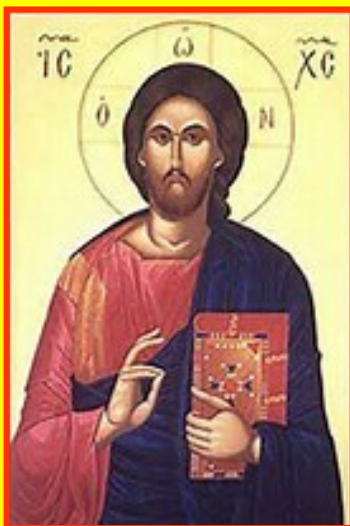


THE Magazine

35p

ST BARNABAS with CHRIST CHURCH, WORCESTER



JUNE 2024

ST BARNABAS WITH CHRIST CHURCH

PARISH STAFF:

Priest in Charge:	Revd Sarah Northall	074838 07432
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Licensed Lay Minister:	Julie Berrow, Reader	07733 226061
Churchwarden (St Barnabas & Christ Church):		
	Rachel Chalmers	07787 128345
	(<i>Elect</i>) Mary James	01905 455214
Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO):		
	Rachel Chalmers	07787 128345

WEBSITE: www.stbarnabasworchester.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.stbarnabasworchester.org.uk

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

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MY JOURNEY



Twenty years ago, I had a hunch that maybe my time in teaching was coming to a close. In September 2005 I began to ponder the audacious. Maybe, I whispered in private, maybe, I had a vocation to ordained ministry. Maybe, I might have the chance to be a parish priest one day.

As with many who have an inkling that life *as it is* might be not quite *as it could be*, I said not a word. In fact I lived with the idea in silence for a couple of years more. It ebbed and flowed, but seemed to come a little bit closer with each in-tide and not retreat so far with each out-tide. It was not until January 2007, as a new year's resolution, I wrote to my vicar, Steve. Would he, I asked, feeling it strange to see it in writing for someone else to read, feel able to support me in offering for ordination. He replied that he had given me another twelve months to say something otherwise he was going to get

the ball rolling himself!

The ball rolled slowly. Oh my gosh, it rolled slowly. There was a year of regular interviews with the right people at a diocesan level. By Autumn 2008 – still teaching, three years on from the hunch that it was time to move on – I was sent on a three-day interview. I was recommended for ordination training. It was not until Autumn time 2009 that I was able to start training. I continued to teach, as I trained on the Oxford Ministry Course at Cuddesdon, which was Tuesday evenings and many, oh so many weekends.

As I began my third and final Autumn at Cuddesdon, the diocese invited me to meet Andrew, the vicar at Iffley in the city of Oxford itself, and to explore if my curacy might be with him in St Mary's. And at the end of September 2011, we agreed that going there was the next step all round. It was a

further year before I had been ordained, sold my house and finally taught my last day of school. I began in post full-time in the Autumn of 2012. After twenty years in teaching I was no longer Ms Northall, but Rev Sarah!

I lived and worked and worshipped in Oxford for nearly four years. It was a rich time for me, challenging, nourishing, frustrating, joyful, at times disorientating, at times transformative. I hope that if you asked the good folk of St Mary's they might say something similar! My next step was Worcester Diocese to be the parish priest for Wollescote and Pedmore, and in 2019, I came to Worcester itself. This was as the parish priest for St Wulstans, and then as we know, these responsibilities have broadened and deepened to encompass Christ Church and St Barnabas, and a shared interest in the life of St Nicholas too.

I share this story for three reasons. Firstly, I wanted to remind us that we are all travelling long, slow roads. Have you ever noticed that everything in the Bible happens at walking pace? "*Be not afraid of growing slowly,*" the Chinese proverb tells us, "*be afraid only of*

standing still."

Secondly, we are only weeks away from welcoming Sooz to our church family. She comes as a stipendiary curate, as I was in Iffley, as Kalantha was here. And she is coming amongst as the next step in what will have already been a long and twisting journey. I'll leave her to tell us more about that as we get to know her.

Thirdly, I think it is important to keep talking about vocation, to keep vibrant the possibility that life *as it is* might be not quite *as it could be*. A curate is never an extra pair of hands in a parish. A curacy is the commitment that the vicar and congregation take on together. It means that the curate is there to learn, to train, to prepare.

In practical terms, we are all invited to the ordination at 10am in Worcester Cathedral on Sunday 30th June. There will be a 8am BCP Eucharist at St Barnabas that day and a 6pm BCP Evensong at St Nicholas, but there will be no local morning services offered in the cluster churches that day, as a way of signalling the significance of this occasion in the life of St Nicholas, Christ Church, St Barnabas and St Wulstans parishes.



At her ordination in the Cathedral, Sooz will hear these words:

Deacons are called ... to serve the community in which they are set, bringing to the Church the needs and hopes of all the people. They are to work with their fellow members in searching out the poor and weak, the sick and lonely and those who are oppressed and powerless, reaching into the forgotten corners of the world, that the love of God may be made visible.

Can you see how Sooz will be being ordained not in her own right for her own ministry, but in order to be amongst us as we live out our vocations together in this place? What an awesome and humbling and precious and honouring thing this is.

Revd Sarah Northall

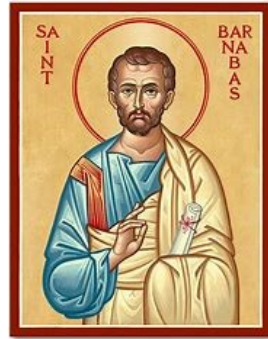
SOOZ ORDINATION



Our new Curate, Sooz Mcgee will be ordained in Worcester Cathedral at

10am on Sunday 30th June.

There will be an 8am Morning Communion at St Barnabas but **no 10am service** so that we all have the opportunity to go to the Cathedral to support Sooz.



ST BARNABAS DAY

St Barnabas Day is 11th June and this year the nearest Sunday is 9th June. Weather permitting the 10am service will be held outside on the Green with Coffee and Cake served afterwards. *Please come along and join us for our Patronal celebrations!*

SES SERVICE

The next SES service will be on 2nd June at Christ Church at 10.30am with refreshments served from 10am. *(There will be no service at St Barnabas)*

All welcome!

ADVANCE NOTICE!

On Saturday 13th July we will have our Annual Family Picnic at 12noon on the Green outside church (in hall if wet)

Please come along with your picnic and join us for a few hours of fun and fellowship!

AN ALPHABET



We had the task on Sunday of writing a hope, ambition or piece of advice on a small wooden heart, to be hung on a wish tree. It was a family baby's Naming Ceremony. I wonder what qualities you might wish on a child, growing up in these challenging times?

I've gone for an ABC of ideas...

Accepting
Beloved
Compassionate
Disciplined
Empathetic
Forgiving
Gracious
Humble
Imaginative
Joyous
Kindhearted
Loving

Musical
Noble
Optimistic
Persevering
Questioning
Respectful
Sparky
Tolerant
Understanding
Versatile
Willing
Xtrodinary
Young-at-heart
Zestful

I wrote something like this for little Joshua:

Show strength in admitting
your vulnerabilities and
care for those
who do the same with you
Margaret Gandon

ECO CHURCH

St Barnabas church has been participating in Eco Church, an A Roche UK project, over the past years. We have already been awarded bronze and silver awards by the great work of Judy, RIP, and now we are working towards our Gold Award! The church can earn points towards this award based on how we care for God's earth.

In order to help us care for God's earth A Roche have themes which address five key areas of our church life:

- Worship and teaching
- Buildings
- Land
- Community & global engagement
- Lifestyle

Each section has questions for us to complete through participation and action, so if you are interested at all in any of the above please do speak to me and let's see where we go from here!

In the meantime here is some Eco Worship:

The Summer Solstice.

This is the moment when the sun is the furthest north from the earth and in the UK the exact

point is at 9:50pm on 20th June.

The summer solstice has been celebrated by people of many cultures and societies across the world who watch the sunrise and sunset at this time of year. It can be an awe inspiring moment, connecting us with nature, our creator and with those gone before us.

Sunrise 4:43am

Sunset: 9:50pm

As 'solstice' means to stand still, I invite you, sometime on the 20th June to be still, to pause for a short moment.

Allow yourself to breathe in all of God's creation and let it speak to you. *Amen.*



"Pause' from the Tolladine Mission House Garden 2021

Sue Martyr. Eco rep

martyrboots@yahoo.co.uk

NO MOW MAY



OUR NEW JUNIOR ECO REP NOAH is supporting Plantlife's *No Mow May* by letting the grass grow to help nature! *Thank you Noah!*

Why do we need No Mow May?

We've lost approximately **97%** of flower-rich meadows since the 1930's and with them gone are vital food needed by pollinators, like bees and butterflies.

But your lawn can help! A healthy lawn with some long grass and wildflowers benefits wildlife, tackles pollution and can even lock away carbon below

ground. With over **20 million gardens in the UK**, even the **smallest grassy patches add up** to a significant proportion of our land which, if managed properly, can deliver **enormous gains for nature**, communities and the climate.

This is why Plantlife calls for people to get involved with NoMowMay every year, and let wild plants get a head start on the summer.

Best of all, to reap these benefits all you have to do is not mow your lawn in May and beyond!
<https://www.plantlife.org.uk/>



Many hands make light work at the recent Church Garden tidy-up. *Thank you to all!*

MISSION FUND NEWS

Christian Aid Week this year was 12th – 18th May. This year the PCC approved a £300 donation from the Mission Fund towards Christian Aid's Appeal in their fight against the Inhumanity of Poverty.

Christian Aid continues to help so many people living in poverty stricken parts of Africa.

This year the aim is to provide help and advice to women left abused, hungry and homeless. This enables them to secure a vital income and a home for their children and to move on from the brink of survival. Their future lives are transformed and that of the future generation.

If you wish to donate personally, the Christian Aid secure line to do so is caweek.org

We pray for Christian Aid and the fight against poverty in the world today.

Ann Bryant



NEW HOPE: A BIG THANK YOU

New Hope has recently been informed that there will be a cut-back in their funding for the financial year.

They do not want to reduce any of the services that they provide as it is such a needy resource for the parents and carers of all the children and young people who attend New Hope.

New Hope now needs to do more fund-raising and applying for grants. The New Hope shop is extremely grateful for all the donated things that I have been able to take to the shop on behalf of St Barnabas Church family. These donations are vital to help keep this service viable.

If anyone wants me to collect donations from their home I would be happy to do so. My phone number is 07397 233144.

The shop is open in Litchfield Avenue, Ronkswood on Monday to Friday between 10am and 3pm if you wish to visit it.

Marian Bailey

SERVICES IN ST BARNABAS & CHRIST CHURCH IN JUNE

Christ Church

Sunday 2nd June 10.30am
Informal café-style worship

St Barnabas

Sundays at 10am

9th June: Open Air Communion
(St Barnabas Patronal)

16th June: Sunday Communion

23rd June: Sunday Communion

Sunday 30th June:

8am Morning Communion at **St Barnabas**

10am Ordination of Sooz Magee. our new curate, in

Worcester Cathedral

We have rearranged all our Cluster services so that we can ALL come along to the Cathedral to support Sooz & be part of this wonderful occasion!

Wednesdays at St Barnabas

5th June: 10am Communion

12th June: 10am Communion

19th June: 10am Something
Else Wednesday

26th June: 10am Communion



Sunday CROSSROADS

Sunday Crossroads continue: are you looking for a chance to pause, reflect, and recharge before the week ahead?

St Barnabas 7pm Sundays

9th June, 16th June, 23rd June

Contemplative & conversational, lasting just 45 minutes, Crossroads is a lovely end to a weekend. With gentle and varied input, over three weeks on, and a week off, join us for a home group in church!

WARNDON COURT OPEN GARDEN

Sunday 9th June 12-4pm

Come and see the gardens (next to St Nicholas Church).

Warndon Court is a two acre family garden surrounding a Grade II listed farmhouse (not open) featuring a circular route with formal rose gardens, terraces, two ponds, pergolas, topiary, summerhouse, potager & woodland walk along the dry moat

Refreshments, including many home-made cakes will be served in the Church Barn

£6 per adult/children free.

CATHEDRAL PEREGRINE UPDATE

The Cathedral reports that the peregrine chicks have been ringed at Worcester Cathedral - and now they need names!

Our famous clutch of peregrines chicks have been ringed by the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) – meaning they are now recorded on the national database and can be identified in the future.

More than 350,000 viewers have watched as the chicks, who hatched last month, have grown in the nest perched on the Cathedral, on a YouTube livestream.

On Monday 13 May ringers from the BTO rung the chicks, measured their wing spans, weighed and recorded them on the national database. Each colour ring has a unique letter code so the individual birds can be identified when seen in the future. Peregrines can live 15 and more years. And the exciting news this year is that one of our 2022 chicks was recently spotted alive and well in Bolton, Lancashire and Mr Lazy from last year's cohort has also been spotted at Alexandra Palace! So, Peter and Peggy have introduced a new generation of



peregrine falcons across the UK - Congratulations Peter and Peggy!

The chicks are always comfortable during ringing, but usually make themselves heard, so passers-by may have heard the commotion around the Cathedral!

The chicks are expected to fledge later this month or in early June, and their progress can be monitored on the livestream.

Peregrines love Cathedral towers because they are similar to their natural habitat nesting sites, which include quarry faces, sea cliffs, and mountainsides, as they like to have a high prospect looking over the area of their territory, which Cathedral towers and other tall buildings in cities provide.

NAMING THE CHICKS

HELP! Our Peregrine chicks need names before they fly the nest!

We think we have two male and two female chicks.

Please send suggestions to: info@worcestercathedral.org.uk

ELGAR FESTIVAL 2024



Organisers of the annual celebration of the life and music of Worcestershire's most famous composer are counting down the days until the event.

The Elgar Festival's 2024 event will take place between Monday 27 May and Sunday 2 June.

The Festival – which was launched in 2018 – was established by decree of Worcester City Council and is traditionally held on the weekend closest to Elgar's birthday, 2 June 1857.

Themed 'The Origins of Inspiration', this year's Festival will combine orchestral, chamber, vocal and choral concerts with exhibits and lectures to celebrate the life and music of Sir Edward Elgar at various venues across Worcestershire. It will bring together an array of internationally renowned guest artists, placing the music of Worcester's most famous son

alongside that of his contemporaries and some of today's leading composers and arrangers.

Kenneth Woods, Artistic Director of The Elgar Festival said : "We are days away from this year's Elgar Festival! We are delighted to present the best of British music, played in the heart of Elgar country, which will engage and embrace people of all ages and all musical tastes. The 2024 Elgar Festival promises to be a once in a lifetime celebration providing a showcase for music of composers from all genres. We look forward to welcoming you!"

Some of the highlights for 2024 include:

At the heart of the Festival is the Gala Concert by the English Symphony Orchestra and the Elgar Festival Chorus at Worcester Cathedral on Saturday 1 June at 7.30pm;

Continued overleaf

Cont from previous page

The annual Elgar's Strings by the English String Orchestra concert at Worcester Guildhall;

Late night Club Elgar concerts featuring jazz, world music, blues and more with some of the UK's most exhilarating musicians;

Throughout the Festival The Guildhall in Worcester will have an exhibition on display of Elgar memorabilia on loan from prestigious private collections;

The Elgar for Everyone Family Concert featuring more than 100 young musicians, hosted by Festival Patron Julian Lloyd Webber and inspirational violinist Esther Abrami.

Since it began in 2018 – lauded as 'Critic's Pick' in both The Guardian and The Times – the Festival has doubled in size and scale and championed Sir Edward to as wide an audience as possible.

For a full list of events, costs and booking information, please visit www.elgarfestival.org.

THREE CHOIRS FESTIVAL 2024 SATURDAY 27 JULY – SATURDAY 3 AUGUST 2024



The Three Choirs Festival is a week-long programme of world-class music making, featuring choral and orchestral concerts, solo and chamber music recitals, talks, cathedral services, theatre, exhibitions, and walks, rotating each summer between the beautiful English cathedral cities of Gloucester, Hereford, and Worcester.

One of the elements which makes the festival so special is the Festival Chorus, which is made up of auditioned singers from the local area trained by professional directors, meaning that the Chorus both sings to a high standard and is a real part of the community. Three Choirs is thought to be the longest-standing classical music festival in the world and celebrated its 300th anniversary in 2015.

For more information visit:
3choirs.org/worcester-2024

(Ticket prices will be announced closer to the time)



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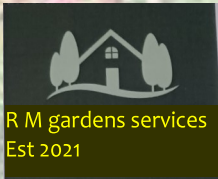
If you would like to advertise in the Church magazine the cost is £2.50 per month for this size.

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WHAT TIME? 1-3pm

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t: 01905 330600
e: rainbowsec@wfedwi.org.uk

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