



Dear Friends,

**The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it,
the world, and all who live in it.**

Psalm 24:1

Richard and I have just returned from a wonderful holiday in Italy. We decided to travel by train and greatly enjoyed the adventure of hurtling through the varied landscape – mountains, lakes, fields, villages and cities. Unlike flying, one can more fully notice the details of shifting terrains.

We saw broad open flat fields recently harvested in France, ingeniously terraced vineyards on the lower slopes of the Alps, apple orchards in the verdant valleys, high grazing pastureland for livestock and beautifully tended allotments. It made us realise how wonderfully varied creation is and how resourceful human beings are in finding methods to farm/garden according to their locality. The earth is naturally fruitful, yet also so fragile.

The recent news of earthquakes in Morocco and floods in Libya remind us powerfully of the fault lines in the earth and the lack of care we humans have shown to the world, leading to the serious challenges of climate change, which threatens our world, especially the poorest.

As we sped through tunnels and across borders we reflected on how easy it is to hurtle through life - the seasons coming and going, food shopped for each week, meals prepared and eaten, bins emptied. We barely give a thought to the wider landscape of how food is produced, transported, issues of food poverty, politics of land use, the impact of human failures in the care of creation.

Thankfully these issues are coming more to the fore, but there is still so much more we can do. The issues are very urgent. As people of Christian faith we have three foundational mandates God calls us to live by:

To live as good stewards of the good earth.

To be deeply thankful for the gifts God has given us in creation

To work for a more fair and just world, loving our neighbour as ourselves.

STEWARDSHIP THANKFULNESS JUSTICE

Those three mandates are central to the heart of our Church Harvest celebrations.

There are many ways we can creatively allow these foundational calls on our lives to make a difference.

There is a super Radio 4 series called *Just one thing*, which focuses each week on small things we can do to make a difference to health and well-being. Here are my simple suggestions for 'Just one thing' we could do to live more in line with Biblical truths about God's creation.

Stewardship - Reduce waste, use leftovers creatively.

Thankfulness – Say grace at mealtimes more regularly.

Justice – Read a book, watch a programme/listen to a podcast which opens our eyes to a more global perspective on the impact of climate change. Make a practical response.

What are your *just one thing* ideas?

A good start would be to make this year a bumper year for our **Bradford Hub** Harvest food gifts and support our farmers by donating to the **Farming Community Network** at our Benefice Harvest Thanksgiving on 1st October at **11.00am** at St Nicholas Church, Winsley.

See you there, Tessa, **Rev Tessa Mann**



Upcoming Services

Sunday 24th September

10.00am Holy Communion Service, at St James Church, South Wraxall, with St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh. Revd. Tessa Mann.

10.00am Morning Worship Service, St Nicholas Church, Winsley. Linds Batson.

10.30am Refresh Service, Christ Church, Bradford on Avon. The Refresh team.

4pm Forest Church, St Nicholas Churchyard, Winsley. Zoe Yeomans.

Wednesday 27th September

10.30am Holy Communion Service, Christ Church, Bradford on Avon. Revd. Tessa Mann.

Sunday 1st October

11am Harvest Festival – Benefice Service with Holy Communion at St Nicholas Church, Winsley followed by lunch at St Nicholas Church Hall. Led by Bishop Andrew and Revd. Tessa Mann.

Sunday 8th October

10.00am Holy Communion Service at St James Church, South Wraxall with St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh. Led by Revd. Paul Batson.

10.00am Refresh Service at St Nicholas Church Hall, Winsley. Led by Roy Ludlow.

10.30am Harvest Holy Communion Service at Christ Church, Bradford on Avon. Led by Revd. Tessa Mann.

4pm Singing in the Harvest, St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh. Led by Revd. Tessa Mann.

Thanksgiving service for the life of the late Janice Margaret Griffiths

2pm Monday 25th September, Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

Led by Revd. Tim Hawkings

Followed by Committal at Semington Crematorium on Tuesday 26th at 12.30pm, led by Revd. Paul Batson.

ALL SOULS SERVICE

2.30pm Saturday 4th November 2023

St Nicholas Church,
Winsley, BA15 2LH

Please join us for this very special
service to remember loved ones.
Followed by tea in the church hall.

News from the Hub



As you are aware, we distributed over 150 parcels for the holiday period.

Now Harvest season is upon us, we were hoping that if your congregation is planning a Harvest celebration that you might consider hosting a Harvest collection for the Hub.

We have a particular need for the following items:

- fruit juice
- sponge puddings
- tinned ham
- tinned meat
- tuna
- hot dogs/ meatballs

However, all long life/ tinned and packed donations are always appreciated.

Thank you for all your support.

CLEAN JAM JARS STILL NEEDED!!!!

Thanks for the jam jars so far!

Plenty more are still needed so please keep collecting them. Please take to Christ Church, can be left under the table at the back or in the porch with the others or contact Zoe if they need collecting.

Zoe Yeomans



Experience Church!

9th –13th October 2023

Thanks to everyone who has signed up to help with Experience Church so far. More volunteers are needed for all the Tuesday sessions please! Also Monday and Thursday afternoon and Friday morning are pretty thin. However, help with any of the sessions is gratefully received. Zoe will be in touch in next week or so with the current information to those who have signed up already. Thank you. Please contact **Zoe Yeomans** (zyeomans3@gmail.com) for more information on how to help out!



NewsLink

The next edition of NewsLink will be on **Sunday 8th October 2023**. Please email any relevant contributions to the Benefice Office at nboabenefice@gmail.com by **9.30am Tuesday 3rd October 2023**. You can read the full version on our website at www.nboachurches.co.uk

Ministry Team:

Revd. Tessa Mann (309374)
LLM: Rachel Pound (862223)

Benefice Office:

Bridge Duncombe (865046),
nboabenefice@gmail.com
Website www.nboachurches.co.uk

Church Wardens:

Winsley: Roy Ludlow (868779) Linds Batson (720069)
Christ Church: Hilary and Stephen Pike (782537)
South Wraxall: Dave Wyper (865384) Valentine Thornhill (862552)

Monkton Farleigh: Rachel and Colin Exley: (851485)

Lay Pastoral Assistants:

Stephen Pike (782537), Denise Davies (863678)
Gill Fairhurst (867560), Daphne Cox (868224)
Elizabeth Bush (866624), James Middleton (920564)

Children's and Families Worker:

Zoe Yeomans
zyeomans3@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE

HARVEST FESTIVAL

1ST OCTOBER

11AM BENEFICE SERVICE

AT ST NICHOLAS CHURCH, WINSLEY

Led by Bishop Andrew and Revd. Tessa Mann

Followed by a bring and share lunch

at the church hall.

Collection for FCN (please see info below)



FCN | THE FARMING
COMMUNITY
NETWORK

Here for *you*

Help us continue our work by donating to FCN

FCN relies solely on donations and grants in order to support the farming community. Any donation to support our work is greatly appreciated and makes a huge difference.

Please visit fcn.org.uk/donate for information about setting up a standing order or to download a Gift Aid declaration form. Or donate online right now by scanning this QR code.



**Listening
Supporting
Connecting**

Helpline:
03000 111 999

e-Helpline:
help@fcn.org.uk

Join us in helping to create a resilient farming future...

Children & Families News



Churches of North
Bradford on Avon
& Villages

Come and join us for our next

Forest Church

St. Nicholas Churchyard, Winsley
4pm-5pm Sunday 24th September,

Everyone welcome!

The theme is 'veggies & harvest'



Please bring a rug or chair to sit on and dress warmly as we will be outside.

We look forward to seeing you!