

## Services and Preachers...

- 3** 5.30 pm Choral Evensong –  
*The Alumni Choir of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge*  
*Harwood in A flat* Psalm 148  
*And I saw a new heaven* Responses: Ayleward  
– Bainton
- 4 The Seventh Sunday after Trinity**  
8.00 am Holy Communion The Revd Stephen Girling  
9.30 am Parish Communion The Revd Stephen Girling  
11.15 am Sung Eucharist –  
*The Alumni Choir of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge*  
*Darke in A minor* Hymns: 532, 679, 452, 584  
*Ubi caritas – Ola Gjeilo*  
*Finale – Rheinberger*
- 3.30 pm Choral Evensong –  
*The Alumni Choir of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge*  
*Ireland in F* Psalm 107.1-12  
*O Lord, the Maker of all things* Responses: Ayleward  
– Joubert Hymn 125
- 6.30 pm Informal Evening Service Mr Pete Jones
- 10** 5.30 pm Choral Evensong – *River Road Choir*  
*Sarah MacDonald in A flat* Psalm 24  
*Judge eternal, throned in splendour*  
– Hancock Responses: Clucas
- 11 The Eighth Sunday after Trinity**  
8.00 am Holy Communion The Revd Canon Guy Bridgewater  
9.30 am Parish Communion The Revd Canon Guy Bridgewater  
11.15am Sung Eucharist – *River Road Choir*  
  
*Darke in E* The Revd Canon Guy Bridgewater  
*Here, O my Lord – William Bradley Roberts* Hymns: 721ii, 451, 453, 595
- 3.30 pm Choral Evensong – *River Road Choir*  
*Washington Service – David Hogan*  
  
Psalm 108  
*The house of faith has many rooms*  
– Craig Phillips Responses: Clucas  
Hymn 101
- 6.30 pm Informal Evening Service The Revd Ken Madden

Morning Prayer on Mondays-Thursdays at 8.30am  
Holy Communion on Thursdays at 11.00 am and Fridays at 8.30 am  
Evening Prayer or Choral Evensong on Mondays to Fridays at 5.30 pm

- 18 The Ninth Sunday after Trinity**  
8.00 am Holy Communion The Revd Dr Sarah Archer  
9.30 am Parish Communion The Revd Dr Sarah Archer  
11.15 am Sung Eucharist The Revd Dr Sarah Archer  
*Hear my prayer – Purcell*  
*Mass for Five Voices – Byrd* Hymns: 506, 232, 258, 612  
*Sicut cervus – Palestrina*
- 3.30 pm Choral Evensong  
*Steal away – arr David Blackwell* Psalm 119.17-32  
*Francis Jackson in G* Responses: Leighton  
*Like as the Hart – Howells* Hymn 172  
Informal Evening Service The Revd Canon Guy Bridgewater
- 23** 5.30 pm Choral Evensong – *RSCM Summer School*  
*The Short Service – Gibbons* Psalm 97  
*Exultate Deo – Palestrina* Responses: Sanders (Dresden)  
Hymn: A&M 747
- 24** 5.30 pm Choral Evensong – *RSCM Summer School*  
*Solihull Service – Ben Parry* Psalm 91  
*Call of Wisdom – Will Todd* Responses: Sanders (Dresden)  
Hymn: A&M 510
- 25 The Tenth Sunday after Trinity**  
8.00 am Holy Communion The Revd Ken Madden  
9.30 am Parish Communion The Revd Ken Madden  
11.15 am Sung Eucharist – *RSCM Summer School*  
*Mass in G – Schubert* The Revd Ken Madden  
*Ave verum corpus – Phillips* Hymns: 810, 116, 630, 610
- 3.30 pm Choral Evensong – *RSCM Summer School*  
*St Albans Service – Cecilia McDowall*  
  
Psalm 119.49-56  
*Blessed be the God and Father* Responses: Sanders (Dresden)  
– S S Wesley Hymn 106 (t 185)
- 6.30 pm Informal Evening Service Mrs Anne Dowling

## Contacting the Abbey...

The Abbey Office, 11a York Street, Bath BA1 1NG

Tel. (01225) 422462

Monday: 10.00am-3.30pm  
Tues-Friday: 9.00am-3.30pm

Email [office@bathabbey.org](mailto:office@bathabbey.org)  
Website [www.bathabbey.org](http://www.bathabbey.org)

### Clergy:

Revd Canon Guy Bridgewater, Rector -  
[gbridgewater@bathabbey.org](mailto:gbridgewater@bathabbey.org)

Revd Stephen Girling, Abbey Missioner -  
[missioner@bathabbey.org](mailto:missioner@bathabbey.org)

Revd Evelyn Lee-Barber, Associate Priest -  
[evelyn@bathabbey.org](mailto:evelyn@bathabbey.org)

Revd Jane Mitchell, Curate -  
[jmitchell@bathabbey.org](mailto:jmitchell@bathabbey.org)

Revd Ken Madden, Interim Minister -  
[office@bathabbey.org](mailto:office@bathabbey.org)

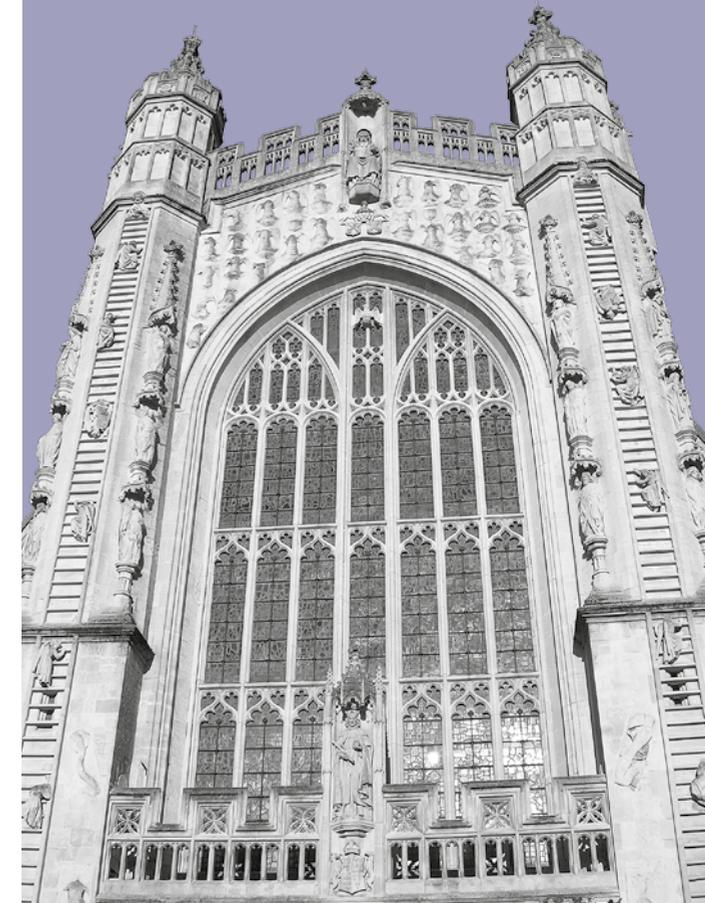
The clergy welcome communication on any matters by letter, email or telephone.

## Thank you to...

Our thanks to Graphic Comms students from Bath Spa University for their wonderful series of graphics that will decorate the hoardings and inform visitors about our Footprint Project while building work is underway in the north side of the Abbey to repair the collapsing floor and install eco-friendly heating using Bath's hot springs. We are also grateful to the Gardener's Lodge Art Group who have produced a colourful 'Tree of Life' mosaic that symbolises the many ways people experience and find peace - whether through the beauty of the natural world, exploring religious and spiritual beliefs or simply the joy of colour!

And finally, thank you to the University of West of England (UWE) students and academic staff on the Advance Cultural Studies module who have produced a detailed archive and 3D replicas of the Abbey's historic ledgerstones. What a great example of combining art, science and technology to assist conservators in a real-life scenario!

# BathAbbey



## Abbey News

August 2019



## Harvest Supper in the East end

Saturday 28 September, 7pm

With guest speaker, Dr Martin Hodson, who will also be preaching on Sunday 29 Sept at the 9.30am and 11.15am services

Martin is a scientist and lecturer from A Rocha UK, a Christian charity working for the protection and restoration of the natural world. We will find out more from Martin about how we, as individuals and as a church community, can help fulfil the vision for all churches to care for creation as an integral part of loving their neighbours and following God faithfully. More details about the supper will be available in due course. Please speak to or email Revd Stephen Girling [missioner@bathabbey.org](mailto:missioner@bathabbey.org)

## Update on Bath Abbey's "2020 Vision"

I'm immensely grateful to everyone who has kindly responded to my request, to cast a prayerful eye over the work done so far by our Church Council, in drafting a fresh Purpose Statement for the Abbey.



Your responses are now being shared with the PCC, who will prayerfully ponder and circulate a revised version in September. We shall then ensure that our Purpose structures the "2020 Vision Day", to be held on Sunday 27 October (of which more details are to follow). That in turn will yield our Mission Action Plan, to focus and guide the way forward for Bath Abbey from 2020 to 2025.

As well as your extremely helpful insights, comments and feedback already, it has been wonderful to receive many encouragements and moving assurances of prayers and support.

For example, one person comments that, inspired by our Dawn service on Easter Day, they are left with a vivid mental picture of Jesus sitting outside the Abbey, just as he did by the sea of Tiberias in John's Gospel. They sense Him telling us to cast out our nets boldly, to bring knowledge of His truth and love.

Another gives thanks for all the prayer and thought already devoted to seeking God's vision afresh together. They remind us that folk in the Abbey during the week have amazing stories of God enabling them to "live and tell the story of Jesus". We will be listening hard to our visitors in the next couple of months, as well as gathering further research into the needs and opportunities of our city - since, in the wise words of Frederick Buechner: "The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet."

Finally, another respondent says how grateful they feel for the Abbey's ministry, and how impressively smooth the Footprint phasing has seemed so far- while adding they are conscious that the many challenges ahead, known and unknown, will require measures that are bound not to please all ...

The Rector certainly agrees – and says so let's keep praying together: for gracious and open hearts, combined with clear and courageous heads!

*The Revd Canon Guy Bridgewater*  
Rector of Bath Abbey



## In the Company of Chaplains

Chaplains at the Abbey work alongside and support the volunteer team of welcomers and stewards providing a spiritual presence in the Abbey from Monday to Saturday. They are authorised to conduct hourly public prayer and to offer individual prayer ministry and pastoral care when appropriate. Those who are ordained also lead the midweek service of Holy Communion. In summary, their role is to pray, listen, be available and give time, build trust, confidence and relationships and be an ambassador for Christ and offer pathways to faith.

In the past chaplaincy has only been open to Clergy or Readers but we have recently extended this to include suitably gifted and skilled lay people who are willing to undertake the diocesan chaplaincy training course and receive the Bishop's Commendation. At a service in June we were delighted to authorise and welcome four new Chaplains – Anne Dowling, Pete Jones, Chris Orme and Liz Miller. We thank them and the whole team of Chaplains for their ministry which is so much appreciated and valued.

*Revd Ken Madden*

*Interim Minister*



What has struck me about saying the prayers in the Abbey is the number of Christians who have expressed appreciation of the prayers - the number is small as I have only been chaplain twice, but each time I have had this response. I have also had one more in depth discussion about faith resulting from saying the prayers.  
*Liz Miller*

Every day and every hour, a chaplain leads two minutes of prayer so that our visitors are reminded of what the Abbey is all about. It's a great witness and can lead to prayer and valuable conversations about belief. People take chaplains seriously and so this is a wonderful opportunity to be helpful and to share our faith.

*Pete Jones*

I hadn't thought about being an Abbey Chaplain until you asked me! On reflection I thought it would be a good opportunity to listen to people who come into the Abbey from all over the world. In my later years, it helps to see the bigger picture. The Kingdom of the Lord is for the whole world and perhaps I might be able to sow a little seed in someone's mind which they can reflect on and take back home with them. In the few experiences I have had so far I can see God at work. There was a large group of teenagers sitting down after climbing the Abbey Tower. It was the day after the anti-government protests in Hong Kong so in my prayers on the hour I was able to pray for peace in their homeland. Many of them were sitting heads bowed over their mobile phones but I did notice some of them listened although they looked slightly bemused!

*Anne Dowling*

## Walking Back to Happiness: Finding Ourselves in France

*A book by Revd Penelope Swithinbank*

Penelope has worked in churches in the UK and the USA, and has led pilgrimages in the UK and in Europe. She and her husband Kim, both vicars who have been married for more than 40 years recently embarked on a journey to find healing and restoration. Their marriage in tatters, with wounds reaching far back into the past, Kim and Penelope travel along the 320-mile route across rural France, from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic, and stumble across fresh truths, some ordinary, others extraordinary. But will they be defeated by the road ahead or triumph over the pain of the past?

You will have the chance to find out as Penelope has written a book about hers and Kim's experience that will be available later this year. Part travelogue and part pilgrimage, Penelope's book describes their epic journey as they encounter new faces and new experiences, and reconnect with each other and with God. Every step of the way, you'll also discover more about yourself and what's really important to you.

## Getting to know...

*Revd Penelope Swithinbank, Chaplain*

**How and when did you start volunteering at the Abbey?**

I began in January 2019. When my husband and I retired to our home area of Bath, I knew I wanted to continue to be in ministry in some capacity and a friend who also volunteers at the Abbey suggested the chaplaincy to me.



**Describe what your role typically involves**

**A great deal of standing around on cold ledgerstones!** The chaplain leads a brief time of public prayer hourly and a number of people pause and engage, and then often have a question about the Christian faith afterwards. I also have the privilege of praying with and for individuals. One afternoon, I gave thanks for and prayed with two couples who were celebrating wedding anniversaries, prayed for a young man whose father was unexpectedly at the end of his life, and had my cassock skirt lifted by a little girl who wanted to know what was underneath! All in a day's work.

**What character trait do you most admire in your fellow volunteers and why?** Their determination to carry on, unpaid, whether the Abbey is freezing, as it was in February, or very busy as it is now, and still be patient and kind even to the most difficult visitors.

**If you were stranded on a deserted island and could only bring one book, one piece of music and one luxury item, what would they be and why?** My luxury item would be a photo of my family. A book: "The Return of the Prodigal", by Henri Nouwen. My edition has beautiful illustrations of the Rembrandt paintings, and together with Nouwen's reflections and meditations, it would feed my soul and give me a lot to think about, reflect on and pray through. Please be patient with me - God hasn't finished with me yet! One piece of music: Walking Back to Happiness sung by Helen Shapiro. It's the title of my latest book, which will be published in November 2019. And the song has wonderful memories from my childhood!

