

# THE Magazine

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ST BARNABAS with CHRIST CHURCH, WORCESTER

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APRIL 2026

## ST BARNABAS WITH CHRIST CHURCH

### PARISH STAFF:

Priest in Charge:	Revd Sarah Northall	074838 07432
Associate Priest:	Revd Rosie Moss	07761 691984
Licensed Lay Minister:	Julie Berrow, Reader	07733 226061
Churchwarden (St Barnabas & Christ Church):	Mary James	01905 455214
Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO):	Rachel Chalmers	07787 128345

**WEBSITE:**      [www.stbarnabaschurchworcester.co.uk](http://www.stbarnabaschurchworcester.co.uk)

### 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.stbarnabaschurchworcester.co.uk](http://www.stbarnabaschurchworcester.co.uk)

**MAGAZINE DEADLINE:** Penultimate Sunday of each month.  
Please e-mail contributions to [jackiecampbell@talktalk.net](mailto:jackiecampbell@talktalk.net)

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## EASTER GREETINGS FROM THE VICARAGE!



*See what a morning, gloriously bright  
With the dawning of hope in Jerusalem;  
Folded the grave-clothes  
Tomb filled with light,  
As the angels announce Christ is risen!  
See God's salvation plan,  
wrought in love,  
Borne in pain, paid in sacrifice,  
Fulfilled in Christ, the Man, for  
He lives,  
Christ is risen from the dead!*

### *The Easter Threshold*

Every generation of Christians has to work out afresh what resurrection means. The Chinese Christian teacher Watchman Nee (1903–1972) lived much of his life in circumstances not so different in spirit from those faced by the first disciples. His ministry unfolded during a time of political upheaval in China, and he eventually spent many years in prison because of his Christian faith. Like the first disciples themselves, he had to discover what it meant to live by the power of the resurrection when life itself felt precarious. Reflecting on that experience, he wrote:

*“The greatest negative in the universe is the cross, for with it*

*God wiped out everything that was not of Himself. The greatest positive in the universe is the resurrection, the threshold of the new creation. Everything that had its beginning before resurrection must be wiped out. Resurrection is God's new starting-point.”*

Threshold. Threshold is a powerful image. A threshold is the place where one space gives way to another. You cross it when you step from the familiar into something new. The resurrection of Jesus is exactly such a moment. The disciples encountered the risen Christ, but they then had to learn what life looked like on the other side of that event. Resurrection was not simply a truth to believe but an environment they had to inhabit

— a new world into which they had to grow.

This year, our Sunday worship will follow that discovery through the first of the New Testament epistles bearing St Peter's name. Each Sunday the passage from 1 Peter will sit at the centre of the service, alongside the Gospel and the reading from Acts, helping us listen for what the resurrection means for the life of the church. The letter speaks with remarkable clarity about hope, courage, humility, suffering and community — themes that continue to shape Christian life today. Across the weeks, a clear movement emerges — like stepping stones across the threshold into resurrection life:

- **From resurrection flows hope.** Easter begins with the sheer fact of Christ raised, and the church learning to breathe in that new air. 1 Peter opens with a “living hope” born from the resurrection — not optimism, but a new birth into God's future.

- **From hope flows holiness.** Hope cannot remain a feeling. It must take shape in a life that looks different — a life that carries the weight of belonging to God. Holiness is hope stretched into practice.

- **From holiness flows witness.** A holy life cannot be hidden. It becomes visible, sometimes painfully so. The early church found that holiness placed them under scrutiny; 1 Peter prepares us for the same.

- **From witness flows suffering.** Faithful witness often provokes resistance. The letter refuses to treat suffering as failure; instead, it becomes participation in Christ's own path.

- **From suffering flows community.** Pressure reveals our need for one another. 1 Peter shows a pattern of shared shepherding, humble care, and mutual dependence — the only kind of community that weather troubled times.





- **From community flows strength.** As the season draws toward Ascension, the readings show a people held together by God's sustaining hand. Strength is not self-generated; it is given, established, restored.

- **From strength flows sending.** Pentecost completes the movement. The Spirit breathes life into the gathered community and carries them outward into the world. The threshold crossed at Easter becomes a doorway through which the church is sent.

Throughout the centuries, Easter has never been a single day but a fifty-day sabbath, stretching from sunrise on Easter morning to the Spirit falling upon the disciples at nine o'clock on Pentecost morning. Last year we tried something new by giving those fifty days a clearer shape in our life together through ABIDE resources called *The Road to Pentecost*. This year we revisit that intention with a new ABIDE season called *The Easter Threshold*, helping us inhabit these weeks more deliberately

as we walk through them together. As ever, the idea behind this ABIDE season is that exploration happens at our own pace in our own way. Some people will encounter the season mainly through Sunday worship, others through using the ABIDE booklets at home, and others again through the Wednesday or Friday groups meeting at the Vicarage. Together they form a shared attempt to give the Easter season the attention it deserves — learning, week by week, what it means to live on the far side of the resurrection.

The groups meet at the Vicarage on:

**Wednesday evenings** at  
7.00pm, from 15 April to  
20 May

**Friday mornings** at  
10.30am, from 17 April to  
22 May

Rev Sarah 074 838 074 32  
[revsarahnorthall@gmail.com](mailto:revsarahnorthall@gmail.com)



## WORSHIP FOR HOLY WEEK

*Sunday 29th March*

10.30am Palm Sunday Plus: celebration for the whole cluster at St Wulstans

7pm Quiet Hearts, Quiet Minds—evening reflections for Holy Week at Christ Church

*Monday 30th March*

11am Chrism Eucharist—celebration for the whole diocese at the Cathedral

7pm Quiet Hearts, Quiet Minds—evening reflections for Holy Week at Christ Church

*Tuesday 31st March*

7pm Quiet Hearts, Quiet Minds—evening reflections for Holy Week at Christ Church

*Wednesday 1st April*

10am Contemplative Eucharist for Holy Week—Revd Rosie and Revd Sarah at St Barnabas

7pm Quiet Hearts, Quiet Minds—evening reflections for Holy Week at Christ Church

*Thursday 2nd April*

7pm The Upper Room—evening eucharist for Maundy Thursday at St Barnabas

*Friday 3rd April*

10.30am iSingEASTER—family friendly activities for Easter weekend

2pm An Hour at the Cross – ecumenical worship for Good Friday at St Nicholas

7pm Good Friday Vigil—a Tenebrae service at St Wulstan's

*Saturday 4th April*

5pm Stop the Clocks—Easter Blues Vigil at St Barnabas

From 5pm the church will be open for quiet reflection & refreshments

6pm there will be a service especially suitable for those living with loss & struggle

From 7pm we observe the Easter Eve vigil until after sunset around 8pm.

*Sunday 5th April*

### **EASTER DAY**

6am dawn bonfire service with breakfast at St Wulstan's

10am Easter Communion with Revd Sarah and Revd Andy at St Barnabas



## INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

Sue Sykes led the worship at the recent International Day of Prayer service which was written by the Christian women of Nigeria. This was followed by Nigerian snacks!

## STONES

The stone was rolled away.  
Easter.

Some of my family and I went to the Spring Equinox, open access at Stonehenge. Our one and half hour walk started at 4:15am, frost on cars, frozen land.

We travelled under the stars, more ancient than the stones.

We approached the stones as many ancestors would have done, by the Avenue, black against black.

We circumnavigated the wire fence to be allowed in at the 'visitor' entrance.

People gathered, more people

gathered, why would anyone want to get up that early!

We waited for the sunrise, Druids hailed 'peace in East, peace in the South, peace in the West and peace in the North', drummers, rattle bearers, standing people became part of the standing stones landscape. As the sun rose a change came, and a festival began, dancing, singing, sharing food - the party had begun.

Let us roll away all stones and allow Christ out, with the all the hope, with the freedom to roam, and peace to prevail.

Happy Easter!!  
*Sue Martyr*





*Top:* The band played at the recent Mothering Sunday service during which the children distributed posies of flowers.

*Bottom:* Children from St Barnabas School came to church for an Easter celebration



**SAT 28<sup>th</sup> March**

**?**

**7pm**

**?**

**CHARITY  
QUIZ**

**ST BARNABAS  
CHURCH HALL**

**Green Lane**

**?**

**FREE ENTRY**

**?**

**Donations in aid of  
St Paul's Hostel**

**LIGHT REFRESHMENTS**

**ALL WELCOME**

**Come as a team or individuals**

# I WANDERED LONELY AS A CLOUD

By William Wordsworth



I wandered lonely  
as a cloud  
That floats on high o'er vales and  
hills,  
When all at once I saw a crowd,  
A host, of golden daffodils;  
Beside the lake, beneath the trees  
Fluttering and dancing in the  
breeze.

Continuous as the stars that  
shine  
And twinkle on the milky way,  
They stretched in never-ending  
line  
Along the margin of a bay:  
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,  
Tossing their heads in sprightly  
dance.

The waves beside them danced;  
but they  
Out-did the sparkling waves in  
glee:  
A poet could not but be gay,  
In such a jocund company:  
I gazed—and gazed—but little  
thought  
What wealth the show to me had  
brought:

For oft, when on my couch I lie  
In vacant or in pensive mood,  
They flash upon that inward eye  
Which is the bliss of solitude;  
And then my heart with pleasure  
fills,  
And dances with the daffodils.

IN THE STYLE OF.....



I rushed on quickly  
as a flake  
Of snow did float near faces chilled  
And after time I saw, I spake  
Of two or three gold daffodils:  
beside the mud, beneath the trees  
Swaying and bending, on their  
knees.

Pockets of stars that faintly shine  
Through holes in cloudy greying  
sky,  
They did not stretch in any line  
Along the edge where snow did lie:  
No more than five within my glance  
Far from enough for any dance.

The snow beside bedraggled lay  
And they were sorrier still to see.  
A passer by could be but brave  
To smile at such a dismal scene:  
I did not stop, the cold to bear  
No wealth of inspiration there.

For rarely as about my day  
I go, with much to occupy,  
They prod me still as if to say  
Remember me and heave a sigh  
And then my heart does sag, not  
trill  
And freezes with the daffodil.  
By Margaret Gandon

# INSTALLATION OF NEW ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY

*As reported by the BBC*  
**The first female Archbishop of Canterbury said her teenage self "could never have imagined the future that lay ahead", during her installation as leader of the Church of England.**

In her first sermon as archbishop, Dame Sarah Mullally said: "As I look back over my life - at the teenage Sarah, who put her faith in God and made a commitment to follow Jesus, I could never have imagined the future that lay ahead, and certainly not the ministry to which I am now called."

Addressing some 2,000 guests at Canterbury Cathedral, including the Prince and Princess of Wales, she also warned against overlooking victims harmed by "the failures of those in our own Christian churches and communities".

Also present were nurses and carers from Canterbury, to reflect Dame Sarah's long career as a nurse.

The service, historically known as an enthronement, marked the symbolic start of Dame Sarah's

public ministry as the Archbishop of Canterbury.

All 105 previous Archbishops of Canterbury have been men, starting with St Augustine in 597 AD. Women were only allowed to become priests in the Church of England 32 years ago, in 1994.

Dame Sarah - who became a Christian at 16 - told the congregation that she resonated with the experience of Mary, the mother of God, who had to trust "in a future she couldn't yet see - a future she could never have imagined".

Some traditionalists in the Church of England and the wider global Anglican Communion continue to oppose the idea of women being priests at all.

Reverend Lorna Heatley, a curate from Richmond in Yorkshire, told the BBC's Newsbeat that Dame Sarah faces "a difficult road ahead", adding: "She's not going to make decisions that everyone is going to agree with. She has a long uphill battle."

However, Heatley, 32, said: "It's an



exciting and at times difficult, but altogether wonderful period of change."

In a meeting earlier this month in the Nigerian capital, Abuja, conservative clergy gathered to select their own leader to follow instead of Dame Sarah, the Rwandan archbishop Laurent Mbanda.

Dame Sarah, 63, will also work with bishops in England whose beliefs mean they refuse to ordain women.

She had told the BBC ahead of the service that she recognised "the significance of being the first female archbishop, but I am also aware of the women that have supported me in my ministry".

The archbishop said the installation would give the sense of being "about celebrating women".

In the days leading up to the service, Dame Sarah walked nearly 90 miles over six days in a pilgrimage from St Paul's Cathedral to Canterbury Cathedral.

The theme of pilgrimage continued into Wednesday afternoon's installation service too, with religious rites performed in locations throughout the cathedral.

It began with Dame Sarah knocking three times on the West

Door of the cathedral with her pastoral staff after which she was welcomed by local schoolchildren.

In the nave she swore an oath on the Saint John's Bible, the first time a new bible has been used since 1945, in what is being seen as a reflection of modernisation.

In the choir she was installed as Bishop of the Diocese of Canterbury in the Cathedral Chair before moving to the famous Chair of St Augustine to be installed as Primate of All England.

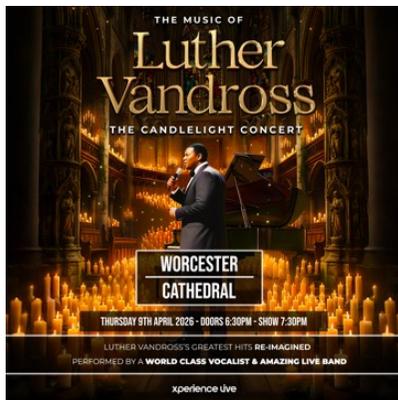
While the service was rooted in historical significance, Dame Sarah had a hand in choosing some of the hymns.

There were also nods to the diversity of the global Anglican Communion - with singing in Urdu, a Gospel reading in Spanish and a prayer in the Bemba language of Zambia.

During her sermon, Dame Sarah said "some of our Anglican brothers and sisters" had been prevented from attending the service by the US-Israel war with Iran.

"We pray for them without ceasing, and for all those in war-torn areas of the world, in Ukraine, in Sudan, and Myanmar – that they would know God's presence with them, just as we pray for peace to prevail."

## EVENTS AT THE CATHEDRAL



**Thursday 9 April 7.30pm**

*The Music of Luther Vandross by Candlelight*

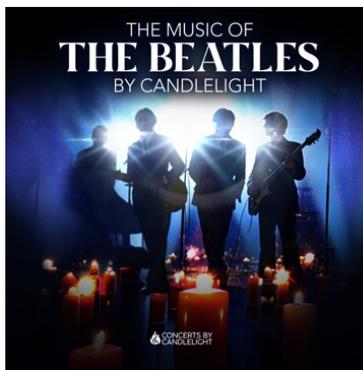
Join us for a heartfelt evening honouring the timeless music of Luther Vandross, as a gifted vocalist and an incredible live band bring his greatest hits to life in a stunning candlelit setting. This tribute concert celebrates the velvet voice of one of R&B's most beloved legends — known for his rich tones, emotional depth, and unforgettable love songs. From the upbeat joy of “Never Too Much” to the soul-stirring beauty of “Dance with My Father”, every moment will be filled with nostalgia, passion, and musical excellence. Come feel the love, the soul, and the music — Luther-style.

**Thursday 16 April 7.30pm**

*The Music of The Beatles by Candlelight*

Direct from London's West End, featuring a spectacular cast of West End Singers and epic live

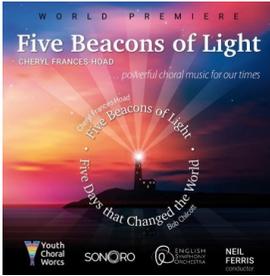
band, 'Come Together' for a 'Magical Mystery Tour', jam packed with over 40 Beatles hits, as you have never heard them before! This incredible show features best loved songs including 'Help!', 'Hey Jude', 'Let it Be', 'All You Need Is Love', 'Yesterday' and many more, all performed live at the beautiful Worcester Cathedral, by candlelight. So, after a 'Hard Days Night', grab your 'Ticket to Ride', and join us as we 'Twist and Shout' the night away at this euphoric sing-along spectacular!



**Saturday 25 April 7.30pm**

*Five Beacons of Light - Cheryl Frances-Hoad*

World Premiere of the award-winning British composer's inspiring new 'cantata for the sea', with words by Di Sherlock. A vision of possibility in response to the climate emergency, the work is inspired by four iconic lighthouses - symbols of human endurance



against overwhelming forces. 'Five Beacons' is both a celebration of the possible and a provocation informed by science, led by the heart. The voices of young people championing life in all its fragile diversity are passionate, defiant. They are the hope for the future - the fifth Beacon of Light. Five Days that

Changed the World - Bob Chilcott A sweeping and uplifting journey through five moments that reshaped humanity: the invention of the printing press, the abolition of slavery, the first powered flight, the discovery of penicillin, and the first human in space. With London-based professional choir SONORO - "outstandingly refreshing Youth Choral Worcs (students and teachers from local secondary schools & Worcester Cathedral Youth Choir); ESO string quintet and percussion; Michael Higgins, piano; & conductor Neil Ferris (Director BBC Symphony Chorus, Co-Artistic Director Sonoro).



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