

THE M Magazine

35p

ST BARNABAS with CHRIST CHURCH, WORCESTER



SEPTEMBER 2026

ST BARNABAS WITH CHRIST CHURCH

PARISH STAFF:

Priest in Charge:	Revd Sarah Northall	074838 07432
Associate Priest:	Revd Rosie Moss	07761 691984
Churchwarden (St Barnabas & Christ Church):	Mary James	01905 455214
Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO):	Rachel Chalmers	07787 128345

WEBSITE: www.stbarnabaschurchworchester.co.uk

SERVICES:

Sunday	9.45am	Eucharist
Wednesday	10am	Said Eucharist

PARISH OFFICE:

To book a baptism or marriage (or to have banns read), send message through our website:

www.stbarnabaschurchworchester.co.uk

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

Registered Charity number 1158894



CREATIONTIDE

We call 1st September to 4th October Creationtide, the season in church dedicated to God as Creator and Sustainer of all life.

I had a conker in my pocket, my first of the season, and I was very pleased with it. However, sadly, it's now gone... it must have fallen out of my pocket on my travels. I can't help feeling a little bereft, as especially it felt so new, so shiny and so mine!

During the blazing summer (exacerbated by how we make use of our environment) the Church of England General Synod were busy:

Published a major teaching document on care for creation, called Hope for All Creation: A theological response to the environmental crisis.

Approved a new annual festival

of Creation in Christ (first Sunday in September)

Received an update on progress towards the Church's Net Zero Carbon ambitions.

We at St Barnabas can proudly add to the above list in that St Barnabas Parochial Church Council approved an Eco Mission Statement for our church to uphold, (see Eco Church section on page 5) and held an eco-quiz at the church picnic.

Everything counts, even my lost conker?

If I take the Synods Hope for All Creation theme, which 'sets out a Christian understanding of the environmental crisis facing the world, rooting care for creation in the biblical story of creation, redemption and renewal' and is



structured around the themes See, Reflect, Respond, what was my seeing, reflecting and responding to my lost conker?

Well, I saw a very new conker that was so fresh to the air that it was still white; this newness took me to the creation story of Genesis, and I experienced the privilege of something new-born. As I wrapped my hand around the conker in my pocket it was as if I had the whole world in my hand, cue the hymn 'He's Got the Whole World in His Hands', which secured my comfort in God's own hands.

However, my response was really jolted by the loss of my conker. The slight grief led me to question ownership; maybe it wasn't mine to own in the first place, as how can I own a bit of nature? And, after all, surely, the conker belonged to a larger community, than just me. I only had a momentary dealing with this gift, and even then, tried to own it, of which I didn't do very well! So, the conker episode nudged me to realise that nature is not mine to own but I can give thanks, be in awe, do the right thing, and care and respect creation, and to remember we are all as important as that conker that I lost. And I remember that our creator never loses us.

*Sue Martyr
Eco Rep*

REMEMBRANCE POPPIES

If you have knitted any poppies for our Remembrance celebrations, please bring them to church by Harvest Sunday 27 September.

Thank you!

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Harvest Sunday will take place in St Barnabas on 27 September at 9.45. The service will be followed by a Bring & Share Brunch in the Church Hall. *Please see sign up list at the back of church.*

BEETLE DRIVE

Join us in the Church Hall for another evening of fun and fellowship at the Beetle Drive on Saturday 17 October at 6.30pm

Everyone welcome to come along and join in the fun!!



WORCESTER DEANERY PRAYER EVENING

*Wednesday 16 September
6.30-8pm*

Praying through Change.
St Martin's Church, Holt WR6 6NJ (car park just past the church on the left)

Spend an evening of prayer in the peaceful atmosphere of this ancient church in the Worcester countryside. *Open to all.*

ST BARNABAS CHURCH

HARVEST FESTIVAL

With

**Bring'n'Share
Harvest Brunch
to follow**

**SUNDAY 27th SEPT
9.45am**



All welcome

Running in Worcester .. Running to Nice .. Running to keep HCK Running further and better!

It was volunteering with HCK in Nairobi back in the 1990s that led Margaret to work in palliative care in UK for the rest of her nursing career. HCK is a wonderful charity that has grown and spread, today working with over 70 hospices and palliative care centres across Kenya. While Kenya has produced many fantastic runners over the years (most recently Sebastian Sawe who smashed the marathon world record in London in April), funding for palliative care is always a challenge.

At the end of this month our son Peter travels to the south of France to run in an ultra-marathon, the Nice Côte d'Azur 109km. And he's using the race to raise funds for HCK. On 13th Sept his running dad plans to run the far more modest city 10km race in Worcester.



Hospice Care Kenya
RCN 1141469
www.hospicecarekenya.com

Our mission is to ease suffering and improve the experience of life, death and grief for children, adults and their families in Kenya, living with an incurable illness. We envision a Kenya where everyone with an incurable illness, can live well until the end, and die with dignity and free from pain.

Peter has created an online page for any who would like to sponsor him:

https://www.justgiving.com/page/petegandon-hospicecarekenya?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL

If anyone around St Barnabas would like to support HCK too, then either speak to me at church, or do it via Peter's giving page online. There are copies of the latest HCK Newsletter at the back of church.

Let's make sure palliative care keeps running further and better in Kenya!

Andy Gandon 2 Sept 2026

ECO NEWS:

By Sue Martyr, Eco Rep



MISSION STATEMENT

'At St Barnabas, we believe, that working with others, to actively care for God's creation, and seeking justice for everyone, is a core part of being a faithful Christian today.'

This statement can be found on the Eco Notice Board at the back of church.

DIOCESAN ECO CHURCH CELEBRATION

Around 80 people from across the Diocese gathered in the garden of the Old Palace in Worcester in June to celebrate 10 years of the Eco Church Award Scheme. Sue Martyr and Margaret Gandon (centre of photo) attended on our behalf. *Thank you!*



SOMETHING ELSE SERVICE

At the Something Else Service on 20th September, we will be doing a special section on 'What goes in what bin' as part of the Creation Season.



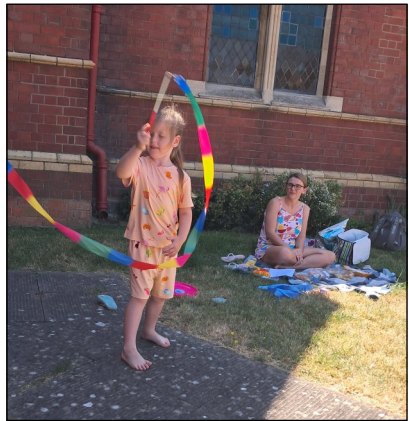


Top: Band of happy workers taking a well deserved cuppa after the church hall spring clean. *Well done!*

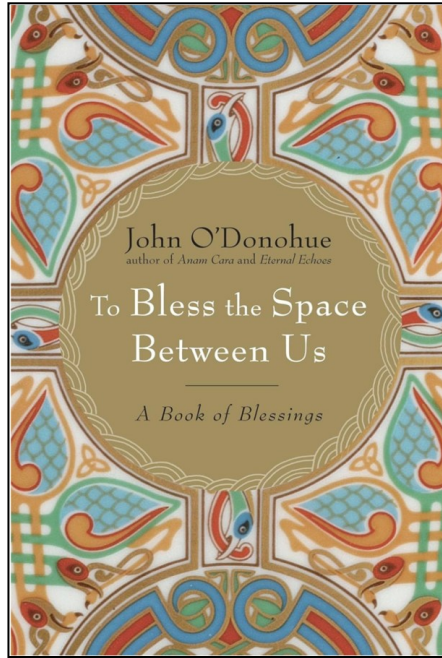
Bottom: Revd Phillip Jones recently marked the 40th anniversary of his ordination with bubbly and a special cake made by Helen Platt.

Opposite: A very hot day for our annual picnic!

Opposite bottom: Julie Berrow was recently ordained Deacon by Bishop Hugh at the Cathedral.



MAY I QUOTE YOU?



I am starting to look in the shops for a new diary for 2027, that I can carry in my handbag. Along with a pen. Yes, a bit old school, I know, but I enjoy the invitation from the blank pages at the back. I make notes and record favourite quotes and sayings: for example 'the moon was passing overhead, and the night with it', or 'windows were cut in the walls to let in thick squares of golden sun'.

Poet John O'Donohue has given me some worthy ones too and they tie in with a number of things I have read and heard recently. Poet John writes 'Love allows understanding to dawn and understanding is precious.

Where you are understood, you are at home.

Understanding nourishes belonging.' Could these sentiments apply out in the world as well as in personal relationships I wonder. 'Understanding' might be one vital component for peaceful communities.

Mark Easton recently ended his radio 4 piece on Crime, with this: "Crime, and the absence of crime is a measure of the health of our society. It is about trust and respect; the bonds that bind us together. It comes down to this: do things which make it easier for the people of this country to behave well". 'Trust' and 'Respect' to add then.

Ex Prime minister Gordon Brown's new book includes a look at how we might 'start small' in tackling big problems. He writes 'Global crises are tightly linked to how we treat each other at the local level.' He advocates increasing people's face-to-face interactions with others from different religious or racial backgrounds. 'Engagement'. Let's go for that.

Philosopher Lani Watson also believes that an open, questioning mindset can bring people and opposing views closer together - and even change history.

That's quite a claim! So not just 'Listening' but 'Asking Questions' and listening to the answers.

Let's end with a John O'Donohue blessing, and maybe look for his book, for continued inspiration to 'Love thy neighbour'.

*When desolation surrounded
you,
Blessed be those who looked for
you
And found you, their kind hands
Urgent to open a blue window
In the grey wall formed around
you.*

Margaret Gandon



12 PEOPLE ORDAINED DEACON & PRIEST

Julie Berrow was among the 12 people ordained Deacon and Priest in the Cathedral recently. Julie, who will serve in Worcester City West team says:

I still cannot quite believe that the time of my ordination has arrived. I think that my whole life has been orientated towards this point and God has been very patient in waiting for me to engage in discernment and training to fulfil his will for me. I am torn between sadness at leaving Ripon College Cuddesdon, where I have spent two brilliant years in study and formation, and excitement at becoming a curate with the new challenges that will bring. I know that everything I have worked at, talked about and agonised over will help me as I continue to find out what God wants me to do and find my place in the Worcester City West team.

EVENTS AT THE CATHEDRAL



MUSICIANS STRIKE UP: MEDIEVAL MUSIC, STORIES & SONG

*Saturday 26 September 6.30pm
in Old Palace*

Come on a musical journey back to England in the Middle Ages. See and hear seventeen different medieval musical instruments being played. Enjoy the splendid sounds of the loud instruments, as well as some quiet ones too!

Learn about the life and estates of Sir Geoffrey Luttrell who lived in the 1200s and 1300s. He commissioned a beautiful book of prayers and the psalms. It has been described as 'England's most significant medieval manuscript'. It's in the British Library. On most of its over 600 pages there are scenes of medieval life, beautifully illustrated in the margins.

The psalter's significance to musicians is that the book contains images of seventeen different musical instruments, and in this concert you will see and

hear all of those different instruments. During the interval you will be able to see the group's own folio copy of the psalter as well as see their instruments close up and learn how they were made and used.

A journey back in time. This is one event not to be missed. Concert, presentation, interactive living history, sight of our portfolio copy of the psalter – all in this event. A truly immersive experience.

Adults: £22.38



GALA ORGAN RECITAL

Saturday 26 September 7.30pm

Celebrating the 18th anniversary of the Cathedral's Quire Organ, international concert organist Martin Baker will perform this year's Gala Organ Concert at Worcester Cathedral.

Martin Baker is much sought after as an organist, playing frequent solo concerts in the UK and around the world. In addition to

playing a wide repertoire he is known for his skill in improvisation, both liturgically and in concert, and was the winner of the Tournemire improvisation competition in St Albans in 1997. He teaches, both repertoire and improvisation, and has appeared on the juries of several international organ competitions. He has served as President of the Royal College of Organists and is an honorary Fellow of Downing College, Cambridge.

Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the recital.
Adults: £15.00 (under 18s free)

EAGLES BY CANDLELIGHT

Thursday 1 October | 7.30pm

Featuring a spellbinding cast of West End singers and incredible live band, Take It Easy and join us at the Hotel California for an unforgettable evening of Eagles hits, as you've never heard them before!



This epic show features all your Eagles favourites, including New Kid In Town, Life in the Fast Lane, Tequila Sunrise and How Long, performed at the beautiful Worcester Cathedral, by candlelight.

This euphoric concert promises to be a real feast for your Lyin' Eyes and will Take It to the Limit! Eagles fans everywhere are Desperado for a ticket, so grab your Witchy Woman and book tickets now for One of These Nights to avoid any Heartache Tonight!

Adults from: £14.50



THE MUSIC OF COLDPLAY BY CANDLELIGHT

Fri 2 October | 7.30pm

Calling all Coldplay fans... you've been waiting for Something Just Like This! Direct from London's West End...The Music Of Coldplay By Candlelight is coming to Worcester Cathedral .

11 Featuring a spectacular cast of

world-class vocalists and an epic live band, prepare for total Paradise, as you experience Coldplay's biggest hits, like never before!

This incredible concert will take you on the Adventure Of A Lifetime, with not just a Sky Full Of Stars, but a room full of candlelight and spectacular live music, too!

Get ready to hear all your favourites, from Viva La Vida and Hymn For The Weekend, to Yellow, The Scientist and many more, all performed live by candlelight.

So, make sure you book your tickets, faster than the Speed Of Sound, and join us for this phenomenal live show, guaranteed to Fix You.

Adults: from £14.50

See *Worcester Cathedral* website for further details of all these concerts.

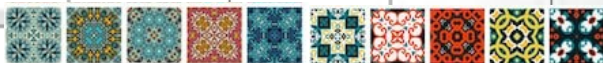


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or Julia Adams (07778 395246)

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