

# THE M Magazine

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ST BARNABAS with CHRIST CHURCH, WORCESTER

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APRIL 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](http://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](http://www.stbarnabasworcester.org.uk)

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

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# CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY!

There are two moments that I speak about resurrection in my working life as a parish priest.

The first is in these great days of Easter. I love to think of the resurrection as the dangerous rumour. And I love to be a subversive voice helping keep that dangerous rumour alive and well in our day and age. The great Alleluia has sounded for the Lord's Resurrection on Easter Day and for fifty days we celebrate that the love of God for us in Jesus has always been unstoppable. For Jesus' friends and family, death really had grabbed and snatched him away from them.

The cross of Good Friday seemed to be the final word. They were going only to tend to his grave. Nothing more to be said. They didn't realise it at the

time but the very real pain and struggle of Good Friday was giving them a glimpse of eternity. because even as he died, Jesus was absorbing all the darkness that gathered around him, even around us, soaking it up like a sponge, and taking it away to the God that Jesus called Abba, Father. The darkness broke him, but it also broke itself. Even the tomb they had gone to take care of is broken. Life has dealt losses like that for all of us, hasn't it, and yet, I remain convinced of something though -- that in anything, in any moment, in any circumstance, there is blessing to be found, to give and to receive. There are voices of faith in every generation that tell the same story that in the midst of loss and darkness, God is present.

Mary was one of the closest

friends Jesus had. That first Easter Sunday morning, Mary thinks the tomb has been ransacked, vandalised. This is a blow so final that she can take no more. And yet, this is precisely when resurrection caught up with her. Resurrection was waiting for her, you see. And so gently, and by name, Jesus comes to her and gave her a glimpse of the new day to come.



If Easter is the first occasion, then other occasion on which I speak about resurrection is at funerals. The experience of COVID reminded us of the importance of giving those we love the very best farewell that we can. Neither of my parents, both in their 90s, were able to have anything near a conventional funeral day. Barbara died in June 2020, and there were just four at the graveside, no indoor service, and Chris and I weren't even able to be present. Malcolm died six months and a day later, and at least we were able to give him a send off, of sorts. Only a handful more were able to join us, but at least I was there that second time. We took him one last time to a midweek communion service, and from there to join my mother. This Easter season I want to invite you to do something subversive.

Make an appointment to come

and see me. Let's chat about a vitally significant topic --- your funeral, your plans, your wishes, your fears, your hopes. It is not morbid but one of the most lifegiving conversations that you can have. Every time we gather for a funeral, this same Jesus, the Lord of Easter Morning, comes to call us by name too, with his pledge that because of his resurrection everything has changed. He comes to give us a glimpse of eternity.

Resurrection will catch up with us. Resurrection promises us that everything that can be redeemed, will be redeemed, everything that can be healed, will be healed, everything that can be restored will be restored. And do you know why? Because that's what resurrection does. It redeems us, it heals us, it restores us, it brings us back to ourselves. Resurrection will catch up with us.

*Revd Sarah Northall*

## **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.

## ANNUAL MEETING

The Church Annual Meeting takes place in church during the 10am service on Sunday 14th April. *All welcome!*

## NEW ECO REP

Sue Martyr, long time supporter of Christ Church and the Tolly Missioner for five years has taken over the role of Eco Rep for us. Sue has always been interested in recycling our finite resources and preserving our environment for future generations.



*Thank you Sue!*

## UPCOMING SERVICES

### **EASTER SUNDAY 31 MARCH**

**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*

**(no service at St Barnabas)**

## Sunday CROSSROADS

Sunday Crossroads continue: 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.

### **31 March 7pm (Easter Day)**

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.*

# THE ROYAL MAUNDY SERVICE 2024

## WORCESTER CATHEDRAL

The annual Royal Maundy Service will be coming to Worcester on Thursday 28 March when Her Majesty The Queen will be distributing the Royal Maundy gifts on behalf of His Majesty The King at Worcester Cathedral. Ceremonial coins will be presented to 75 men and 75 women from around the country, including 39 people from our own diocese covering Worcestershire and Dudley. The gift is presented in recognition of their exemplary Christian service to church and community over many years.

The tradition of presenting alms on Maundy Thursday goes back to at least the 4th Century and in this country, the first record of The Monarch doing it is in 1213. In recent times it has been the tradition for the service to travel to different cathedrals and it last took place in Worcester in 1980.

The service last year was attended by The King and Queen and was held at York Minster. The number of men and women receiving the Maundy Money is equivalent to the Monarch's age. For the purpose of the service, our Cathedral will become a *Chapel Royal* with the Chapel Royal Choir singing alongside the Cathedral choir.

As Lord High Almoner, Bishop John will accompany HM The Queen as she presents the gifts. He said:

*It is an honour to be able to welcome HM The Queen to Worcester. This is an immensely special service and I know it will mean a huge amount to those who have been chosen to receive the coins, all of whom will have given years of service to their local communities.*

Worcester Cathedral's Interim Dean, Canon Stephen Edwards, said:

*We are delighted that Worcester has been chosen as the location for this year's Royal Maundy service. We will be pulling out all the stops to create a special occasion for all the recipients.*

The Maundy service will take place in the morning and will be attended by invited representatives from across the diocese and county, including the recipients and their guests. The word 'Maundy' comes from the Latin word meaning 'Commandment'. It was on this Thursday, the day before he died, that Jesus gave his disciples what he described as a new commandment: *that you*



*should love one another as I have loved you. Among the recipients of 'Maundy Money' from HM the Queen at the Cathedral*

is our own John Dentith who was Secretary to the Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Care of Church Buildings for 16 years, supporting churches looking to make changes to their buildings. He has been a member of St Barnabas with Christ Church in Worcester since 1985, serving in a range of roles including churchwarden, Secretary and Lay Chair of the PCC. He is still the representative on Diocesan Synod.

*John said: I couldn't believe it when I received the letter. It is such an honour and I was very touched. I am excited about being at the service.*

*Congratulations John!*

## **WORCESTER CITY WELCOMES REFUGEES: REFUGEE WEEK**

Refugee Week runs from Monday 17 June until Sunday 23 June. This year it celebrates the theme of "Our Home". Home can be more than one place and finding it can be a journey, as it is for so many who have had to leave their

countries and rebuild their lives. Sometimes home can be found in a single person. Other times it's in a whole community. And often, it's in a single gesture of care and welcome.

WCWR is organising several events at which it is hoped there will be an opportunity for families and individuals WCWR has been supporting to share their lived experiences of settling into their new home and city of Worcester. Watch this space for further information on events which include a tea party at The Friend's Meeting House; Spoken Word – poetry and readings at Script Haven; a film night showing Ken Loach's film "The Old Oak"; and a Ceilidh with music and calling provided by Ian Craigan and his troupe!

As well as supporting Refugee Week, WCWR also wants to take this opportunity to thank all groups, communities, individuals who have helped and supported families arriving in Worcester since 2016, and hopes to meet some of you at any of these events.

*Ann Russell*



# REFLECTION FROM OUR NEW ECO REP

(See item page 3)

Budding into life...seeking new  
life around St Barnabas.



More to come next month and if anyone is interested in joining in anything eco like please do contact me on:

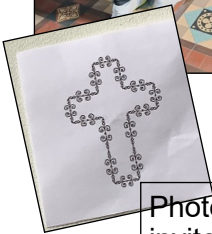
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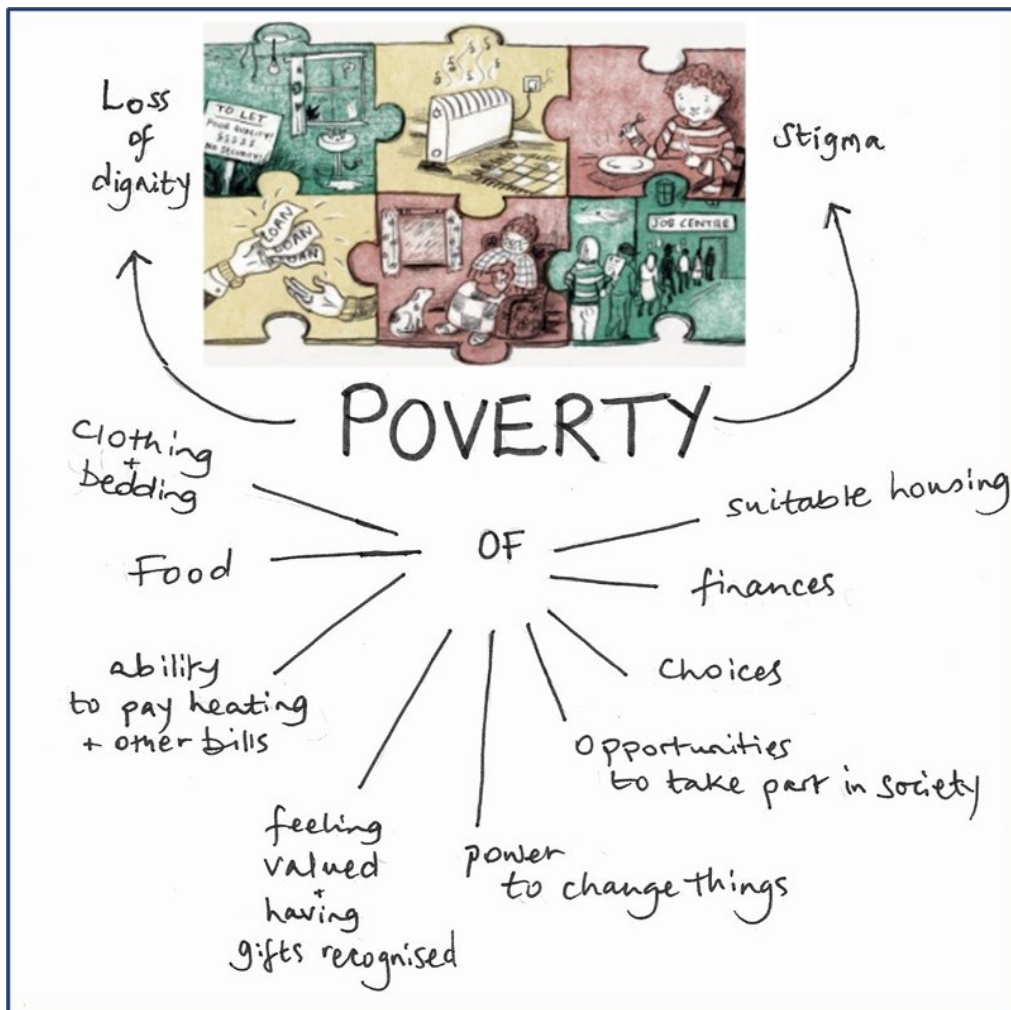
Photos taken at the recent World Day of Prayer service. . The Palestinian Christian women who wrote this worship service (before the current troubles) invited the world to pray for peace, justice & freedom of religion & freedom of movement.





Photos taken on Palm Sunday when Revd Sarah invited us to bring up images of footsteps and palm leaves representing our hopes and thanks. We then took a small cross to exchange at the Peace.

# LIFE ON THE BREADLINE LENT COURSE - 'TAKE-AWAYS'



**'300,000 more UK children fell into absolute poverty at the height of the cost of living crisis'**

## WHAT CAN BE DONE? HOW? BY WHOM?

- Government - Structural changes.
- Churches, Faith groups, Charities, Businesses, Individuals.
- Raise awareness, challenge politicians and election candidates on their anti-poverty policies.
- Get alongside those in poverty, listen, work 'with', empower and value.
- Be practical - foodbanks, lunch clubs, self-help groups, enterprise schemes.
- Support 'LET'S END POVERTY' - see their website, and other anti-poverty Charities



Margaret Gandon



New Hope was established by Jean Wilson, a mother of a young daughter with severe learning disabilities.

The need for the Project was identified by Jean when she could not find suitable specialist daytime respite for her daughter, Emily. She thought there must be other parents and carers in Worcestershire who were experiencing the same difficulty in finding a service which was open every school holiday and every Saturday throughout the year. As a result she sought the opinions of other parents/carers and professionals. As she expected there was, indeed, a need for a new innovated project.

With the help and support of the (then) Worcester Community having leasing her their building of the new unused Community Housing office in the centre of Ronkswood rent-free, and donations from the Round Table, Mencap, Tesco and the lottery, the New Hope project started on the 28<sup>th</sup> July 2010.

New Hope has grown in size and need since 2012 and now caters for children aged 6 – 19 years who have profound learning

disabilities and complex health issues. It is open to all families who need the support and care of New Hope for the children throughout Worcestershire.

The facilities at New Hope include a multi-sensory room, an art and craft area and a ball pit, a television room and a cooking area outside.. There is a large play area and a sensory garden, and an area where the children can plant and grow flowers and vegetables.

In November 2012 the charity New Hope Worcestershire was established to fund-raise for the work that is carried out for the children.

The aims of New Hope are:

1. to provide a happy, safe, warm and stimulating environment for all children to play, learn and develop freely,
2. to respect every child as an individual regardless of gender, cultural background and ability.

Jean and her team of paid workers and volunteers finance the centre by seeking available grants, charitable giving from the

community, holding jumble sales, raffles, social evenings, and their shop in the centre of Ronkswood. This shop is at the hub of the Estate where people can pop in and browse for bargains and often stay and chat to the staff.

New Hope needs donations for the shop of clothing, bric-a-brac toys, baby equipment, unused toiletries, in fact anything they can sell or use for, example, raffle prizes, tombolas and items for a stall at local fêtes.

The shop is open Monday to Friday from 10am – 3pm, and Saturday 10am – 1pm and they would welcome a visit from you.

If you have anything you would like to donate to the New Hope shop if you bring them into church I will deliver it to the shop, or if you phone me on 07397 233144 I could collect your donation from your home. Any donations that can be sold in the shop for more than 50p will be price-ticketed by the shop, or advertised on Ebay.

St. Barnabas, through the Mission fund, have made several donations at Christmas time to help fund Christmas parties for the children and the cost of a coach to enable the children to attend a Pantomime for which New Hope are extremely grateful.

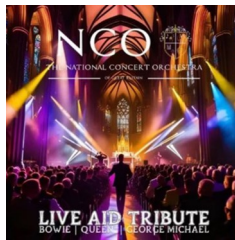
*Marian Bailey*

## CONCERTS AT THE CATHEDRAL

There's something to suit all tastes coming soon at the Cathedral (*see their website for more details*):

Friday 5 April 7.30 & 10pm  
*Dance Anthems Orchestral Tribute*

Featuring some of the best dance anthems including but not limited to: One More Time, Children, Missing (Desserts Miss the Rain) Sing it Back, Good Life, Sunchyme, and finally, Everybody's Free, Bells of New York, Sweet Harmony + more. Where Music Meets Visual Symphony!



Thursday 11  
April 7.30 &  
10pm

*Live Aid  
Orchestral  
Tribute*

Lets go back in  
time together  
and

experience some of the best tracks from Live Aid together in Worcester Cathedral. Expect to hear tracks from David Bowie, George Michael and Freddie Mercury/Queen. As well as other popular artists. Where Music Meets Visual Symphony!

*See page 13 for more concerts in Cathedral*

## MISSION FUND LENT DONATIONS

The Mission Fund has discussed donations for Lent and the following four donations have been approved by the PCC:

### **Bishop John's Lent Appeal for Friends of the Holy Land:**

The charity is based in Kenilworth but has an office in Bethlehem. The team work tirelessly on the ground, managing to provide water, food, medicines and medical care to the Christian communities that are trapped inside the West Bank, where all borders are closed.

### **Tujisaidie Community School in Kayole, Nairobi, Kenya:**

Changing lives in a Kenyan School through Gospel Partnership. Andy and Margaret Gandon recently visited this school, build by local people and situated in a very poor area of Nairobi. The school was built by the local people and the community provides daily meals. They have an ongoing project to add extra classrooms and their aim is to complete the new wing by Easter.

### **The Easter Passion Play in Worcester:**

This is the last year the Passion Play will be performed in Worcester - Cathedral Square on Good Friday morning at 10.30am.

### **Worcester Foodbank:**

The Foodbank is always in need of help and this donation will go

towards the purchase of essential items that are in short supply.

Sincere thanks to everyone for their continuing support, either from the Planned Giving Scheme or the 10am Sunday service plate collection.

We pray for a peaceful Easter and a more peaceful world for everyone.

*Ann Bryant*

*On behalf of the Mission Fund*

## MORE CATHEDRAL

### **CONCERTS:**

Friday 12 April  
7.30 & 10pm

*Oasis Orchestral Tribute*

The National  
Concert

Orchestra and

Britpop artist Andrew Starkey present an Evening of classic Oasis music. Presented with an orchestral performance, live vocals and a time served band this is a truly unique show to behold.



Saturday 20 April 7.30pm

*Organ Spectacular Concert*

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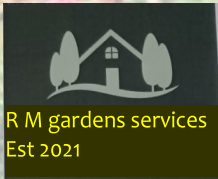
*If you would like to advertise in the Church magazine the cost is £2.50 per month for this size.*

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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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