



Dear friends

This month Salisbury Diocese launched its Generous Giving Campaign. I'm sure that our Treasurers, Diane and Patricia will join me in saying 'thank you' for your generous giving to our four churches over the past 18 months to keep them going and pay the bills. Our Deanery Treasurer has written a letter to all the churches in our Deanery to explain how the Diocese is financed and how it allocates its income. This letter is printed on Page 4 of NewsLink for your information.

Many thanks to all those who have attended the Volunteering sessions held in St Nicholas Church. We are delighted with the response and thank you to all who have offered to volunteer their time and gifts in support of our churches and their communities. If you didn't manage to get to one of the sessions but would like to know more, do please just get in touch with me or Tessa. Since running the sessions, the Tower Captains of Holy Trinity and Christ Church Avon have offered to give lessons in bell handling for anyone interested in ringing. If you would like to have a go, please contact David Godwin or John Sealy. Their emails are: dwhgodwin@aol.com and john.sealy@btinternet.com

Patricia Legge has been setting up house groups which are due to start meeting in the first week of October. It's not too late if you would like to join a group. Just let me or Patricia know. Her email is patdlegge@gmail.com

Finally, as Autumn has officially arrived and the leaves are starting to fall, do enjoy these sunny, warm days we are blessed with now.

May God continue to bless you

Ann, Rector

Together in Worship at St. Nicholas



Together in Worship is an informal and inclusive service for all ages.

This service has a simple structure which enables flexibility and creativity, yet keeping integrity with a familiar pattern of worship, including Bible reading, prayer and praise.

We hope that Together in Worship will offer an opportunity for both regular church members and those less familiar with church, young and not so young, to enjoy worshipping together in church. An ideal service to invite your family and friends to.

The service will aim to last approximately **40 minutes**, followed by tea and coffee in Winsley church hall. It will usually be on the **4th Sunday in every month**.

Events and Notices

Upcoming Services

Booking is no longer required but please continue to wear a face mask in church.

Sunday, September 26th

10.00am Together in Worship, St Nicholas, Winsley
10.00am Holy Communion at St James Church, SW
10.30am Refresh at Christ Church, BOA
2.30pm **Baptism at St Nicholas Church, Winsley**

Sunday, October 3rd

11.00am Harvest Festival Benefice Service with Holy Communion at St James, SW
Followed by a 'bring and share' harvest lunch at the village hall. **See Page 3 for more details**

Wednesday, 6th October

10.30am Short service of Holy Communion at Christ Church, BOA

Sunday, October 10th

10.00am 'Refresh' at St Nicholas Church Hall. Informal café style, coffee and croissants
10.00am Holy Communion at St Peter's, MF. Family friendly service

Friday, October 15th

1pm **Wedding at St Nicholas, Winsley**

Sunday, October 17th

10.00am Holy Communion at St Nicholas, Winsley
10.00am Holy Communion at St James, SW
10.30am Holy Communion at Christ Church, BOA
4 to 5pm Forest Church at St Peter's, MF

Funerals

Monday, 27th September at 1pm, funeral of Patricia Hoare from Christ Church at Semington Cemetery
Conducted by Revd Ann

Saturday, 9th October at 4.30pm, a Celebration of the Life of Sue Whitmore from Avon Park at St Nicholas, Winsley. Conducted by Revd Ann

Autumn Clear Up of St Nicholas Churchyard Saturday, October 16th 10—12pm

Could you spare an hour or two on the morning of **Saturday 16th October** to help tidy up the church yard of St Nicholas, Winsley? The Winsley Beavers and Cubs did a great job in May but the work continues.

Please bring with you if possible, a rake, pruners, weeding equipment and the odd wheelbarrow would be great!

Mid morning refreshment should be available but might be outside if the church hall is occupied.
Thank you!



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),
nboabenefice@gmail.com
Website www.nboachurches.co.uk

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

News from the Church of England...Nationwide Digital Churchyard Mapping Project has begun.



The first of 19,000 churchyards has been surveyed as part of a Church of England project to create a free digital map of every grave and feature in every churchyard in the country.

The ancient church of St Bega on the shores of lake Bassenthwaite in the Diocese of Carlisle is the first churchyard to be scanned by surveyors using sophisticated laser equipment, as part of the national programme.

To read the full article from the Church of England's website, click [here](#)

Harvest Festival Service Sunday October 3rd, St James, South Wraxall

This Benefice Service will be at **11am** (please note, the different time) at St James Church and will be followed by a 'bring and share' cold buffet style lunch at South Wraxall Village Hall next to the church. **All welcome!**



During the first week of school's return in September, Winsley's 'Open the Book' team did their first face to face session with the children after 18 months of videos!

Here is a photo of the team during that first session. Well done all!

The next edition of NewsLink will be on the 10th October. Please send any relevant contributions for this edition to the email below by Tuesday 5th October latest. 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.

Please turn to page 4, to read the full article 'Generous Giving as an Investment' from David Robinson, Deanery Treasurer as mentioned by Revd Ann.

Generous Giving as an Investment by David Robinson (Deanery Treasurer)

Last month the Salisbury Diocese launched its Generous Giving Campaign. The last 18 months has seen an unprecedented interruption to our church services and all the fund-raising activities that are such a part of community life, offering the opportunity to meet and chat in our otherwise rather busy lives. We, as church members, have been deprived of such cheerful events for all these months and can perhaps begin to look forward to normal life returning. But the effect on Diocesan finances will be much longer lasting.

It is fair to say that few members of the church and certainly even less the general public, have any real appreciation of how our churches exist financially. And apart from criticisms of the Church Commissioners and Bishops, little is reported on how the Church of England holds it together and the role of the Dioceses in that. So firstly, let me clarify what our Diocese of Salisbury does not pay for. It does not contribute to or receive income from Salisbury Cathedral, this being a separate charity and funded by the National Church. Nor does it pay for our Diocesan or Suffragan Bishops who are also funded by the National Church.

What the Diocese does pay for, amounted to £14.5 million in 2020. Of that, £9.4 million went to 'Direct Ministerial Costs'; the stipends, national insurance, housing, pensions and expenses of all our clergy, currently 193 posts. A further £3.4 million went to Ministerial support for on-going clergy, ordinand and lay training, church buildings, pastoral governance, legal services, overseas mission and work with children and young people. Together, therefore, what can be termed 'Parish Ministry', amounted to £12.8 million or 88% of total expenditure.

We do like to point at the assumed enormous costs of Salisbury. Other than 'Parish Ministry', the total administrative costs were £942k, a mere 6.5% of total expenditure. And yes, an amount goes to the National Church of £580k or 4%, but some of that comes back in the form of grants, costs of safeguarding, etc. And its income? Well in 2020 it totalled £13 million, of which £9.6 million or 74% came from the parishes in payments of Parish Share – so only just covering the 'Direct Ministerial Costs'.

A further £1.8 million came from parochial fees, the National Church and other grants and donations. Investment income and rental income amounted to a further £1.6 million. So 'Parish Ministry' was covered. But with an expenditure of £14.5 million and an income of £13 million, a deficit of £1.5 million was the result. This is not sustainable. The Diocese froze and reduced its administrative and salary costs, it sold some investments and is having to review its most significant cost, the numbers of stipendiary clergy posts needed. It has the second highest ratio of Stipendiary clergy to population in the country – and I for one want to see that maintained as far as is possible.

So, the importance of Parish Share becomes apparent. It contributes hugely, although not entirely, to Parish Ministry. This is an amount that every parish is required to send to Salisbury based on the number of members of each church. It averages out at £440 per member per year, £8.50 a week. A shortfall in payment of Share will inevitably result in a reduction of Clergy posts. In 2020 due to the pandemic and the reduced income that so many parishes suffered, the collection of Share across the Diocese was under 90% of what was budgeted (although 96% in our Deanery!). Many dipped into reserves to do so, but at under 90% of what was budgeted that was a shortfall of Over £1 million, two thirds of that deficit. Parish Share is not optional, nor is it a tax. It is an investment in people, the most important asset that this Diocese and the Church of England has. Our buildings without clergy are unimaginable, glorious and beautiful as they may be.

So may I suggest that when you are asked to consider your giving you look at it in this way – as an investment. And generously – and why not cheerfully? As the 2nd letter of Paul to the Corinthians, Chapter 9 reads: 'the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver'.