

Celebrating Difference – a 5 week course in the lead up to Easter. In an increasingly polarised world it's crucially important for us to be curious about differences between us, to put ourselves in each other's shoes and re-imagine a better future. The Archbishop's course will help us explore and embrace difference and help us to support reconciliation. Led by Revd Stephen Girling and Caleb Mallard on the five Wednesdays from 4th March inclusive, at 'The Bubble' lounge next to the Cross Baths in the city centre. Spaces limited – to book contact Lynn on 01225 422462 or office@bathabbey.org

Volunteers needed: We are currently recruiting for new welcome volunteers to join the Visitor Services Team. Our welcome volunteers provide a warm, friendly and sensitive welcome to all who enter the Abbey and are the first face a visitor will see. They give brief initial information to visitors and encourage entry donations. To find out more about joining the team please contact Sarah Fielding (Visitor Services Manager) or Jess McKenzie (Deputy Visitor Services Manager) on visits@bathabbey.org or 01225 303315.

The Friends are reminded that their annual communion service and talk will be at St Michael's Without, at 10.00am on Thursday 13th February. (This is to ensure that Canon Guy Bridgewater's talk will be free of noise from Footprint works.)

For your prayers

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

Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Prayer Focus – Wycliffe Bible Translators: This week we pray for the local CABTAL team working in partnership with Wycliffe in Cameroon, to launch the newly translated New Testament in March/April. This is a project that the Abbey has supported for well over ten years. We thank God that the Bible will now be available in the Tunen language of the Banen people. We pray for the work of all the teachers who have been working tirelessly over recent years to raise standards of literacy, to enable people to read the Bible and other new specially written literature for healthcare, farming and family.

Pray for Home Group Leaders: Rebecca Day and Delyth Cardy
 Pray for Contact Group Leaders: Simon and Elizabeth Tait
 Pray for the Operations Manager Jon Hoffmann and the Operations Team

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)

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ABBEY OFFICE OPENING HOURS

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

Welcome

Sunday 2nd February 2020

Presentation of Christ in the Temple

At the beginning of this week we gather to worship God before going to serve him in the city and wider world or here at the Abbey

8.00 am Holy Communion

Old Testament Malachi 3:1-5 (p 904)
 Gospel Luke 2:22-40 (p 56)
 Preacher The Revd Narinder Tegally

10.15 am Holy Communion with the Abbey Choir of Boys and Lay-Clerks

Crèche and children's groups will meet in the South aisle from the start of the service

Old Testament Malachi 3:1-5 (p 904)
 Gospel Luke 2:22-40 (p 56)
 Preacher The Revd Narinder Tegally
The Gloria and Agnus Dei are from Missa Brevis in F K192 by Mozart; The Sanctus is from The Salisbury Service by Grayston Ives

3.00 pm Choral Evensong with the Abbey Choir of Girls and Lay-Clerks

Introit Nunc Dimittis Burgon
 Responses Byrd
 Psalm 122 (p 291)
 Old Testament Haggai 2:1-9 (p 893)
 New Testament John 2:18-22 (p 90)
 Canticles Magnificat Quinti toni J Praetorius
 Nunc Dimittis Holst
 Anthem And he shall purify Handel
 Hymn 314

6.30 pm Informal Evening Service

Leader: The Revd Evelyn Lee-Barber
A short reflective service with scriptures and prayers to end the day. Everyone welcome.



Mon 3 The Abbey will be open for visiting from 9.30am-5.30pm
8.30 am Morning Prayer
5.30 pm Evening Prayer

Tues 4 The Abbey will be open for visiting from 9.00am-5.30pm
8.30 am Morning Prayer
5.30 pm Evening Prayer

Wed 5 The Abbey will be open for visiting from 9.00am-5.30pm
8.30 am Morning Prayer
5.30 pm Evening Prayer

Thurs 6 The Abbey will be open for visiting from 9.00am-5.30pm
8.00am-8.30am Ringing to mark Accession Day
8.30 am Morning Prayer
10.30 am Holy Communion
5.30 pm Choral Evensong

Fri 7 The Abbey will be open for visiting from 9.00am-5.30pm
8.30 am Holy Communion
9.00 am First Friday Prayers
5.30 pm Evening Prayer

Sat 8 The Abbey will be open for visiting from 9.00am-6.00pm

Sunday 9 - The Third Sunday before Lent

The Abbey will be open for visiting 12.15pm-1.45pm and 4.00pm-6.30pm
8.00 am Holy Communion
10.15 am Holy Communion with the Abbey Choir
3.00 pm Choral Evensong
6.30 pm Informal Evening Service

NOTICES

Lent books 2020: Due to the temporary closure of the Abbey Shop, a full range of Lent books will not be available this year, but never fear – a limited stock of three exciting new titles will be available to browse and buy for £9.99 from the Welcome Desk. The available titles are *Saying Yes to Life* by Ruth Valerio (the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 2020), *The Grace-filled Wilderness* by Magdalen Smith, and *My Sour-Sweet Days* by Mark Oakley. Any queries, please email Lorna Blythe lblythe@bathabbey.org.uk

Home for Good, a charity which supports fostering and adoption in BANES, is looking for eleven more families so that no vulnerable child needs a loving home. Please join us in prayer for the right people to come forward and pray for those Churches where people are being prompted to adopt or foster. For more details contact Dave Kingswood batharea@homeforgood.org.uk

Sunday Coffee after 10.15am service: As we are endeavouring to be eco-friendly if you have a reusable coffee cup please bring it with you. Thank you.

The Abbey bells will be rung 8.00am-8.30am on Thursday 6 February to celebrate the 68th anniversary of Her Majesty The Queen's accession to the throne.

Jesus sent out his disciples 2 by 2. Have you been thinking you would like to sensitively share the Gospel with strangers but would like training, encouragement and support? There is a group meeting on the 1st Saturday of the month (1st Feb through to 6th June), 9.30am at St Matt's in Widcombe (come upstairs). Starting with prayer and some simple training/practise, people then go out in pairs for an hour to engage with folks in Bath. They then come back to review, share stories, learning and be encouraged. If you are interested, come along, for more information contact Simon Guillebaud simon@greatlakesoutreach.org or, to speak to someone who has tried it recently for the first time, Rachel Leigh-Wood 07758 515092, rmlleighwood@gmail.com

A message from Matthew Butler, Tower Master, regarding bell-ringing arrangements: The temporary change to the morning service times has had a knock-on effect on our bell-ringing times. Many of our bell-ringers ring at other nearby churches as well as the Abbey. Unfortunately, ringing before the 10.15am service clashes with the ringing times of those other churches, leaving both them and the Abbey short of ringers. We can ring after the service instead, but this is not ideal as bell-ringing should really be a call to worship. As a compromise, we have agreed that on 1st and 3rd Sundays, we will ring before the service (9.30am-10.15am) and on 2nd and 4th Sundays we will ring after it (c. 11.15am-12noon). We will of course revert to the status quo ante once this temporary period has ended.

Easter Experience: Thank you to all volunteers who have stepped forward to help with Easter Experience, however, we are still in need of more help. We are inviting schools to come to the Abbey between 16 - 27 March for hands on activities which explore the main events of the Easter Story. We have three roles available, activity lead, activity support and hospitality. If you are able to help contact Jess, Deputy Visitor Services Manager, by emailing jmckenzie@bathabbey.org or calling the Abbey Office on 01225 422462.

Voces del Camino Choral Concert, Saturday 15th February: In Support of Footprint. In 2015, renowned choral director Nigel Perrin travelled with a group of singers along the Camino de Santiago pilgrim route in northern Spain. The choir he formed, Voces del Camino, returned to the Camino in 2019, giving concerts at Logrono and Burgos Cathedrals. This performance features music by Marenzio, Victoria, Poulenc, de Padilla, Messiaen and Guerrero. It takes place in Bath Abbey on 15th February at 7pm and lasts approximately one hour. Free admission with a retiring collection in support of Bath Abbey's Footprint Project, which will be matched by the Brownsword Charitable Foundation.

Monday afternoon home group: There is room for more members in our home group, which meets on the first and third Mondays of each month, from 3.00pm to 4.30pm. We meet at 36 Green Park, the home of Elizabeth Sellars. The new term began on 20 January and we are looking at Mark's gospel. For further details please contact Canon Roger Clifton on 01225 330211 - or just turn up!

Baptism and confirmations on Easter Sunday: Are you considering baptism and confirmation? If so we would like to know as Evelyn will run preparation classes starting in March: evelyn@bathabbey.org (if work commitments make it difficult for particular days, that can be worked around).