

M THE MAGAZINE

35p

ST BARNABAS with CHRIST CHURCH, WORCESTER



Church
Picnic

JULY/AUGUST 2023

ST BARNABAS WITH CHRIST CHURCH

PARISH STAFF:

Priest in Charge: Revd Sarah Northall (074838 07432)
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Julie Berrow (07733 226061)
Churchwardens (St Barnabas & Christ Church):
Mary James (455214)
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Rachel Chalmers (07787 128345)

WEBSITE: www.stbarnabasworcester.org.uk
YOUTUBE: St Barnabas with Christ Church,
Worcester.



SERVICES:

Sunday 10am Eucharist
Wednesday 10am Said Eucharist

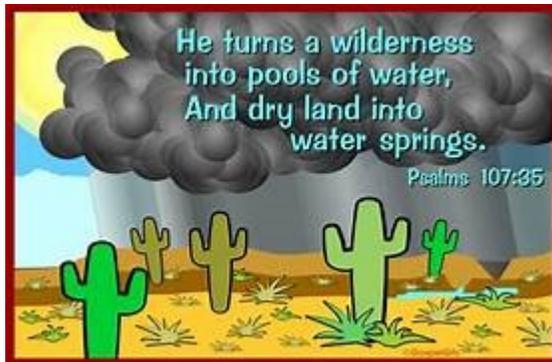
PARISH OFFICE:

To book a baptism or marriage (or to have banns read), send message through our website: www.stbarnabasworcester.org.uk

MAGAZINE DEADLINE: Penultimate Sunday of each month.
Please e-mail contributions to jackiecampbell@talktalk.net

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SUMMER WITH THE PSALMS



I'm guessing you may have a favourite Psalm. What do you know about it? More importantly, what does it know about you? What I mean is this --- in what ways has that psalm you know most intimately supported and nurtured and comforted and challenged you on your journey? There is a reason why the Psalms can carry this weight. Walter Brueggemann says, "the book of Psalms provides the most reliable theological, pastoral and liturgical resource for conversation with God about things that matter most." In other words, the Psalms are about what really matters.

We know almost nothing of the circumstances in which the one hundred and fifty psalms were written. David is the most named author, but most are anonymous. But that hardly matters. The Psalms don't exist in a particular moment of geography or history or culture. As John Calvin said,

they are "an anatomy of all the parts of the soul." Everything that anyone can feel or experience in relation to God is in these prayers. We find them the best place in Scripture to explore all the parts of our life and then to say who we are and what is in us --- guilt, anger, salvation, praise --- to the God who loves, judges and saves us in Jesus Christ. The Psalms are not a set of feel-good mantras, taking us from strength to strength, from. In fact, quite the opposite. The Psalms give voice to our experience that life has its ups and downs. The Psalms are so real, and often so raw, because they have the same ups and downs going on in them. They say it as it is – brutally sometimes! As Walter Brueggemann writes "the Psalms articulate the entire gamut of Israel's speech to God, from profound praise to the utterance of unspeakable anger and doubt." and in doing so, they

make a bold declaration --- that in the midst of loss and darkness, God is surprisingly present.

St Athanasius put it more succinctly, saying “the Psalms speak for us.” And this is what we plan to do in July, August and early September this year. After all, the Psalms are the hymn book of the Jewish and Christian scriptures! There are canticles in other places in Scripture, such as Isaiah’s suffering servant or Mary’s great song of rejoicing, but it is to the Psalms that the lectionary in public worship, and many of us as individuals in private devotions are drawn most often.

In our Cluster, we will be spending ‘Summer with the Psalms’. We launch this season on Sunday 30th July in our joint service at St Wulstans, where Archdeacon Nikki will be sharing her journey with Psalm 63. In both Wednesday and Sunday services for the rest of the holidays, we will hear different team members reflecting on their own choices of companion psalms.

Psalm 63 Nikki Groarke on 30th July

Psalm 84 Sarah Northall on 6th August

Psalm 46 Diane Cooksey on 9th August

Psalm 103 Paul Swann on 13th August

Psalm 139 Cary Taylor on 13th August *at St Wulstans*

Psalm 150 Julie Berrow on 20th August

Psalm 131 Rosie Moss on 23rd August

Psalm 121 Andy Gandon on 27th August

Psalm 86 Chris Walker on 30th August

Psalm 104 Sue Sykes on 16th August and 3rd September

All of this will be supported by one of our ABIDE booklets, with resources gathered around the ten psalms chosen by the ministry team. As ever, our ABIDE booklets offer ideas for daily prayers compiled for use at any time of the day during the summer. Use them at home and on holiday. Use them individually or as a household, or maybe form a triplet for the summer. And do make a special effort to come along to midweek services at St Barnabas on Wednesdays at 10am.

May this be a Summer where the word of Christ dwells in us all richly, as with gratitude in our hearts, we continue to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual

songs to God. (Colossians 3:16)

Every blessing friends

Sarah

revsarahnorthall@gmail.com

***Indeed, some denominations, like the Free Presbyterian Church of Scotland use no other hymn books for worship. It's called "exclusive psalmody" and you can read more about it here <https://bit.ly/3pfWXcQ>

ADMISSION SERVICE

The Admission Service for churchwardens takes place in Pershore Abbey at 7.30pm on Thursday 6th July. *All welcome to come along to support Rachel Chalmers as she continues in her role!*

CLUSTER COMMUNION SERVICE

On Sunday 30th July there will be a Cluster Communion Service at 10.30 at St Wulstan's. Archdeacon Nikki Groarke will be the guest speaker and launch the *Sumer with the Psalms* season.

FAMILY PICNIC

There will be a family picnic on Saturday 8th July 12noon on Church Green. Bring your own picnic. *Everyone invited to come along for fun, fellowship and games. See poster on page 11.*

CHURCH HALL

We will be cleaning the Church Hall and checking the inventory on Thursday 10th August from 9.30am. *Any help appreciated!*

LICENSING SERVICE

A formal licencing service with Revd Sarah licensed as vicar for St Wulstans, St Barnabas and Christ Church and Revd Rosie licensed as associate priest for all our churches will be held on Monday 10th July at 7pm. *All welcome!*

ARTS & CRAFT EXHIBITION



We are organising an Arts & Craft Exhibition in St Barnabas Church over the weekend of Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th September.

If you have any items you would like to put on display, please speak to Mary James for more information.

The Exhibition takes place the same weekend as the Ride & Stride—details on page 4.

MIDWEEK SERVICE ON THE MOVE

On Wednesday 2nd August Bishop Martin is in the Deanery and we will join him for the service he is leading (awaiting more details).



ANNUAL RIDE & STRIDE

The Annual Ride & Stride for Historic Churches is back for 2023!

Join in on Saturday 9th September for a fantastic day supporting some of Worcestershire & Dudley's best buildings.

Participants are sponsored to travel around as many different churches as you can during the day: walk, run, cycle, ride – or even drive. You can either collect sponsorship money as cash or set up an online donation page.

Churches open their doors to visitors if they are able. Some may also provide refreshments for weary travellers on their way!

Funds raised are split 50-50 between the Historic Churches Trust to support our work preserving the places of worship we all love, and a church of your choice.

It's a great way to see your local area and visit some beautiful buildings, as well as raising much-needed funds.

For more information visit the Ride & Stride website.

THE IMPORTANCE OF A LONG-TERM VIEW

Up and down the country there are great houses set in beautiful parkland, some of them designed by Capability Brown and others of his time. Here and there you will see avenues of oaks, planted by people who knew they would never live to see them grow to their full stature.

Our cathedrals and great churches are the same: begun by people who knew they would never live to see them finished. Saint Wulfstan began the beginning of the present cathedral at Worcester in 1084, and the final dedication took place 134 years later, on 7 June 1218. Theirs was a patient age, content to think that the future, because it was in God's hands, was quite out of their own reach.

We live in a less patient, less faithful, less hopeful age. Short-termism is the bane of so much political and economic activity. There is always an eye on the next election or the next renewal of contract. This does not help society address the longer-term issues that face us all.

One of the tasks of the Church (which is a very long-term project indeed) is to remind society of the need to believe in the future, to believe that it is worth our while building a better world, not for ourselves, but for those who come after us.

*Peter Atkinson,
Dean of Worcester*

UPDATE ON THE CATHEDRAL PEREGRINES

The Cathedral have announced that all Four Peregrine Chicks have Fledged!

All four peregrine chicks are doing well and gaining confidence with their wings.

There have been a few rescues, but this is quite normal and all chicks are healthy and beginning to learn to hunt, with their parents help.

A big thank you to everyone who sent in naming suggestions. We've had so many fabulous names sent in, it's been really tough to pick!

We're really pleased to announce the following names for our family:

Mum: Peggy

Dad: Peter (to mark the Dean's retirement)

Chick: Penguin (we just loved the story of the person who misheard talk of 'penguin' falcons)

Chick: Penelope

Chick: Percie

Chick: Mr Lazy (the male who took forever to fledge)!

Since Mr Lazy fledged on Saturday the nest is now empty, so the livestream has ended.

Thank you so much to everyone who tuned in to watch their progress, our livestream received nearly 400,000 views from across the globe! We're delighted to have once again seen four healthy chicks hatch and fledge from the nest. The family should remain around the Cathedral until August / September, before the chicks fly off to find their own territories. And we look forward to hopefully welcoming Peter and Peggy back next year!





Left: On St Barnabas Day recently there were two reasons to celebrate! First our Patronal Day, also the baptism of Hannah Elaine Dentith, firstborn of Sarah and Alex Dentith (and third granddaughter of John & Sally)

Below: The band provided the music at the recent Something Else Sunday at Christ Church during which Diocesan Education Adviser Duncan Hutchison was the guest speaker and we were encouraged to make plaits in wool!



REFLECTIONS FROM SUE MARTYR

Thank you to all those who contributed to making a beautiful service at Christ Church last month

Trinity flower display by Sue Sykes



The scene is set for at Christ Church altar, with Helen Platt's lilies



A midsummer's reflection; what is your reflection?



HADRIAN'S ACORN TRAIL

May 2023 was the 20th anniversary of the inauguration of the Trail that is the Hadrian's Wall Path. Look for the white acorn signs to stay on track and enjoy an historic UNESCO spectacular.

Our huge sense of achievement had a poignant sadness when, on our last day, we got back to the civilisation of car travel.

It all seemed a bit unreal now, our 60 miles covered from Carlisle to Heddon-on-the-Wall over four days.

It felt like another world, sunlit and tempered by breezes. There was thankfulness for the weather and a deserved sense of achievement of the task we had set ourselves.

Gradual uphill, ditches, crags, steeper climbs up and down, rewarded by more of the Wall nearby. Built by 15,000 Roman soldiers from across the Empire, taking more than 6 years the wall project followed Hadrian's visit in 122AD and remained the frontier for 300 years against the Picts.



Today's bus running roughly parallel to the walk is aptly numbered the 122AD.

Soft grassy paths give way in places to pavements and back again and then steep stone steps as we get higher.

Historical sites are passed but there is little time to stop. Reading up must be done beforehand or at the end of the day.

Expansive views, loughs, wild flowers, meadows, woods and farmland nourish us. Sheep, cows, crops of wheat, rye or is it barley and red poppies pepper the landscape.

Endless gates, stiles, ladders over walls keep us on the path.

We reach the famously photographed Sycamore Gap. The tree is majestic against the pure blue sky.

We see farm buildings, a few hamlets and one or two pubs. There are no cities no big towns, nowhere to buy food.

Fellow walkers hail from Europe, Australia, America, Canada and beyond. We exchange stories and encouragement. Tom from the Netherlands is unofficially adopted from day one.

A sense of pilgrimage draws us on. With a long journey away from our home environment, and an end goal, through beautiful and therefore sacred places we become pilgrims. There is no turning back. The car is waiting outside the last night's farm bunkhouse.

Spurred on by one white acorn sign after another, agreed times for a picnic at elevenses, and lunchtime, the next shower and meal and bunk bed keep us moving forward. What will the accommodation be like?

Friendly Northerners help us and encourage us along the way. They take our picture, fill fast-emptying water bottles or just come over to say hello, like the

old shepherdess on a hillside. Our friends from Austria struggle with unfamiliar local accents but warmth is easily understood.

We collect amusing stories of sheep. A first sight of actual Wall turns out to be a pile of sheep in a shady spot that's not quite big enough. The next day, desperate for the only shade under a tree, a disgruntled sheep and lamb stand over us while we picnic. They and the rest of the flock we have displaced. Pet lambs at one farm bunkhouse try to come inside our kitchen.

We stay where there's a bed, a welcome, food and drink and shade. Nowhere disappoints. We're not asking for luxury.

It is a joy, to have this opportunity to walk, to feel fit and to breathe in all the delights of nature.

Thanks Hadrian! What a lovely setting for a walk!
Margaret Gandon



PEOPLE OF INTEREST CONNECTED WITH WORCESTER CATHEDRAL (PART 1)



St Oswald (d 992)
Oswald was of Danish ancestry and was brought up by his uncle Oda who was Archbishop of Canterbury.

Oswald became Bishop of Worcester in 961 and also Archbishop of York in 972 while still remaining Bishop of Worcester. He championed education and died in Worcester in the act of washing the feet of the poor during lent in 992. He was buried in the Cathedral and was quickly hailed as a saint. His shrine was destroyed during the Reformation.

St Wulfstan (c1008 - 1095)

Wulfstan became Bishop of Worcester in 1062 having previously held other offices including treasurer and Prior. Following the Norman Conquest

in 1066, Wulfstan was the only pre-conquest bishop to remain in post, and by 1075 was the only English-born bishop in England. He was a social reformer and



opponent of the slave trade. He undertook several ambitious rebuilding projects including Worcester Cathedral. Wulfstan's crypt which dates from 1084 is still in use today. His shrine was destroyed during the Reformation.

Prince Llewellyn (c1223-1282)

The last sovereign prince of Wales married Eleanor de Montfort at the Cathedral's West Door in 1278. Eleanor was a granddaughter of King John and first cousin to King Edward I. Despite their considerable age difference the marriage was said to be a love match.

Henry Bright (1562 - 1627)

The Headmaster of the King's School, Worcester from 1591 until 1627, Bright probably attended as a pupil and later taught students including Edward Winslow. He also became a Canon of the Cathedral in 1619. A memorial to Bright can be seen on the wall in the North Nave Aisle. The Latin epitaph was written by Joseph Hall, the then Dean of Worcester.

Edward Winslow (1595 - 1655)

The Pilgrim Father and Mayflower passenger who became Colonial Governor in

Continued on page 12



FAMILY PICNIC

Saturday 8th July 12pm

(bring your own) picnic

on

St Barnabas Church Green

all welcome to join in the fun!



Family
Picnic

In Church Hall if wet

MUSIC TRUST GRANT FOR CATHEDRAL

Worcester Cathedral has announced that a £20,000 Music Trust Grant is Music to Their Ears!



in our cities and counties. We are very grateful to the Cathedral Music Trust for its support."

"We are incredibly grateful to have been awarded a grant for £20,000 by the Cathedral Music Trust to support the cost of singing tuition for our choristers for a year.

Samuel Hudson, Our Director of Music, said: "We are extremely grateful to the CMT for this generous grant, which goes right to the heart of supporting music at Worcester Cathedral. The grant will enable us to continue to provide the highest quality singing tuition to all members of our choirs and maintain a safe and well-resourced environment in which all our singers can give their best. We offer our heartfelt thanks to the CMT for their support of cathedral music here in Worcester, and indeed throughout the country."

The Dean, Peter Atkinson, added: "The best case for cathedral music is for it to be heard as widely as possible.

"The Coronation had the wonderful effect of bringing English choral music to the attention of the world, and every cathedral, on a somewhat smaller scale, is doing the same

The grant is part of a huge funding boost by the CMT for 26 Cathedral Choirs, totalling nearly £450,000 which has been allocated to enable choirs to expand their work with musicians and young people.

Thank you so much Cathedral Music Trust!! "

Cont from page 5

Plymouth Colony in Massachusetts. Born in Droitwich, Winslow attended the King's School, Worcester from *Cont from page 10* 1606 until 1611.

Thomas Tomkins (1572 - 1656)
The Welsh-born composer who became in 1596 succeeded Nathaniel Patrick as Organist of the Cathedral.

Read about more people with connections to Worcester Cathedral in a future issue.

DISCLAIMER

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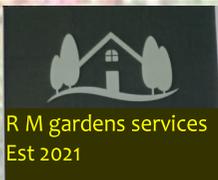
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WHAT TIME? 1-3pm

All women very welcome to get involved & make new friends.

Pop in for a chat with Rachel, our Secretary, any Wednesday or Friday afternoon 1-3pm.

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