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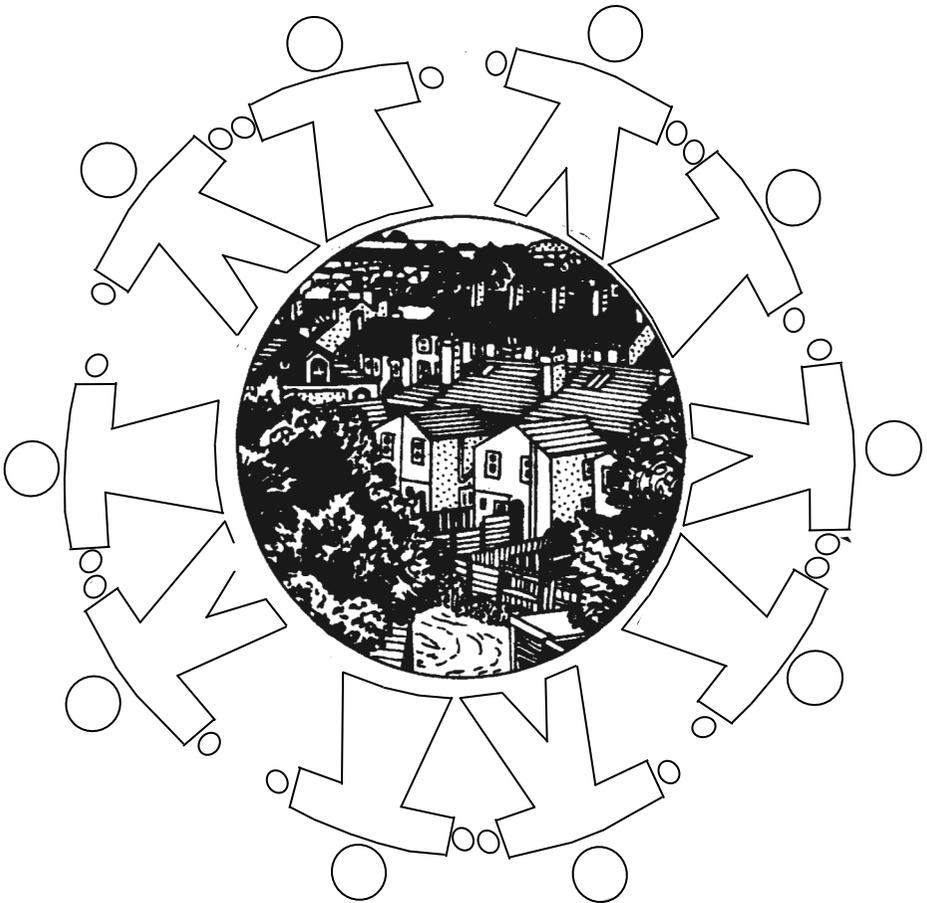
# M THE MAGAZINE

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ST BARNABAS with CHRIST CHURCH, WORCESTER

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NOVEMBER 2021

## ST BARNABAS WITH CHRIST CHURCH

### PARISH STAFF:

Vicar: Revd Julieann Watson (23785)  
Churchwardens (St Barnabas & Christ Church):  
Mary James (455214)  
Rachel Chalmers (07787 128345)  
Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO):  
Rachel Chalmers (07787 128345)

**WEBSITE:** [www.stbarnabasworcester.org.uk](http://www.stbarnabasworcester.org.uk)  
**YOUTUBE:** St Barnabas with Christ Church,  
Worcester.



### SERVICES:

Sunday	10am	Eucharist
	6.30pm	Evening Service
Wednesday	10am	Said Eucharist

If you would like to receive our written material for a Sunday - please place your request through Revd Julieann:  
[julieann.watson2019@icloud.com](mailto:julieann.watson2019@icloud.com)

**MAGAZINE DEADLINE:** Penultimate Sunday of each month.  
Please e-mail contributions to [jackiecampbell@talktalk.net](mailto:jackiecampbell@talktalk.net)

## NOVEMBER REMINDS US TO REMEMBER



Margaret and I have been away this past fortnight, up in the Dales and the Lakes. Constantly we were reminded how beautiful is this country in which we are privileged to live, yes by rugged bracken covered hills and fertile valleys and lakes, but also by the colours. Particularly striking were the changing hues of the natural world: the trees in Cumbria are already turning autumnal well in advance of ours here in Worcester. And it made me think about those leaves, whether red, or golden or yellow, be they still clinging to their branches or already adorning the ground beneath.

Autumn leaves help us **REMEMBER** the months now past, the seasons of blossom and growth - and fruitfulness. They remind us that time never stops, that we all grow older since life does not stand still, that creation is a gift to be cherished, and seasons need to be celebrated.

In the Christian calendar we are moving again into the season of **REMEMBERING** ... all the Saints of God who have “run the race” of life and faith (1<sup>st</sup> November). Then on 14<sup>th</sup> November we shall remember all who have lived and died fighting for freedom, and peace, and justice in the wars of the past 100 years and more. 2021 is the Centenary of the first Acts of Remembrance in 1921. And inevitably many will also be very mindful of the 140,000 who have died since the start of the pandemic. This total is of those who died within 28 days of a positive test result for COVID-19; other methods of calculating put the total at over 162,000. There will be a Memorial Eucharist at St Barnabas’ at 6.30pm on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November.

All these acts of remembering are **FOR EVERYONE**. You don’t need to be a person of faith to feel deep sorrow when someone

has died, or thankfulness for lives given in war so that we might live in peace. But whenever we remember, Christians want to believe we do so in the presence of the God of Jesus Christ, who gave up his own life out of love for everyone, so that we can face whatever the future will bring with peace and hope in our hearts.

And do remember that after the trees have shed their leaves, and when Winter is past, Spring will come. There will be new buds emerging, fresh leaves, new life!

*Revd Andy Gandon  
24<sup>th</sup> October 2021*

## **HOME GROUP RE-STARTING**

*WHERE?*

197 Bilford Road WR3 8HL

*WHEN?*

Wednesdays from 3rd November through to Christmas, 7.30pm start, end by 9pm.

*WHAT FOR?*

Thinking about Advent, using material from either "Songs for a Saviour's Birth" by William Philip, and another "Journey to the Manger" by Paula Gooder.

*DOING WHAT?*

Some study and sharing together, along with some gentle worship, with prayer.

*WHO FOR?*

Anyone who'd like to come along and give it a try. Everyone's welcome!

*Andy & Margaret Gandon*

## **ALL THE SAINTS**

For all the saints who from their labours rest.....

The Feast of All Saints makes us more observant of stained glass windows. Then we remember those faithful departed of our Church, Schools and community who sacrificed much of their time with family, friend and neighbour – many unsung heroes, loving mankind as God loves us. How often have we heard 'the patience of a saint, a real saint.

An isolated friend who was nearing 100, always answered our phone calls: "Can I help you?"

May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

*Written by G. Elfred Jones  
(Cathedral Congregation)  
October 2021*



## **SING SOMETHING DIFFERENT**

Come and gather round the piano with John Hocking to sing something new in church for a new season and a new year: including a new setting for Communion.

Begins Tuesday 2 November 7 - 7.30pm in St Barnabas Church.

**CHRISTMAS BOXES FOR  
HOMELESS PEOPLE IN  
WORCESTER**

**PLEASE GIVE A LITTLE CHEER TO  
PEOPLE IN ST PAUL'S HOSTEL,  
HOUSING FIRST & MAGGS DAY  
CENTRE**



*Suggested contents for covered shoe  
box:*

*Shower gel, deodorant, shampoo,  
moisturiser (male & female), wet  
wipes, socks, underwear, thermal  
gloves, hats (not hand knitted),  
pens, notebooks, diaries, tissues,  
chocolate/sweets/biscuits, torch &  
batteries, vouchers For coffee/  
Greggs*

*In addition for women earmuffs,  
perfume, nail varnish*

**Elastic band round box & label  
with 'man' or 'woman'**

**Please bring filled boxes to St. Barnabas  
church by Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December and any  
extra items before then so we can make  
up boxes**

**THANK YOU TO YOU ALL**

## SAGA HOLIDAYS

Have you ever inwardly sighed and gritted your teeth when someone has invited you round to look at their holiday snaps? Or dare I say slides? Remember the days of the clicking projector and the none too smooth wall as the temporary screen?

Well, you can breathe out. I'm not going to tell you about the beautiful dales and Lakes, autumn colours, walks and hikes and the names of old friends we met up with, whom you don't know and no doubt never will. Or about cosy caravans.

No.

Welcome to the Alternative Holiday Saga.

### ***IT'S IN THE BAG***

3 am and woken by a rustling, scrabbling sound. No-one to be seen. Lock the car. 3.05 am and rustles and scrabbles continue. Identify the sound is emanating from the small plastic bag used for our rubbish, most recently a couple of apple cores. A glance inside and it is full up now, with a ball of spines. Our little hedgehog is given the name Herbie and politely placed, in its bag, outside the awning door. Herbie



departs silently before morning.

### ***THE MARCH OF THE CAMPERVANS***

Arrive back on Lakes site and for the first time we have an uninterrupted view from our awning picture window. Grass and sheep and grey clouds. Beautiful! Within ten minutes the next large van arrives and parks up next to us. The said view is never to be seen again. Who would believe grass and sheep and grey clouds could be so sought after?

### ***CHICKEN RUN***

First Dales farm field is empty as we drive in but not for long. We are soon accompanied by five inquisitive little characters, with their own unique personalities and all running amok. It's not our five little grandsons this time (that was August and another story altogether!) but the resident chickens. One of them is



definitely not smiling as it tries to sneak in the door.

**WHEN IS A TRIO ONLY THREE?**

A Quartet of musicians all playing the same instruments? A trio of harpists or drummers? Of course not! So, with some anticipation we order a trio of local sausages at the local pub and a steak and ale pie and share the two meals. Each sausage is carefully cut in half and we both try and identify the differences between them. We're not doing very well and when we ask the waitress how they differ she smiles and says 'There's no difference, they are all the same, there are just three of them!'

**PUBLIC OR PRIVATE**

Yes, we were aware that the second Dales farm site's 'facilities' were a two or three minute walk across a road. We have had long

walks before on a big site. What we didn't know was that in this instance the road, albeit a B road, was the main one through the village, on a bend with no pavements, involving a walk past the little shop and other dwellings. Fortunately there were some well-kept toilets a bit nearer, open twenty four hours, useful at night. Bizarrely they were in the public car park. Try as one might there is something quite risqué about walking to either of these facilities at any time of day, attired in a dressing gown and wellies, and clutching a toothbrush!

The best thing about coming home after two weeks away? It must be walking across the landing to the bathroom, especially at 3 am.

*Happy days!*  
*Margaret GANDON*

Date for your Diaries  
SAT 11th December 2021

*Chrissy - Tingle*



Family Fun  
Coffee Craft Snacks

All accompanied children welcome  
11.00 -12.30

St Barnabas Church Hall



Steve and Rhianna were recently ordained at Leicester Cathedral  
Excitement at St Barnabas School recently when Princess Anne came to plant a tree  
Waiting to welcome Bishop Martin who dropped by on his pilgrimage.



*Remember parties??  
Looking forward to more of them!*



## ST BARNABAS WIVES' GROUP 1948-2020

A few years after the end of WW2 many new houses were built, with new families moving into the St Barnabas ward. The Young Wives Club, as it was named, was started in 1948 to welcome new wives to the area. Meetings were held in the church hall on a Thursday afternoon at least once a month. It was very successful, friendships were formed and many members joined St. Barnabas Church. The club held afternoon teas, sharing new recipes, sewing and knitting ideas and also swapped children's clothes, especially school uniforms. They organised picnics and walks and invited other churches with similar groups. They held a dinner each year in the church hall and husbands were invited!!

However, by the middle 1960's, life had changed and many of the women went to work. It was decided to move to an evening meeting, once a month and renamed it St. Barnabas Wives Group. The chairperson led the prayers and read the minutes of the last meeting, gave out any news from church and then welcomed the speaker. They

had speakers from many different charities, clubs, theatres, which were always very enjoyable. There was always a raffle, proceeds to the chosen charity for that year. The vicar and/or his wife often attended the meetings and invited the Group to the Rectory at Christmas.

The New Year began with a social supper organised by the committee, followed by a Beetle Drive, Quiz or Bingo. June was the annual coach outing ending with an evening meal. Christmas meeting started with carol service in Church, followed by a shared supper in the Hall. However, in later years, the carol service was held in the church hall. Lessons were read by various members and carols sung, with John Dentith playing the accordion. Over the years, Wives Group was involved with St Barnabas Church in many ways: helping at Summer Fetes and Christmas Bazaars and Jumble Sales. For many years the Group was on the brass cleaning rota, and decorated a church window for Harvest and Christmas. Visits to the Swan Theatre were organised and always



*From the archives*



supported the WODS twice a year, plus evenings to a venue for a meal and entertainment.

They held special anniversary dinners and invited old members and friends. The last one was held in 2018 to mark the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at Ye Olde Talbot Hotel in Sidbury, which was a great success.

However, in recent years the number of members had diminished considerably, many were of an age when they didn't want to be out in the cold and dark. Speakers became more expensive and generally harder to find. March 2020 was the last meeting to be held. Covid-19 Pandemic resulted in Lockdown commencing the following week. Only 13 members attended what proved to be the final meeting of St. Barnabas Wives Group. The bank account was closed at the end of July 2020, with the balance of almost £289 given to Parkinson's UK, which was the charity chosen for 2019-20.

**A FINAL FAREWELL to ST BARNABAS WIVES' GROUP and THANKS to EVERYONE INVOLVED!**  
*Ann Bryant*

## **A REFLECTION**

*Keeping the church door open: a reflection from the readings for the day (Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> October) Romans 8:26-30; Psalm 13; Luke 13:22-30*

I don't know whether these readings are a comfort to you or not really.

Does it help that our longings and sighings in this life and our attempts to pray are a sign of our calling, and eventual justification and glorifying?....because God knows what we are going through and is the one who can justify how we are, what we do and the decisions we make.

Does it help that in our longings for a God who seems far from us in our troubles we stand with many who have felt the same ?– a kind of solidarity with the needy – and yet somehow we can still find it within ourselves to trust in God's love.

The gospel is slightly more tricky for us perhaps – there is a kind of 'in or out' feel about it – and even though we get a sense that with God 'in or out' is different to the way we see it – striving to enter the narrow door in faith and works sounds a struggle – although perhaps this picture keeps us on our toes as we persevere in our Christian lives. Certainly praying and trusting during hard times is part of that perseverance.

It also reminds us why we have an open door to St Barnabas Church. We want to make it possible for people to do the same: to enable people who are struggling to find themselves before God. They may feel like the last person to receive love, justification, and yet in their sighing and struggling, they are drawn to the only one who knows them and all they are going through. They may just be the first person who receives justification, for they could be suffering issues of mental health, painful memories, bereavement. As the one who sent Jesus to come among us in our lives, God is the one who makes the first move – who holds out a hand, if you like. God’s love, by the Holy Spirit, takes the initiative and reminds us of himself: his love and promises - we can’t resist his call to come before him.

An open church door, every day, all day, is an outward and visible sign and a reminder of this. At the beginning of the pandemic, when priests were ordered to lock the doors of their churches, for some it was one of the most painful thing they were told to do. Archbishop Justin has since apologised that he didn’t join other Christian denominations in resisting: that closing the doors of the churches during the pandemic felt like an abandonment. Now we are open again it’s a struggle to keep the door open and to keep services viable.

My prayer is that we never have to close the church doors again: my hope is that a way will be found to keep St Barnabas Church doors open as a way to encourage folk to keep going in life – to keep finding themselves before God – even if there are no more words to pray - to keep folk looking towards God, who loves them. For many who are last will be first.

*Revd Julieann*

## **BISHOP MARTIN**

Bishop Martin recently visited St Barnabas Church during his pilgrimage through the Worcester Deanery.

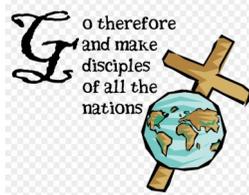
He offered his *Pilgrim’s Prayer*:

God of our pilgrimage  
we are thirsty people in a  
dry and weary land.

Stroke our stony hearts afresh,  
restore fresh springs of life  
within us.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit.  
let streams of living water flow  
through all your Church,  
for the healing of the nations,  
for the blessing of the earth  
and to the glory of your Son  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Amen*



## DID YOU MISS BIBLE SUNDAY?

Were you unable to attend church on Bible Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> October? Or perhaps you would like to reflect on my words from that service? Don't worry! Here they are:



But where can we read stories suiting all tastes in just one volume?

The answer – the Bible, a

collection of books, which according to Guinness World Records as of 1995, is the best selling book of all time with an estimated 5 billion copies sold and distributed.

Let's look a little more closely.

Let's start with journeys and think about both Old and New Testaments.

Do you love reading? I still have a number of books from my childhood. As a child I very much enjoyed writing my own stories, but I fell out of love with reading for enjoyment when I had to study to pass my English Literature 'O' level. It was a friend who encouraged me to pick up a book and read for enjoyment again, and let's hope that that enjoyment never goes away!

Do you have a favourite author or type of book? I am currently making my way through my set of Philippa Gregory's Plantagenet and Tudor novels. Another favourite is Lynda La Plante, as I like 'who-dunnits', and 'The Ladies No 1 Detective Agency' by Alexander McCall Smith, stories of a more genteel type of problem solving.

There are, of course, books to suit all tastes and ages – books of adventure, journeys, intrigue and mystery, science fiction, fantasy, murder, horror, war, crime and romance.

The Israelites escaped from the Pharaoh and their life of slavery in Egypt, journeying for 40 years in the Wilderness. Mary and Joseph were forced to travel from their home in Nazareth to Bethlehem because of the census required of all citizens being taken at that time.

The Old Testament is full of accounts of various peoples going into battle with each other. A favourite story with children is the story of the boy David slaying the giant Goliath using just a stone from his sling. In the time of Jesus, the country was under Roman occupation.

Moving on to romance or love. Abraham loved his son Isaac, yet

he also loved and wished to obey God. He was prepared to sacrifice his child and was stopped just in time when God called to him.

The mother of Moses was not prepared to lose her son and placed him in a basket amongst some bulrushes, where he was found and brought up in Pharaoh's household.

In the New Testament we read of the love that Jesus had for Mary, Martha and their brother Lazarus, whom he brought back from death.

The greatest love was shown by God when His son, Jesus, died on the cross. This could also be considered a crime story – putting someone, who had done nothing but good, and was innocent of all charges, to death.

What fantastic stories, accessible to all ages, to read or tell, and in just one handy volume!

So let's celebrate the Bible with its many stories and the messages they can give to us on this day and every day!

And finally back to my favourites. I enjoy reading and hearing John Chapter 1:v1-14 – "In the beginning was the Word."

Also a favourite of mine, which I find comforting and reassuring, are these verses from Philippians 4. <sup>4</sup> Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! <sup>5</sup> Let your gentleness be evident to all. The

Lord is near. <sup>6</sup> Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

This is the Word of the Lord and we give thanks.

*Judy*

## **SOME DIARY DATES**

*November marks the Kingdom Season and the church will be dressed in red:*

November 7th 6.30pm: Memorial Eucharist

10am November 14th:

Remembrance Sunday

14th/19th December 6.30pm: Said Evening Prayer in Lady Chapel.

November 21st 10am: Christ the King (Patronal for Christ Church)

November 28th: Advent Sunday



## **FROM LITURGY TO LIFE**

This is a four week online course making connections between the Sunday Eucharist and daily discipleship through the week. It is particularly aimed at helping Anglicans in Worcester Diocese, and runs on four Wednesdays in November.

To book tickets (required) visit:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/from-liturgy-to-life-tickets-167037863747>

## 'Meaningful, Mystical, Magical or Myth: Exploring the meaning of prayer for us'

*A morning of learning and reflection facilitated by Gill Pennington*



**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

**10.00am to 12.30pm**

(Arrivals and Refreshments from 9.30am)

There will be an opportunity to stay for a further hour to share over sandwiches (bring your own!) for those who wish to do so.

**St Peter's Parish Hall, Inkberrow WR7 4DZ**

(See over the page for directions and parking)

*NB If the Covid situation requires that we meet remotely, we shall use Zoom.*

There is no charge for attending, but we will be inviting donations towards the expenses of the session.

Please book a place by contacting the Revd Nick Wright ([revnmwright@btinternet.com](mailto:revnmwright@btinternet.com)) or 07871 163140). We will be in contact beforehand with any further details.



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# ST BARNABAS CHURCH HALL

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

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