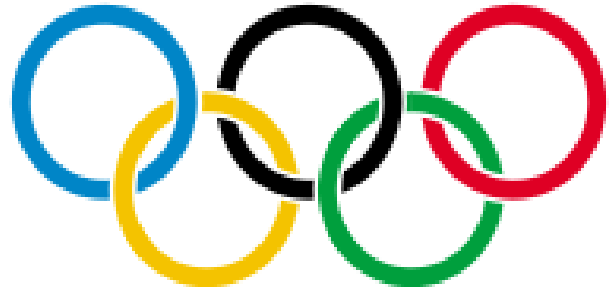




Dear Friends

I don't know if anyone else has been watching the winter Olympics? Whether it involves riding down head first on ice on little more than a tea-tray or doing repeated flips in the air on a snowboard, I have been struck by how four years' worth of dedication and training comes down to the ability to get it absolutely right for a few minutes (if that) on a particular day. All the athletes from across the globe have my total respect, what they are able to do is remarkable.



Our last Newslink letter was written by Paul and I hope that we have taken time to consider which ideas we might try to put into practice over the next six weeks of Lent, or have come up with some thoughts of our own. If you haven't, there is still time! Unlike the Olympics, our faith journey is not a race, in the competitive sense of the word, but it does require commitment and perseverance.

In Hebrews 12 it says:

***'Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us,
fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith'***

(Chapter 12:1-2)

Lent is a great opportunity for us to take stock. How do we feel we are getting on? In the same way the Olympic athletes make tweaks to their technique or equipment, are there any tweaks that we need to make, to enable us to keep going, or give the best of ourselves? It maybe that we are in need of a refreshment break or perhaps there is something that has been lying heavily on us that we need to take to God in prayer.

We might be reading this feeling that we need to hear the crowds cheering us on, like they are in Italy, encouraging us to keep going? If that is you, is there someone you can share with and ask them to be your cheerleader (if you don't feel able to ask someone, then know that God is the best cheerleader that we can have). Or perhaps we know someone who is looking tired or deflated, can we come alongside them and put an arm around their shoulder (like I have seen countless trainers and families do over the course of the games) and offer our support and affirmation.

The Olympic athletes know that they are unable to do what they do without the support, wisdom, encouragement of the teams around them. The same is also true of us, so for the six weeks of Lent, can we think of six people whom we can pray for, cheer on or offer a moment of respite to, over the coming weeks of Lent?

Every blessing
Katie

Upcoming Services

Sunday 22nd February

- 10am - Together in Worship - St Nicholas' Church, Winsley led by Rev Katie Jackson
- 10am - Holy Communion - St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh led by Rev Keith Charnley
- 10:30am - Holy Communion - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon led by Rev Tim Hawkings

Monday 23rd February

- 4:30pm - Christian Meditation - St Nicholas' Church, Winsley led by Rev Paul Batson

Wednesday 25th February

- 6pm - Compline - St Nicholas' Church, Winsley led by Rev Paul Batson

Sunday 1st March

- 10:30am - Benefice Service - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon led by Rev Katie Jackson
- 4pm - Family Teatime Service - St Nicholas' Church, Winsley led by Rev Tessa Mann

Monday 2nd March

- 4:30pm - Christian Meditation - St Nicholas' Church, Winsley led by Rev Paul Batson

Wednesday 4th March

- 3pm - Avonpark Holy Communion - Avonpark, Limpley Stoke led by Rev Keith Charnley
- 6pm - Compline - St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh led by Stephen Pike

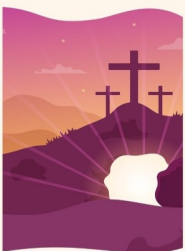
Sunday 8th March

- 10am - Refresh - Winsley Church Hall, Winsley led by Roy Ludlow & Bob Williams
- 10am - Holy Communion - St James' Church, South Wraxall led by Rev Katie Jackson
- 10:30am - Holy Communion - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon led by Rev Tim Hawkings



Holy Week in our Benefice

Please join us
for our Easter
services



Monday, 30th March 2026

- 10am-12pm - Quiet Morning
St Nicholas' Church, Winsley

Tuesday, 31st March 2026

- 6pm - Taize
St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh

Wednesday, 1st April 2026

- 8pm - Tenebrae
Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

Maundy Thursday, 2nd April 2026

- 7:30pm - Maundy Thursday Service
St Nicholas' Church, Winsley

Good Friday, 3rd April 2026

- 10:30am - Good Friday Children's Workshop
Christ Church, Bradford on Avon
- 11am - Walk of Witness (BACT)
Westbury Gardens, BOA
- 2pm - The Final Hour
Christ Church, Bradford on Avon
St Nicholas' Church, Winsley
St James' Church, South Wraxall

Saturday, 4th April 2026

- 8pm - The Vigil
St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh

Easter Sunday, 5th April 2026

- 10am - Holy Communion
St Nicholas' Church, Winsley
St James' Church, South Wraxall
St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh
- 10:30am - Holy Communion
Christ Church, Bradford on Avon



FAMILY TEATIME SERVICE

First Sunday of Every Month at 4pm
St Nicholas' Church, Winsley

A short, child-focused service followed by tea

ALL ARE WELCOME

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

A service for everyone!

Friday 6 March

I will give you rest, come

Please Join us at

Bearfield Church,

Huntingdon Street, Bradford on Avon, BA15 1RE

at **10.00 am**

on **Friday 6th March 2026**

All Welcome

Nigeria 2026

Bradford-on-Avon Area
Churches Together



INFORMED PRAYER PRAYERFUL ACTION
24/7 365 Days a year Prayer movement Ecumenical International Women-led
wwdp.org.uk Registered Charity Number 232942

LENT GROUP AT CHRIST CHURCH

Christ Church is holding a Lent group which will take place in the five weeks leading up to Easter. We will be following five women who appear in the Easter story from the book by Paula Gooder 'Women of Holy Week'. We will be meeting on Monday evenings at 7:30pm. The first session will be February 23rd. If you would like to come along please get in touch with Verity or Stephen via the Benefice Office.

Ministry Team:

Rector: Rev Katie Jackson (01225 722230)
Rev Tessa Mann (309374)

Lay Pastoral Assistants:

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

Benefice Office: Kate Davies (865046)
nboabenfice@gmail.com

Church Wardens:

Winsley: Richard Mann (309374) Penny Pierce (723284)

Christ Church: Margaret Thompson (571305)

Deputy - Wendy Brown (862857)

South Wraxall: Dave Wyper (865384)

Valentine Thornhill (862552)

Monkton Farleigh: Rachel & Colin Exley (851485)

Social Events Across the Benefice

Sunday 22nd Feb - 2-4:30pm - **"Sip Sip Hooray" Discover Christ Church! Celebration** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

Wednesday 25th Feb - 10:30am - **Sunbeams** - Winsley Church Hall, Winsley

Wednesday 25th Feb - 10:30am - **Coffee & Company** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

Thursday 26th Feb - 10am - **The Ark** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

Thursday 26th Feb - 3pm - **BOA Youth Drop In** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

Wednesday 4th Mar - 10am - **Kettle's On** - Winsley Church Hall, Winsley

Wednesday 4th Mar - 10:30am - **Coffee & Company** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

Thursday 5th Mar - 10am - **The Ark** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

Thursday 5th Mar - 3pm - **BOA Youth Drop In** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon

Friday 6th Mar - Serving at 12:30pm - **Soup's Up** - Winsley Church Hall, Winsley

Saturday 7th Mar—10am -12pm - **Christ Church Café with Bishop Andrew** - Christ Church, Bradford on Avon



Christ Church Café



A MORNING WITH BISHOP ANDREW

SONGS, POEMS
AND
REFLECTIONS

**SATURDAY
7TH MARCH
10AM - 12PM**



**ALL
WELCOME**

A BIG "THANK YOU"

We must say a BIG "Thank You" for the wonderful support we received at our recent South Wraxall Village Breakfast.

Our willing volunteers were kept extremely busy from before 9am cooking and serving 89 breakfasts, accompanied by lots of washing up.

Obviously, our customers were not deterred by the relentless rain storms. We welcomed: villagers old and new (in both senses); potential residents who are planning to move into our village; members of the three other churches in our Benefice; American visitors; four loyal ladies from Bath; passers by, and last but not least thirteen soggy cyclists out on their Sunday morning ride.

As you will gather from the mixture of participants, it was an interesting and enjoyable occasion. Everyone's generosity resulted in a magnificent profit of over £800 to help us care for St James's, our parish church.

Thank you again, Jean Atkin

FOOD BANK DONATIONS!

Hub@BA15 are in need of items for Easter...

- Tinned fruit and vegetables
 - Pasta sauces & Cup a Soup
 - Biscuits
 - Tea
 - Tinned tomatoes
 - Rice
 - Pulses - kidney beans, lentils etc
- Donation boxes are in each of our churches. Thank you so much!

THE REAL EASTER EGG FROM THE MEANINGFUL CHOCOLATE CO.

These wonderful fair trade chocolate Easter eggs include a book of the Easter story & activities!

If you would like to place an order please contact Mary Hewetson by 20th March, at maryhewetson49@gmail.com or 01225 722210.



THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Anne Hilton is starting the Children's Society annual box collection and would be grateful if anyone with a box could bring it to Christ Church. If anyone would like to have a box in which to drop odd coppers (they do mount up!) please talk to Anne. Thank you!

NewsLink

The next edition of NewsLink will be on **8th March**. Please send any relevant contributions to the Benefice Office at nboabenefice@gmail.com by **Monday 2nd March**.

NORTH BRADFORD & VILLAGES MEN'S & LADIES' GROUPS

Wednesday 25th February 2026 - 7pm
St Nicholas Church Hall, Winsley

FARMER YANG'S WELL

John Salvat will regale us with the extraordinary story of China's Terracotta Army, buried in about 210 BC, & rediscovered in 1974.

Supper will be fish and chips.

Bring your own drinks or buy from the Social Club.

All men and ladies in the four parishes,
whether church members or not, are warmly invited.

Please book with Paul Billingham as soon as possible
(pr24bill@aol.com or 01225 722229)

KETTLE'S ON

Community Café



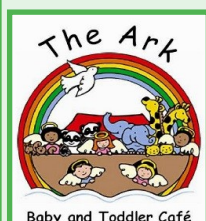
1ST & 3RD
WEDNESDAY
OF EACH
MONTH

ST NICHOLAS' CHURCH HALL

10AM-12PM

COFFEE, TEA, CAKE AND CONVERSATION.
EVERYONE IS WELCOME.
BRING YOUR FRIENDS, NEIGHBOURS AND
THOSE NEW TO VILLAGE.

Baby & Toddler Group Christ Church



**Thursdays in
term time
10am-11:30am**

Come along with your little
ones for fun with toys, story,
songs, craft & snacks.

Contact Hilary on
01225 782527

Everyone is welcome to join us for

"SOUP'S UP"

Delicious homemade soup with roll and butter
Warm desserts and custard with tea and coffee

Winsley Church Hall - Serving at 12:30pm

Friday 6th February
Friday 20th February
Friday 6th March
Friday 20th March



Sunbeams



**Parent & Toddler Group
Winsley Church Hall**

**2nd & 4th Wednesday of the
month 10:30 - 11:30am**

Toys & games, coffee & cake for
adults, squash & healthy treats for
children followed by a bible story.

Contact Mary - 01225 722210



Churchfields The Village School
& St. Peter's Church present



The Monkton Farleigh Scarecrow Trail 2 - 4 May • 2026

Refreshments & stalls
in Monkton Farleigh Village Hall on
Saturday 2nd May • 10am - 4pm

BBQ • Hot & Cold Drinks • BAR • Cakes • RAFFLE

Scarecrows on display Saturday, Sunday & Monday
Please note refreshments only available Saturday

FREE PARKING & DOG FRIENDLY

Map £3 or x4 family ticket £10
Available to buy from Monkton Farleigh Village hall
& both Churchfields School sites

NORTH BRADFORD & VILLAGES MEN'S & LADIES' GROUPS

Wednesday 18th March 2026 - 7pm
St Nicholas Church Hall, Winsley

REVISITING FIVE OF THE GREAT SPEECHES OF THE 20th AND 21st CENTURIES

Bob Williams and his team of familiar Winsley voices will be discussing
some of the world's pivotal speeches delivered between 1940 and 2008.

Supper will be fish and chips.

Bring your own drinks or buy from the Social Club.

All men and ladies in the four parishes,
whether church members or not, are warmly invited.

Please book with Paul Billingham as soon as possible
(pr24bill@aol.com or 01225 722229)

SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday 26th April - South Wraxall Village Breakfast

Saturday 20th June - Monkton Farleigh Village Fete