

2020 Vision is Here! Please collect a 2020 Vision Pack from the back of Church, to find out about the new Mission Action Plan for Bath Abbey - and how you can be a part of how God is leading us forward this year. If you are a member of the Abbey Electoral Roll, please collect an envelope and tick your name off the list so that we know you have received it (and if you can possibly hand deliver anyone else's to them, please help us save postage!) The Rector's address launching our 2020 Vision, given at the Come and See event, is also available on the Abbey website. Please pray about your own response to the Abbey Vision and return the two response forms to the Abbey Office by Easter Day. Thank you.

Hope for Creation in Crisis: Workshops and Conversations on Saturday, 14th March at 9.30am-4.00pm at Southdown Methodist Centre. For more information and to book a place contact souterfam@aol.com

Paragon Singers concert Saturday 14 March in St John's, South Parade at 7.30pm. **Music and Monarchy** will feature Tudor gems by Byrd, Tallis and Parsons, with modern responses by Roderick Williams, Kerry Andrew and Roxanna Panufnik. Tickets £15, students £6.

For your prayers

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

Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth, that they may return to the way of righteousness: grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ, 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 Leader: Sue Hoskins
 Pray for Contact Group Leader: Pamela Farran
 Pray for the Shop Manager Donna Lodge and her team of staff and volunteers

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 8th March 2020

The Second 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 2020 Vision.

8.00 am Holy Communion

New Testament Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 (p 150)
 Gospel John 3:1-17 (p 90)
 Preacher The Revd Ken Madden

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

Crèche and children's groups will meet in the South aisle from the start of the service
 New Testament Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 (p 150)
 Gospel John 3:1-17 (p 90)
 Preacher The Revd Ken Madden
*The Kyrie is from The London Service by Huw Williams;
 The Sanctus and Agnus are from Mass in G by Poulenc*

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

Introit The Lent Prose Plainsong
 Responses Clucas
 Psalm 121
 Old Testament Numbers 21:4-9 (p 145)
 New Testament Luke 14:27-33 (p 74)
 Canticles Noble in B minor
 Anthem Cantique de Jean Racine Fauré
 Hymn 56

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 9 The Abbey will be open for visiting from 9.30am-5.30pm
8.30 am Morning Prayer
1.00 pm Lunchtime Talk: Christ's last days (looking at the East window)
5.30 pm Evening Prayer

Tues 10 The Abbey will be open for visiting from 9.00am-5.30pm
8.30 am Morning Prayer
5.30 pm Evening Prayer

Wed 11 The Abbey will be open for visiting from 9.00am-5.30pm
8.30 am Morning Prayer
5.30 pm Evening Prayer

Thurs 12 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

Fri 13 The Abbey will be open for visiting from 9.00am-5.30pm
8.30 am Holy Communion
5.30 pm Evening Prayer
7.30 pm Bath Spa University Concert including works by Shostakovich, Ravel, Handel and Mozart – *Tickets from Bath Box Office*

Sat 14 The Abbey will be open for visiting from 9.00am-6.00pm

Sunday 15 March - The Third 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

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/>. Juliet Newton, member of the Abbey, is running to raise money for the RUH New Cancer Centre Appeal, to sponsor Juliet go to www.justgiving.com/fundraising/juliet-newton1 Thank you.

Prayer for Peace to Rain: Join us for a vigil around the healing waters of the stunning torchlit Roman Baths this evening, Sunday 8th March, 8pm-9pm. The vigil is a time to share and connect with our community, a gathering for profound reflection, prayer and peace, incorporating silence and music. All donations will be equally split between WWF and the British Red Cross in support of the Australian Bushfire Appeal. For more information visit <https://www.prayerforpeacetorain.com/>

WE NEED YOUR PLANTS! – We would love to borrow some large(ish) houseplants to help decorate the Garden Tomb for our upcoming Easter Experience which runs for 2 weeks from Monday 16th March. If you can help please contact Tim Norton at Tnorton@bathabbey.org or 07891 593801.

Friday Footprint Concerts: 1 May, 15 May, 5 June and 3 July at 6.30pm. Join us for an evening filled with the beautiful sound of choral music. Each choir brings their own style and passion for singing and is sure to delight audiences in equal measure. The school choirs are part of the Abbey's Schools' Singing Programme; the Melody Makers are the Abbey's youngest choir of 6-11 year olds, and the Aquae Sulis Chorale is a chamber choir made up of local professional and semi-professional singers. All money raised will go to the Abbey's Footprint Project and will be doubled by the Brownsword Charitable Foundation. Tickets from Bath Box Office: £10 Adult, £5 Child/Concessions. The concert schedule is available online at www.bathabbey.org/whats-on/friday-footprint-concerts/all/

Abbey Boys' Choir: Unfortunately, the tour to Belgium at the end of May has been postponed. The boys are still continuing with their fundraising 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.

The Abbey Men's Group will meet on Wednesday 18 March at 10am in St Michael's Without. Our speaker will be Andrew Fletcher and his subject "Christianity and Social Order (1942) - William Temple." We will gather in the cafe area for refreshment and fellowship and then go down to the crypt at 10.30am for the talk.

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).

Community Houses of Prayer (CHOPs) are meeting in over 20 locations to pray for our city, all at the same time of day. The next meeting is on Tuesday 10 March at 7.45pm for an hour. To find your local venue contact: www.bathchurches.org.uk; bathchops@gmail.com

Guidelines for preventing infection: Visitors from all over the world gather here at the Abbey, together with our own congregation. We count it a privilege to make everyone welcome and we consider it a duty to keep them safe. During this time of heightened concern about possible infection, we would remind you that the Church teaches that Christ is fully present in each of the elements, and that receiving the bread alone constitutes a full Communion. If, therefore, you prefer not to receive the wine in this period, please cross your arms over your chest to signal that to the chalice assistant. (Please do not intinct (dip) the wafer in the wine, as this practice can be unhygienic).

Knowing how infection spreads, we discourage sharing of the peace with a handshake in this service, and from shaking hands as you leave us. A smile communicates wonderfully instead! Bath Abbey is a house of God, a place of healing and hope – and we are delighted that we can meet in confidence, to give thanks to God in whom there is fullness of life.