

Footprint heating update: The underfloor heating in the East End is now on. In the first instance, you will be aware of heat coming from the fin heaters in the heating trenches. However, the underfloor heating below the ledgerstones will take about 10 days before it is warm. There is another small note of caution: please do not think this is the heating system operating at full capacity; the heating is restricted to the East End only at present. Also, we haven't installed the heat exchangers in the Great Drain yet – so this won't be the eco-heating system powered by the hot springs. The heating will be mains gas until we install the heat exchangers in early 2021 so the underfloor heating won't be working as fully intended until the whole eco-heating system is completed towards the end of the Footprint project. However, the main point is a positive one - it should be a lot warmer this winter than it was last year, especially as the underfloor heating will be supplemented by heaters on the columns in the East End. Thank you for your patience with all this; if you have any questions please contact the Abbey Office on 01225 422462 or office@bathabbey.org

For your prayers

'...in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your request be made known to God,' *Philippians 4. 6*

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Prayer Focus – Reaching the Unreached: In October 2018 at the World Health Organisation Global Conference in Astana the final declaration restated 'the fundamental human right of every human being to the enjoyment of the highest standard of health without distinction of any kind'.

In rural Tamil Nadu in southern India there remain many obvious indicators of persistent chronic ill health and disease among the people living there.

Pray for all those ill with the effects of tuberculosis , past infection with leprosy, HIV, malnutrition and other illnesses and give thanks and pray for the staff, doctors and nurses at the Pushparani Clinic at RTU who give relief to the suffering and the sick. Amen.

Pray for Contact Group Leaders: Barry Cooper and Colin Maggs
Pray for Cath Foxwell , the Abbey Fundraising and Development Manager

Ministers: Every Member
Rector: The Revd Canon Guy Bridgewater

Abbey Missioner: The Revd Stephen Girling
Associate Priest: The Revd Evelyn Lee-Barber

Associate Minister: The Revd Ken Madden

Youth & Families Minister: Tim Norton

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Derek Smith – DSmith@bathabbey.org
(Tel: 07943 179194)

The Abbey Office, 11A York Street, Bath BA1 1NG Tel: 01225 422462

Email: office@bathabbey.org Website: www.bathabbey.org

ABBEY OFFICE OPENING HOURS

Monday 10.00am – 3.30pm, Tuesday – Friday 9.00am – 3.30pm

Welcome

Sunday 15th December 2019

The Third Sunday of Advent

At the beginning of this week we gather to worship God in this season of Advent as we consider the coming of Christ as saviour and King.

8.00 am Holy Communion

Old Testament Isaiah 35:1-10 (p 673)
Gospel Matthew 11:2-11 (p 10)
Preacher The Revd Ken Madden

9.30 am Parish Communion

There is a crèche and groups for young people

Old Testament Isaiah 35:1-10 (p 673)
Gospel Matthew 11:2-11 (p 10)
Preacher The Revd Ken Madden

11.15 am Sung Eucharist with the Abbey Choir of Boys and Lay-Clerks

Old Testament Isaiah 35:1-10 (p 673)
Gospel Matthew 11:2-11 (p 10)
Preacher The Revd Ken Madden
The setting is Mass for Four Voices by W Byrd

3.30 pm Choral Evensong with the Abbey Choir of Lay-Clerks

Introit	Laetentur Coeli	Hassler
Responses	Tallis	
Psalm	12 (p 153)	
Old Testament	Isaiah 5:8-end (p 644)	
New Testament	Acts 13:13-41 (p 128)	
Canticles	Magnificat Secundi toni	Suriano
	Nunc dimittis – tone v	
Anthem	So komm doch Jesu	Buxtehude
Hymn	26	

6.30 pm Messiaen's La Nativité du Seigneur

Short meditative organ pieces interspersed with bible readings to reflect on the theme of Christ's incarnation



NB: Due to carol services and rehearsals there is no Evening Prayer during December

Mon 16 The Abbey will be open for visiting from 10.00am-5.30pm
8.30 am Morning Prayer

Tues 17 The Abbey will be open for visiting from 9.00am-5.30pm
8.30 am Morning Prayer

Wed 18 The Abbey will be open for visiting from 9.00am-5.30pm
8.30 am Morning Prayer

Thurs 19 The Abbey will be open for visiting from 9.00am-5.30pm
8.30 am Morning Prayer
10.30 am Holy Communion

Fri 20 The Abbey will be open for visiting from 9.00am-5.30pm
8.30 am Holy Communion

Sat 21 The Abbey will be open for visiting from 9.00am-6.00pm

Sunday 22 - The Fourth Sunday of Advent

The Abbey is not open for visiting today but visitors are welcome to join us for our services

8.00 am Holy Communion
9.30 am Parish Communion
11.15 am Sung Eucharist
2.30 pm Family Carol Service
4.00 pm Family Carol Service

NOTICES

Festivals of Nine Lessons and Carols: All the tickets for the 5pm service have been disbursed; there are some still available for the 7.30pm service. Experience suggests that there will be tickets returned or seats unclaimed at both, and we shall do our utmost to find a seat for people who come along and queue about half an hour before the start of each service.

December SPCK Book of the Month: *Love Set You Going: Poems of the Heart* by Janet Morley. Love is fundamental to our being, our growth, our development and our happiness. Love enables us to make meaning of our lives in the world, and it gives us hope for what lies beyond. It is completely humdrum and ordinary – yet mysterious beyond words. In this unmissable anthology, Janet Morley demonstrates how such poems reveal what our hearts eventually discern – love has its seasons and ambiguities, its certainties and passions. Love is never simple at all. **Available in Bath Abbey Shop for £12.99.**

The Men's Group will meet on Wednesday, 18 December from 10am to 11.30am at St Michael's Without, by Waitrose, for refreshment and fellowship and to hear Frank Mowat, Bath Abbey's CEO, give his annual talk. Please come for our last meeting of the year.

Open Christmas: There could be many empty chairs at the Big Christmas Day Party unless we find more party goers. Open Christmas, supported by the churches for many years, is not about food poverty. It's more about social poverty. Those who attend value the opportunity for a friendly chat, often leading to new friendships, over a meal. They get the works! Plenty of turkey with all the trimmings. We cater for vegetarians, vegans and other dietary needs. Tel: 01225 312271 or 07392 974405. It can be done by the person who wants to attend or by a friend or relative. It's not just for elderly people. Thank you.

The funeral of Mary King MBE will be on Friday 20 December at 1pm at Haycombe. Anyone who knew her would be welcome.

Handmade Christmas Cards raise £204 for Footprint: Thank you to everyone who bought Sue Clark's lovely handmade Christmas Cards in support of the Footprint Project. Together, you have helped raise £204 for Footprint, which will be doubled by the Brownsword Matchfund.

VE & VJ Day 75th Anniversary Celebrations: In 2020 the Royal British Legion will be asking the nation to remember the impact that leaving, missing and returning home has on service men and women & their loved ones – then and now. The commemorations for both VE and VJ Day will be the central part of our national remembrance and will bring home the scale of service and sacrifice made by men and women of the Second World War generation.

A special programme of events marking VE 75 will take place over the Early May Bank Holiday 2020 in Central London and has been designed to be of particular interest to all from the Second World War generation who served at home and overseas across the European theatre. The RBL are pleased to announce that they plan to host 750 veterans from across the UK, each accompanied by a nominated companion, to attend the VE 75 events programme in Central London over the period 8-9 May 2020. Their invitation includes a fully funded plan for transport, meals and accommodation; veterans will travel to London courtesy of the National Rail Group on Thursday 7 May 2020 and return home on Sunday 10 May 2020.

Similarly, the RBL is pleased to announce that in partnership with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) and Royal Commonwealth Ex-Services League they will be funding the travel and accommodation costs for a series of tours for veterans of the Asia-Pacific campaign to key commemorative, and CWGC sites, across South and South East Asia. Details of how to apply can be found on the following RBL sites:

<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/remembrance/remembrance-events/ve-day-75>

<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/remembrance/remembrance-events/vj-day-75>