

Parish Magazine of St Bartholomew, Hyde and St Lawrence with St Swithun-upon-Kingsgate, Winchester







MAY 2024



The Three Saints Benefice of St Bartholomew and St Lawrence with St Swithun-upon-Kingsgate, Winchester

Welcome

As the Church of England for Hyde, Abbotts Barton and Winchester city centre, our three historic churches together form two inclusive parishes and one friendly benefice family, where you will be sure of a warm welcome.

For all our news and lots of information, from the spiritual to the social, please make sure you are on the mailing list for our weekly newsletter (by email), or see our website www.threesaints.org.uk

Prayer requests can be sent to the Parish Office, and please let us know of anyone in our parishes who needs our practical help.

May you be blessed with new life and hope through our risen Lord Jesus.

Revd. Karen

Rector: The Revd Karen Kousseff

St Bartholomew's House, 1 Abbey Hill Close, Winchester, SO23 7AZ

Tel. (01962) 850956, email karen@threesaints.org.uk

Honorary Associate Priest: The Revd Amanda Goulding

Licensed Lay Minister Meriel Walton

Children & Families Worker vacant

Churchwardens St Bartholomew

Malcolm Bruce, tel. 861644, malcolm.bruce@gmail.com

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Monday afternoons, Wednesdays and Fridays

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More contact details can be found in the directory at the back of this magazine.

NOTE: political or theological views in articles contributed from external sources do not necessarily represent the views or policy of the editors, PCCs or Ministry Team.

Winchester May 2024



Dear Friends,

Space in the City started on 17th April with an excellent introductory talk by the Rev'd Michael Jackson for our topic for this year, 'Spiritual'.

Michael spoke of the difference between 'religious' and 'spiritual' in common parlance, and from a Christian point of view. He reminded us of the many ways we may find God is present with us: through a spiritually transcendent experience, perhaps, but also through music, through exploring the natural world, or through our relationships with people who as Jonathan Sachs (former Chief Rabbi) once said, are often the means by which we experience God.

I had spent the previous weekend with my grandsons in London and enjoyed a lovely walk in Nunhead Cemetery naming all the many plants that had come into flower and watching the three-year-old discover the joys of a dandelion 'clock' to the loud accompaniment of the resident parakeet population.

If people speak of God to *me*, outside church, I find they often feel most comfortable linking Him to their experience of the natural world - the beauty of a bluebell wood (so early this year!), or a mountain view, the sea rolling into the shore, or a star studded sky. It is through those things that many people rekindle that sense of awe and wonder that they probably felt most keenly as a small child.

For those who have a keen sense of spiritual self, faith and their core beliefs, the conclusion must surely be to admit to them, to others? And yet how often do we do the very British thing that Michael spoke of in his talk, of not mentioning our faith because we have an enhanced sense of what is private and personal where revealing our relationship with God is concerned?

How we overcome this seemingly natural reticence is a big question. I know I have it relatively easy - a dog collar works wonders in opening conversations, but I too wish I could, as John Bell's hymn 'The Summons' suggests, 'risk the hostile stare' more readily ...

Bell put his finger on it. We have to seek our own answer to his challenge:

Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around, through my sight, and touch, and sound, in you and you in me?

Have a go at accepting the challenge this May as 'the world is charged with the grandeur of God'! *

Amanda

^{*} God's Grandeur, Gerard Manley Hopkins (1844-1889) Jesuit, poet & priest.

Our Services

We welcome you to the weekly services in each of our three churches.

There will not be an offertory collection during the service but donations for each church are greatly appreciated and can be left in the plate on your way in, or made online to either parish via our website. Thank you.

Access: We are unable to provide disabled access to the church of St Swithun, but there is level access to St Bartholomew (from Hyde Church Path) and to St Lawrence.

Online services from St Lawrence and St Swithun's

Our Sunday services at St Lawrence and St Swithun's are routinely live-streamed. You can join us on Zoom using meeting number 828 4610 0818 and passcode 3Saints20. We are pleased to welcome you online.

We currently live-stream very simply using a mobile phone. Please bear with us if there are any temporary problems with our online broadcast and forgive us if there are any significant technical issues. We strive to ensure that all of our online events are held safely and without technical hitches but it is impossible to eliminate these completely and so we apologise in advance should there be any disruptions.

Regular Services

Our general pattern of worship continues as below, with changes for special occasions.

SUNDAY	St Bartholomew	St Lawrence	St Swithun
1 st	10am <i>All Together</i> service	10am Holy Communion	6pm Evensong (BCP)
2 nd	10am Holy Communion	10am Morning Worship	6pm Holy Communion
3 rd	10am Morning Worship	10am Holy Communion	6pm Evensong (BCP)
4 th	10am Holy Communion	10am Morning Worship	6pm Evensong (BCP)
5 th	10am Benefic alternately at St Barth	6pm Evening Prayer (Common Worship)	

Midweek Holy Communion

1st Wednesdays, 10.30am at St Lawrence 3rd Wednesdays, 11.30am at St Bartholomew

MAGAZINE COPY: Copy deadline for the June 2024 issue is **Sunday 12th May** - but, as usual, the Editors would prefer to receive material earlier. Please send contributions to the joint Editors:

- Diary and notices to Jill Bath, jillbath@btinternet.com
- Parish news, reports and articles to John Stanning, <u>john.stanning@yahoo.co.uk</u>, or by post to the Parish Office.

MAGAZINE ADVERTISING: Please contact the Parish Office.

Church Family News

Deaths

Susan Mason, recently of St Catherine's View care home, died on 4th April. Her funeral is to be held at St Lawrence Church on Friday 3rd May at 3pm.

The ashes of Lesley Williams were interred at St Bartholomew's on 5th April.

Maurice Miles, faithful and generous-hearted member of St Bartholomew's for many years, including 20 altogether as churchwarden, died on 16th April. A Thanksgiving Service is to be held in St Bartholomew's Church on Thursday 9th May at 2pm.

For your Prayers

Please pray for Malcolm Bruce, training for ordination at the end of June, and Nick Goulding, working for the Bishop's Permission to Preach.

Please pray for the sick and housebound and all who care for them; and for the departed and all who mourn.

Please pray for our **Children & Families ministry**, including our links with St Bede School and our Little Wrigglers toddler group.

Care Homes: Please pray for the staff and residents of Abbotts Barton Care Home, where Revd Karen continues to take monthly communion services.

Benefice News

Music at Eucharistic Services: It is fitting that in the joyful Easter season we have resumed our pre-Covid practice of singing the eucharistic responses. We wanted to use the same setting in all three churches, so as we have a setting that was written specially for St Swithun-upon-Kingsgate, the PCCs decided to use that setting across the benefice. Simon McEnery, who wrote it, didn't set the Gloria, so we're using a short Taizé Gloria. The music will be made available for those who can follow it, but the pieces are short and hopefully easy for everyone to join in with.

St Bartholomew's: The PCC is making good progress with plans to have a new heating system installed over the summer, following the recent failure of the oil tank. In the meantime it may still be cold in church, but blankets are available, and please come warmly dressed!

St Lawrence Midweek BCP Communion: This service takes place once a month, at 10.30am on the first Wednesday of the month (1st May). Many thanks to Revd Amanda for enabling this.

St Bartholomew's Midweek Communion: this month's midweek Communion service has been **cancelled.** Next month's will be on the third Wednesday as usual, on **Wednesday 19**th **June** at 11.30am.

The Julian Group meets on Zoom every Tuesday at 2.30pm for half an hour, reflecting on the same reading, and helping us to keep in touch this way. If you would like to know the reflection please contact Sue Tisdall on 851621.

The Benefice Prayer Group meets on the third Monday of each month, so 20th May. New members warmly welcome. If interested please contact Sue Tisdall 851621 for more information.

The West View & Neighbours Prayer Group prays for the residents of West View and Alleyne House and for their neighbours, on the 4th Wednesday of the month, 22nd May. If anyone would like to know the prayer topics, please contact Alys: alys_blakeway@yahoo.co.uk or 868581.

St Bartholomew Clean Up: Please join us to sweep, vacuum and dust the Church on **Monday 13**th **May** at 10am.

St Bartholomew's is open to visitors every Saturday 10am - 1pm. Opening the church on Saturdays is proving very successful but more volunteer welcomers are needed to join the team. Please contact Jeannette Archdeacon (864556) if you can help welcome people (with another person).

Men's Breakfast: The next meeting is on Saturday 11th May at 8.30am at The Old Vine; the following date will be 8th June. As usual, please let Richard Stead know if you plan to attend: email richard@regchem.com or call 07850 596172.

Weds 1st,8th,15th,22nd May Space in the City at St Lawrence, 12.30pm

Saturday 4th May Concert of Songs from the Musicals at Winchester Rugby Club,

7pm, in aid of St Bart's Giving for Living Appeal

Thursday 9th May Ascension Day: Holy Communion at St Swithun's, 7pm

12th - 18th May Christian Aid Week

Thursday 16th May Art @ St Bart's, 7pm

Saturday 18th May Mayfest in Winchester, including at St Lawrence

Thursday 13th June Art @ St Bart's, 7pm

Details of some of these events are in the following pages

Sound System project at St Lawrence - including Audio, Live Streaming, CCTV and LED lights

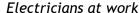
This is the biggest and most complex infrastructure project we have undertaken in the last 35 years. We are replacing two very old systems which are obsolete and can no longer be maintained, and adding a new Live Streaming facility. The change to LED light bulbs will save us money in the long run.

The project is costing us over £35,000. There are items ranging from 2 £3,000 cameras, 2 radio mics at £580 each, audio amplifiers and mixers at about £250 each, 5 CCTV cameras at £200 each, plus several other audio equipment items or £25 for a LED light bulb, and there are 37 light bulbs. Thank you to those who have contributed towards the project already.

If you would like to help us to fund some of these items, donations are very welcome. You can write a cheque to "St Lawrence with St Swithun PCC" and give it to one of us at any service; or you can send a donation online to "St Lawrence with St Swithun PCC", sort code 55-81-26, account number 00336076 - please put your name in the "reference" space. Thank you very much.

Beauman Chong & John Stanning — Churchwardens







Brighter ceiling



You are invited to join us at the monthly

St Lawrence Coffee Morning

The next Coffee Morning is on

Friday 3rd May 2024

10-11.30am

Parish Annual Meetings

St Bartholomew parish's annual meetings were held on 14th April. Alys Blakeway was elected to be churchwarden. She will take over when she has been admitted to office at an Archdeacon's Visitation service in June. She will replace Malcolm Bruce who is to be ordained Deacon at the end of June. There was no change to the PCC membership: Andy Wainewright reached the end of his three-year term and was re-elected.

St Lawrence with St Swithun parish's annual meetings were held on 21st April. Beauman Chong and John Stanning were re-elected to be churchwardens. Tom Nell has stood down as a Deanery Synod representative (with an ex officio place on the PCC) but is now a directly elected PCC member instead. Ros Nell has stood down from the PCC.

Hyde Parish Coffee Mornings 2024

Coffee Mornings are now held in the Church on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, so the next one will be on Tuesday 21st May. We meet from 10.30-11.30 am for coffee or tea, biscuits and our usual raffle, as well as companionship.

In 2023 we raised just over £600 for 'The Giving for Living' Appeal and are grateful for the support we receive from the small band of helpers. However, more help would be

welcome as well as more 'friendly faces' - we are open to everyone. As you know, we feel quite deeply about keeping up the social side of our beautiful and precious ancient church, so do join us when you can. You will be very welcome.

Daphne and Denis Marlow



'The Chosen'

Revd Karen highly recommends this powerful dramatized account of the life of Jesus, told through the perspective of his disciples. It is faithful to the Gospel accounts but fleshes out the characters and events in a very engaging and authentic way. So far three seasons of eight episodes are available, mostly around an hour long: watch online for free at https://watch.thechosen.tv/ or download 'The Chosen' app.





Lost property at St Bartholomew!

In St Bartholomew Church we have three umbrellas, a pair of spectacles and a green glasses case, a blue woolly hat, and a pink baseball cap. If anyone is missing these items they are on the back windowsill, near the font.

Apart from Sunday mornings, the Church is also open on the 3rd Tuesday of the month for the coffee morning (10.30-11.30) and on Saturday mornings from 10am to 1pm. Usually there is Holy Communion on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 11.30am, though the May service has had to be cancelled.



SPACE IN THE CITY

Spírítual

A series of talks on spiritual traditions that have shaped lives and religious practice over the centuries and how they still influence our flourishing today

at St Lawrence Church, The Square, Winchester Wednesdays 1, 8, 15, 22 May 2024

12.30 - 1pm followed by questions

Admission free ... Donations are most welcome

1 st May	The Rev'd Richard Carter: St Martin in the Fields - The Nazareth Community
8 th May	Brian Draper: Soulful Nature
15 th May	The Rev'd Canon Dr Tom Clammer OC: The Spiritual Legacy of St Benedict: an Anglican Cistercian reflects
22 nd May	Dr Claire Gilbert: Julian of Norwich: a spiritual response to the ecological crisis

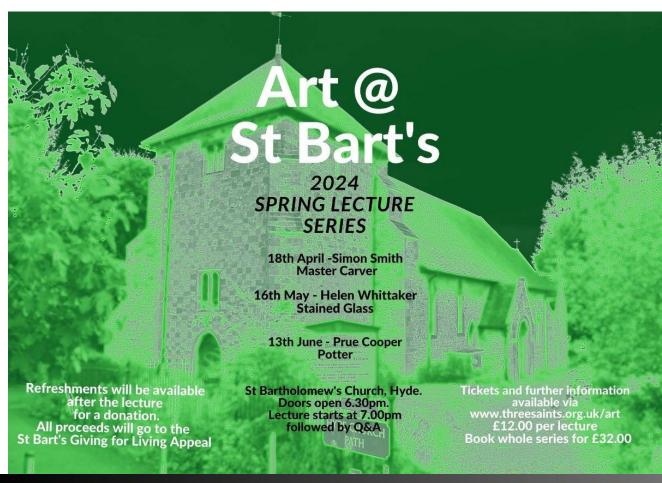


This is a series of five talks: the first one was given by the Revd Michael Jackson (*pictured here with Caroline Ward*) on 17th April. He considered what it means when people say they are 'not religious, but spiritual'.

His talk was recorded on Zoom and is available to watch on the Space in the City website www.spaceinthecity.org.uk

Revd Michael kindly provided the text of his talk, which is also available on the website.

Recordings of future talks will be added to the website if possible.





18th April - Simon Smith

Dust to Dust A Life Working in Stone

Simon has carved for more than forty years working in stone and marble.

He will share his trade secrets about favourite projects, including 'A Promise Honoured', the memorial to the troops who passed through Winchester during the First World War.

He will talk about how, as a teenager, he began work as an apprentice stone mason and describe the turning point at which he became a sculptor.

He will explain why he is determined to keep going until he gets it right.

16th May - Helen Whittaker

Old Craft, New Art An Artistic Journey in Stained Glass

Stained glass artist
Helen Whittaker MA FMGP is
Creative Director of Barley Studio in York.
Helen's commissioned work is inspired by
the client, the brief and the building.
Her aim is to engage the viewer
through narrative and symbolism,
creating energy and movement
intertwining contemporary and traditional
elements.





13th June - Prue Cooper

Messages from the Workshop

My work celebrates friendship and the sharing of simple pleasures.
Some dishes are inscribed with lettering.
These quotations are integral to the design, in the same way that words are essential to a song.
My cast of characters comment on life.
The warm directness of slipware, the physicality of ceramic, and the simple fact that a large dish for food implies daily life and sociability, all are fundamental parts of the whole.

Art @ St Bart's



The first artist in the series to talk about their work was Simon Smith, sculptor in stone and marble. Examples of his work were shown on slides:

Liverpool City Council commissioned a marble statue of Kitty Wilkinson (1786-1860), to be placed in St Georges Hall, Liverpool. It was the first statue to be commissioned for more



than 100 years, and the first woman to be represented. It depicts a strong and caring woman known as the *Saint of the Slums*. During a cholera epidemic she invited those with infected clothes or linens to use her boiler, saving many lives.

A close-up of the statue



This figure of a Bacchante was commissioned by the National Trust for the gardens of Sissinghurst Castle. It was to echo a statue that was previously in the gardens but it had badly degraded. The sculpture depicts a dancing girl and was carved from Carrara marble from the Cava di Michelangelo.

This memorial to the American troops who passed through Winchester during the First World War is situated outside the Great Hall, in Castle

Yard. It honours a promise made by the Mayor of Winchester in 1919 to commemorate the millions of American soldiers billeted on the hills around Winchester. The memorial, made of Portland stone,

depicts a soldier's kit left on a railway bench. The viewer is free to sit on the bench and wonder where the soldier has gone.



'A Promise Honoured' War Memorial



Master Carver Simon Smith with a carving he brought to show at Art @ St Bart's, depicting his two young daughters wrapped up in towels after bath-time.

Caroline St Leger-Davey

Winchester Deanery Ideas Fayre

The Winchester Deanery recently organised a 'Deanery Ideas Fayre' hosted by St Paul's Church with the aim of sharing inspiration for what can be done in our own parishes, and to exchange ideas and local expertise. Some of the topics discussed included Forest Church and Bubble Church.



Alys Blakeway reports back:





There was a real buzz in St Paul's Church as parish representatives and supporters gathered for the Deanery Ideas Fayre on Saturday 13th April. Andy Wainewright and I were there to display our

reordering plans for St Bartholomew's. We hoped to inspire other parishes who might be thinking of reordering their churches. And that's what the Fayre was all about - sparking ideas off each other for initiatives and campaigns to attract worshippers.

Suggestions and parishes there were aplenty. Parishes included St Paul's, St Luke's, St Barnabas and Christchurch in Winchester, while country parishes ranged from King's Worthy to Hursley to Woodmancott with Popham, and I mustn't forget the prison chaplaincy.

We picked up several ideas. To mention just a few: someone suggested a new source of grant-funding to Andy, and I was impressed by the community funding of Christmas trees at St Barnabas and Hursley. The overall message was: people like their food! Whatever you're doing, make sure it's accompanied by refreshments. For example, cream teas were served at the Fayre in return for donations, and they went down very well.

As for the prison chaplaincy, the Rev Cliff McClelland, the chaplain, was promoting The Nazareth Way, a resettlement mentoring programme. It is intended to reduce the risk of reoffending by preparing prisoners for life after release.

Meanwhile, there was a lot of interest in our stall and we fielded numerous enquiries. Some people hadn't even heard of St Bartholomew's! Bishop Philip was impressed with our plans and is looking forward to coming to the official opening.

A big thank you to Revd Karen and the other benefice members who came to support us and have a look round - you know who you are.

The verdict was that it was a successful event and probably the first of many.

Ways of Giving

I thought it was time to explain some of the ways that we can give to the benefice and what the different processes are. Most of the information is applicable to both parishes and I hope it helps.

Gift Aid

Charities such as ours can claim gift aid tax of 25p on every £1 you donate if you make a declaration and pay sufficient tax.

Your donations will qualify as long as they're not more than 4 times what you have paid in tax in that tax year (6 April to 5 April).

If you're a higher-rate taxpayer you can claim back the difference between the tax you've paid on the donation and what the charity got back when you fill in your self-assessment tax return.

It is worth remembering that the gift aid declarations remind us that we must pay enough income or capital gains tax. If a charity claims more gift aid than you've paid in tax you may receive a bill from HMRC for the difference. If you find that you haven't paid enough tax, you should immediately notify the charities that you have supported. They may be able and willing to adjust a future Gift Aid claim to repay any tax due on your behalf (but they are not obliged to do so in relation to donations already made, as it is your responsibility as donor to make up any shortfall). I must admit I haven't ever had to do that so would have to read up how to and if we can in the way we claim.

For the definitive explanations about what you can and can't do see www.gov.uk/donating-to-charity/gift-aid

The Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme (GASDS)

There is a scheme called the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme, GASDS for short. This enables a parish to claim gift aid on cash donations but there are rules as to what counts. We as a charity cannot claim more than ten times our gift aid claim. For example, we can claim £1,000 worth of donations through GASDS if we have received £100 of gift aid donations in the year.

Collection Plate

With the rules on GASDS we can claim cash donations up to the value of £30, but only if we have ten or more people in the congregation. So, if we have $5 \times £10$ notes in the collection and 20 people in the congregation we can claim the gift aid, regardless of who put what in the collection. If there is $1 \times £50$ note; that cannot be claimed. To be able to claim gift aid on that it would have to go in a gift aid envelope. I have rarely seen a £50 note anywhere, let alone in the collection plate! The other side is that if we have £40 in the collection plate but only eight in the congregation, we cannot claim the gift aid.

Contactless Payments

We can also claim gift aid on the payments that go through the contactless boxes, but again, that has to be on donations of £30 or less. If someone puts a contactless payment of £50 through, we cannot claim the tax. The reports from the contactless boxes itemise each donation but not who the donation came from.

Parish Giving

This is the system of giving that we recommend the most. Please visit www.threesaints.org.uk/support-us to make one off donations or to set up regular giving to either parish - or both.

Alternatively, please phone the Parish Giving Scheme on 0333 002 1271 (M - F 9am-5pm) with your bank account details, church/parish name and PGS parish code (416007201 for St B, or 416007241 for St L with St S).

The Parish Giving service deals with gift aid, taking that work away from us - which can't be a bad thing! But although we get the gift aid via Parish Giving, it doesn't count as gift aid for our parishes, so we need some gift aid of our own to support GASDS claims.

Gift Aid Envelopes

If you prefer to give via gift aid envelopes that is fine. I think they are fairly self-explanatory and, as mentioned above, we do need claims of this sort to enable us to use GASDS. 'However, if you want to give regularly through that route and are able, it really helps that you tick all the boxes on the gift aid envelope.

Standing Orders

We still have people who have standing orders paid through the parish bank accounts or CAF bank accounts. If that is your preference that is also all right. As mentioned, we do need these to enable us to claim GASDS. However, you will need a gift aid declaration for these and to notify us if you no longer pay enough tax to gift aid it.

CAF or Stewardship Vouchers

These act like cheques but already have an element of gift aid (or not) included in them so we don't claim gift aid tax on these.

Cheques

Also mentioned in the weekly newsletter, it is still possible to donate by cheque payable to 'St Lawrence with St Swithun PCC' for St Lawrence with St Swithun parish, or payable to 'The PCC of Hyde' for St Bartholomew's.

Wall Safes

Any cash put into the wall safes is not gift aid-able as it can be used for purchases of magazines, postcards, etc and we cannot claim gift aid on payment for purchases. We have no way of identifying donations within the whole amount.

Finally

If you have further questions do ask me (Bethany Milward) for St Lawrence with St Swithun and I will try to help, or look it up.

If you want to know more about St Bartholomew and/or the Giving @ St Bart's appeal, please talk to Andrew Wainewright.

Bethany Milward

The Not So Humble Dandelion

Here are some interesting facts about the dandelion:

Dandelions have one of the longest flowering seasons of any plant. Particularly useful to the bee in early Spring. So leave in situ, if you possibly can!

The dandelion flower opens to greet the morning and closes in the evening to go to sleep.

Every part of the dandelion is useful: root, leaves, flower. It can be used for food, medicine and dye for colouring.

Up until the 1800s people would pull grass out of their lawns to make room for dandelions and other useful "weeds" like chickweed, malva, and chamomile.

The name dandelion is taken from the French word "dent de lion" meaning lion's tooth, referring to the coarsely toothed leaves.

Dandelion seeds are often transported away by a gust of wind, and they travel like tiny parachutes. Seeds are often carried as many as 5 miles from their origin!

Animals such as birds, insects and butterflies consume nectar or seed of dandelion.

Dandelion flowers do not need to be pollinated to form seed.

Dandelion can be used in the production of wine and root beer. Root of dandelion can be used as a substitute for coffee.

Dandelions go back deep into history. They were well known to ancient Egyptians, Greeks and Romans, and have been used in Chinese traditional medicine for over a thousand years.

Dandelions are used in folk medicine to treat infections and liver disorders. Tea made of dandelion acts as a diuretic.

If you mow dandelions, they'll grow shorter stalks to spite you!

Dandelions are one of the most successful plants that exist, masters of survival worldwide.

The dandelion is the only flower that represents the 3 celestial bodies of the sun, moon and stars. The yellow flower resembles the sun, the puff ball resembles the moon and the dispersing seeds resemble the stars.

A not so fun fact: Every year countries spend millions on lawn pesticides to have uniform lawns of non-native grasses.

Christine Pilgrim — Environmental Officer





Songs, Prayers, Hymns, Poems, and Verses

Hello, it's Richard here again with a first follow up on my article about favourite verses from hymns. I hope you enjoyed last month's verse and hymn about Knights and Ogres.

My next favourite takes us into Advent. The words of this verse make me shiver. The harshness of the terrain and journey undertaken by Mary and Joseph 2000 years ago instil in me a sense of admiration and wonder. It was no different than for the many thousands that had to travel and be present for their registration, but not all of the travellers were 9 months pregnant

Hymn 357:

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow In the bleak midwinter, long ago.

More to follow in June, and don't forget to send me your favourites.

Richard Stead



Happy 100th Birthday Gurth Walton! Meriel and David Walton celebrated David's father's centenary with his wife Rosemary, sons, stepchildren, grandchildren and seven greatgrandchildren in South Africa on 25th March. He received a card from the King on the day!

The Easter Garden

On Good Friday morning, congregation members and families gathered at St Bartholomew's for a special service, which involved visiting different stations in the church to remember the story of Holy Week. At each scene the children collected something symbolic that would form part of the Easter Garden.







The Midnight Garden



The Courtroom

The weather forecast had been for rain, so we made the garden in the church (though it didn't materialise!), and it was later transferred to the front lawn.





The elements of the Easter Garden help us to remember what Easter means to us:

Soil: if you are rooted in the love of Christ, he will give you all that you need to

thrive spiritually;

Stones: as you find your path through life, Jesus is at your side, even in the rough

and hard times;

Crosses: we all have a cross to bear, but you can come to Jesus with your heavy

burdens and he will give you rest;

Evergreens: Jesus shared our human life, so that you may share God's eternal life: God

forgives you the sins that separate you from his love;

Flowers: you are beautiful and precious in God's sight - that's why Jesus died and

rose again, for you;

Empty Tomb: The resurrection of Jesus proves the supreme power of God's love. The

light of Christ overcomes all darkness, even the darkness of death.

Easter Flowers at St Bartholomew













The Easter Garden display was done by Emily Mantell and Jane Bessey; the Easter flowers were arranged by Catherine Reynolds, Daphne Marlow, Doreen Jenkins and Julia Wainewright. Photos by Andy Wainewright. Montage by Caroline St Leger-Davey.

Easter flowers at St Lawrence



Flower arrangements by Julia Kime, Julia Allen, Ann Lee, Melanie Armstrong, Lizzie Aston, Jonquil Hinds, Lis Wicks, Andy Hall, Amanda Goulding. Photos by Beauman Chong and John Stanning. Montage by Chris Pilgrim.

Easter flowers at St Swithun's



Flower arrangements by Jane Powlett, Ros Nell, Veronica Cornes, Margaret Higgins, Janet Dawson, Judy Worth, Susie Lyle. Easter Garden by Lizzie Baron and Penny Beveridge. Technical help by Chris Higgins and Tom Nell. Photos by Chris Pilgrim and John Stanning. Montage by Chris Pilgrim.

NEW CHAIR YOGA CLASS







Not moving as much as you used to: Want to do some exercise but not sure where to start? Find getting up and down from the floor challenging?

Then this class is just what you have been waiting for!

A fun, gently energising class, waking up the body with simple movements.

- Build strength
- Improve balance
- Boost circulation
- Increase flexibility & mobility
- Make new friends

Using a combination of sitting in the chair and using the chair for support while standing and balancing, this class is suitable for all.

Every Wednesday

1.30 - 2.30 pm

£8 per class

St Lawrence Parish Room

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Sewing machines / laptops / iPads / iPhones for Ukrainian families

Do you have a sewing machine, a working laptop (with Window 10 and MS Office) or an iPad (any age) or a working iPhone to give to Ukrainian families in Winchester? Please contact Beauman if you can help: beauman_chong@hotmail.com or 01962 866488.

Cathedral visitor passes

Winchester Cathedral provides a few visitor passes to each local parish. They are available for parishioners to borrow for free entry to the Cathedral. St Bartholomew parish's passes are kept in the vestry; to borrow St Lawrence with St Swithun parish's passes, please contact Sara at the Parish Office.

If you live in Winchester, do consider supporting our Cathedral by joining the Friends. For £25 a year (single membership) you get unlimited free access to the Cathedral as well as other benefits. See www.winchester-cathedral.org.uk/support-us/friends or ring the Friends' office on 01962 857244.

Winton WI



Join our friendly group of ladies for talks on topics including local history, horticulture, cookery and literature. Social events are also organised.

St Lawrence Parish Room on 2nd Monday of every month, 2-4pm. Refreshments available. Please contact: Sheila Powell - sgpowell@hotmail.co.uk

Driving Miss Daisy

Driving Miss Daisy is a Companion Driver service based in central Winchester. Hampton and her team have Wheelchair Accessible vehicles and can accompany you to your appointments, arrange outings, help with shopping and provide a companion service. All companions are Dementia Friends, First Aid trained, and have enhanced DBS.

Contact Kate on 0333 014 6211 or email: winchester@drivingmissdaisy.co.uk

Website: www.drivingmissdaisy.co.uk/winchester



HYDE V





Monthly meetings for women.

Other activities include:

Book Club, Supper Club, Walking Group, Allotmenteers & Craft Group.

Local community involvement/support + National & County WI events

4th Thursday of the month, 7.30pm, Baptist Church Hall



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hydewi.winchester@gmail.com www.hydewi.wordpress.com

PLEASE NOTE NEW TIME AND VENUE!

Bishop's Waltham Charity Garden Fair

in aid of St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital

This year's fair will be held at Hoe Road Recreation Ground, Bishop's Waltham, SO32 1DU on Sunday 5th May, 10am - 4pm. A fantastic day out with over 60 stalls selling plants and gardening accessories to handbags and speciality craft goods. Jazz band, demonstration of birds of prey, flower arranging demonstration. Children's corner offering face painting and other activities. Food stalls. Full details at www.bishops-waltham-garden-fair.org

Entrance: £5. Dogs on a lead are welcome. Bus 69 from Winchester goes close to the site.

St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital provides expert eye care to patients in East Jerusalem, West Bank and Gaza, regardless of ethnicity, religion or ability to pay. Charity number 1139527.

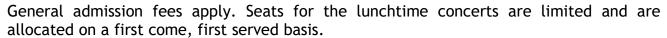


Lunchtime Concerts at Winchester Cathedral

Tuesdays at 1.15pm - 1.50pm

Brighten up your lunchtime with musical performances from local musicians, and pupils of schools and colleges from around the county.

The 2024 Lunchtime Concert Series takes place at the Cathedral, in the Lady Chapel, from **1.15pm** - **1.50pm**.





Lunchtime Concerts Programme

14 th May	Claire Rutter voice Nick Salwey piano - Strauss' Four Last Songs & songs by Duparc
28 th May	Naoe Foley piano - Schubert Sonata in A major D959
4 th June	Théa-Rose Lester Mumford & Erlend Vestby cello - arrangements of works for cello duo
11 th June	Tim Hutchins & Naama Neumann flute Nick Salwey piano - works by Bach, Quantz & Strauss
25 th June	Thomas Fagg cello Nick Salwey piano - Schumann Fantasiestücke & Strauss Sonata in F major op. 6
2 nd July	Musicians from Peter Symonds - programme to be announced
9 th July	Shoshana Yugin-Power flute Nick Salwey piano - Bach G minor Sonata & Reinecke Sonata Undine
16 th July	Antiquum Documentum - <i>Tudor polyphony by Byrd, Tallis, Taverner & Weelkes</i>
23 rd July	Robert Carter piano - original jazz compositions & works from the Great American Songbook

Events, artists and programmes may be subject to change.

Winchester College - Music Diary

Please find the full diary for this term via www.winchestercollege.org/learning/music



Winchester Catholic History Society

Wednesdays at 6.30pm, normally at St Peter's Parish Centre, Jewry Street, Winchester, SO23 8RY unless otherwise noted

Wednesday 15 May: Christopher Daniell 'Death & Burial in Medieval England'

Wednesday 19 June at Winchester College at 7pm: Sir Christopher Frayling 'When will it be done? Hollywood, Michelangelo and the Sistine Chapel'

NB Note different time and venue

Lectures last for an hour with questions afterwards Non-members £5 at the door, students £2.50 with ID www.winchestercatholichistorysociety.com

Law Courts Chaplaincy needs volunteers

Since November, a small team from Winchester City Centre Chaplaincy has worked with the courts, led by Her Honour Judge Morris, to restart this service after a 4 year break. Chaplains are called above all simply to listen and be a calming presence to both staff and visitors at the Courts. If you are interested in joining the team please contact the Revd Tim Searle at chair@wincc.org.uk to find out more or try out a shift.



The 2024 Festival

Friday 3rd - Monday 6th May

Bookings can be made via the Box Office at the Theatre Royal Winchester (Tues-Sat 10am-1pm) in person, by phone 01962 840440, or email boxoffice@playtothecrowd.co.uk

The Festival returns to St Lawrence Church on **Friday 3rd May** for their 'Late Night Concert' at 9pm

Lucy Gould, David Adams, Simone van der Giessen, James Toll, Richard Lester, Kate Gould, Aestus Quartet and Katharine Dain will perform

Wagner: Prelude to Tristan und Isolde, arr. for sextet by Sebastian Gürtler

Piers Hellawell: The Still Dancers - Invocation III: Floating

Berio: Sequenza III for solo soprano Arensky Cello Quartet in A minor Op.35

Time: 9-10pm (60 minute concert, no interval)

Tickets: £19 (unreserved seating) www.winchesterchambermusic.com



Come & Sing!

Southern Voices are inviting local singers to come and sing with them in a choral workshop as part of their 40th Anniversary Season on Saturday 4th May, St Paul's Church, Winchester, SO22 5AB

Find out what it's like to sing with the choir and their fabulous conductor, Jamal Sutton. The programme has a 'joyful' theme, with works from the English Choral Tradition by Finzi, Elgar and Wood with some Bob Chilcott thrown in to add even more fun. It's on the ambitious side, but all enjoyable music and you will have a good sing!

The accompanist will be the immensely talented George Castle and registration starts at 10am. Bring your own pack lunch and complimentary hot drinks and biscuits will be available. The day concludes with a free concert for your friends and family at 3pm in the church.

The workshop costs £20 (£10 for those 21 and under) including music; please buy your tickets at www.southernvoices.co.uk/ComeAndSing

Car parking is limited at the church; please use nearby Winchester car parks and allow time to walk to the church.

Don't be shy, come and sing with us - we really look forward to seeing you there!

SCHOOL Now in Winchester!

PASTORS * Now in Winchester!

We are recruiting! Could <u>YOU</u> spare a daytime hour or two, once or twice each week during term-time, to be a volunteer School Pastor in one of Winchester's schools?

As a School Pastor, you will:

- Receive relevant online training (in June & July)
- Wear an identifying uniform
- Operate with another volunteer as a pair
- Build relationships with pupils, staff and parents at 'your' school
- Witness a change in the atmosphere of the school and the surrounding area as you spend time there and pray for the school and the area

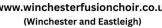
To find out more or apply, contact Mark Hibbert-Hingston by email: winchester@streetpastors.org.uk or phone 07740 288654













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To be opened by Lady Portal MBE DL

Wednesday 8th May, 10am to 4pm

Upper Farm, Down Farm Lane, Headbourne Worthy, SO23 7LA
Entrance £5 Ample parking available on site Sorry no dogs

Join us for gardening inspiration and fantastic shopping with plant nurseries, artisan and homeware products, fashion accessories & delicious foods. Delicious light refreshments and home-made lunch will be available in the Winchester Go LD Café Marquee. Winchester Go LD members will be selling our new range of kitchen accessories and whipping up some delicious smoothies. Come and find us by the Smoothie Bike and say hello!

Please visit our website for more details: www.winchestergold.org.uk/get-involved









Living life to the full.

Winchester Go LD, The Arc, Jewry Street, Winchester, SO23 8SB. T: 01962 600281 W: winchestergold.org.uk E: info@winchestergold.org.uk Patron: Lady Portal (Louisa) MBE, DL Charity number: 1156536

Breast Walk Ever Hampshire 2024

on Sunday 12th May 2024



'Against Breast Cancer' funds pioneering research into new treatments, tools for earlier diagnosis and advice to reduce the risk of recurrence and secondary spread. Working with expert scientists we want

to increase the survival rates of all breast cancer patients and ultimately, discover a vaccine against breast cancer.

The event in aid of 'Against Breast Cancer' is set in the rural grounds of IBM in Hursley, near Winchester, where there is free on-site parking, refreshments and toilets.

The walking routes are 10K, Half and Full Marathon. Whichever route you choose we are sure there is something for everyone, with just a little preparation. Dogs are welcome too! There is no age limit; participants under 18 must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Take part and help fund ground-breaking research into secondary spread, the main cause of breast cancer related deaths, much of which is carried out in nearby Southampton.

Each route is fully signposted and marshalled with support stations at regular intervals.

Please see the website for more details:

www.againstbreastcancer.org.uk/events/breast-walk-ever-hampshire

winchester
mayfest

Day of Dance

Mayfest is a celebration of music, dance and song

on Saturday 18th May 2024

in venues across Winchester, including at St Lawrence Church

Performances include dance 'sides', consisting of different types of Morris dance, sword dancing, clog dancing and Appalachian dancing. This will take place in the High Street, Cathedral Close and St Maurice's Covert, with concerts and workshops in St Lawrence from 10am-4pm.

More details on the website at www.winchester-mayfest.org.uk

Saying Goodbye Services

Chichester Cathedral, Saturday 11th May, 11am

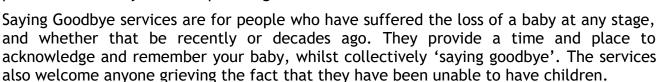
Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, Saturday 18th May, 1pm

> Wimborne Minster, Sunday 19th May, 3pm

When a baby is lost, whether during pregnancy, at birth or in infancy, it is a devastating experience for the parents and the extended family.

Sadly for people who lose their baby prior to 24 weeks gestation, services to commemorate the life that has been lost are seldom held, while for parents who lose later in pregnancy, at birth or in early years, the

parents are usually in the depths of grief when a service is held.



The services are for people of any faith or no faith, are free to attend, no tickets need to be booked, and people are invited to bring family, friends and children with them.

If you'd like to attend a Saying Goodbye service, please register at www.sayinggoodbye.org/services





The Life and Work of John of the Cross

ADTE NA CO

St John of the Cross, attributed to Francisco de Zurbarán (1598-1664)

You are warmly invited to join us on Monday 13th May, 10am to 1pm at Wolvesey, Winchester, for a morning exploring the life and work of St John of the Cross.

Our understanding and appreciation of the life and teaching of the Spanish Carmelite, St John of the Cross (1542 - 1591) has advanced considerably in recent years. As scholars and Christians come to appreciate his originality and compassion this has led to a reappraisal of his message. In our time together we shall learn a little about his life and times before focussing on his relevance to contemporary Christian spiritual practice, especially spiritual direction.

Details at www.winchester.anglican.org/course/the-life-and-work-of-john-of-the-cross

Please contact Wendy Atkinson at wendy.atkinson@winchester.anglican.org to book your place.



Nature Swap 2024

This year Wilder Hyde's ever popular annual Nature Swap is on Sunday 19th May between 11am and 3pm on the corner of Egbert and Arthur Roads. Swap whatever you no longer need for something new for

your garden - seeds, bulbs, plants and equipment will be up for grabs. If you have nothing to swap come along anyway and you can take something away for your garden.

For more information, please see the website www.wilderhyde.org.uk

CHURCHES COUNT ON Nature

Churches Count on Nature

8th - 16th June

Churches Count on Nature 2024 focuses on the brilliant wildlife to be found in churchyards and chapel yards. It is a is a joint initiative promoted by Caring for God's Acre, the Church of England, the Church in Wales and A Rocha UK. See www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk

Over 27,000 wildlife records have been submitted during this dedicated week over the past two years, and many recorders are continuing to submit records through the burial grounds project on iNaturalist UK. Many of the records have been verified and are available to view at https://burialgrounds.nbnatlas.org

There will be an event at St Bartholomew's on Saturday 15th June, 2pm-4pm - all welcome to come and help us and Wilder Hyde members log as many different varieties of plants as we can. Can we beat the 127 that we spotted last year?



At Winchester Rugby Football Club, North Walls Park, Winchester, SO23 7SU

The Winchester Ukulele Festival is back with top entertainment from some of the country's best ukulele players plus workshops, 'The Splendid Strumalong', merchandise, great food and drink, and a whole load more.

www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/winchester-ukulele-festival-2024-tickets-720743321677



On Friday 24th May 2024, join us for a night under the stars in the Warden's Garden of Winchester College. Sleep out in homemade cardboard shelters, and enjoy local food and entertainment while raising money and awareness for those facing homelessness.

Last year you helped us raise over £27,000 to support our services, and we couldn't have done it without you.

Every penny that you raise in sponsorship will go back into Trinity's services, offering longterm, positive change.

Enjoy on-stage live music and entertainment from the likes of Integr8 dance and 5hades of grey, and delicious food from vendors local such Piecaramba. Our well-being area this year includes 3 bell tents with many activities. Relax and unwind with a yoga reflexology session or have a go at one of our adult and children craft sessions on offer.

Create your own cardboard shelter to be in with a chance of

winning prizes including vouchers for Clue Capers escape game. Categories are Best Individual Shelter, Best Family Shelter, and Best Corporate Shelter.

Winding down, we will listen to a bedtime story read by a celebrity before all non-sleepers depart at 11pm.

Join us for a night under the stars in our homemade cardboard shelters to raise vital funds and awareness for Trinity's work with homeless and vulnerable people in Hampshire.

We ask participants to raise a minimum of £100 (or £50 for under 18s) in sponsorship for Trinity. Anyone who raises £150 or more will receive a free Big Sleep Out t-shirt.

Non-sleepers welcome!

For more info visit www.trinitywinchester.org.uk

Or purchase tickets directly at https://bigsleepout2024.eventbrite.co.uk/

Icon Painting Course

10-14 June, 8-12 July, 5-13 October

Three courses on icon painting, in June, July and October, are being run at St Peter's Church, Soberton. The icons will be painted in the traditional Byzantine style using egg tempera, gold leaf and wooden panels. Drawings are provided, so don't worry if you're a beginner! Each course costs £295 which includes all materials.



For more information, download a flyer at www.winchester.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Icon-courses-flyer-2024.pdf or email Jackie Hunt at jack@swallow2.plus.com



TEDx Winchester 2024 Friday 14th June 10am - 4pm

www.tedxwinchester.com

In the spirit of ideas worth spreading, TEDx is a program of local, self-organised events that bring people together to share a TED-like experience. At a TEDx event, TED Talks video and live speakers combine to spark deep discussion and connection. These local, self-organised events are branded TEDx, where x = independently organised TED event.

TED is a nonprofit organisation devoted to Ideas Worth Spreading. It started in California 30 years ago. The two annual TED Conferences invite the world's leading thinkers and doers to speak for 18 minutes or less.

THEGREAT
WEEKO

You may see mentions of "The Great Big Green Week" which is to take place between 8 and 16 June. This will see people across the country join together in a nationwide celebration of action to protect the planet. It will show that communities across the UK are making swaps every day to help create a better tomorrow - and that now it's time for politicians to step up and play their part. However, Winchester Green Week will take place separately, on 21-29 September.

www.greatbiggreenweek.com

What is Renew Wellbeing?

"Renew Café" is a new wellbeing café offering "a quiet safe space, where it's OK to not be OK". All are welcome every Thursday 2pm-4pm at the Salvation Army Hall on Parchment Street.

Drinks and light refreshments, crafts, games and wellbeing activities will be on offer, or you can just chat. www.renewwellbeing.org.uk

Renew Wellbeing spaces work on three principles: being prayerful, being present and being in partnership.



Looking for a welcoming brew and some great company? Keen to learn new skills or enjoy some down time? We're excited to announce the launch of Winchester's very own Renew Wellbeing Café.

Every Thursday from 14:00 - 16:00, the Salvation Army Hall will transform into a welcoming sanctuary for connection and community.

In addition, once a month, the Anna Chaplaincy is organising some Vintage Fun at United Church. Each afternoon offers friendship to break the isolation some find when growing older.

Finally, Winchester's community radio station has a very special offer for local charities and non-profit organisations. Free advertising, sponsored by local companies. If people in your church run companies or lead charities, they can get involved in Winchester Radio.



FAIRTRADE

Fairtrade Fortnight

will be from Monday 9 September - Sunday 22 September 2024

(not in the Spring as before)

2024 is their 30th birthday, so they will use the occasion to highlight how 30 years of working together has made the Fairtrade Mark a leader of life-changing impact for farmers and workers across the world. More details to come.



Secrets of D-Day Monday 10th June at 7pm



"Hotspur" troop-carrying gliders at a glider training school in 1942

Paul Beaver will be giving a special talk to mark the 80th anniversary of D-Day, revealing some of the secrets which made a success of the greatest landing operation in history. Paul will talk about deception, influence and some of the amazing innovations which were key to the liberation of France.

If you're unable to be there on the night, buy an online pass to watch live and join in the Q&A, or watch on catch-up afterwards.

Tickets £12 to attend in person, £8 for an online pass, from www.armyflying.com/what-s-on/events/secrets-of-d-day

Taken from The Peregrine Diary written by Keith Betton

(Chair of Hampshire Ornithological Society)

At the start of April there had been much anticipation, with people wondering when (or indeed if) Mel would be laying eggs. We had seen William encouraging Mel to visit the tray and they had displayed to each other and mated, but no eggs had appeared. It's worth remembering that not only is this a new nest site for her, but she may never have nested before.



Mel laid her first egg on 15th April and her second one two days later. Normally Peregrines lay up to four eggs, so we were expecting another.

Mel will not incubate them continuously until maybe the third egg, and that way the first three eggs should get the same amount of warmth and all hatch at around the same time. Incubation of the eggs will be carried out mainly by Mel, although William may take her place when she is off the eggs for a break. We can hope for chicks to hatch on around 17/18 May. After that the chicks should grow quite quickly, being ready to start flying at the end of June.

A third egg was then laid, but a day later it had vanished; it had somehow rolled off the tray, but we don't know how this happened. Hopefully Mel will be content with two eggs.

You can keep up to date with how the falcons are faring: www.winchester-cathedral.org.uk/peregrines



Applications are **now open** to join our almshouse community in one of our existing or new Colebrook Street almshouses.

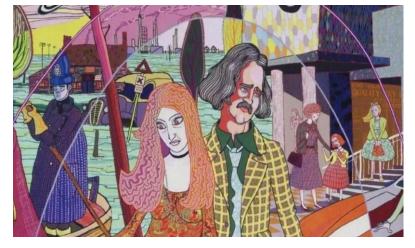
What can you expect from living at St John's?

- A vibrant and caring community in the heart of Winchester where residents can flourish on their own terms. Residents can lead a fully independent life with a choice to participate in a wide range of activities.
- A compassionate welfare team are available 24/7 to support residents maintain their independence.

A range of available accommodation options, catering to individuals with minimal or no care requirements, as well as those with higher care needs.

www.stjohnswinchester.co.uk/housing-care-and-community-support/almshouses

Grayson Perry: Essex House Tapestries - The Life of Julie Cope



Detail of *A Perfect Match*, Grayson Perry, 2015

Exhibition open daily until 12th June 2024 at The ARC, Winchester

£4.50 Adult or £5 with gift aid donation; concessions available Book online:

www.arcwinchester.org.uk/event/grayson-perry-essex-house-tapestries-life-julie-cope

Why the future of the world's largest religion is female - and African

by Gina Zurlo, Co-Director of the Center for the Study of Global Christianity, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, Massachusetts, USA



Nigerian women greet each other at St Charles Catholic Church in Ngurore, Nigeria, on 17 February 2019 (AP photo/Sunday Alamba)

At the start of 2019, Bill and Melinda Gates released a list of facts that had surprised them the previous year. Number four on their list: "Data can be sexist."

"There are huge gaps in the global data about women and girls," they explained.

My interest was piqued - not only as a demographer, but as a woman and mother of girls. I research women in global Christianity and am frequently asked what percentage of the religion is female. The short answer is 52%. But the long answer is more complicated - women make up a much more substantial part of Christianity than that number makes it seem.

The goal of my research is to put the spotlight on Christian women's contributions to church and society and fill in gaps in our data. Headlines about religion may be focused on the words and actions of Western male leaders, but the reality of the worldwide church is quite different. More and more Christians live outside Europe and North America, especially in Africa - and women are central to that story.

Measuring faith

Social scientists have shown for decades that women are more religious than men by a variety of measures - everything from frequency of private prayer to worship service attendance. Christianity, the world's largest religion, is no exception. Data from the Pew Research Center show that, compared to Christian men, Christian women are more likely to attend weekly church services (53% versus 46%), pray daily (61% versus 51%), and say religion is important in their lives (68% versus 61%).

It's not a new trend. In the Gospels, women were the last at the foot of Jesus's cross, the first at his tomb. Research has shown they were critical to the growth of the early church, being more likely to convert to Christianity than men, and most of the early Christian communities were majority female. Throughout history, women were exemplars of the faith as mystics and martyrs, royal women converting their husbands and supporting convents, and founders of denominations and churches that are now all over the world. Women make up the majority of Christians today.

What researchers don't have is comprehensive data on women's activities in churches, their influence, their leadership or their service. Nor are there comprehensive analyses of Christians' attitudes around the world about women's and men's roles in churches.

"Women, according to an old saying in the Black church, are the backbone of the church," notes religion and gender scholar Ann Braude. "The double meaning of this saying is that while the churches would collapse without women, their place is in the background," behind male leaders. But there's not much actual data, and without good data, it's harder to make good decisions.



Christian women pray during a Christmas Mass in Our Lady of Fatima Church in Islamabad, Pakistan, in 2021. (AP photo/Rahmat Gul)

At the center of the story

My current research is illustrating that women are the majority of the church nearly everywhere in the world, and that it's future is poised to be shaped by African women, in particular.

Christianity continues its demographic shift to the global south. In 1900, 18% of the world's Christians lived in Asia, Africa, Latin America and Oceania, according to my research. Today that figure is 67%, and by 2050, it is projected to be 77%. Africa is home to 27% of the world's Christians, the largest share in the world, and by 2050, that figure will likely be 39%. For comparison, the United States and Canada were home to just 11% of all Christians in the world in 2020 and will likely drop to 8% by 2050. Furthermore, the median age of Christians in sub-Saharan Africa is just 19.

One of the most common refrains about the church in Africa is that it is majority female. "The church in Africa has a feminine face and owes much of its tremendous growth to the agency of women," writes Kenyan theologian Philomena Mwaura.

Or as a Nigerian Anglican bishop recently told me, "If anyone tells you a church in Nigeria is majority male, he's lying."

It's clear that women have been a crucial part of Christianity's seismic shift south. For example, consider Catholic sisters, who outnumber priests and religious brothers in Africa - and on every continent, in fact. Mothers' Union, an Anglican nonprofit that aims to support marriages and families, has 30 branches in Africa, including at least 60,000 members in Nigeria alone. In Congo, women have advocated for peacebuilding, including through groups like the National Federation of Protestant Women. Next door, in the Republic of the Congo, Catholic sisters were at the forefront of providing shelter, education and aid in postwar recovery efforts.

Yet here, too, more precise data about African women's contributions and religious identities is lacking. And beyond quantitative data, African women's narratives have often been ignored, to the detriment of public understanding. As African theologians Mercy Amba Oduyoye and Rachel Angogo Kanyoro have stated, "African women theologians have come to realize that as long as men and foreign researchers remain the authorities on culture, rituals, and religion, African women will continue to be spoken of as if they were dead."

Far from dead, African women live at the center of the story - and will continue to do so as healers, evangelists, mothers and the heartbeat of their churches.

A fun job for a lively Christian

Deputy Manager at the Boaz Project Hill Farm, near Sutton Scotney, SO21 3NT



Live out your Christian faith in a fun job, surrounded by excellent kind volunteers and straight-talking adults with learning disabilities in a beautiful farm setting near Winchester. If you love cooking, people and thinking on your feet, then this is the management job for you. Boaz is a small independent charity that over 100 people a week call their "workplace". Four days a week around 30 people come to the farm to "work and learn together" doing a whole range of horticulture and other jobs such as cooking, craft, animal care and woodwork. As Deputy Manager you will help keep the fun levels high, the stress levels low, and people working harmoniously together. Four days each week you'll lead on cooking a simple vegetarian meal for everyone on site, plus be involved in the general day to day management of the charity. Based in a converted cow barn, this is a 'Marmite' job, and we all know that people either love or don't love that spread.

It's a small team, with only two other full-time staff members working alongside you, but over 50 volunteers coming and going each week and over 30 adults with learning disabilities who spend half days or several days a week working at the project. Each day starts with some "listening and prayer time" where people are encouraged to share and receive prayer if they request it. Then some scripture is shared followed by remembering everything people are grateful for. As Deputy Manager you would lead these sessions when the General Manager is on leave or be on a rota system.

The role is based on-site, Monday to Friday, 8:30 to 4:30. You get 20 days holiday a year plus public holidays to start with, plus additional days for long service. Pay will be in the range of £28,000 to £30,000 p/a depending on experience.

How to apply: phone us on 01962 761749 or email hr@boazproject.co.uk and request a date to pop in for a coffee and walk around before you apply for this role. Just ask for Stuart.

www.boazproject.co.uk

Boaz Summer Open Day and Plant Sale

Saturday 1st June, 1pm - 4pm

The Boaz Project is an inclusive, farm-based charity set up to provide a brighter future for people with learning disabilities.

Our summer open day promises fun for all the family, including live music, children's games, plant sale, craft stalls, vintage vehicles, tractor rides, a petting zoo and more. Hot food and refreshments will also be on sale.

The fete is also a chance to look around our farm-based project and find out more about how we support adults with learning disabilities and autism to have a brighter future. Daily activities include horticulture, tending a flock of 120 egg-laying chickens, woodwork, craft, cookery classes and walks with Boaz's resident donkeys. Some members attend for half a day while others come several days a week.

The emphasis is on creating a fun, friendly and safe place where people with and without disabilities learn and work together. We are always on the lookout for new volunteers.

The Boaz Project, Hill Farm, Sutton Scotney, SO21 3NT

NB Hill Farm is not directly in Sutton Scotney; it is near the end of the A272 going towards Salisbury, where it meets the A30.



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More photos of the work at St Lawrence





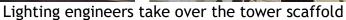


Chairs and pews make way for the AV wiring work

Some tidying-up needed in the vestry!









First result: good light on the roof









John and Beauman commissioning the AV system in Whitwams' workshop with engineer Ashton Partridge (photos courtesy of Chloe Wheywell at Whitwams)

The Three Saints Benefice of St Bartholomew and St Lawrence with St Swithun-upon-Kingsgate

Ministry Team

RECTOR The Revd Karen Kousseff

St Bartholomew's House, 1 Abbey Hill Close, SO23 7AZ

Tel. (01962) 850956 e-mail: karen@threesaints.org.uk

Day off: Monday

HONORARY ASSOCIATE PRIEST The Revd Amanda Goulding

c/o St Lawrence Parish Office, Colebrook Street, Winchester, SO23 9LH

Tel. (01962) 884585

e-mail: agoulding@btinternet.com

LICENSED LAY MINISTER Meriel Walton

Tel. (01962) 852239 e-mail: merielwalton@yahoo.co.uk

CHILDREN & FAMILIES WORKER vacant

Benefice Contacts

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WINCHESTER GOOD NEIGHBOURS	For Good Neighbourly hel Tel. 0800 6126 480		mpshire-wide network) odneighbours@outlook.com

Benefice website: www.threesaints.org.uk

The Church of England's "A Church Near You" website www.achurchnearyou.com has information for each

church.

The Benefice on Facebook: www.facebook.com/threesaintswinchester or click on the f icon on the

Benefice website

St Bartholomew's on Facebook: www.facebook.com/stbartholomewschurchwinchester

St Bartholomew's on Instagram: www.instagram.com/stbartholomewschurchwinchester or click on the @

icon on the Benefice website

Administrator for the benefice, and St Lawrence Parish Room bookings

Sara Gangai

St Lawrence Parish Office, Colebrook Street, Winchester, SO23 9LH

Monday afternoons, Wednesdays and Fridays

e-mail: office@threesaints.org.uk Tel. 01962 849434 (24 hour answerphone)

The benefice comprises two parishes, working together but legally distinct entities: each is a charity in its own right.

St Bartholomew Parish Directory

CHURCHWARDEN	Malcolm Bruce*†	861644		
DEPUTY CHURCHWARDENS	Alys Blakeway	868581	Lawrence Talks	07909 997734
DEANERY SYNOD REPRESENTATIVE	Alys Blakeway	868581		
ELECTED PCC MEMBERS	Duncan Boyd* 07990 Rosemary Burns Alan Gordon	0 531221 862849 868616	Lawrence Talks Andrew Wainewri	07909 997734 ight* 859789
HON. TREASURER	Duncan Boyd* 07990	0 531221		
HON. SECRETARY TO THE PCC	Lis Wicks stbpccsec@threesaints.	org.uk		
SAFEGUARDING OFFICER	Rosie Duffy safeguarding.stbarts@t	hreesaints.	org.uk	
HEALTH & SAFETY OFFICER	Linda Jarvis 07714	1 755072		
ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER	Jeannette Archdeacon	864556		
GIFT AID SECRETARY	Andrew Wainewright	859789		
GIVING FOR LIVING @ ST BART'S COORDINATOR	Andrew Wainewright	859789		
HISTORIC CHURCHES "RIDE & STRIDE"	Andrew & Julia Wainew 859789 or 07813	•		

^{*} Members of the Standing & Finance Committee

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) comprises the ministers licensed to the benefice, the elected Churchwarden and the elected Deanery Synod representative, all of whom are 'ex-officio' members of the PCC, and the directly-elected members listed above.

Note: at the Meeting of Parishioners on 14th April, Alys Blakeway was elected to be churchwarden. She will be admitted to office at an Archdeacon's Visitation service in June. Meanwhile, Malcolm Bruce continues as churchwarden.

Postcodes for our sites

Please send all post to the Parish Office for the benefice: St Lawrence Parish Office, Colebrook Street, Winchester, SO23 9LH

Postcodes for use with satnavs - please don't send post to these sites:

- St Bartholomew Church: King Alfred Place, SO23 7DF
- St Lawrence Church: The Square, SO23 9EX
- St Swithun-upon-Kingsgate Church: St Swithun Street, SO23 9JP
- Hyde Parish Hall (close to St Bartholomew Church):
 55 Hyde Street, SO23 7DY
- St Lawrence Parish Room: Colebrook Street, SO23 9LH (in front of the Parish Office)

On smartphone mapping apps, you'll get better guidance by entering the name, e.g. "St Bartholomew, Winchester", rather than the postcode.

[†] Vice-Chair of the PCC

St Lawrence with St Swithun Parish Directory

CHURCHWARDENS	Beauman Chong*†	Tel	866488	John Stanning*	Tel	867995
DEANERY SYNOD REPRESENTATIVE	Nick Goulding*	Tel	884585			
ELECTED PCC MEMBERS	Elizabeth Baron	Tel	855090	Louise Kerr	Tel	862317
	Anna Bennetts	Tel	853234	Clare Kilroy	Tel	862317
	Geoffrey Bennetts*	Tel	853234	Tom Nell	Tel	861448
	Chris Higgins	Tel	855595	Richard Stead	Tel	865556

HON. SECRETARY TO THE PCC

Lis Wicks stlspccsec@threesaints.org.uk

HON. TREASURER

Nick Goulding*

Tel 884585

HON. ASSISTANT TREASURER

Bethany Milward

Tel 854558

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) comprises the ministers licensed to the benefice, the elected Churchwardens and the elected Deanery Synod representatives, all of whom are 'ex-officio' members of the PCC, and the directly-elected members listed above.

LEGACY AND STEWARDSHIP OFFICERS			Beauman Chong	Tel	866488	
					_chong@hot. Tel	mail.com 852226
				Christine Pilgrim		@aol.com
CIET AID CECRETARY				Taus Mall		
GIFT AID SECRETARY			Tom Nell	Tel	861448	
SAFEGUARDING OFFICER				Kathryn Whelan	Tel	856040
				safeguarding.stl:	s@threesain	ts.org.uk
ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER				John Stanning	Tel	867995
HEALTH & SAFETY OFFICER	2			Beauman Chong	Tel	866488
SOCIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE	E			Judith Chong	Tel	866488
PARISH ROOM COMMITTEE			Louise Kerr	Tel	862317	
ST LAWRENCE BROWNIES &	t Gl	JIDES		Elizabeth Baron	Tel	855090
HISTORIC CHURCHES "RIDE	£	STRIDE"		Louise Kerr & Clare Kilroy	Tel	862317
CHARITABLE GIVING AND				Meriel Walton	Tel	852239
OVERSEAS GROUP CONVENER						
ORGANISTS		St Lawrence		Luke Fowler & Christopher	Tolley	
FLOWERS {	(St Lawrence		Judith Chong	Tel	866488
ILOWENS	l	St Swithun		Jane Powlett	Tel	865345
				Veronica Cornes	Tel	852027

	Useful pho	ne numbers
Out-of-hours medical help	111	Police non-u
St Paul's medical practice	01962 853599	To report a
Friarsgate medical practice	01962 871730	Winchester (
St Clement's medical practice	01962 852211	Bus station
Royal Hampshire County Hospital	01962 863535	National Rai
Samaritans 24-hr helpline	116123	Domestic ab
Trinity Drop-in Day Centre, Bradbury House, Durngate	01962 842827	In need of a office, Cole

Police non-urgent	101
To report a BT landline fault	0800 800 151
Winchester City Council offices	01962 840222
Bus station	0345 121 0190
National Rail enquiries	0800 5282 100
Domestic abuse 24-hr helpline	0808 2000 247
In need of a bed? WCC housing office, Colebrook Street	01962 840222

^{*} Members of the Standing & Finance Committee

[†] Vice-Chair of the PCC



The Three Saints Benefice of St Bartholomew and St Lawrence with St Swithun-upon-Kingsgate, Winchester

SERVICES IN MAY 2024

1	Wednesday	10.30am	Holy Communion	St Lawrence
3	Friday	10.00am	Coffee Morning	St Lawrence
5	The Sixth Sunday of Easter	10.00am	All Together Service Holy Communion Evensong	St Lawrence
9	Thursday Ascension Day	7.00pm	Holy Communion	St Swithun
12	The Seventh Sunday of Easter	10.00am	Holy Communion	St Lawrence
19	Pentecost Sunday	10.00am	Morning Worship Holy Communion Evensong	St Lawrence
21	Tuesday	10.30am	Coffee Morning	St Bartholomew
26	Trinity Sunday	10.00am 10.00am	Holy Communion	
		6.00pm	Evensong	St Swithun
30	Thursday	•	Wedding: Melissa Gregory & Simon Fish	
30	Thursday JUNE	•	Wedding: Melissa Gregory &	
2	·	12.30pm 10.00am 10.00am	Wedding: Melissa Gregory &	St Bartholomew St Bartholomew St Lawrence
	JUNE The First Sunday	12.30pm 10.00am 10.00am 6.00pm	Wedding: Melissa Gregory & Simon Fish	St Bartholomew St Bartholomew St Lawrence St Swithun

Services at St Lawrence and St Swithun churches are normally 'live-streamed' on Zoom: please see www.threesaints.org.uk/services for details.