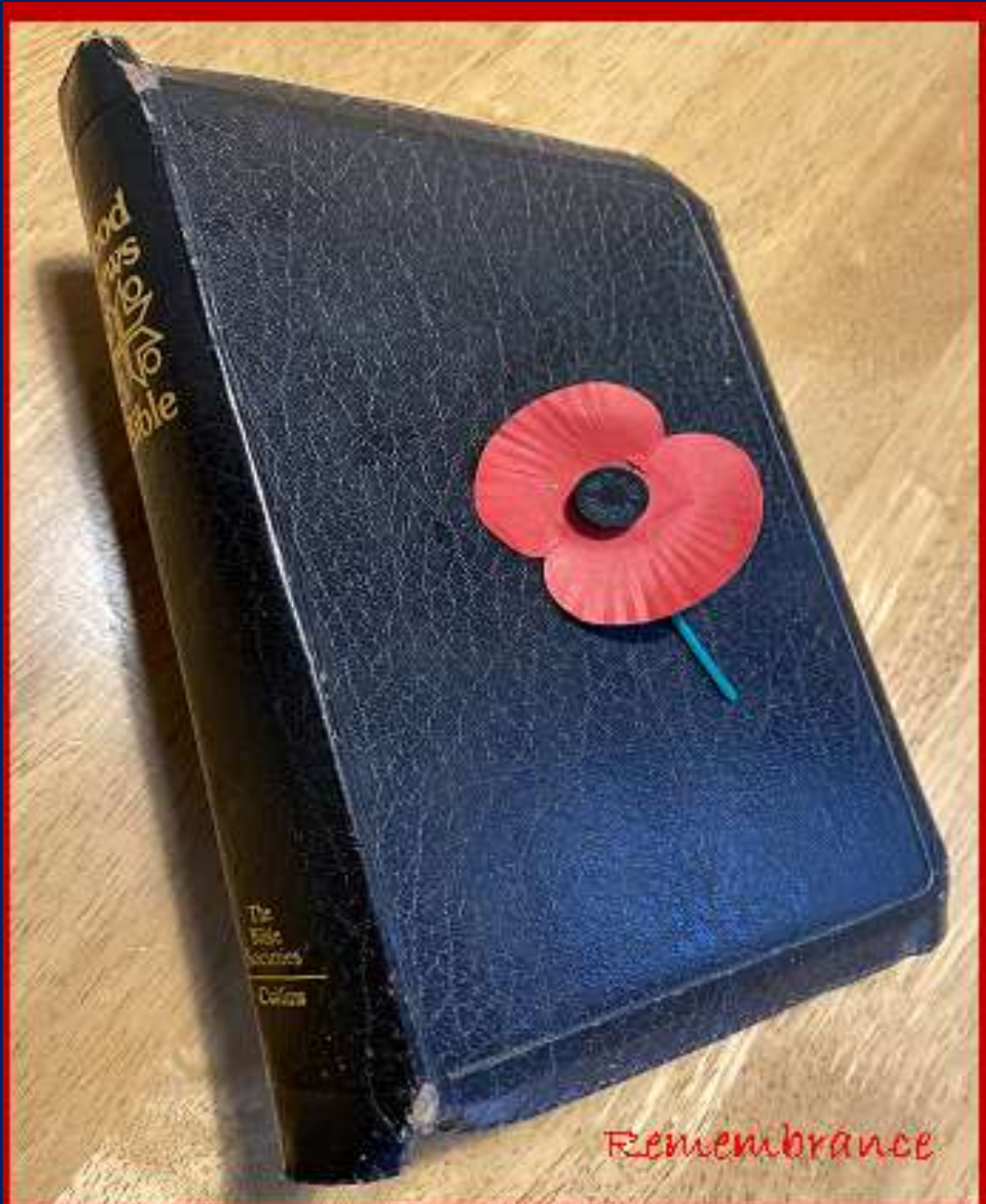


Parish Life Magazine

**Parish of Cirencester with
Watermoor and Chesterton**



1 Corinthians 11: 24-25

November 2023 £1

Parish of Cirencester with Watermoor and St Lawrence (Chesterton)

Useful contacts:

Vicar of Cirencester: Revd Canon Graham Morris

vicar@cirenparish.co.uk

Tel 01285 659317 Office 239655 Vicarage

The Vicar is very happy for you to contact him directly
for matters of concern pastorally or spiritually.

Parish Wardens

Aileen Anderson

aileenanderson@cirenparish.co.uk

Nigel Robbins

nigelrobbins@cirenparish.co.uk

Organist and Choirmaster

Hugo Kennard

hugo@cirenparish.co.uk

Electoral Roll Officer

Howard Gray

howardgray@cirenparish.co.uk

Sarah Marshall and Emily Winstanley (Parish Administration)

Email: office@cirenparish.co.uk

Website: www.cirenparish.co.uk

Parish Magazine articles (submitted by 16th day of previous month)

cirparmag4@gmail.com

Lead Article



We are now well into autumn and the changing colours of the trees, the sunshine and rain has given me much pleasure and I thank God for the beauty of this time of year.

There is much beauty in our world to be thankful for; however, in watching the television news or reading newspaper headlines one might not think so, and it isn't surprising that several people have said to me, where is God? Where is He in the Ukraine, where is He in Israel and Gaza!? How can He allow hostages to be taken and murdered?

The general state of the world with natural disasters, knife crime and the constant threat of climate change being ever present gives the general impression of a Godless world.

This is not the view we must take! Now, more than ever, we must remember His covenant with us, we must remember God created us, knows us and loves us. We must never stop looking for the sign of the rainbow, that wonderful sign of God's covenant – His promise to us. We must keep our trust and faith in God and our prayers and love must be unstinting at this time.

We do not fully understand how God works. We will not know Him fully until we depart this life and meet Him face to face in His everlasting kingdom; but we must not lose heart but remember His eternal promise of hope. We must continue to hope for a better world to live in. A world prepared to change.

Our lively, evolving parish must be to us a source of strength. If people are involved or affected by the horrendous happenings in the Holy Land and other parts of the world we must be prepared to act quickly in giving them all the support they need.

God is always with us sharing our pain. He will never desert us and we must not desert Him. Remember the Rainbow, remember God's Love. Remember His Beauty, Power and Compassion.

Revd Penny

Hannah's Jamboree Report

Hi everyone, my name is Hannah Freestone and some of you may know me from Cirencester Parish Church where I volunteered as part of my Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award work and also ran bake sales to help fund my trip to South Korea. I was lucky enough to be chosen to join the thousands of young people who attended the World Scout Jamboree 2023. Over the summer I, along with 39 other scouts from Wiltshire, flew to south Korea for the Jamboree. We started off in Seoul and spent 4 days exploring the city which was amazing! We visited temples, interacted with the local people, and even tried octopus at a street food market. This was one of my favourite parts of the trip and really made me realise how different Korea is from the UK and helped me become more aware of different cultures and traditions.

Over the 3 days that we spent actually on the Jamboree site, I got the opportunity to speak to people from all over the world who were all connected through Scouting, and it was incredible. People would just come up to you when walking around and have a conversation or ask to swap badges or neckers. It was such a great feeling of community and despite the heat I still thoroughly enjoyed myself and definitely made the most of my time on site staying positive by talking to as many people as possible, swapping 7 different neckers and learning about different countries cultures and traditions.

From the coverage on the news, you probably know what happened then. The Jamboree was forced to close early because of health reasons and the heat. Obviously, everyone was disappointed as this wasn't what we thought was going to happen but we then all got the chance to spend 1 ½ weeks in Seoul. I think by the end of it my friends and I had visited about every tourist sight there we could including the Seoul tower, the national museum of Korea, the Olympic Park, a cat café and many more. Even though the jamboree wasn't what we were expecting, I still really enjoyed myself and it is certainly an experience I will remember for the rest of my life.

I would also like to say a massive thank you to everyone in the Cirencester churches for all of the support and funding that you have given. I wouldn't have been able to do this without that and it means the world to me that you were all willing to give your support every step of the way. Thank you so much for making my dream a reality.
Hannah xxx



Musings in Mark



Mark 2:5 When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralysed man, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”

Jesus has returned to Capernaum after a ministry trip around the sea of Galilee, and he comes back to find that his fame has preceded him. The people have heard that he has come home and they gathered to see him so much so that they filled the room where he was and overflowed outside the door to the extent that the four who were bringing their paralysed friend to him could not enter.

One commentator remarked on the fact of his own anger in reading that the people who gathered were too selfish to open a way for the paralysed man to get directly to Jesus, and so the four think laterally! Up to the roof, a flat roof as were many of the homes of the time. There is a certain amount of humour in the fact that this crowd who had jammed into the room with Jesus find that bits of the ceiling, bits of wood, bits of clay and bits of tile were falling on their head while they were listening!

The fact of the man’s paralysis was obvious, and one would assume that Jesus would address this, but he doesn’t. He chooses instead to forgive his sins. This opens up a hornets nest both for those watching, but also for us. Those watching had problems with Jesus authority to forgive sins, for us it’s more about the connection between sin and sickness. Jesus has elsewhere said that sickness was not sin caused (John 9), and yet here he deals with sin first after which he commands the healing.

There are a few things we can take away from this, firstly perhaps the lateral thinking of getting people to Jesus! How can we work differently to share the good news outside of our normal ways? Secondly, avoiding the guilt trip of having to have done something wrong if sickness grabs us, there is a place for looking at our emotional, spiritual and attitudinal

behaviours and reactions to see if dealing with angers, resentments, bitterness and grudges set us free from their consequences. Thirdly, when we are praying for someone who is sick, we should let go of our expectations and see what Jesus is actually doing in their lives. His way is not always ours!

But ultimately where Jesus comes across sickness he deals with it and teaches and authorises his disciples to do the same, so when we, or others, are sick, along with involving the medical profession, talk to Jesus about it as well. Remember Jesus' brother James advice (5:14)!

Rev. Paul



September

September was a wonderful month. Our holiday in Italy was amazing. It was our final flight and we returned to Malcesine which we had been visiting for over thirty years.

Malcesine is a small town on the northern shore of Lake Garda. A cable car takes you to the summit of Monte Baldo and numerous ferries whizz you across the lake. We stayed at the Hotel Vega which was superb.

We had to move according to our increasing limitations regarding mobility and the cobbled streets were a problem. We were especially

pleased to hear two concerts by Ida Marie Turrie, a Carlisle born Mezzo Soprano. A free one around the harbour was a fine occasion.

Many people remembered us despite our last visit being before lockdown. My shoe man in the Saturday market greeted me like an old friend. He knocked down a pair of sandals by 15 euros! Regrettably the shirts I wanted are now out of fashion. We shall have lasting memories of events on and above the lake and some friendly people.

Then it was the Harvest Supper, a very boisterous and cheerful occasion. The supper was excellent and our own 'Russ Conway' was in fine form. Thank you Social Committee.

Memories of my harvest go back to the time of a reaper binder and stooking, very different to from the modern machines that Hoover up a field in a matter of hours but as a Cotswold lad I am proud of my memories. Harvest was important to mum and dad as overtime helped pay for school uniforms. Myself and my two brothers were at Grammar School.

Being born at Sheepscombe, the prettiest of the Cotswold villages and one with a proud place in my heart, meant I knew Frank Mansell, legendary fast bowler but also one who, in a few lines of poetry, could sum up life on the hills between Painswick and Birdlip.

I leave you with one such verse as we head for winter.

'Pray they sleep sound up on the Coswold
Till West wind and warm rain
Bid daffodils wake in the woodland
Restore them their springtime again.'

Key: Reaper binder – producer of sheaves

Stooking – placing of sheaves into stooks

Ida Marie Turri – a splendid singer who remembers Carlisle warmly and who has entertained generations of holiday makers.

John Light



From the October edition of the Parish Magazine 1915

The Parish Magazine of St Andrew's Plymouth, contains an interesting letter from the Revd R H Fulford, who is acting as Chaplain to the Forces in the Dardanelles:

"Services in the trenches," he says, "are difficult to arrange, as we are under constant fire. Yet I have administered the Sacrament in my dug-out to as many as the place would comfortably hold, and we have often spoken to men individually and in small groups in the firing line itself, and, of course, at the fixed ambulance station. Here there is a large natural cave, and on Sunday evening it was good to hear 'Abide with me' sung by a large number of men, with the shells rattling overhead.

"We had a wonderful service in the dark just before landing on the Peninsula, and it gave us the greater courage to meet the heavy shell fire which greeted us. Any day you may see men openly reading their New Testaments in the trenches and elsewhere, and many and earnest prayers are said from the heart.

Last week I was burying a fellow when the Corporal told me that the fatigue party, of which the dead man had been one, after a heavy shelling had gone down on their knees and thanked God for their escape.

We live here on the threshold of two worlds much more consciously than in everyday life, and England will be the better for the return of her Army in the present spirit. Of course, there are dull and foolish ones even in the tightest corners; but, at any rate, the question of life and death has to be faced, and in most cases the religious answer carries conviction and comfort."

Sent in by Howard Gray

These poems, previously published in 'Parish Life', are included in memory of Teresa Davies, a much loved member of our Parish congregation.



From Parish Life November 2014

Remembrance

Sombre thoughts in drear November,
Bitter memories of pain and loss,
Blood and mud and shrieking shells,
And somewhere in our world today,
As peace eludes mankind again,
The horror still goes on.

The horror still goes on.
We see it daily on our screens
Captors with merciless intent
Who slay to suit themselves.
In face of such atrocities
We watch in grief
And helplessness.

Lord God, in your great mercy,
Grant to all mankind
A change of heart and mind
Towards living side by side
In peace, until that day
When deadly weapons are replaced
By plough and pruning hook,
And war shall be no more,
And war shall be so more.

T.M.D.



From Parish Life November 2018

Lament

Lament, lament for the fallen,
Far from home in a foreign land,
Blasted from life,
In their youth and their strength.
The bugle calls at the last,
And, lonely at home, bereft ones weep
To the keening cry of the pipes.

Mourn, mourn for the murdered ones,
Lying in the city streets
And the country towns,
Whence safety has fled
Since more kindly times,
At the lawless ways of the faceless ones.

Weep, weep for the little ones,
Dead of abuse in their homes,
Tiny bodies tortured and torn,
Broken beyond belief,
In cruel neglect and rage,
By those who should love and care.

Lament, lament for us all,
For the evil abroad in our world,
Seek, seek, in our desperate need,
For the wisdom and will
From a merciful God,
To find, and to follow,
The more excellent ways of His peace.

T.M.D.



Botticelli: Adoration of the Magi, ca 1476, Uffizi Gallery (detail)



Registered Charity No 276649

J S Bach **Christmas** **Oratorio**

Parts I, II, III & VI (in English)

Carleton Etherington
Conductor

Corelli Orchestra
(Director Warwick Cole)

Soloists from The Royal College of Music, London:

Henna Mun (soprano) Annabel Kennedy (alto)
Sam Harris (Evangelist, tenor) Daniel Barrett (bass)

Saturday 2 December 7.30 pm
Cirencester Parish Church

(doors open at 6.45 pm)

Tickets: £16 (Student £6, Child £3) (unreserved seats) available from early November
from Cirencester Visitor Information Centre (01285 654180), Choral Society members
or www.cirencester-choral-soc.org.uk

Volunteers Urgently Needed!

Do you have parenting experience?

Can you spare 2-3 hours a week to help a family with young children?



Being a parent is hard for everyone. But sometimes it can be overwhelming, especially if you are dealing with other issues such as isolation, postnatal depression or multiple births. At Home-Start Cotswolds, we carefully match our trained volunteers with a family that they visit once a week, providing compassionate help and confidential support.

If you would like to help change the lives of families in the Cotswolds, access free, high-quality training and enhance your own well-being, please get in touch. Our next free, weekly training course starts on Thur 25th January and runs until Thur 21st March, 9.30am to 1.30pm.

There is more information on our website, along with an application form. (And if you can, please come to our information morning on Wed 8th November 2023, from 10.30am-12noon, at Cirencester Baptist Church, Chesterton Lane, GL7 1YE.)

- **Visit www.home-start-cotswolds.org.uk/volunteer**
- ☐ **Call 01285 885391**
- ☐ **Email office@home-start-cotswolds.org.uk**



‘My volunteer makes me stronger. If my mum was still here, she would be telling me the same things that my volunteer does.’ (Mum supported by Home-Start Cotswolds)

True or false? If you die between 9am and 5pm on a weekday, you're more likely to have a better death



It's true. Out of hours care when someone's dying is unpredictable. Fewer hospital staff work weekends, evenings and overnight, and GP surgeries are closed. In those last precious days and hours of life, patients and their families want to know support is available – whenever it's needed. In reality, many must cope alone. Longfield's nurses and healthcare assistants work 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, delivering free and expert hospice care in the comfort of people's homes.

Longfield's Director of Care Services, Sue Parris said, 'It's a truth we rarely speak about, but in the evening or at weekends, if you need help or advice to care for someone in their last weeks, days or hours of life, you may struggle to get help, or even find the right numbers to call. I hear from people who are at their wits' end. It can be a terrifying and exhausting time. That's why we're raising funds to make sure we can get desperately needed help to people when it's most needed.'

One day, you or someone you love might need Longfield. If they can raise £30,000, they can provide 450 hours of hospice care in homes across the county. If you would like to donate, go to longfield.org.uk/urgent-appeal to give online, or call them on 01453 886868.

Longfield Charity Christmas Cards

The new stocks of Christmas cards are already selling like hot mince pies! There are 39 designs, priced from £3.50 to £4.50 for a pack of 10, all proceeds will help support Longfield's hospice care. Available from longfield.org.uk or in any of their shops.



Also coming Up....

1st December, Minchinhampton – Ice Walk & Christmas Fair

10th December, Minchinhampton – Light Up A Life memorial celebration

January 2024 – Christmas tree collections

Longfield is a Community Hospice for the people of Gloucestershire. As well as providing Hospice at Home care, Longfield also offers a range of therapy and support services for patients, families and carers at the Wellbeing Centre in Minchinhampton. 85% of our funding comes from the generosity of the public. For media enquiries, please contact Melanie Palmer melanie.palmer@longfield.org.uk or call 01453 886868



**MU evening meetings -
'Chill and Chatter'**



I have laughed and I have cried! I hadn't really wanted to go out tonight, but I have had the best evening! I came home thinking that I have felt the value of true friendship and support.

Do come along and join us whether you are a member of the Mother's Union (MU) or not. Chill and Chatter (our new name) is primarily aimed at those members who can't make the afternoon MU meetings through work commitments or whatever. Relax with a glass of wine (if you like) and nibbles in the very comfortable home (the vicarage) of Canon Graham and his wife Angela who are excellent hosts. We meet every other month on the fourth Thursday at 7.30pm.

The next Chill and Chatter is on Thursday 23rd November.

For further information contact Fiona Hawes 01285 656992 or fionahawes22@hotmail.co.uk

Mothers' Union report - November, 2023

Thank you to everyone who supported our **Soup Lunch** in the Parish Hall on the 11th October. Approximately 45 guests enjoyed the four delicious soups and lunch and the excellent sum of £293.50 was raised (including the Raffle) which will go to MU projects in this country and overseas. If you missed this one, there will be another **Soup Lunch** in February, 2024. Do come along if you can.

At the **Wednesday, 1st November** meeting, 2:30pm Parish Hall, Watermoor Road, our speaker Ailsa O'Connor will share with us the wonderful work of the Churn Project who support groups from toddlers to dotage and all those in between; frequently, providing support for those who can so easily 'slip through the net' of Local Authority and Government organisations. There will also be a Bring and Buy stall for MU projects.

All our MU meetings are open to everyone – you don't have to be a member – but you may feel inspired to join and support the work of the Mothers' Union into the future.

Friday, 24th November 12 noon in Gloucester Cathedral **MU Mid-day Prayers** will specifically focus on Activism against Gender Violence. This is a precursor to the UN 16 days of **Activism against Gender-based Violence - 25th November - 10th December**. We only hear of the high-profile cases of violence against women and girls, but one woman is killed by a husband, partner, boy-friend, family member or 'ex' every two weeks in this country alone – not to mention the unreported abuse suffered in silence by thousands. 1 in 3 women will be impacted by some form of violence/abuse in their life and we believe this is truly unacceptable. (*'There is one universal truth violence against women is never acceptable, never excusable, never tolerable.'* UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, 2008).

MU **Corporate Communion** is on Thursday, 28th November, 10:30 am in the Parish Church.

Everyone welcome.

Pauline Farman

Pre Advent, Advent, Christmas and Epiphany across the parish.

29th October **All Souls Service 4 p.m.** (*lists are now in each church for recording names*)

5th November **All Saints Sunday**

26th November Schools Service 3 p.m. Cllr Jenny Hincks and Cllr Roly Hill

25th and 26th November Cirencester Town Council Advent Festivities
St John Baptist church being used on the Saturday 25th

29th November – 14th December Christmas Tree Festival in St John Baptist

Advent Sunday 3rd December



10 a.m. St John Baptist All Age St Nicholas service (Toy Service)

Advent Carol Service for the Parish at St John Baptist 6 p.m.

9th Dec dressing the main Christmas Tree 10 a.m. onwards with dedication and carols at Midday

10th Dec Carol Service at Holy Trinity

17th Dec Nativity Service at Holy Trinity 10 a.m.

17th Dec Nine Lessons and Carols at St John Baptist 6 p.m.

20th Dec 7 p.m. Carol Singing around the Parish.

22nd Dec Carol Service at St Lawrence 6.30p.m.

23rd Dec Carol Singing in St John Baptist with the Town Crier 3 p.m.

Advent 4 24th December

8 a.m. Eucharist at Holy Trinity

9 a.m. Eucharist with Congregational Carols at St John Baptist

10 a.m. Eucharist at Holy Trinity

10.30 a.m. Eucharist at St Lawrence

Christmas Eve

4 p.m. Families nativity at St John Baptist

6 p.m. Christingle at Holy Trinity

11.30p.m. Midnight services at Holy Trinity and St John Baptist

Christmas Day

8 a.m. BCP Eucharist at St John Baptist

10 a.m. Family Eucharist at Holy Trinity

10 a.m. Family Eucharist at St John Baptist

10 a.m. Eucharist at St Lawrence.

26th Midday Eucharist at St John Baptist: Stephen Deacon First Martyr

27th Midday Eucharist at St John Baptist: John Apostle and Evangelist

28th Mothers Union at St John Baptist: **10.30 a.m. & Midday** the Holy Innocents

29th Midday Eucharist at St John Baptist: Thomas Becket AB
Canterbury Martyr

30th Midday Eucharist at St John Baptist

31st First Sunday of Christmas Parish Eucharist at St Lawrence 10.30
a.m. *No services at Holy Trinity or St John Baptist*

31st Midnight New Year blessing of the Town by the Christmas tree in
the Market Place.

7th January Epiphany Solemn Choral Evensong 4
p.m. at St John Baptist





MEDIAEVAL BÆBES

**The Mediaeval Baebes announce ‘The Procession’ Christmas Concert
Saturday 16th December, Parish Church of Saint John the Baptist**

With uplifting vocals and a torch lit procession, The Mediaeval Baebes will wind their way magically towards the Parish Church of St John the Baptist in Cirencester, on Saturday 16th December.

Set to enchant the audience right from the very start, families, musicians and reenactors are invited to enhance the procession in whatever way they enjoy. Bring a drum, a lantern, or dress up and frolic, as this immersive experience sets the tone for the magical evening to come. Join in the pomp and pageantry, or just experience the torch lit spectacle before it culminates in a grand entrance into the beautiful and historic church.

Lush, ethereal harmonies and dazzling array of exotic and period instruments will see the Mediaeval Baebes weaving their magic and exalting

the true spirit of Christmas once again.

Joyous music from this classical chart-topping choir will showcase well-known Christmas carols and traditional folk songs, alongside tracks from their latest seasonal album ‘MydWynter.’ And, with captivating storytelling uncovering origins and folklore hidden in the lyrics, the spirited choral music will also include innovative settings of ancient and romantic poetry too.

The Mediaeval Baebes are one of the most successful female-led, early music and folk ensembles in Europe. Over the years, the Mediaeval Baebes have released eleven studio albums and won an Ivor Novella Award for their performance on the BBC serialization ‘The Virgin Queen.’ They have also received two Emmy nominations and a Royal Television Society award as the featured artist alongside composer Martin Phipps, for the TV theme tune of ITV’s hit show ‘Victoria.’

In 2023 The Mediaeval Baebes collaboration with Orbital’s ‘Ringa Ringa’ enjoyed number 6 status in the album charts. And, their unique siren call was invited to collaborate with TikTok lockdown sensation The Wellermen, as part of their ‘Explorations’ remix album.

Come join the Mediaeval Baebes and be immersed in glorious merriment. Tickets are now available from www.mediaevalbaebes.com at a cost of £27.50 each and £12.50 for a child.

For further information, please
contact: Heather Joy - JoyStars
Phone: 01403 790146
Mobile: 07968 805422
Email: heather@joystars.co.uk

Doors open at 7.00pm. The concert will commence at 7.30, break for a short interval and close at 9.30pm.



Christmas with the Mediaeval Baebes

An Interview with Founding Members Katharine Blake and Marie Findley

Heather Joy (or Editors name) catches up with Katharine Blake and Maria Findlay, two of the founding members of the Mediaeval Baebes, in advance of their 'The Procession' Christmas Tour.

The Mediaeval Baebes are one of the most successful female-led, early music and folk ensembles in Europe. In addition to receiving 2 Emmy nominations, they have toured with Jules Holland and supported Michael Flatley in Hyde Park. They have won a Royal Television Society award alongside composer Martin Phipps for their soundtrack to ITV's hit period drama '*Victoria*,' and have also won an Ivor Novella Award for their performance on the BBC serialization 'The Virgin Queen.'

So what gave you the idea to start The Mediaeval Baebes Katharine?

To be honest, I have always loved mediaeval music and performing. But, the idea of forming a mediaeval band really took hold after I broke into a North London cemetery with several friends over 25 years ago and we sang together for fun, clad in flowing white gowns and crowns of ivy.

I then met Marie at a festival. Apparently I was drinking cider and singing a mediaeval song that she loved. She asked what it was and I realised that she was as passionate about all things mediaeval as I was. I told her about the new band I was forming and asked her to join us. I didn't even know if she could sing! It was the start of a wonderful collaboration and a friendship that has spanned over 27 years. Best decision ever!

How would you describe the sound of Medieval Baebes, Marie?

Ah, I never find it an easy task to describe or classify our sound. I love that we create a real mix of haunting melodies, ethereal enchantments, rousing incantations, and cheeky ditties with catchy hooks! Many of us are classically trained and I like to think that with a style of

unconventional arrangement and composition, along with a playful and fantastical image, we have used our talents to create a different music sound.

Many of our musical backgrounds come from a more rock & roll origin and although we do replicate and sing traditional Mediaeval songs, we often set Mediaeval poetry to our own original compositions too. This means we perform a soundscape that plays to everyone's romantic sense of our past, in an accessible, fun and beautiful way.

Why The Procession – what is the significance of the procession?

‘We are always looking to add some more magic, theatre and story-telling to our performances’ explains Katharine. For us the pageantry seen in our costumes and headdresses, is just as important as the composition of the songs. The procession is an extension of this. For the past few years we have processed to celebrate the Winter Solstice at our Christmas concert in London and I liked the idea of making 2023 our ‘procession year’.

Every one of our concerts this year has started with a procession and at Christmas time it just makes it even more magical and fun. We invite everyone to join in, so our audience can become immersed in the Christmas pageantry and fantasy that makes Christmas special to us all. And of course, in mediaeval times street processions were an intrinsic part of holiday celebrations which often featured chanting voices and ringing bells.

How has the Mediaeval Baebes grown or changed over the years Marie?

I think we are definitely more ambitious and diverse, especially when you look back to the simplistic and traditional approach that we started out with. We now enjoy singing in many different languages such as Middle English, Latin, Mediaeval Spanish, Arabic and Modern English; as well as performing with an enormous range of ancient and exotic acoustic instruments including Recorders, Viol da Gamba, Hurdy Gurdy, Oud, Cuatro, and acoustic guitar. This has really helped us grow both musically and professionally.

What is the best part of being a Mediaeval Baebe Katharine?

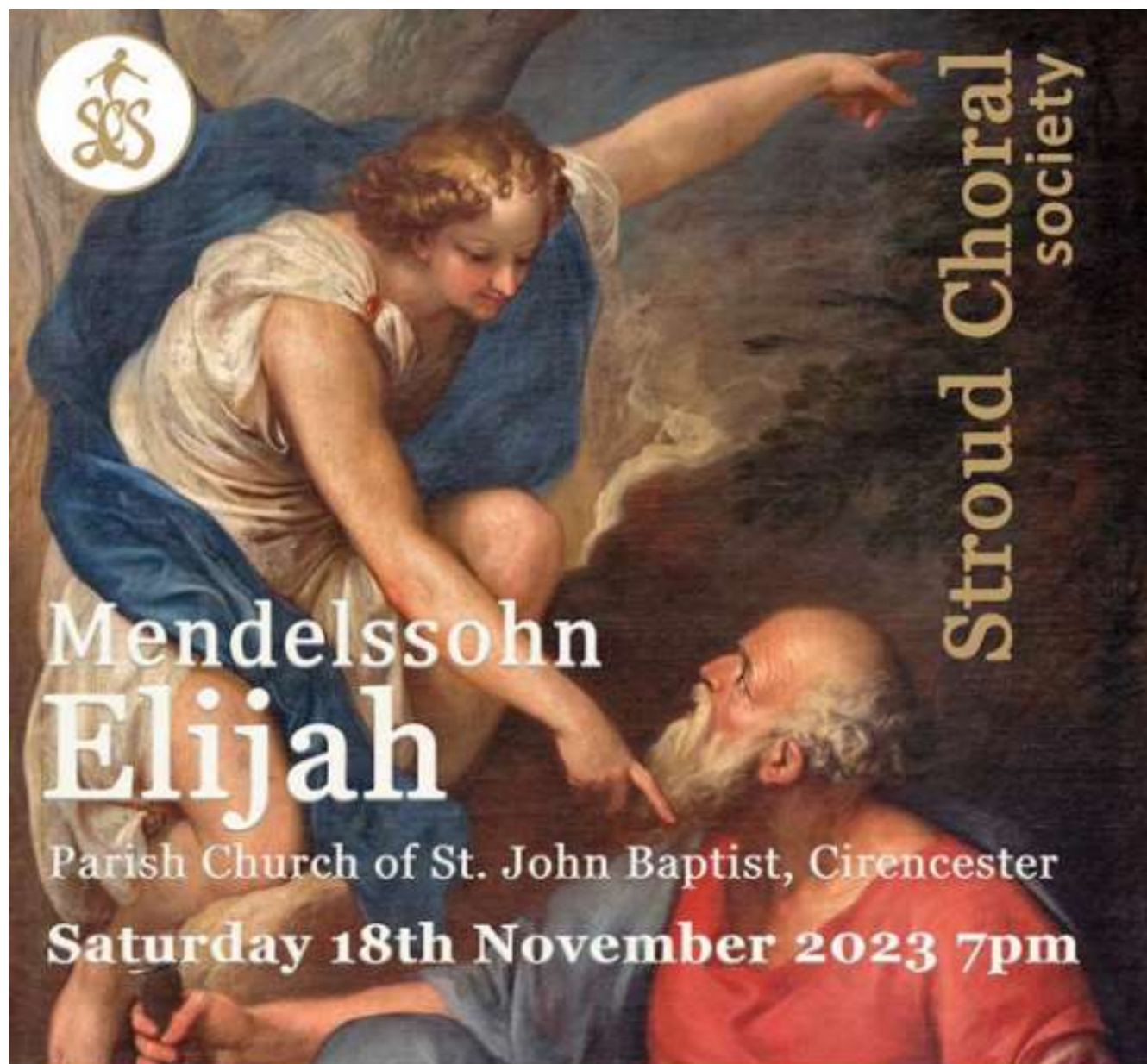
We all have our own, different wow monuments and there are so many different experiences where do I start... I really enjoyed performing across the world in Canada, Asia, Europe and the United States. We have sung in castles and caves, through to cathedrals and Glastonbury, as well as performing at the Jersey Opera House and the legendary Lilith Fayre. But, performing on Iggy Pop's Christmas day special was one of the best for me. I am a huge fan of his, and he of us, so that was a real 'wow' moment. What is yours Marie?

I agree, a difficult one to choose. The Baebes are an astonishing collective of very talented women who are just fun to be around both on and off stage, so going on tour is one of the best parts for me. I love it. Also, my life-long obsession has been history, and our songs are designed to be sung in old churches and Cathedrals. Our sound rises into the rafters and vaulted ceilings. For me it is just perfect. Always a wow moment. I feel so very privileged to be able to sing in so many awe-inspiring venues.

However, singing at the Royal Albert Hall was just an absolute honour and another favourite of mine was the Minstrels Gallery at Hampton Court Palace. Here I felt a huge powerful sense of history and real a connection to all the musicians that must have sung there through the ages.

Katharine, how will the Mediaeval Baebes top their huge achievements next?

Ha, I am not sure we can! But... as we have found over the years, we have changed and new opportunities always come up for a new exciting challenge. For example, in 2023 we collaborated with Orbital 'Ringa Ringa' and enjoyed being part of the number 6 status in the album charts. And, we were also invited join our siren call with the TikTok lockdown sensation The Wellermen when we collaborated on part of their remix album 'Explorations.' So who knows what will be next!



Stroud Choral Society *with the* Bristol Ensemble

Conductor: Simon Bell

Soloists: Julie Cooper Soprano, Louise Innes Alto

Ruairi Bowen Tenor, Stephen Whitford Bass

Tickets £25, £20 and £5, under 16s free



Book Now

Available from Cirencester Local Information Centre (Bingham House)

Shiny Goodness (Nailsworth), choir members or on the door

Online sales: bit.ly/StroudChoralElijah

Stroud Choral Society

www.stroudchoral.org

Charity no. 1198620

Stroud Choral Society is affiliated to Making Music

DATES FOR NOVEMBER



Daily

12 – 1pm	Eucharist - Catherine Chapel	St John Baptist
----------	------------------------------	-----------------

Monday, Wednesday & Friday

9 – 9:30am	Morning Prayer	St John Baptist
5 – 6pm	Evening Prayer	St John Baptist

Weekdays

10am – 12pm	The Parish Forum Open (except Wednesday)
-------------	--



1 Nov, Wed

7 – 8pm	Eucharist	Holy Trinity
---------	-----------	--------------

3 Nov, Fri

4 – 6pm	Cirencester Food Pantry	Parish Hall
---------	-------------------------	-------------

5 Nov, Sun

8 – 9am	Eucharist	Holy Trinity
8 – 9am	Holy Communion BCP - Lady Chapel	St John Baptist
10 – 11:30am	Non-Eucharistic Family Service	Holy Trinity
10 – 11:30am	All Age Eucharist	St John Baptist
10:30–11:30am	Eucharist	St Lawrence
1:30 – 2:30pm	Baptism	St John Baptist
4 – 5pm	Choral Evensong	St John Baptist
4 – 5pm	Restore@4	St Lawrence
5 – 7pm	Junior Youth Group - 1st and 3rd Sundays	Parish Forum

6 Nov, Mon

9:30 – 11am	Little Angels	St John Baptist
5:30 – 6:30pm	Vicars Open Office	Parish Forum

7 Nov, Tue

1:30 – 2:30pm	Funeral Ronald Pearce	St John Baptist
6:30 – 9pm	Bell Ringing	St John Baptist

8 Nov, Wed

1:30 – 2:30pm	Funeral Ronald Webster	Holy Trinity
7 – 8pm	Eucharist	Holy Trinity

9 Nov, Thu

9:15 – 10:45am	Seedlings	St Lawrence
1:30 – 2:30pm	Funeral Margaret Slade	Holy Trinity

10 Nov, Fri

2 – 3pm	Thanksgiving for Eunice Pike	Holy Trinity
4 – 6pm	Cirencester Food Pantry	Parish Hall

11 Nov, Sat

7:30 – 9:30pm	Cheltenham Bach Choir Concert - Rachmaninov Vespers	St John Baptist
---------------	---	-----------------

12 Nov, Sun

8 – 9am	Eucharist	Holy Trinity
8 – 9am	Holy Communion BCP - Lady Chapel	St John Baptist
10 – 11:30am	Eucharist	Holy Trinity
10 – 11:30am	Eucharist	St John Baptist
10:30–11:30am	Eucharist	St Lawrence
10:55–11:55am	Service of Remembrance in the MarketPlace	
4 – 5pm	Evening Prayer	St John Baptist

13 Nov, Mon

9:30 – 11am	Little Angels	St John Baptist
5:30 – 6:30pm	Vicars Open Office	Parish Forum

14 Nov, Tue

6:30 – 9pm	Bell Ringing	Holy Trinity
------------	--------------	--------------

15 Nov, Wed

7 – 8pm	Eucharist	Holy Trinity
---------	-----------	--------------

17 Nov, Fri

4 – 6pm	Cirencester Food Pantry	Parish Hall
---------	-------------------------	-------------

18 Nov, Sat

7 – 9pm	Stroud Choral Society Concert	St John Baptist
---------	-------------------------------	-----------------

19 Nov, Sun

8 – 9am	Eucharist	Holy Trinity
8 – 9am	Holy Communion BCP - Lady Chapel	St John Baptist
10 – 11:30am	Eucharist	Holy Trinity
10 – 11:30am	Eucharist	St John Baptist
10:30–11:30am	Eucharist	St Lawrence
12:30 – 1:30pm	Baptism	St John Baptist

4 – 5pm	Choral Evensong	St John Baptist
4 – 5pm	Restore @4	St Lawrence
5 – 7pm	Junior Youth Group - 1st & 3rd Sundays	Parish Forum

20 Nov, Mon

9:30 – 11am	Little Angels	St John Baptist
7:30 – 9pm	Quarter Peal	St John Baptist

21 Nov, Tue

6:30 – 9pm	Bell Ringing	Holy Trinity
------------	--------------	--------------

22 Nov, Wed

7 – 8pm	Eucharist	Holy Trinity
7:30 – 9:30pm	Standing Committee	St Lawrence

23 Nov, Thu

9:15 – 10:45am	Seedlings	St Lawrence
10:30–11:30am	Mothers' Union Corporate Communion	St John Baptist

24 Nov, Fri

4 – 6pm	Cirencester Food Pantry	Parish Hall
---------	-------------------------	-------------

26 Nov, Sun

8 – 9am	Eucharist	Holy Trinity
8 – 9am	Holy Communion BCP - Lady Chapel	St John Baptist
10 – 11:30am	Eucharist	Holy Trinity
10 – 11:30am	Eucharist	St John Baptist
10:30–11:30am	Eucharist	St Lawrence
4 – 5pm	Evening Service	St John Baptist

27 Nov, Mon

9:30 – 11am	Little Angels	St John Baptist
5:30 – 6:30pm	Vicars Open Office	Parish Forum

28 Nov, Tue

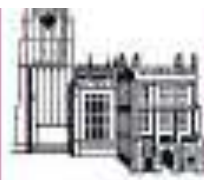
6:30 – 9pm	Bell Ringing	Holy Trinity
------------	--------------	--------------

29 Nov, Wed

All day	Christmas Tree Festival St John Baptist (Day 1/16)	
7 – 8pm	Eucharist	Holy Trinity

30 Nov, Thu

All day	Christmas Tree Festival St John Baptist (Day 2/16)	
---------	--	--



CHURCH SHOP



Open Monday to Saturday 10am - 4pm

Why not take a look at our Parish Church Shop, there's more than you expect!

Books
CDs

Gifts
Cards

Souvenirs
Bibles

Diaries
Calendars

Maps
Pictures

Icons
Prayer Books



Website: <http://www.cirenparish.co.uk>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/churchshop>

Tel: 01285 659317