

# THE Magazine

35p

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ST BARNABAS with CHRIST CHURCH, WORCESTER

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FEBRUARY 2025

## ST BARNABAS WITH CHRIST CHURCH

### PARISH STAFF:

Priest in Charge:	Revd Sarah Northall	074838 07432
Associate Priest:	Revd Rosie Moss	07761 691984
Curate:	Revd Sooz Magee	
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:

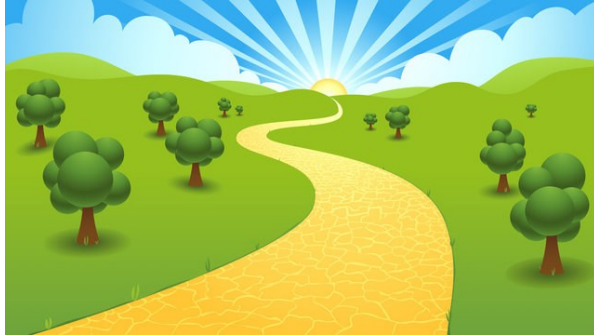
[www.stbarnabaschurchworcester.co.uk](http://www.stbarnabaschurchworcester.co.uk)

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

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# FOLLOW THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD



In Advent, I invited you to travel the road to Christmas with the White Rabbit from Alice in Wonderland, Winnie the Pooh pretending to be a cloud in search of honey, and Pinocchio learning from Jiminy Cricket. Stories always teach us something.

This February, we find ourselves in a rare season of bonus time. With Lent not beginning until March, we have 28 days free from the usual demands of preparation and reflection. This is a gift: a chance to pause, reflect, and nurture the parts of ourselves that often get overlooked. Time for a bit of spring-cleaning!

I've long had this crazy idea that The Wizard of Oz has a lot to teach us about what it means to be more fully human. On the surface, it's a whimsical tale of a girl whisked away to a strange land, trying to get back home. But beneath the story lies a

journey of transformation for its four travellers—Dorothy, the Scarecrow, the Tin Man, and the Cowardly Lion—each searching for something deeper: heart, soul, mind, or strength. And after all, Jesus tells us, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength” (Mark 12:30).

Here's how these themes connect with February's Gospel readings and some simple tasks to take into your everyday life.

*Week 1: Luke 2:22-40 – The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple (2nd February)*

The Tin Man's quest for a heart reflects the human longing for connection and love. In this week's Gospel, Simeon and Anna pour their hearts into waiting for the Messiah. When they see Jesus, their hearts overflow with joy, recognising God's love made real in the



child. Here's an idea. Write a short note, email, or text to someone you care about, telling them what they mean to you. A little gratitude goes a long way in strengthening connections.

*Week 2: Luke 5:1-11 – The Big Catch of Fish (9th February)*

The Cowardly Lion seeks courage but discovers that strength isn't the absence of fear—it's action despite it. In this week's Gospel, Simon Peter displays strength by trusting Jesus' call to "put out into the deep" even when it seems unreasonable. His trust leads to an abundant catch, showing the strength we find when we step out in faith. So my suggestion is to do one thing this week that pushes you out of your comfort zone—whether it's trying a new hobby, cooking a dish you've never made, or speaking up in a situation where you'd normally stay quiet.

*Week 3: Luke 6:17-26 – Blessing and Woe (16th February)*

The Scarecrow's longing for wisdom mirrors this Gospel's challenge to rethink what we value. Jesus flips conventional thinking, blessing the poor and hungry while warning the comfortable and full. True wisdom isn't about worldly success—it's about seeing life through a new perspective. Look for wisdom in new places this week. Read or watch something that challenges your thinking—a book, article, or documentary about a subject you don't know much about. Reflect on how it broadens your understanding.

*Week 4: Luke 8:22-25 – Calming the Storm (23rd February)*

Dorothy's journey is driven by her longing for home—a place of peace and belonging. In this week's Gospel, the disciples face a literal storm and find their souls unsettled by fear. But Jesus calms the chaos with just a word, reminding them—and us—that

the soul finds rest not in the absence of trouble but in the presence of Christ. How can you use this week to reflect on what makes you feel at peace and “at home.”? Perhaps you might do something you already do at home—like washing the dishes, making your bed, or brewing a cup of tea—but approach it slowly and with full attention. Notice the sounds, textures, and rhythms of the task, and let it remind you of the peace that comes from being grounded in the present moment.

This February, let’s walk our own Yellow Brick Road, embracing this bonus time to care for our heart, strength, mind, and soul. Like Dorothy and her friends, we may find that what we’ve been searching for has been with us all along.

*Blessings for the journey,  
Sarah*

## BEETLE DRIVE

On Saturday 22nd February at 7pm there will be a Beetle Drive in the Church Hall. There will be a raffle and collection basket to raise funds for the new electric piano in church.

*Everyone welcome to come along for a evening of fun and speed!*



## PANCAKE RACES

On Sunday 2nd March there will be Pancake races outside Christ Church/Tolly Hub



Sign up from 1pm, races start at 1:30pm

*All welcome—races for all ages, and a raffle!*

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

All welcome to the service at 10.30am on Friday 7th March in St Barnabas. *See poster page 5.*

## NEW WEBSITE

Many thanks to Penny Evers, John Dentith and Mary James for all their work in sorting out a new website name for us. It is now: [www.stbarnabaschurchworchester.co.uk](http://www.stbarnabaschurchworchester.co.uk). *Why not take a look!*

## CHRISTMAS BOXES FOR THE HOMELESS

Thank you so much to everyone who contributed in any way to these.

On Wednesday 18th December 150 boxes/bags were handed over to the homeless agencies in Worcester.

*See photo on centre pages*

**FIVE THEMES:**

*Worship & teaching, Buildings, Land, Community & Global engagement, Lifestyle*

'When churches manage land for nature, be it land owned by the church or land in the local community, they reinforce the whole mission of the church by caring for creation and serving the community - increasing access to nature for human wellbeing, building climate resilience and pointing people towards our Creator God.' Eco Church, An A Rocha UK Project

St Barnabas Church and it's land is very much loved and cared for already but I wonder what how could we increase it's biodiversity, and be an outward sign to those passing as a pointer towards our Creator God?

Imagine....  
*Sue Martyr*



**BLISTER PACKS**

Thanks to Sue Martyr who has made a new container for blister packs recycling which is now on the coffee bar. Thanks also to Tina Peach who then them to recycling point.

**LIVING GENTLY ON THE EARTH**

On Friday 31  
January at 7pm  
Tom Collins, MP



for Worcester (who came to St Barnabas for a while to support his friends Steve and Rhianne O'Rourke), will be discussing important issues surrounding climate change and what we can do to make a difference. This will be a free event at The Old Palace. *More details on page 10.*

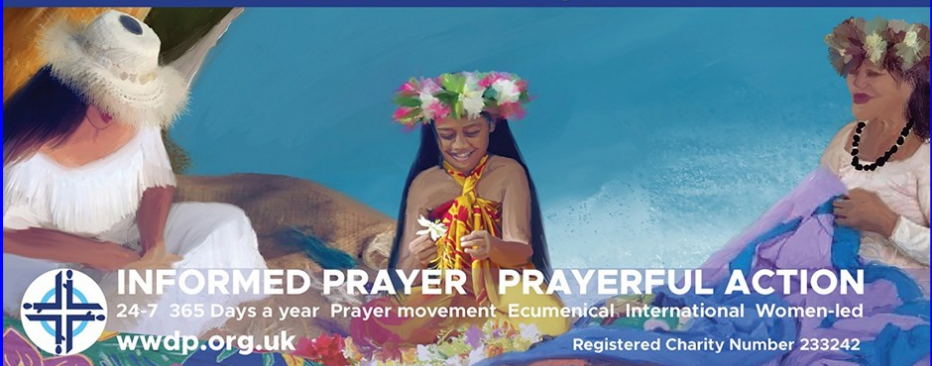
WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2025

# Friday 7 March

A service for everyone!

WORLD DAY  
OF PRAYER  
St Barnabas Church  
Worcester  
10.30 am  
*All are welcome*

**Cook Islands** *I made you wonderful*



**INFORMED PRAYER PRAYERFUL ACTION**

24-7 365 Days a year Prayer movement Ecumenical International Women-led

[wwdp.org.uk](http://wwdp.org.uk)

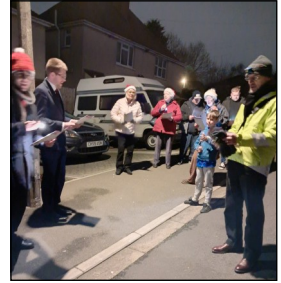
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*From top:*

We were treated to a Christmassy concert by Worcester Concert Brass Band: Enjoying the NativityFest: 150 boxes/bags were sent to the homeless in Worcester: Carols on the Green took place inside because of bad weather



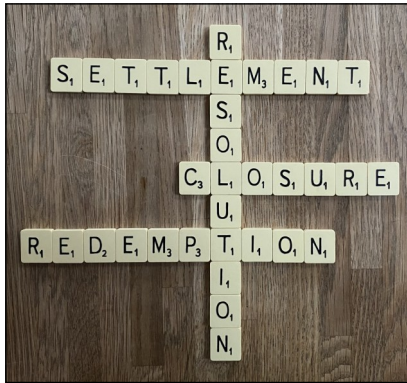


## CHRISTMAS MEMORIES 2024

*From top:*  
Carol singing round the Tolly Centre on a very chilly evening; the Crib Service on Christmas Eve was well attended and finished with Christingles

# NON-CLINICAL

I wonder what you think about New Year resolutions and whether you made any? 'Resolution' was the prompt for my recent U3a writing class and it got me thinking about this, and other words a bit like it. 'Closure'. 'Settlement'. 'Conclusion'.



helps, not just encouraging you to keep plodding on but enabling others to walk in your footsteps, to succeed alongside you. Those who otherwise might have given up. Let your determination and resolve rub off, only to be gathered up by some other cold and weary soul.

These can sound like hard work, a bit of a slog, difficult to reach. There's pressure involved. Maybe timescales.

I'm thinking though. There must be a downside. Yes, I have it. Beware determination tipping into obstinacy, and not letting anything or anyone for that matter get in the way of your goals. In desperation to get something sorted, settled, concluded, don't forget to take time to listen. Tread gently, avoid toes.

And I don't know about you but I am more of a starter than a finisher. A bit impulsive. Beginning a project of some sort with no-one checking progress. Others may not even understand why I am taking it on. Or perhaps they think it is admirable but they haven't invested in it. So not important enough to chase me over. 'Try new things' is a great motto at any age. But more commitment and discipline might be needed than you imagined.

We like a bit of resolution don't we but life is complicated. Not everything can be resolved or not totally, or forever. What about the pain of loneliness, loss, bereavement, trauma, mistakes and regrets. What to do then?

There are times and places where being determined and resolute will win out. Get you to a mountain summit perhaps, however arduous and exhausting. Being one of a team

Personally I rather like 'Redemption'. In its simplest version, 'making something feel better, or more acceptable'. Helping someone in distress to feel better, including about

themselves. It's not so business like. Not so clinical. There's more depth to it. It's on-going. There's always more to do. With no deadlines.

'Redemption'.

It's 'Restorative'. Woven from kindness, compassion and care.  
*Margaret Gandon*

## **ST RICHARD'S HOSPICE**

St Richard's relies on voluntary support, including from donations, gifts in Wills, retail and events for most of its income with the remainder funded by the NHS. It will cost in the region of £12m to run the hospice this year, which includes patient care and all the necessary support services.

Some of the sponsored events taking place are:

*Lantern Walk:* Croome Court - Saturday, 8th February

*Cheltenham Races Preview Evening, WRFC:* Tues 4th March

*ABBA Tribute Evening:* Swan Theatre - Friday 14th March

*Curry and Quiz Night:* St Richard's Hospice - Thursday 20th March

*Lunch with Jo Millington:* Unveiling the World of Forensic Science, Sixways Stadium - Thursday 27th March 2025

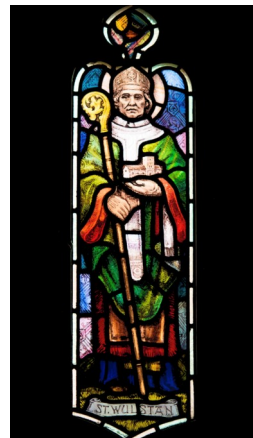
*See website for more details.*

## **CELEBRATING ST WULFSTAN**

Sunday 19 January was the feast of St Wulfstan, the 11th century Bishop of Worcester who was responsible for a major rebuild of the Cathedral.

Dean of Worcester, Stephen Edwards says that the 11th century Bishop of Worcester who, much loved as an inspiring and caring pastor, was also responsible for a major rebuilding of the Cathedral. The crypt, begun in 1084 under his oversight, is one of the most beautiful and prayerful parts of the building today.

For centuries pilgrims visited his shrine, said prayers, and gave thanks. Although the shrine, like so many and like that of Worcester's other holy saint, Oswald, was destroyed at the Reformation, his bones still remain here at Worcester – buried somewhere near the high altar.



## EVENTS AT THE CATHEDRAL

The Cathedral has a full programme of events over the next month or so. For more information on any of these, see the Cathedral website.



### SPRING LUNCHTIME RECITAL SERIES

The Spring Series of lunchtime recitals will resume from 9 January 2025 onwards. Recitals take place on Thursdays at 12.15pm. Admission is free with donations welcomed at a retiring collection.

*All are warmly welcome.*

The performers for the spring series are as follows:

*January*

9 Rebecca Hardwick (soprano)

16 Francois Cloete (organ)

23 Roger Judd (organ)

30 Anna Holmes (violin)

*February*

6 Benjamin Nicholas (organ)  
13 Ensembles from King's  
School, Worcester  
27 Jonathan Hope (organ)

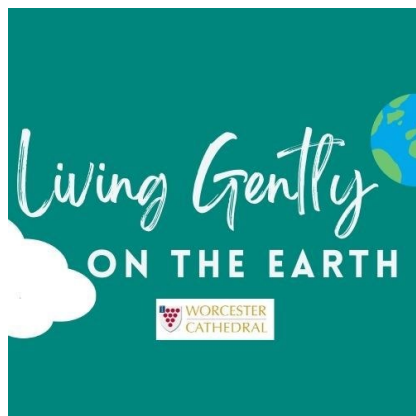
### LIVING GENTLY ON THE EARTH

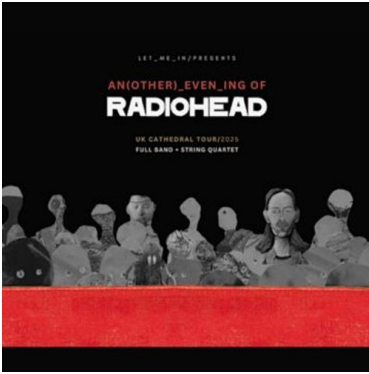
*Addressing the Climate Crisis with Tom Collins MP for Worcester*

Friday 31 January 7pm

Join us on Friday January 31 at 7:00 at The Old Palace, Let's come together to discuss important issues surrounding climate change and what we can do to make a difference. Tom Collins will be sharing his insights and ideas on tackling this global crisis, and answering questions.

Enter through the Main Entrance at the front of the Old Palace.  
See you there! (*Free*)





## **AN EVENING OF RADIOHEAD**

Friday 7 & Saturday 8 February  
7.30pm

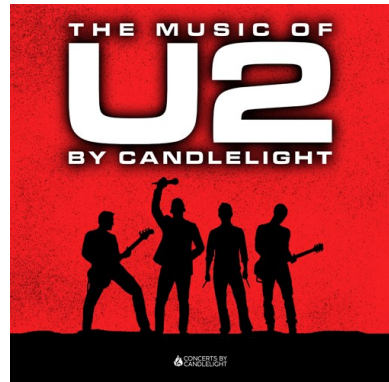
"For a minute there - I lost myself." Let Me In are back, returning on a UK Cathedral (and Minster..!) tour after a sell-out, acclaimed tour in 2024.

Lose yourself in this sonically spectacular celebration of Radiohead's vast and ever-expanding universe of music - including hits and hidden gems from their 30 years in the spotlight from albums such as OK Computer, In Rainbows and The Bends.

A full live band, with vocalists, accompanied by the nationally renowned Mike Nowland String Quartet, will transport you on an epic journey through the bestselling band's back catalogue within the stunning surroundings of Worcester Cathedral, for a special show of live music you will never forget. The setlist will collate a detailed selection of hits and lesser

known gems from all of Radiohead's nine albums to date, and will have something for everyone as we venture from 90s maudlin rockers to bombastic sonic landscapes in what is guaranteed to be a sensory experience like no other.

Your band for the evening will be fronted by Christopher Buckle, and will include local musicians and Radiohead lovers - Alfie Woods, Bruce Higgs, Daniel Anketell, Josh Semans, Lydia Karaviotis and Musical Director - Ewan Steady. The band will be accompanied by very special guests and nationally renowned string players - Mike Nowland, Mathias Svensson, Caroline Boddimead and Hannah Paterson. *Adults: £11.53*



## **THE MUSIC OF U2 BY CANDLELIGHT**

Thursday 13 February 7.30pm  
Calling all U2 super fans, we've found exactly what you're looking for! The Music Of U2 By

Candlelight is finally here and it's guaranteed to be an Unforgettable Fire!

Featuring a spectacular cast of world-class vocalists and epic live band, this concert might be Even Better Than The Real Thing! Prepare for a City Of Blinding (Candle) Lights, as you experience U2s biggest hits like never before!

Get ready to hear all your favourites, from 'One', 'Bad' and 'Beautiful Day' to 'Pride', 'Vertigo' and many more, all performed live by candlelight.

This incredible concert is going ahead With Or Without You, so don't wait Until The End Of The World, book your tickets now for the Sweetest Thing you'll see all year! £10.00

## **THE MUSIC OF BOWIE BY CANDLELIGHT**

Saturday 1 March 7.30pm

We are delighted to bring you Bowie by Candlelight, featuring 'David Live' The David Bowie Tribute Show. An incredible night of Bowie anthems including 'Let's Dance', 'Starman', 'Life on Mars', 'Rebel Rebel' and more, performed at the beautiful Worcester Cathedral, by candlelight.

The show starts at the beginning borrowing all the elements from



Bowie's live performances, taking you on a trip through the 60's, 70's, 80's and beyond, kicking off with revival of Ziggy's Farewell Gig at Hammersmith Odeon 1973, and the band takes the same iconic look from the original "Spiders from Mars", bringing back the true magic and amazing experience of Bowie Live.

Throughout this simply mesmerising show "David Live" replicate the feeling and iconic looks of David Bowie's live performances, looks from Isolar Tour in 1976, Serious Moon Light tour of 1983 with all the hits from the classic album "Let's Dance" this slick, professional David Bowie Tribute Show will keep you up on your feet and begging for more.

With the band having had the present line-up for nearly 10 years, "David Live" is an honest and insightful musical tribute to David Bowie. £10.00

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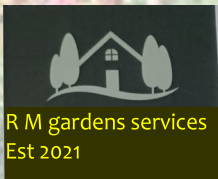
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**WHERE DO WE MEET?**  
The Rainbow Hill Community Hub  
12 Astwood Road, Worcester. WR3 8ET

**HOW OFTEN?** 1st Friday of month

**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.

t: 01905 330600  
e: [rainbowsec@wfedwi.org.uk](mailto:rainbowsec@wfedwi.org.uk)

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