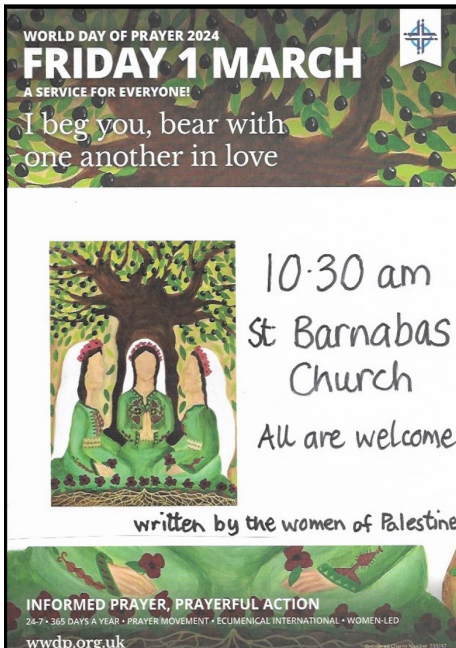
10 MINUTE PRAYERS

At 10am on Tuesdays during Lent, Julie will be leading this to pray the concerns on the Prayer tree.

Please join her if you can.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Church Annual Meeting takes place in church on Sunday 14th April. *All welcome to stay on for the meeting following the service!*



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday 1st March 10.30 am in St Barnabas. The Palestinian Christian women who wrote this worship service have invited the world to pray for peace, justice & freedom of religion & freedom of movement.

Their prayers specifically call us to pray with women, refugees, persons experiencing homelessness, & all who are sick, dying & grieving. They also call us to confess to our collective role in causing the climate crisis, & to commit to repairing what we have destroyed. Finally, they call us, the global church, to be united in treating all with justice and love.

LENT COURSE

This course, called *LIFE ON THE BREADLINE* will be run as two groups:

Tuesday 20th February, 8-9pm, St Nicholas Vicarage (4 Dady Croft, Home Meadow, WR4 0JB). Wednesday 21st February (except on Monday 26th), 7-8pm, at Margaret and Andy's home (197 Bilford Rd, WR3 8HL)

There are 6 sessions (which can be followed individually). Each session follows same format taking an hour combining prayer, a short video, Bible passage, guided reflections, discussion questions & take-away actions.

There are 6 themes:

- Christian responses to poverty
- “Love thy neighbour” – poverty & inequality
- Race, ethnicity, austerity & faith
- Deficits & assets
- Housing (in)justice
- Poverty & structural inequality

“The Life on the Breadline Lent course offers a challenging and inspiring experience. It provides thought provoking questions and in-depth reflection on the Bible and people experiencing poverty, motivating people to take action. It changed people's perspectives.”

Eunice Attwood, Church at the Margins Officer, Methodist Church

Sunday CROSSROADS

Are you looking for a chance to pause, reflect, and recharge before the week ahead? As the weekend winds down and a new week begins, find contemplation and companionship at Sunday Crossroads, our new regular Sunday evening worship. With gentle and varied input, over three weeks on, and a week off, we invite any and all, from our churches and community to join us.

18 February 7pm

introducing the ABIDE booklet for Lent

25 February 7pm

with special guest Paul Wilcox

3 March 7pm

we reflect on the readings set for today, exploring two different ways of engaging with scripture

17 March 7pm

Celtic worship for St Patrick's Day

24 March 7pm

Quiet Hearts, Quiet Minds evening for Holy Week

31 March 7pm

Standing at the Emmaus Crossroads gentle story-telling eucharist recreating the first Easter evening

14 April 7pm

ideas for contemplative worship to try at home

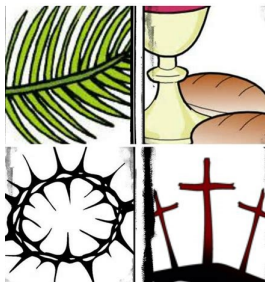
21 April 7pm

playful exploration of the range of names given to Jesus throughout scripture and Christian literature

28 April 7pm

with special guest Baptist minister Darren Smith

The Abide booklet is available to download from St Wulstan's website.



EASTER AT ST BARNABAS



PALM SUNDAY 24 MARCH

St Barnabas 10am Communion for Palm Sunday
7pm Quiet Hearts, Quiet Minds

HOLY WEEK

MONDAY 25 MARCH

St Nicholas 9am Morning Prayer Breakfast
Cathedral 11am Chrism Eucharist
St Barnabas 7pm Quiet Hearts, Quiet Minds

TUESDAY 26 MARCH

St Barnabas 9am Morning Prayer Breakfast
St Barnabas 7pm Quiet Hearts, Quiet Minds

WEDNESDAY 27 MARCH

Christ Church 9am Morning Prayer Breakfast
St Barnabas 7pm Quiet Hearts, Quiet Minds

MAUNDY THURSDAY 28 MARCH

St Wulstans 9am Morning Prayer Breakfast
St Wulstans 11am Easter Eggstravaganza
All-Age Worship For Easter
St Barnabas 7pm Together in the Upper Room Eucharist for Maundy Thursday with the Archdeacon of Worcester
Bonfire Vigil at St Wulstans Vicarage *until late*

GOOD FRIDAY 29 MARCH

St Barnabas 8.30 Morning Prayer Breakfast ahead of a Cluster pilgrimage to City Centre 10.30am Worcester Passion Play
St Barnabas 12pm The Three Hours. Half-hourly worship and prayer stations for individuals
Bonfire Vigil at St Wulstans Vicarage until late

HOLY SATURDAY 30 MARCH

Bonfire Vigil at St Wulstans Vicarage until late

remember that the clocks go forward overnight!

EASTER SUNDAY 31 MARCH

St Wulstans 6am First Light dawn service around the bonfire with breakfast
St Barnabas 10am Easter Celebration; first communion of the resurrection
7pm The Emmaus Crossroads gentle evening eucharist recreating the story of the Emmaus road

SUNDAY 7 APRIL

St Wulstans 10.30 Cluster Service

All our congregations come together for a Something Else Sunday

WORCESTER PASSION PLAY

Last Easter, more than a thousand people came to watch a live open-air performance of the Passion Play in Cathedral Square on Good Friday. This year's performance will take place at 10.30am on 29 March.

Passion Plays tell the story of Jesus' Last Supper, the betrayal by Judas, his trial, the crucifixion and the resurrection. The most famous Passion Play is performed in the town of Oberammergau in Germany every ten years.

The first production in Worcester took place in 2022 – and the team behind the production have worked closely with an organisation who have put on a live open-air performance in Trafalgar Square every Easter since 2010.

Rehearsals are well underway, and the production team have been working hard to ensure this year's performance is even better than 2023. The cast is made up primarily of people from a number of local churches and various denominations including the Church of England, the Catholic Church, Methodists, Baptists and various non-denominational churches.

Director Tim Crow says "The

Passion Play dramatises the trial, death and resurrection of Jesus – the heart of the Christian faith, and the hope for the world. This colourful production brings the historical events to life."

Local cafes, restaurants and businesses are opening early on Good Friday to welcome the hundreds of spectators expected to attend the performance. And there is a huge LED screen in Cathedral Square to ensure everyone can see what's happening on stage.

There is no charge to come and watch the production on Good Friday 29 March at 10.30am in Cathedral Square. The team behind this year's event are relying on donations to cover the costs. *Visit their GoFundMe page.*

Further information about the Worcester Passion Play 2024 can be found *on their website.*



good friday



Worcester Passion Play

**Good Friday
29th March 2024
10.30am
Cathedral Square, Worcester**

For more info, email: janeroberts440@gmail.com

Website: www.worcesterpassionplay.co.uk

Facebook: **WorcsPassion**

X (formerly Twitter): **@WorcsPassion**

YouTube: **worcesterpassionplay**

To make a donation:

www.gofundme.com/f/worcester-passion-play-ltd

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BLACK AND WHITE

On the latest 'Great Pottery Showdown' programme the six remaining contestants had to make three separate pieces, two in white porcelain and one in black clay. They needed to stand together, and lit from inside become an illuminated sculpture. Great care was required not to mix the two different coloured clays so each potter had access to two separate wheels. The personal stories behind the designs illustrated times of sorrow or difficulties followed by times of happiness or change. The black and the white forms were kept separate but then became part of the whole. The whole story if you like. The winning sculpture, representing positivity after a period of depression, was beautiful, especially with the light diffusing through it.



Photo apps are clever these days and I sometimes like to consider a black and white version of one of my colour photographs. If the subject is right there can be something special about the result. Light and shadow and texture are somehow enhanced and give the original quite a different look. And I can always keep copies of both.

Life is not always black or white of course, more often a mixture of the two at any one time or a grey mix. Whether we are talking about how we are feeling or seeking answers for a question or problem in life it is not always straightforward...

...unless you are three small boys...

Definitive statements heard on a



recent car journey:

6yr old "I'm super hungry"

4yr old "I'm super tired"

3yr old "I'm a super hero"!

And a closer look at the photographs shows that even black and white is not always what it seems. The clever editing

on the iPad has the option of 'silvertone' which is just a bit softer.

Let's embrace colour, even the blacks and the greys. And let's be wise in recognising the friends and family willing and able to support us, softening a little our darker colours.

Margaret Gandon

Change The World

The world, the world that God made.
The sunsets beautiful, glimmering
The fish in the water unharmed,
Flourishing flowers grow.

And then, without notice,
Industrial Revolution,
Bang! Fossil fuels takeover the sky,
Like the devil, no notice taken.
Us. Us humans. Blind.
Become blinder.
To Mother Nature

But! People become more aware,
Not leaders, the younger generation,
We must notice. Do you want to have a good generation?
Of people to come?

These are our descendants we are talking about.
We have a duty to secure the future,
And right now, it doesn't look great.

Noah Kear (aged 11)



MISSION FUND NEWS

During 2023 the Mission Fund made donations to twenty-one charities, which included Local, National and International organisations. A full list of the donations is listed below.

The Mission Fund wouldn't exist without the support of our friends in the Planned Giving Scheme and those who donate at the Sunday Morning service. We send our sincere thanks to everyone for continuing to support the Mission Fund.

Ann Bryant

On behalf of the Mission Fund of St. Barnabas with Christ Church

2023 MISSION FUND DONATIONS

LOCAL:

Acorns Children's Hospice: Nursing children with life-threatening illnesses, together with support for their families.

Behind The Smile: This local charity was started by Gaynor & Andy Pritchard in



Behind the Smile
Continuing Zac's Story;

memory of their son Zac. Their aim is to bring people together, providing someone to listen to them whenever needed. Gaynor was a church warden at St.

Barnabas and she believes a service such as this is essential.

Maggs Day Centre: Providing a daily warm, welcoming place for homeless people, offering a daily breakfast together with help and support. The Centre gladly receives any unwanted warm clothes.

The Myriad Centre: Based in St George's Walk and provides specialist and much-needed respite care for people with profound and multiple learning disabilities (PMLD) and their families.

New Hope, Worcester: Situated in Ronkswood, this centre is a place where disabled children can enjoy meeting new friends, engage in new activities and gain confidence whilst their parents / carers can enjoy free time every Saturday.

St Paul's Hostel: Providing living accommodation for homeless people, together with support, advice and training as they start their journey to rebuild their lives.

St Richard's Hospice: Nursing and supporting patients with end-of-life care, whilst offering their



St. Richard's Hospice

CARING FOR LIFE

Reg. Charity No. 515668

relatives care, advice and bereavement counselling.

**WCWR
(Worcester City
Welcomes**



Refugees): This charity has recently been set up by Chris Russell and is backed by Worcester City Council. The charity's aim is to provide a Welcome Pack to refugee families that the WCC have accepted and verified.

Worcester Foodbank: Financial help enabling the Foodbank to purchase essential items that haven't been donated.

Worcestershire & Dudley Historic Churches Trust: The Trust helps churches throughout the area that require help in maintaining their church.

NATIONAL:

Church Urban Fund: working with local leaders, churches and other faiths groups all over England, building flourishing communities, so that everyone across England can access support when they most need it.

Eco Church Project: This is an A Rocha UK Project, which we are a member of and have achieved a Silver Eco Church Award. This donation is in memory of Judy Ford, as a tribute to her and Chris for the

work their help in gaining an Eco Church Award for St. Barnabas.

PSP Association: Giving home Information and support to sufferers of Progressive Supranuclear Palsy (PSP) which is a neurological condition and also research into the cause of PSP. This donation is in memory of Sheila Bright.

INTERNATIONAL:

Bishop John's Lent Appeal: For the Diocese link with the Diocese of Peru. The country has one of the world's worst Covid mortality rate and is experiencing severe political unrest, poverty and violence. The Appeal is towards providing soup kitchens and medical costs for those who need it most.



BritishRedCross

Appeal for the Libya flood disaster which caused extensive damage due to extreme weather conditions and flooding, which resulted in the main dam collapsing and bursting its banks.

Appeal for the Morocco Earthquake, a huge devastating earthquake, which happened just before the Libya flood disaster. Urgent medical items, equipment, shelter, food and water needed.

DEC Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal: DEC charities and their local partners are working

tirelessly to provide emergency aid such as shelter, food, clean water and medical care.

Mary's Meals: the charity was founded in 2002 by two brothers from Scotland. The charity aims to serve a daily meal to hundreds of school children, often living in settlements and refugee camps, due to famine, draught, violence and war in many African countries.

Practical Action Harvest Appeal 2023: Helping, educating and supporting farmers and communities throughout Sudan, to enable them to combat climate change with new skills and practice for their future survival.

tearfund **Tearfund:** This is a Christian Charity which partners with churches in over 50 of the World's poorest countries. The charity has partnerships with local churches and organisations, playing a crucial role in places worst affected by poverty.

USPG Harvest Appeal 2023: Supporting the Church of Sudan, in their endeavour to help and educate the children there to understand climate change and how to take better care of the Planet for future generations.



SPECIAL SCREENING

On Saturday 9th March at 7.30pm there will be a special screening in the Cathedral of Life Over Death.

'House of Bones' under Bishop John's home featured in a documentary based on a book written by Bishop John's late wife Denise, and commemorates the 10th anniversary of her death. The film is based around Denise Inge's book 'A Tour of Bones' which she wrote about the charnel house - a crypt filled with human bones - hidden under a trapdoor in their basement.

The history of the charnel house became much more significant for Denise when she was diagnosed with an inoperable sarcoma - her book covers the themes of mortality, preparing for death and embracing life. Local production agency, Conteur, worked in collaboration with the Bishop to create the film, 'Life Over Death'. The house of bones remains one of Worcester's best-kept secrets, and Bishop John is hoping the screening will share some of the cathedral's lesser-known magic with viewers, while paying tribute to Denise who lost her life to cancer in 2014.



TO OUR ADVERTISERS

who continue to support us

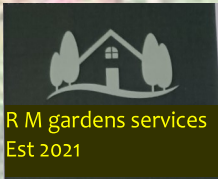
If you would like to advertise in the Church magazine the cost is £2.50 per month for this size.

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Call Rachel Chalmers (458101) or Julia Adams (610830)



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WHERE DO WE MEET?
The Rainbow Hill Community Hub
12 Astwood Road, Worcester. WR3 8ET

HOW OFTEN? 1st Friday of month

WHAT TIME? 1-3pm

All women very welcome to get involved & make new friends.

Pop in for a chat with Rachel, our Secretary, any Wednesday or Friday afternoon 1-3pm.

t: 01905 330600
e: rainbowsec@wfedwi.org.uk

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