

NewsLink

21 November— 4 December 2021



Churches of North
Bradford on Avon
& Villages

Dear friends

I wonder if you have been affected by the great change that's on the horizon? Perhaps like many of us you've been thinking 'I liked it as it was', 'it won't be the same anymore' or even 'I know it won't be as good'. We've known it was coming for a while. We'd heard that some of the old will be gone and the new will appear. And we will have to wait until we really see the result of the change! It's a difficult time for many!

I am, of course, talking about James Bond. The news was announced that for the star of *No Time to Die* Daniel Craig, this would be his final outing as the fictional British MI6 agent James Bond.

After so many adventures the fifth James Bond would be replaced with another. It would be the same James Bond, but completely different as well. And now we will have to wait until the time comes when we see the new James Bond. What will he or she be like? Can the new one ever match up to the last one?

There are some echoes of the Christian story in all this for me. We know how the great story goes – Jesus is born, he preaches and teaches, he performs signs and wonders, he heals and blesses and then later, when the authorities can cope no longer, Jesus is tried, condemned, and dies. I'm sure the disciples wondered what life would be like after that, how could it ever be the same? That's the Easter Saturday moment, the old has gone and something new has to come. It's a hard time, it's unsettling and it's confusing, but it is also full of promise, something new must come.

The disciples don't know until they see the resurrected Jesus, the same as he was before but completely different as well. He has come through death to new life transformed, offering that same transformation to all people. The new is better than anyone could have expected, more wonderful, more glorious. I hope it's the same with James Bond.

I wonder where we find ourselves in all of this – we know that things in the life of the church are always changing. Are we seeing a glimpse of a glorious future? Are we standing watching a painful death? Are we waiting for the new to come, wondering what it will be like? Wherever we are, we are called to trust that, in everything, God is at work to bring transformation, to us, to our church, to our communities.

A new church year is beginning. The last church year was very different. This church year will be different again in many, many ways. We have said farewell to good and faithful people and new good and faithful people have come and joined us as part of the church in this place.

Our churches will be different, but they will also be the same. Whatever changes come, we still worship one God, proclaim one Gospel, and live in the grace of our God. So, let's continue to look to what God is doing in us, in our churches and communities and remember that in our transformation, the glory of God is revealed for all to see.

Have a very blessed week
Ann, Rector

“Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.” Ephesians 3:20a

Events and Notices

Upcoming Services

Please continue to wear a face mask in church.

Sunday, 21st November

10.00am Songs of Praise at St James, South Wraxall

10.00am Holy Communion at St Nicholas, Winsley

10.30am Holy Communion at Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

3pm-4pm Forest Church at Christ Church, BOA (see the website under Events for more details)

Sunday, 28th November—Advent Sunday

10.00am Holy Communion at St Peter's, Monkton Farleigh

10.00am Holy Communion at St James, South Wraxall

10.00am Holy Communion at St Nicholas, Winsley

10.30am Refresh/ Together in Worship at Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

Wednesday, 1st December

10.30am Holy Communion at Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

Sunday, 5th December—2nd Sunday of Advent

10.00am Benefice Service with Holy Communion at St Peter's, Monkton Farleigh

Sunday, 12th December—3rd Sunday of Advent

10.00am Holy Communion at St James, South Wraxall

10.00am Refresh at Winsley Church Hall, Winsley

6.00pm Christmas Service at St Peter's, Monkton Farleigh

6.00pm Christmas Service at Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

More information about **Carol Services** will be in next week's NewsLink and in the Benefice Christmas Card, which will be delivered to all residents within the Benefice, during the first week of December.

Funerals

Friday, 26th November at 11.00 am—Funeral of Deborah Grenney at St Nicholas Church, Winsley followed by burial in the churchyard. Ann taking

Friday 3rd December at 11.30am—Funeral of William 'John' Gibbs at Semington Crematorium. Ann taking

Advent Activity Tea—Contributions Please!

Sunday, 28th November 3.30pm till 5pm at South Wraxall Village Hall. If you would like to help make

mince pies, sandwiches, cookies etc or contribute these kind of goodies for the children's tea, please email Zoe at zyeomans3@gmail.com Thank you!

The next edition of NewsLink will be on the **5th December**. Please send any relevant contributions for this edition to the email below by **the 30th November latest**. There are two more pages to enjoy in this issue.

You can read the full version of NewsLink on the website www.nboachurches.co.uk. If you require a hard copy, please email or leave a message at the Benefice office on 01225 865046.

Ministry Team:

Rector Rev Ann Keating

Rev.ann.keating@btinternet.com (722230)

Rev Tessa Mann (309374)

LLM: Rachel Pound (862223)

Benefice Office:

Caroline Brydon (865046),

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Church Wardens:

Winsley: Roy Ludlow (868779) Linds Batson (720069)

Christ Church: vacant, Contact Rev Ann Keating

South Wraxall: Dave Wyper (865384) Valentine Thornhill (862552)

Monkton Farleigh: Vacant. Contact Rachel Exley PCC Secretary (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

A Special Thank You To...

Denise Leigh

Thank you Denise Leigh, our retired Churchwarden for Christ Church. Her dedication to that role was 5- star, but Denise approached numerous other church activities with energy, integrity and humanity; leading in prayer, initiating Soup Group and creating an atmosphere of peace in church during lockdown with music, clear thinking and a listening ear.

From Dorna Daw

Paul Simmonds

I am sure that all associated with St. Nicholas would wish to acknowledge Paul Simmonds' many years of service at the helm of the Church Fabric Committee. Paul with his valuable network of professional contacts, took on, and resolved a fair number of sometimes thorny issues in helping to ensure that, under his watch, all areas of the Church Estate have been maintained in the best possible order. Thank you Paul. John Baxter has now assumed the duties of Chair Person.

From Bob Williams



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Advent Activity Tea

Sunday 28th November, 3.30 – 5.00pm
South Wraxall Village Hall, BA15 2SE



Join us for Christmas crafts, games and activities
with a delicious festive tea.

Mulled wine and mince pies for the adults!

All welcome... Fun for all the family!

No charge, donations welcome

It would be helpful to have an idea of numbers
or if you have any dietary requirements,
please email Zoe at zyeomans3@gmail.com

From the Rector...

If you haven't tried this 'Reflections' resource, Advent might be the time to try it out. Each day includes:

- * Full lectionary details for Morning Prayer
- * A reflection on one of the Bible readings
- * A Collect for the day

It also includes simple forms of Morning and Night Prayer, an introduction to Advent by Libby Lane, and guides to prayer and Bible reading by Rachel Treweek and Stephen Cottrell.

Price £3.59 from Church House Publishing.

Advent Course

All welcome. Please join us on the following dates:
23rd November, 30th November, 7th December, 14th
December and the 21st December (party).

All services will be at 7.30pm at 6 Priory Park
Bradford on Avon. Please contact Revd Bernard
Hughes at 01225 868679 or email:
bernard@the-hughes.org

Four Carols and their Theology:

1. O come, O come Emmanuel.
2. O little town of Bethlehem.
3. In the bleak midwinter.
4. Hark, the herald angels sing.

Judith and Bernard Hughes

Donations Please...

**Come and Buy Sale at St Nicholas,
Saturday, 4th December 10 am till 12.30pm**

The sale is to raise funds for a keyboard for use in Winsley church hall and for enhancements to the AV in the hall, which is now used more frequently for informal services than previously.

We are wanting good quality items to sell, including bottles of wine, gift items, things for raffle prizes, toys, games, jigsaws, Christmassy items, plus refreshment items such as cakes and mince pies etc.

If you are able to donate any items or can help manning the stalls on the day then please get in touch with **Penny Pierce on 723284.**

Ladies Night – Winsley Church Hall

Ladies night returns to Winsley Church Hall at **7pm on Monday 6th December**. £10 to be paid at the door, all proceeds after expenses, go to St Nicholas church.

Booking is essential. Please email maryhewetson49@gmail.com or call Mary on 01225 722210
Mary Hewetson

November in the South Porch at Christ Church

To coincide with COP26 we are linking giving thanks for the fruits of the earth, with thinking about what we can do to help save our precious planet. Please write your ideas on the colourful paper leaves provided and hang them on our prayer tree. We will deliver the leaves to our Town Council at the end of the month.

The Hub has asked that we pass on sincere thanks for all the donations made during the recent Good Samaritan display.

Gillian Ellis King



Food Bank

Very many thanks to all those who have supported the Bradford on Avon Food Bank so generously in recent through the box in St Nicholas Church. This has made a great difference to people that they help.

If you are able to give again, the items currently most in need are tinned rice pudding, tinned ham and tinned hotdogs, instant/super noodles, and a few Christmas goodies (cakes, puddings, chocolate biscuits, etc) But no more pasta, thank you!

Phillip Bush

ST. PETER'S CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL



Come and see the Christmas Tree Festival
at St Peter's church
Monkton Farleigh, BA15 2QJ

Open daily 10.00am to 6.00pm
from 12 December 2021 to 2 January 2022

*Wishing you a joyous and peaceful
Christmas and New Year*

Christmas Knitters—next meeting is:

Wednesday 24th November, 1pm till 2.45pm at
Winsley Church Hall. Come along, even if you didn't
last time, to knit some Christmas bells!

Thank you!

Zoe

Refresh at Winsley Church Hall- Sunday 12th December at 10am

We shall have an hour of Christmas poems and music. If you have a favourite poem you would like to read, or have read, please do let me know.

Similarly, if you would like to sing a particular carol, or hear a particular piece of music, please let me know.

Roy Ludlow (868779)

Carol Singing around Winsley...

We shall be singing carols around the village from **5.00 to 6.00 pm on Monday 13th and Wednesday 15th December**. As last year, we shall sing at three different locations each evening. Please do come and join us! And do please let us **know (Linds 720069) or Roy (868779)**

Roy Ludlow