

Easter Experience: Thank you to all volunteers who have stepped forward to help with Easter Experience. Please pray for the final planning for our welcome and hosting of 11 schools.

Bath Half Marathon sponsorship – Guy, Stephen, Steve Chamberlain and Louise Perry are running the Bath Half on 15th March to raise money for Footprint, if you are able to sponsor them please do so on the form near the coffee station on a Sunday, in the Abbey office or on <https://localgiving.org/fundraising/bath-abbey-marathon-team/>.

Abbey Boys' Choir: Tour to Belgium at end of May. The Abbey Boys and Lay clerks have been invited to sing concerts and Evensongs at various venues in Belgium and the Netherlands over the 4 day tour. The boys are busy fundraising to cover travel costs and part of this is a series of informal recitals with bake sale in the Abbey. There are 3 more recitals coming up and it is an opportunity to hear our talented and hardworking choristers show off their individual singing and instrumental skills. The next recital is on Bank Holiday Monday 13th April at 11am – do join us to enjoy music and delicious home bakes.

For your prayers

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

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; through Jesus Christ your Son 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 – The beleaguered church: Sabeel continues to organise local Bible study groups in the community to help Christians to come together and reflect on what it means to follow Christ today, living under the oppressive constraints in the land of Palestine and Israel.

- Lord, your words are life and light. We give thanks to all the lay leaders who help organise the Bible Study groups and prepare the material. Accept our prayers as incense offered to you, and our upraised hands as an evening offering (Psalm 141). Lord, in your mercy ... *hear our prayer.*

Pray for Home Group Leaders: Rebecca Day and Delyth Cardy
Pray for Contact Group Leaders: Gill and Ken Hylson-Smith
Pray for the Tower Captain Matthew Butler and his team of Bell Ringers

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 1st March 2020

The First Sunday of Lent

As we journey through Lent we seek to be changed into the likeness of Christ.
As an Abbey we are considering the use of our 'time, talents and treasure'
in the context of our Vision and Mission.

8.00 am Holy Communion

New Testament Romans 5:12-19 (p 151)

Gospel Matthew 4:1-11 (p 3)

Preacher The Revd Stephen Girling

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

New Testament Romans 5:12-19 (p 151)

Gospel Matthew 4:1-11 (p 3)

Preacher The Revd Stephen Girling

The Kyrie and Agnus Dei are from Mass for Four Voices by Byrd;

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 The Lent Prose Plainsong

Responses Plainsong

Psalm 50:1-5

Old Testament Deuteronomy 6:4-9, 16-end (p 170)

New Testament Luke 15:1-10 (p 75)

Canticles The Second Service by Gibbons

Anthem Hear my prayer Mendelssohn

Hymn 214 (ii)

6.30 pm Informal Evening Service

Leader: The Revd Canon Nigel Rawlinson

A short reflective service with scriptures and prayers to end the day.

Everyone welcome.

BathAbbey



Mon 2 The Abbey will be open for visiting from 9.30am-5.30pm
8.30 am Morning Prayer
1.00 pm Lunchtime Talk: Anticipating Easter (looking at the West window)
5.30 pm Evening Prayer

Tues 3 The Abbey will be open for visiting from 9.00am-5.30pm
8.30 am Morning Prayer
5.30 pm Evening Prayer

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

Thurs 5 The Abbey will be open for visiting from 9.00am-5.30pm
8.30 am Morning Prayer
10.30 am Holy Communion
5.30 pm Choral Evensong
7.30 pm 'Come and See' Evening

Fri 6 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

6.30 pm Footprint Fundraising Concert – Abbey Choir of Boys and Girls
Tickets from Bath Box Office: Proceeds will be matchfunded by the Brownsword Charitable Foundation. All Welcome

Sat 7 The Abbey will be open for visiting from 9.00am-6.00pm

Sunday 8 March - The Second Sunday of 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 with the Abbey Choir
6.30 pm Informal Evening Service

NOTICES

Volunteers Needed for British Science Week Event: On Saturday 7th March the Abbey and Roman Baths will be running a free, joint event under a big marquee in the Abbey Square. The event will celebrate the amazing science and technology of the Footprint and Archway Projects through hands-on activities. We still need volunteers to help facilitate the event and to gather feedback from those attending through a short questionnaire. Any time you could offer to help with this between 10.30am and 3.30pm on the day would be appreciated. Please contact Ollie Taylor on otaylor@bathabbey.org or 01225 303322.

'Come and See!' was Jesus' own invitation to his first followers. You are warmly invited to a special **'Come and See!'** **Evening** on Thursday 5th March in the Abbey, for 3 exciting celebrations rolled into 1:

- An **Introduction to the Abbey's Mission Action Plan for 2020-25** - following our series of 2020 Vision consultations last year
- A **Celebration of Completing Phase 2 of Footprint**, as we move into Phase 3 and on towards the end of the build phase of the project
- A **Launch of our Abbey Stewardship Campaign** being held during Lent, inviting us each to commit practically to the Abbey's Vision and Mission priorities

All Most Welcome. Doors open at 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start, 9pm finish.

Bath Abbey Mothers' Union members and friends. A reminder that Mothering Sunday is on 22nd March, so help is needed please for making the bunches of flowers on Saturday 21st. Time and venue tba. Please contact Margaret Jupp if you can help (Tel 01225 311390 or mag.jupp@btinternet.com).

Journeying through Lent. The following are offered as resources

- **Bath Churches Lent Prayer book** – a page a day to pray for a different aspect of the life, work and worship of the city. Available in the Abbey.
- **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, 7pm-9pm, 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
- **Mission and Stewardship** – launching on 5/3, a month long focus on the Abbey's Vision and Mission Action Plan and our response in the stewardship of our money, time and talents. Themes of The Gift of Grace, Faith, Joy and Life will be supported by our Sunday morning preaching.
- **Visio Divina – a resource booklet** using the practice of 'divine seeing' a series of fine art paintings from the National Gallery have been selected to use as a tool for reflection, contemplation and prayer Lent. Instructions provided! Available from the office or electronically from pparfrey@bathabbey.org
- **Lectio Divina – a resource booklet** using the ancient practice of 'sacred reading' a series of prayers and scriptures with suggested artwork to illustrate the gospel readings; an alternative way of slowing down for Lent. Available from the office or electronically from pparfrey@bathabbey.org
- **Lent books** available from the front desk. 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