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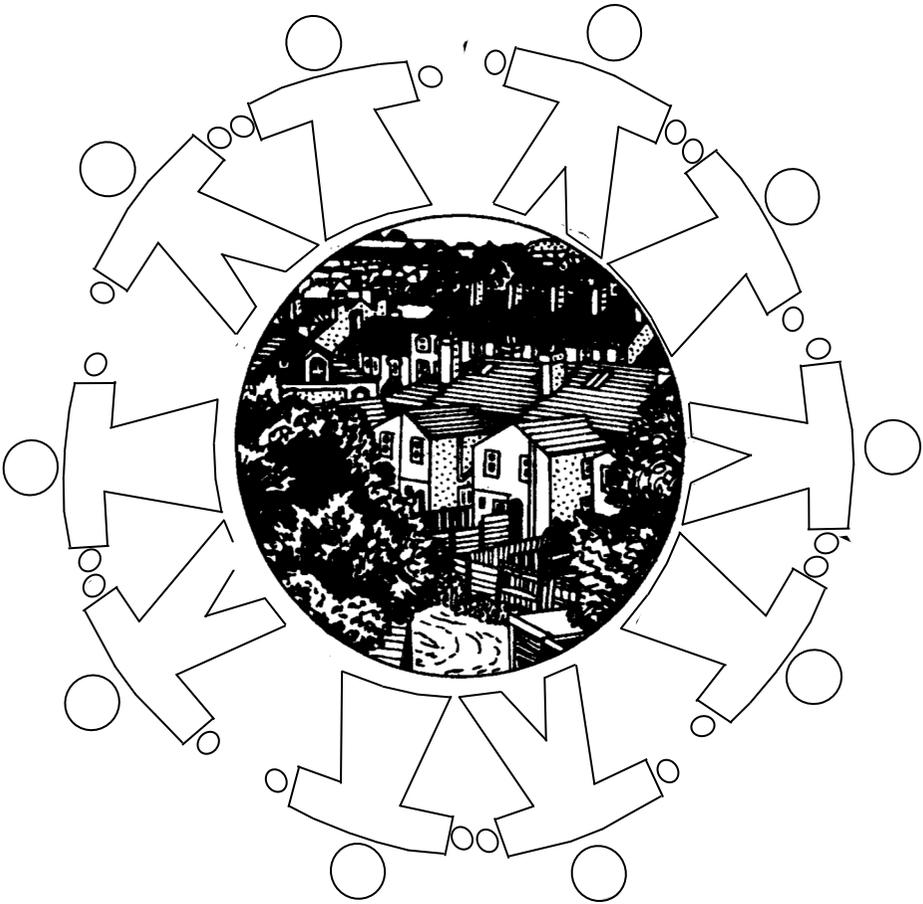
# M THE MAGAZINE

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ST BARNABAS with CHRIST CHURCH, WORCESTER

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MARCH 2021

# ST BARNABAS WITH CHRIST CHURCH

## PARISH STAFF:

Team Rector: Revd Julieann Watson (23785)  
Missioner Sue Martyr (25466)  
Churchwardens (St Barnabas):  
Mary James (455214)  
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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    | 9.30am  | Church opens                                    |
|           | 10am    | Eucharist                                       |
|           | 6.30pm  | Public Bible reading & Prayers<br>for the world |
| Monday    | Closed  |   |
| Tuesday   | 8.45am  | Celtic Morning Prayer                           |
|           | 6.00pm  | Common Worship evening prayer                   |
| Wednesday | 10am    | Church opens                                    |
|           | 10.15am | Eucharist                                       |
| Thursday  | 2-3pm   | Private prayer                                  |
| Friday    | Closed  |   |
| Saturday  | Closed  |   |

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)

## SPRING INTO ACTION

I spotted the newly risen flowers in the garden today. A dandelion, a daffodil, an iris.

The longer days, the warmth of the season, baptised these plants into new life.

I wonder what will bring us into new life after the darkness of winter? Lent allows us to be cocooned into our own relationship with God, a God that feels our pain,

endures the temptations of life.

Will we be able to endure our darkest moments, face our darkness, and look at our deepest fears face on?

Will we be able to be warmed up by the Son, use the fertile soils of our ancestors and grow into our blossomed selves?

Have a good Lent.  
*Sue Martyr*



## LENT 2021

The Zoom Lent Course, *The Lost Gardens of Heligan* continues every Thursday evening. If you would like to take part please contact Revd Julieann: [julieann.watson2019@icloud.com](mailto:julieann.watson2019@icloud.com) 01905 23785 / 07772 857154



## LITTLE HOUSE

In February the Little House was kitted out with a new theme: hearts to make, hearts to hold and hearts of prayer.



## BEYOND THE WALLS: LENT PROJECTS

Based at the Little House of Prayer will be a number of prayer activities:

*daffodil wreaths* for Mothering Sunday;

*'holding hearts'* – like a holding cross to remind those who pick one up to carry it in their pocket to remind them of God's love for them at a difficult time;

*a place to collect* a pot and bulb as a sign that new life comes

It has now become a focus for Lent: what happens if we or others don't have what they need? How can we make a difference? These and other thoughts for your prayer...and the Countdown to Easter begins! Story and stickers!

## YOUTH & FAMILIES

Delivered to homes will be the GodVenture Countdown to Easter: with stickers pictures and activities to have fun with and at the same time with a weekly encouragement from Julie Berrow via the Young Peoples Sunday BLT

## RAINBOW BIRD

Maddie's Rainbow Bird of Positivity - (*Julieann's comment: 'rising with healing in his wings'.*)



**PROTECT**  
by Max Kear  
(written for Children's Mental  
Health Week)

I look out my window  
gazing at the sky  
the stars twinkling and blinking  
saying "it's ok".

I let my mind wander  
letting it look for the end,  
wondering when I will see my  
family again.

Our key workers on the front  
line,

sharing their love,  
we clapped and banged  
for the ones we loved.

People raising money,  
like Captain Tom Moore,  
the man who walked  
and then walked some more.

They saved us,  
so we need to save them  
by staying indoors  
to protect men and women.

*(We were recently encouraged  
to consider mental health and  
well-being)*



## DID YOU SEE?

Weeks ago we watched a documentary featuring the ice skaters Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean.

They wished to dance their famous Bolero outside in nature with no constraints or the barriers of the ice rink. They travelled to Alaska in search of 'wild ice' and discovered how quickly the ice was disappearing. They saw first hand the effects of climate change and discovered that it was Alaska's hottest year on record, and that the effects of global warming on the environment were already being felt. It was a beautiful film and it was clear that both Jayne and Chris were saddened and shocked by what they witnessed.

If you wish - Here is the link to World Wide Fund for Nature suggested in the documentary for calculating your environmental footprint.  
[itv.com/footprint](http://itv.com/footprint)

*Judy & Chris Eco Reps*



## THE ROAD TO FREEDOM



On Monday 22 February Prime Minister Boris Johnson presented his Road Map towards the end of lockdown, and that this would be then of lockdown for good.

We all truly hope so.

He used the language of 'journey' deliberately and constantly during his speech, and we get that. He described the journey as the road to freedom: when at last we shall all be free (again) to go out and be together again.

We all truly hope so.

For many life has changed so drastically during the last year, it may feel like how those who have served time in prison feel when they can finally 'get out' - great... but where next and what next and who next? There is a vulnerability about being free: all those choices suddenly open to us when for so long there has been little choice or no choice or decisions have been made for us.

Freedom can be scary. I wonder if we feel a little like that.

Is it safe to come outside? Is it safe for us to be free...again?

How free were we in the first place?

So many questions.....

On Palm Sunday we may find ourselves singing that wonderful song of John Bell: Travelling the Road to Freedom (lyrics opposite)

This is a different kind of freedom: Jesus travels for someone else's freedom - our own. What his freedom was like for him was to choose to love and die, for our freedom. Whoever has lived like this and worked like this for anyone's freedom - out of lockdown or anyhow else, lives the pattern of Jesus.

Will the 21st June 2021 be hailed as a day of freedom for this country - to be celebrated over the years to come? We all truly hope so.

Easter Day though...now there's a day to celebrate freedom!!  
*Revd Julieann*

# TRAVELLING THE ROAD TO FREEDOM

Travelling the road to freedom  
who wants to travel the road  
with me?

Feted by noise and branches and  
banners hanging from every  
tree;

cheered on by frenzied people  
puzzled by what they hear &  
see.

Travelling the road to freedom  
Who wants to travel the road with  
me?

Travelling the road to freedom  
who wants to travel the road with  
me?

Partnered by staunch supporters  
who, come the dark, will turn  
and flee;

nourished by faith and patience  
neither of which is plain to see.

Travelling the road to freedom  
who wants to travel the road  
with me?

Travelling the road to freedom  
who wants to travel the road  
with me?

tipping the scales of justice  
setting both minds and captives  
free;

suffering and yet forgiving even  
when my friends disagree.

Travelling the road to freedom  
who wants to travel the road with  
me?

Travelling the road to freedom I  
am the Way, I'll take you there.  
Choose to come on the journey

or choose to criticise and stare.  
Earth's mesmerising evil only a  
traveller can repair.

Travelling the road to freedom  
I am the Way, I'll take you there.

*Words © 1988 Iona Community*

## BAKE THROUGH LENT

Each week through lent Rhi will be baking a new delicious recipe to help us think about the story of Easter. The first bake was gingerbread people! The recipe is on FaceBook linking to the video on YouTube.

## HELLO!

Meet Ellen, new to our family round robin and whose nanny lives on Church Road:.

Ellen wanted to thank us for praying for her grandad Aka. Here she is with her daffodil prayer ring.



## SEEING RED

Despite the cold winter the geraniums that have sat near the French doors in our kitchen have continued to bloom. There is nothing quite like their beautiful deep red flowers, reminiscent of sunny climes and terracotta pots on steps and balconies.



both got to St Pancras. Fortunately at the next change on the underground he was on the platform just where the doors to my carriage opened. Clever! And what a relief.

I started to think about a memorable holiday in Paris celebrating our 50th birthdays. It was not without incident. We were travelling by Eurostar and on the way, at Finchley Rd station, Andy got on the train just in front of me and then the doors closed and off he went! What sort of a start is that?

I immediately went up to a woman on the platform and said rather indignantly 'Do you know what my husband has just done? We're on our way to Paris for a romantic break and he has got on the train and left without me!' I don't know what I expected her to do but I just had an overwhelming need to tell someone.

We didn't have phones in those days and so I had no way of knowing if I would see Andy again or not until we



We were delayed in the Eurostar tunnel for an hour, Andy's rucksack got stuck going through a barrier on the Metro, and when we eventually found the hotel we were given a small wine-red box of a room on the ground floor, right on the street. Everything was red and I mean everything: the bedding, chair, curtains, flock-wallpapered walls, the doors and the carpet. Well, there's romantic and there's romantic and this didn't fit any of my expectations. I was struggling. The receptionist was duly told, in Andy's best French, that his wife suffered from 'claustrophobie' (she did now) and was there a room upstairs where we could at least open the windows?

The 'blue room' was small but delightful in comparison and there were even some red geraniums on the little balcony. Relief again. Paris duly shared its charms over the next few days; the sights and sounds and

not least the gastronomic delights. I still have the little heart shaped earrings purchased at the famous La Samaritaine department store.

A lot, of course, has happened since then. Until we can travel safely and negotiate a Brexit Europe, our very own pot of geraniums will continue to lift our spirits. Today the air is warmer and the sun is shining so that helps too.

Stay safe and keep dreaming.  
*Margaret Gandon*  
Feb 2021



## FIVE WAYS TO HELP NATURE

Our church has successfully been awarded a Bronze certificate by A Rocha. They have the following to say:

There are five ways to help nature:

- By praying
- By practical action – small actions do make a difference
- By petition – write or speak to local councillors or MPs
- By persistence – don't give up
- By giving praise

Five easy and memorable steps!  
*Judy & Chris Eco Reps*



## LEAVES OF THE TREES

In August 2021, Worcester Cathedral will host The Leaves of the Trees, an installation of 5,000 steel 'Hope' leaves, as a reflective memorial to the effects of the pandemic. It is designed to honour those who have lost their lives, but also to allow everyone to take a moment to contemplate what we have been through and to think about loved ones.

The leaves will be laid out on the Cathedral floor, creating a beautiful impression of autumn leaves fallen from the trees. The artist, Peter Walker, chose a sycamore maple leaf as it symbolises strength, protection, eternity and clarity.

You can place an order to buy a Hope leaf, produced individually and shaped by hand, including a certificate of authentication signed by the artist. Leaves are £25 (incl VAT and P&P in the UK only) and a proportion of the profits support the work of the Cathedral. To pre-order, visit: <https://www.worcestercathedral.co.uk/the-leaves-of-the...>

# TOLLADINE MISSION

Free Food Shop  
*Fridays*  
10:30-12pm  
Christ Church



See FaceBook  
Tea Tolly/  
Tolladine Mission  
for latest updates.

We've received lots of donations, which I often find on my doorstep. Not only does this show what a giving world we live in but also there is enough to go round with the right distribution networks. I am reminded of the Gospel message shown in John 6.1-15 when Jesus feeds the five thousand; there is always enough for everyone.



T@Tolly bags: we delivered 40 bags of love to some of the children we know in Tolladine.

Thanks to Sue Sykes for all the hearts, Asda Community Champion, Lynda for Pot Noodles and Roxanne, the Tolladine Community could not work without you!

We are preparing a Good Friday/ Easter bag, and who knows we

might even do some dramatic performance around Tolladine... let's see and see where the spirit takes us....



Prayers, love and flowers have been left for Christina Howe and her daughter, who often walked past the Tolladine Mission House. We pray for Christina's daughter, her friends and teachers at school, may they know the love of God.

We are thankful for a positive front page report in Worcester News on 19th February.  
*Sue Martyr*



## A YEAR OF TARGETS!

Eco friendly targets have been set for the past year now! How quickly that time has passed! How well did you do?



There are many ways to help save our planet. We can all help in some way – many small steps for big changes!

Here's a reminder of them all:

- Turn lights off where not needed
- Rather than buy, try home baking
- Avoid food waste
- Avoid pre-packaged food items
- Be careful with water usage
- Recycle paper, card, cans, plastic and glass
- Try to buy Fair-trade foods
- Try to use low energy light bulbs
- Create a garden log pile or make a hedgehog house
- Encourage birds into your garden

Owning up! We have not been as successful as we would have wished during the pandemic. Our shopping habits have had to change a little and all sorts of recycling is piling up, but will be dealt with when we are able to safely visit certain shops and the supermarket.

The important thing is not to give up! Thank you for helping! Our world depends on our actions!

*Judy*

Here are a few more to consider:

- Try to use Eco friendly cleaning products
- Try a second use for any plastic bags you acquire
- Recycle plastic tops and magazine wrappers
- Take unwanted clothes and shoes to charity shops
- Send postage stamps to charities



**Behind  
the Smile**  
Continuing Zac's Story.

### **BEHIND THE SMILE**

This charity runs peer support groups for anyone experiencing mental health every Wednesday 2pm till 4pm at St Andrews Methodist Church, Pump Street Worcester.

Find us on; <https://behindthesmile.care/>

Facebook @behindthesmile.care

Twitter @BehindTheSmil17

Instagram @behindthesmile4

## DID I READ THAT SIGN RIGHT?

**TOILET OUT OF ORDER. PLEASE USE FLOOR BELOW.**

-----

*In a Laundromat:*

**AUTOMATIC WASHING MACHINES: PLEASE REMOVE  
ALL YOUR CLOTHES WHEN THE LIGHT GOES OUT.**

-----

*In a London department store:*

**BARGAIN BASEMENT UPSTAIRS...**

-----

*In an office:*

**WOULD THE PERSON WHO TOOK THE STEP  
LADDER YESTERDAY PLEASE BRING IT BACK  
OR FURTHER STEPS WILL BE TAKEN.**

-----

*Outside a second-hand shop:*

**WE EXCHANGE ANYTHING - BICYCLES, WASHING  
MACHINES, ETC. WHY NOT BRING YOUR WIFE  
ALONG AND GET A WONDERFUL BARGAIN?**

-----

*Notice in health food shop window:*

**CLOSED DUE TO ILLNESS...**

-----



*Spotted in a safari park:*

**ELEPHANTS, PLEASE STAY IN YOUR CAR.**

-----

*Seen during a conference:*

**FOR ANYONE WHO HAS CHILDREN AND DOESN'T  
KNOW IT, THERE IS A DAY CARE ON THE 1ST FLOOR.**

-----

*Notice in a farmer's field:*

**THE FARMER ALLOWS WALKERS TO CROSS THE  
FIELD FOR FREE, BUT THE BULL CHARGES.**

-----

*Message on a leaflet:*

**IF YOU CANNOT READ, THIS LEAFLET WILL TELL  
YOU HOW TO GET LESSONS.**

-----

*On a repair shop door:*

**WE CAN REPAIR ANYTHING. (PLEASE KNOCK HARD  
ON THE DOOR - THE BELL DOESN'T WORK.)**

Proof-reading is a dying art, wouldn't you say!



## ZOOMING IN!!

Although we have not been able to meet up in person because of the pandemic we have at least been able to see each other on Zoom:  
*Above:* Enjoying a virtual coffee morning  
*Below:* Some people at the Zoom Pancake Party even managed a few pancake flips!



## THE 2021 HEROES! by Mark Watson

or

### TWELVE EARLY CHRISTIANS WHO DESERVE TO BE BETTER KNOWN

We now enter the Second Century AD with a look at two early Christian martyrs:

#### (3) Ignatius of Antioch (AD 50 – 117)

Ignatius was probably an adult convert and eventually became Bishop of Antioch, a diocese once governed by the Apostle Peter (his meeting there with Paul is recounted at Galatians 2: 11 and alluded to in Acts 15: 1) before Peter's translation to Rome. Ignatius too journeyed to Rome, although in his case it was to face execution after having been condemned for his faith. During the long journey to Rome, Ignatius wrote several letters to churches along or near his route, including to Polycarp, the Bishop of Smyrna (see below). Most of these letters still

survive and show a high degree of intensity and passion – not surprising, given the strained circumstances in which they were written. If you appreciate Church-themed film drama, then do take a look at the *YouTube* clip from “The Young Pope” starring Jude Law as a fictional Pope Pius XIII. In his opening address to the cardinals he is depicted as quoting from Ignatius of Antioch: “Only the Church possesses the charisma of truth”.

#### (4) Polycarp (AD 65 – 155)

Polycarp is recorded as being a pupil of the Apostle John in Asia Minor (modern day Turkey); indeed, he is probably the last living witness to the teaching of the Apostles. This link to the



The Martyrdom of Polycarp of Smyrna (155 AD)

Apostle John gave Polycarp great authority in his position as Bishop of Smyrna (one of the seven churches of Asia Minor addressed in the Book of Revelation: refer to Revelation 2: 8), where he received a letter from Ignatius of Antioch (see above) written on his journey to martyrdom in Rome. Polycarp too was martyred – but in his home city of Smyrna – and the account of his martyrdom has largely eclipsed the previous record of his life, containing as it does both humour and valour. After Polycarp was led into the arena to face death, for refusing to deny his faith, the Proconsul urged him to recant, saying: “Repent, and say, ‘Down with the Atheists!’ ”. (“Atheists” was then a pejorative term directed at Christians, because they refused to worship the pagan gods.) Polycarp however gestured towards the baying heathen crowd in the arena and declared to them, “Down with you Atheists!” The Proconsul then tried a second time: “Swear” he urged, “Curse the Christ, and I will set you free”. Polycarp declared: “86 years I have served him and he has done me no wrong. How then can I blaspheme my King and my Saviour?” As a reflection on what followed, consider Romans 8: 18.

*Next month:* (5) Justin Martyr and (6) Irenaeus

*Mark Watson*



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