

Services and Preachers...

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

5 The Third Sunday of Easter

8.00 am Holy Communion The Revd Ken Madden
 9.30 am Parish Communion Speaker - Caleb Mallard, The Genesis Trust
 11.15 am Sung Eucharist Speaker - Caleb Mallard, The Genesis Trust

O taste and see - Vaughan Williams
Spatzenmesse K220 - Mozart Hymns: 221, 769, 453, 218
Tantum ergo - De Severac
Incantation pour un jour saint - Langlais

3.30 pm Choral Evensong
This joyful Eastertide - Arr Wood Psalm 30
Brewer in D Responses: Ayleward
Greater love - Ireland
O Fili et Filiae - Dandrieu Hymn 172
 6.30 pm Informal Evening Service The Revd Stephen Girling

6 1.00 pm Bank Holiday Organ Recital - Huw Williams, Director of Music, Bath Abbey
 3.00 pm Solo Recital by members of the Abbey Girls' Choir

7 1.00 pm Organ Recital - Shean Bowers, Assistant Director of Music and Organist, Bath Abbey

11 7.00 pm Handel's Messiah *Sung by the Abbey Choir of Girls and Men with Canzona on period instruments. Tickets £12 & £7 from Bath Box Office*

12 The Fourth Sunday of Easter

8.00 am Holy Communion The Revd Canon Guy Bridgewater
 9.30 am Parish Communion The Venerable Dr Adrian Youings, Archdeacon of Bath

11.15am *For the beauty of the earth - John Rutter*
 Sung Eucharist The Venerable Dr Adrian Youings
This joyful Eastertide - Arr Wood
Stanford in C & F
Ave verum corpus - Elgar Hymns: 357, NEH 282, 794i, 702
Minuee Concerto Para Organos - Soler

3.30 pm Choral Evensong
The Lord is my shepherd - Howells Psalm 113
Walmisley in D minor Responses: Byrd
All we like sheep - Handel Hymn 184
Allegro from Trio Sonata No 6 - J S Bach
 6.30 pm Informal Evening Service The Revd Jane Mitchell

14 1.00 pm Organ Recital - Huw Williams
 5.30 pm Choral Evensong *Sung by the Abbey Choir of Boys and Men*
This joyful Eastertide - Arr Wood Psalm 15
Dyson in F Responses: Ayleward
For the beauty of the earth - Rutter

16 5.30 pm Choral Evensong *Sung by the Abbey Choir of Girls and Men*
Christo resurgenti - Couperin Psalm 85
Fauxbourdon Setting - Responses: Archer
Philip Moore
Psalm 23 - Schubert

19 The Fifth Sunday of Easter

8.00 am Holy Communion The Revd Canon Guy Bridgewater
 9.30 am Parish Communion Speaker - Dr James Playfair
 11.15 am Sung Eucharist Speaker - Dr James Playfair

To thee, O Lord - Rachmaninov
Missa Brevis - Kodaly
Ave verum corpus - Mozart Hymns: 291, 806, 194, 532 (omit)*
Toccata - Gigout

3.30 pm Choral Evensong
Litany to the Holy Spirit - Hurford Psalm 98
Dyson in D Responses: Ayleward
The Lord bless you and keep you - John Rutter
Finale from Symphony No 8 Hymn 148
 - Widor

6.30 pm Informal Evening Service Mrs Anne Dowling

21 1.00 pm Organ Recital - Nigel Nash

23 5.30 pm Choral Evensong *Sung by the Abbey Choir of Girls and Men*
This joyful Eastertide - Arr Wood Psalm 15
Dyson in F Responses: Ayleward
For the beauty of the earth - Rutter

25 5.30 pm Choral Evensong *Sung by Laudamus*
Te lucis ante terminum - Tallis Psalm 118
Brewer in D Responses: Smith
The day draws on with golden light - Bairstow
 The Abbey Boys Choir will be singing Choral Evensong at Jesus College, Cambridge with the boys and men of Jesus College 6.30pm. Admission Free.

26 The Sixth Sunday of Easter

8.00 am Holy Communion The Revd Ken Madden
 9.30 am Parish Communion The Revd Stephen Girling, Speaker - Mary Henderson
 11.15 am Sung Eucharist The Revd Stephen Girling, Speaker - Mary Henderson

Sung by Laudamus
Ireland in C Hymns: 710, 246, 236, 612
Ave verum corpus - Elgar
Entrée Pontificale - Vossi

3.30 pm Choral Evensong
Sung by Laudamus
Stanford in C Psalm: 126, 127
Cantate Domino - Pitoni Responses: Smith
Toccata on Urbs beta Hymn: 173
 - Robert White

6.30 pm Informal Evening Service The Revd Jane Mitchell
 Concert by The Abbey Boys and Jesus College, Cambridge Boys Choirs at Great St Mary's, Cambridge 1.30pm. Admission Free.
 Music by Franck, Ireland and Elgar

27 1.00pm Bank Holiday Organ Recital - Martyn Noble

28 1.00pm Organ Recital - Mark Brafield

30 7.30pm Thy Kindom Come Service

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

Website www.bathabbey.org

Clergy:

Revd Canon Guy Bridgewater, Rector -
gbridgewater@bathabbey.org

Revd Stephen Girling, Abbey Missioner -
missioner@bathabbey.org

Revd Evelyn Lee-Barber, Associate Priest -
evelyn@bathabbey.org

Revd Jane Mitchell, Curate -
jmitchell@bathabbey.org

Revd Ken Madden, Interim Minister -
office@bathabbey.org

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

Music volunteers needed!

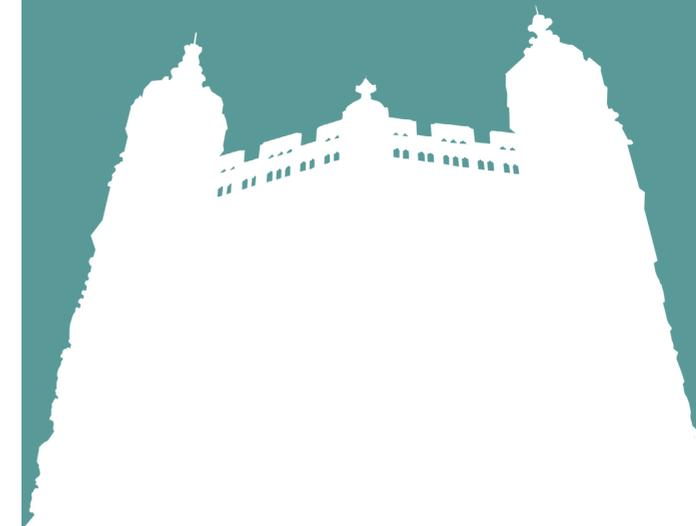
Would you like to share in the musical highlights at the Abbey? We are currently looking for volunteers to help our Music Department.

We are keen to try and extend our Abbey Music Supporters' group of volunteers who would be available to help out with occasional choir activities. This might be at concerts, organ or choral recitals and could involve simple but sociable duties such as 'meet and greet', shepherding to seats, steward duties at the door or supervising voluntary collection post an event.

We are also desperate for help with housekeeping of choir robes. Anyone with needlework skills please step forward! Someone who could oversee the fitting and occasional alteration - choristers seem to grow very fast! - would be invaluable and very much appreciated by all of us in the Song school.

If you think you may be interested please do contact Mary Horner, Music Admin on MHorner@bathabbey.org or 01225 422462 to find out more.

BathAbbey



Abbey News

May 2019



‘Faith in Film’: A Review

A big thank you to our Abbey Missioner, Stephen, for organising the Faith in Film series that took place on Monday evenings in Lent. Thank you also for finishing with *The Way*; the soundtrack really captured the mood - I have it on now - it’s the music to the chase when Tom’s rucksack is taken.

I made a few notes after the films and beginning with *The Way*, it is true that we do find ourselves on paths not of our choosing, with irritating people who in the normal course of life, we may not choose to spend time with. How wonderful it was to see Tom’s bitterness and detachment gradually find healing through the company of those three disparate pilgrims as the four of them somewhat reluctantly fell in together and their relationships developed. And what a transcendent moment as the giant thurible was lifted whilst they were in the Cathedral. Apart from the pelegrinos, there was the wisdom and integrity of the Romani patriarch, Ishmael, and the sincerity and openness of the gendarme who met Tom from the airport and took him to the mortuary - was the gendarme the only Christian we knowingly met in the film apart from Father Frank?

Gran Torino showed how it is possible to radically transform our relationships with each other. It’s about tolerance and accepting cultural differences and hope, self-sacrifice and unlikely friendships and again a brilliant soundtrack.

Dead Man Walking had another great soundtrack particularly *The Face of Love*, so simple and transcendent. Really difficult film to watch knowing it was based on a true story. Those convicted men were so human; they just could not value humanity. What struck me about Sister Prejean was the way in which she was able to extend her love and understanding to everyone equally, the families, those who carried out the sentence and the convicted.

I Daniel Blake - Sailing By - Daniel fighting a heartless bureaucracy with a heart condition with all that social worker jargon, highlighted in the exchange with Harry who offers a job to Daniel and the interview with Amanda, the health care professional. The film is just the best reminder of how human dignity can survive in the face of such mumbo jumbo, red tape and officialdom and what a moment in the foodbank which underlined the system’s neglect. Not based a true-life story, but a story that many of us know, is sadly true.

The Soloist - soundtrack by Dario Marianelli and the maestro Beethoven. Another film based on a true story - poignant and not easy to watch and in Los Angeles, a city where fairy tales are made and with 90,000 homeless people? Has the fifty million dollars promised by the mayor made any difference? That was the first time we had seen the film and we will watch it again.

Sally Langdon

Half-Marathon Sponsorship

Thank you to all those who sponsored the Abbey team of four in the Bath Half-Marathon. I’m delighted to report that with match-funding from the Andrew Brownsword Charitable foundation we raised over £7,000 for Footprint. This well exceeded our expectations - and despite sore ribs, tight calfs and aching thighs, a great morning was had - and in perfect weather conditions. Let me know if you want to join a team for 2020.

Stephen

Take part in fundraising abseil

Back by popular demand, Leap of Faith! is a unique chance to abseil down the face of the Bath Abbey tower, a staggering 49 metres high. On 15th June, 54 intrepid fundraisers will take on the challenge all in the name of supporting Genesis Trust and the Bath Abbey’s Footprint Project. Venturing up 212 steps to the top of the tower, the climbers will be harnessed to a rope before they bravely make their way down three-quarters of the way to the bottom.

This is certainly an opportunity not to be missed. If you’d like to get involved, go to <https://www.trybooking.co.uk/IJW> to secure your place. Registration is £30 and sponsorship is just £150, with an overall fundraising target of £15,000 to be raised.

Nick Mayo, CEO at Genesis Trust said: “This is a brilliant occasion to raise funds for two local organisations working in partnership. It was so successful last year, and we wanted to give people who missed out last time the opportunity to take part”.

The Revd Canon Guy Bridgewater, Rector of Bath Abbey, said: “Since becoming Rector last year, I have had many new experiences but none quite like this! Nonetheless I am immensely looking forward to abseiling down the Abbey tower, all the more because it’s to raise money for two wonderful causes, the Genesis Trust and the Abbey’s own Footprint project. Part of the Abbey’s mission is to support the work of Genesis Trust in the city, so we’re delighted to be teaming up once again. For us, this is very much a community event, so we’d love to see as many local people as possible on the day, whether they’re taking part or have come along to cheer on the abseilers!



Thy Kingdom Come

This is a global prayer initiative promoted by the Archbishop of Canterbury that we with our sister churches in Bath, are fully signed up to. There will be a special service in the Abbey on 30th May at 7.30pm, when the Rector will be speaking on the central importance of prayer in the mission of the church and there will be a contribution from staff at the national 24/7-Prayer HQ in London. This year, from 2nd June for eight days, there will be specially created 24/7 Prayer-venue near St John’s RC church - we’re inviting people to sign up for an hour or so to pray for the life of our city and the mission of the church locally and globally. Details to follow. Thank you for your support.



New Youth Worker

A warm welcome to David Myatt who was appointed as a part-time youth worker here at the Abbey. David will join our other youth worker, Ross, in helping with the young people in the Abbey’s girls’ and boys’ choirs and at our Abbey youth group on Monday evenings, ANCHOR.

We asked David a few questions about starting at the Abbey and here are his responses:

Q: What has been the most exciting thing about joining the Abbey?

A: The most exciting thing about starting youth work in the Abbey is seeing the anchor group develop and further their understanding of the Christian faith. Being asked all sorts of questions and working through the answers with Jane and Ross is just a great bonus!

Q: Can you suggest a couple of points people can pray about for you and the youth work?

A: Prayers for the youth that come to Monday evening Anchor sessions would be really great. While we have 10 coming along (which is awesome), it would be really good if we could get the whole choir along each week.

Q: How do you see God at work in the young people’s lives - in the choir and in the youth group or Sunday Children’s groups?

A: Obviously the youth and children in the church is really exciting to be a part of because they are the future of our community. By working with the choir groups the most common theme is them feeling God’s presence while they sing which is really exciting to hear.

Getting to know...

We asked two of our Girls’ Choir, Clara Phelps and Ella Cumpson, to give us an insight into what it is like to be part of the Abbey Choir.

How and when did you join the Abbey Choir?

Ella: I joined Bath Abbey choir at the same time as Clara in 2013 as we started secondary school. We were both originally in the younger choir, Melody Makers, and so as we got older we decided to audition actually on the same day.

What is a typical week for you?

Clara: We rehearse on Mondays and sing evensong on Thursdays. On Sundays we alternate with the boys’ choir - either singing two services in the morning or evensong in the afternoon. Ella: On a Monday after a singing lesson straight after school, I walk to the Abbey to start rehearsal at 4.30pm. The rehearsal finishes at 5.45pm and I then attend the Abbey youth group, Anchor. On a Thursday we get to the Abbey from 4.30pm to run through music for evensong with the men’s choir, sing at the evensong service and have a brief rehearsal afterward and usually finish around 6.30pm. On Sundays, we either start at 8:45am for two-morning services to finish at 12:30pm or we start at 2:30pm for one service finishing at around 4:30pm. This alternates each week.

What do you enjoy best about being part of the Abbey Choir?

Ella: My favourite part of being in the Abbey Choir is the singing. Sometimes when the whole choir is singing a piece I really like, especially with the men’s choir, the harmonies blend together in such a way that is really amazing to me. It makes me feel proud. Clara: I like that we are always challenged with what we sing, and that we have the opportunity perform such varied pieces of music.

What do you admire most about your fellow choristers and why?

Clara: As well as the talent my friends at choir have, I admire the support everyone has for each other. There is a very encouraging atmosphere among the choristers. Ella: The closeness of the choir allows us to know each other really well and so the adaptability of everyone can be really obvious. Especially with the younger and newer members, I know when you first join if you’ve never seen sheet music before it can be quite daunting but the way the can recover from and correct their mistakes is crazy. They can pick up details about the music and our parts so quickly, it’s inspiring.

