

Parish Life Magazine

**Parish of Cirencester with
Watermoor and Chesterton**



March 2024 £1

Parish of Cirencester with Watermoor and St Lawrence (Chesterton)

Useful contacts:

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Cover photo: Saint David (Dewi Sant). Stained glass window in Our Lady and Saint Non's Chapel, St David's Cathedral.

Some facts about Saint David.

- 1) An angel foretold his birth to St Patrick, 30 years before it happened - although the exact date is believed to be some time between 462 and 515 AD. Some say he lived more than 100 years and died on 1 March 589 - hence St David's Day is celebrated on 1st March.
 - 2) Whenever it was, legend says his mother Non gave birth on a cliff-top in Pembrokeshire - during a fierce storm. At that exact moment, a bolt of lightning from heaven is said to have struck the rock, splitting it in two. A nearby holy well is said to have healing powers. She named him *Dewidd*, (*Dewi* to the locals).
 - 3) His family was aristocratic. His father was Saint, the Prince of Powys, and his grandfather King Ceredig founded Ceredigion. His mother Non was a nun and later canonised herself.
 - 4) He was educated at a monastery and became a missionary. He was a renowned preacher, and founded monastic settlements and churches in Wales, Brittany and south-west England.
 - 5) He brought back a rock from his pilgrimage to Jerusalem, and the stone now sits in St David's Cathedral, built on the site of his original monastery.
 - 6) He and his monks led a very simple and austere life, living off leeks and water.
 - 7) He is said to have cured his tutor of blindness and brought a dead boy back to life.
 - 8) He has been patron saint of Wales since the 12th Century and is buried in Saint David's Cathedral.
 - 9) His last words to his followers were "Be joyful, keep the faith, and do the little things that you have heard and seen me do".
- The phrase "*Gwnewch y pethau bychain*" - "Do the little things" is still well-known in Wales .

Pam Barnes

Parish Newsletter

As you receive this newsletter we will be well into the season of Lent. Lent began on February 14th this year.

The characteristics of this season provide for a time for self-examination, penitence, self-denial, study and most importantly preparation for Easter. Lent may originally have followed Epiphany, just as Jesus' sojourn in the wilderness followed immediately on his

to **Lent** baptism, but it soon became firmly attached to Easter, as the principal occasion for baptism and for the reconciliation of those who had been excluded from the Church's fellowship for apostasy or serious faults



Now is the healing time decreed
for sins of heart and word and deed,
when we in humble fear record
the wrong that we have done the Lord.

(Latin, before 12th century)

In our parish we have a fabulous opportunity to opt in as we prepare together for Easter. A glance at the website www.cirenparish.co.uk highlights numerous events for you to access. The latest e-bulletin runs the full programme, including the events planned for Holy Week and the Easter Triduum. We are so fortunate to have a number of colleagues with us who give of their time so freely to enable our spiritual growth. Please do support them in their effort to bring to life our journey together in Christ.

For me personally the liturgical opportunities throughout Holy Week, particularly the Stations of the Cross, provide the opportunity to walk again in the steps of our Lord as we reflect and prepare ourselves mentally and spiritually for the major events of Good Friday, and Easter Day. This year the Easter Vigil on Easter Eve returns to the

Parish Church at 7 p.m., for me the culmination of Holy Week anticipating the Day of Resurrection.

As **Holy Week** approaches, the atmosphere of the season darkens; the readings begin to anticipate the story of Christ's suffering and death, and the reading of the Passion Narrative gave to the Fifth Sunday its name of Passion Sunday. There are many devotional exercises which may be used in Lent and Holy Week outside the set liturgy.

For me the Stations of the Cross take on a real significance. I encourage you to come and join in this spiritual walk through scripture and imagery. The Stations at Holy Trinity are particularly lovely, so simple in design but in themselves carry a powerful imagery. Meditating on the Stations of the Cross exposes Christ's suffering heart — “sorrowful even to death” (Mk 14:34). In his condemnation to death, Christ teaches that we have the freedom to accept life's sorrows. He does not let condemnation be levied upon him, but rather he chooses it out of love. On his way to Calvary, Christ experienced the sufferings ordinary men and women experience every day throughout the world. He showed not only how to deal with them, but through the power of love how to transform suffering's destructive power into something life-giving.



This all builds for our celebration as we move into the liturgies of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Eve. From the watch on Maundy Thursday the church remains stripped of all decoration. It continues bare and empty through the following day, which is a day without a liturgy: there can be no adequate way of recalling the being dead of the Son of God, other than silence and desolation. But within the silence there grows a sense of peace and completion, and then rising excitement as the Easter Vigil draws near.

Then, of course, the bursting from the tomb as we celebrate with the dawn of Easter day the Day of Resurrection, the Hope that becomes a reality and transformational through the promise of new life. The reaffirmation of our baptismal vows confirms promise of new life in the risen Lord as we proclaim Alleluia, Christ is risen? He is risen indeed, alleluia.

I pray that you are able to keep a Holy Lent.

God be with you and God Bless you.

Canon Graham

For those interested in exploring these things further...



Confirmation Preparation.

For anyone who would like to start thinking about confirmation. Open meeting in the Parish Forum 2nd March at 2 p.m. The Bishops have asked that Clergy consider the age of those preparing - normally 11 years and above. If possible please let Canon Graham know if you are interested. I note across our congregations a number of adults who have not been confirmed, it is always a real privilege to share some time of reflection. It would be great to have a younger group and an adult group. Contact vicar@cirenparish.co.uk



Musings in Mark

Mark 3:1-3 NIV



[1] Another time Jesus went into the synagogue, and a man with a shrivelled hand was there. [2] Some of them were looking for a reason to accuse Jesus, so they watched him closely to see if he would heal him on the Sabbath. [3] Jesus said to the man with the shrivelled hand, "Stand up in front of everyone."

Since the destruction of the temple in AD 70, Jews had nowhere to sacrifice, probably a divine consequence of Jesus' ministry, but those who worship like to meet together and learn together, so where there were 10 adult males in a community a synagogue could be formed.

As part of Jesus' regular activity, he attended the local synagogue, and was often asked to speak. One would imagine that any centre of worship - even our churches - would be places where people go to worship, learn and grow in their faith. But in this passage we have a group, probably Pharisees, the conservatives of their day, who come neither to worship nor learn, but rather to seek out problems, "*they were looking for a reason...*". They were there to find problems, criticise, and feel they were doing God's will by their actions, even to the death of Jesus.

The Pharisees had a particular reason for their activities, but I do wonder whether, with the prevailing "supermarket" view of life, ie take what you want and complain when things aren't available, if there are people who attend their church, not so much to worship, learn and grow, but to find things to complain about. Many church leaders, probably including our own, have stories of the same people complaining on regular occasions of things of which they were not happy.

Yet, the whole point of church, the *ekklesia*, the gathered ones, is to worship the God who has transformed our life in Christ, learn of him and, to pinch the Apostle Paul's words,

(2 Corinthians 3:18) And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

Causes us to think, hopefully!

Paul Springate

Saints

March sees the Christian church celebrating the life and witness of three saints - St David (Dewi Sant, Patron of Wales), St Patrick (Patron of Ireland) and St Joseph.



I confess to a leaning towards St David! Only on marrying did I cross the border to live in England and as a child thought highly of our Patron Saint. March 1st meant half a day off school to celebrate him!

However, how much did I learn about him? Indeed how much is known about him? The answer is of course very little. We know that he was a monk and a bishop in the sixth century. He is believed to have founded the monastery now the cathedral in the wonderful city of St David's in West Wales.

It has always been said that two pilgrimages to St David's was equal to one to Rome. Whilst in my College Choir, I always looked forward to the times when we formed the choir in St David's Cathedral whilst the Cathedral Choir were on holiday. There is something very special about this particular cathedral. Perhaps it is its remoteness. We can confidently assume that David and the monks led lives of poverty and austerity. Prayer and fasting would have featured hugely. It is said that the emphasis of his rule of life included hard work, abstinence from alcohol and of course silence.

What then is a Saint? What is it about their lives that challenges us in the 21st century? The dictionary tells us that a saint is a holy person, regarded as having a place in heaven, a very virtuous person. I imagine that not many of us would dream of putting ourselves into such a category. But, wait a minute, are we not all called to be saints? As Christians, at some point in our lives, maybe not a road to Damascus experience, but a point when we accepted that Jesus was saying to us

"I want you on my side ". If we have answered that challenge positively then our lives can never be the same again. However, would anyone know that this transforming power is within us? Does it show? Of course it should, because nothing in our lives can be exempt from the challenges of the Gospel. However we are all on a journey. Perhaps, like me, you are "a work in progress"! We cannot be uncertain about our faith. We either are or we are not Christians! Like the Saints of old, we are challenged as followers of Jesus to be His light in a somewhat darkened world, bringing others to know and love him too. Then we shall be like those saints of old.

What about your favourite 21st Century Saint? My vote would have to be for Bishop Keith Benzies, Bishop of Antsiranana, Northern Madagascar until his death, of cerebral malaria in 2001. Here was a cleric who did not seek high office in the church. That was bestowed on him by the Malagasy clergy and people he loved and worked amongst for all but a couple of years of his ordained ministry. No bishop's palace for this man of God. No earthly trappings at all. His home had totally inadequate facilities, was very sparsely furnished and provided shelter for any who were homeless or destitute.

When Jim and I visited in 2001 he was providing a home for 12 boys and men, some severely disabled, some thrown out of their villages for becoming Christians. He moth-balled the computer provided by the Anglican Church for all its Bishops, reasoning that using the paper, ink etc would mean less money for his Christian mission amongst the remote villages of his diocese! He trekked rather than used taxis. He had no car. He died at the end of one such arduous journey, walking through swamps, often sleeping in the open. Here was a Christian who gave up all the trappings of 20th century living, who left home and relatives and who took the Gospel message to those who had not heard it. He lived in poverty and had very few personal possessions. He truly lived the life of a follower of Jesus Christ. Yes he chose to live simply

in order that others might live. When Bishop Keith died he was mourned by Christian and non Christian, by Hindu and Muslim, by Government officials, by young and old alike. In Keith they recognised goodness, generosity, compassion, humility. He was indeed a fool for Christ's sake. Yes he was taken advantage of by the few, he was revered by the many, and dare I suggest even resented by members of the church hierarchy who did not measure up to his exacting example.

If I look again at the rigours of the life and discipline of the early saints then I believe Bishop Keith comes close to having attained Sainthood! It was a great privilege to have known him. We do well to remember and give thanks for the saints and martyrs of the Church. They are our ancestors on earth and precede us to heaven. St David, St Patrick and St Joseph, all have lived lives that should surely inspire us to strive harder to live and work to Christ's praise and glory.

Yes every age has its Saints. Bishop Keith is mine. Who knows, perhaps you sat next to a saint on the bus today or even in church last Sunday!

Pat Harris



St Patrick and St Joseph

Hugo Kennard



Hugo, our choirmaster and organist at the Parish Church is leaving to take up a new career which will allow him to spend more time with his family. He has been responsible for building up a fine choir, including many young people and has been a superb organist.

Hugo started his career at the Parish Church as a Youth Worker and also became Head of Communications, He was responsible for setting up the live streaming of services during the Covid pandemic (and this still continues).

On Sunday January 28th 2024 following the morning Eucharist he was presented with some gifts as a leaving present.

The picture, below, shows Hugo with the clergy and Church Wardens at the presentation.

Alan Barnes



Being a Church Leader (minister, vicar, priest.....)

How do we look upon our church leaders – with awe, envy, admiration...or perhaps something a little more critical?



I have been following Jeff Lucas's Bible reading notes recently, and sometimes he goes more deeply into a particular subject raised by the day's passage. Today we were thinking about the four men who hacked their way through the roof with their disabled friend for him to meet Jesus. Jesus then tells him his sins are forgiven, and he is healed.

Now rather than being amazed by what they have just seen, the scribes, who were sitting there in the front seats as usual, begin questioning what Jesus had done, and accusing him of blasphemy.

So Jeff, as a pastor himself, encourages us to give some thought to how we treat our vicar in '5 Reasons to be Nice to your Local Leader'

They frequently take the blame for God

When people get angry with God they may take out their frustration on the person they most associate with God – which might be their vicar or pastor and 'being slapped on behalf of the almighty is not a happy experience'.

If you're mad with God, tell him, he can cope, he's God. Your vicar is not quite as resilient, not as thick skinned as you think, probably a very sensitive soul.

They are required to say some things they would prefer not to say

There are some tricky and difficult subjects that are dealt with in the Bible, and if your vicar is faithful in preaching about them he/she will probably get some flack. 'If they make a statement you don't agree

with.....let it fuel your prayers.... Before you send a vociferous e mail’ – better still, cancel the e mail!

They are often the target of gossip

‘Gossip destroys people. Don’t pass it on.’

They don’t have a hot line to God

‘Some think their pastors have a VIP pass to the courts of heaventhey don’t. They too struggle with doubt, unanswered prayer.....’

They usually don’t have a cunning plan for world dominion

There may be some wolves masquerading as shepherds, or some who like to control things rather than listen to their congregation, but ‘be aware that the vast majority of leaders are ordinary people..... Who simply are doing their best to respond to a vocational call to help people discover Jesus.’

So, with these things in mind, let’s make their day by encouraging them and where possible sharing the hard work involved in church family life. The calling to ordained ministry is a high one, and we are called to pray for and support them wherever we can.

You can read the full text of Jeff Lucas’s notes, with his inimitable humour, online at www.jefflucas.org/goingdeeper

Jill Wilkinson



A little more Joy

Many people are not watching the news any more as it is so sad and even the football results with Forest Green constantly failing offer little hope. We all need more joy in our lives and this column will always attempt to offer some. This month it is easy. On a



personal note, Hercule Flambeau gave a marvellous performance in Father Brown recently. It was the episode when his father died. Many of you spotted this and, knowing the family connection, happily mentioned this.

I happily mention the Red Lion at Ampney St Peter. It had been closed for some years following the death of the wonderful landlord Jim Barnard. Revd John Swanton had given a wonderful eulogy to John at St Peter's church and I had regarded that as an appropriate closure.

Although there were rumours about its re-opening, nothing happened. Sleepers placed at the front made the building seem unwelcome and it seemed we would all have to be content with our fond memories.

The Campaign for Real Ale kept chipping away and a few months ago re-open it did! Thursday, Friday, Saturday 5.30pm onwards. I was reluctant to go being content with memories I did not wish to spoil. However, a valued friend took me one evening and, with some caution, I took the short walk from the carpark behind the pub.

Immediately I entered the small bar, all need for caution vanished. The charm the late Joh Barnard created remained but slight changes enhanced it. In charge is a lady who, with a quiet humanity and easy grace, has a pleasing personality and remains true to the old values and yet has in some subtle ways moved matters forward.

The menu has widened, You may now purchase salt and vinegar crisps and ice is available. There are welcome cushions and some discrete new pictures.

The main strength of the pub remains. Everyone is involved in the conversation. Sitting around the central table it is difficult not to be. Former acquaintances are glad to meet and new friends are made.

For a relaxing and cheerful evening it is hard to beat. I was told "we are in good hands". The crisp notice above the fire is a firm reminder of John, who will never be forgotten. Go and see – remember, 5.30pm Thursday, Friday and Saturday only and do not expect a cocktail!

John Light

Parish Hall, Watermoor

Following comments about the state of the kitchen at the Parish Hall, the Management Committee have been looking at its refurbishment. Replacing virtually everything has been agreed and it is hoped that work will take place in August this year.



The costings have been agreed by the Financial Committee of the PCC and amount to approximately £15,000. They have suggested that they would be prepared to put in £5,000 leaving us to find the remaining £10,000. As this is a Parish building we are, therefore, appealing to the congregations of all three churches to help. We are looking at grants and are in the process of applying for them, though we are open to suggestions of possible sources of funds that we may not have thought of.

Donations, anonymous or not, will be most welcome along with fundraising ideas. Perhaps you might like to sponsor a door, drawer or cupboard, minimum £5 or plan an event to help raise the money required.

Can you help? Please contact any member of the committee, Bryony Springate, Fiona Hawes, Penny Philip, Aileen Anderson or Peter Cottey with your ideas.

Peter Cottey

JOIN OUR TEAM



CIRENCESTER SESSIONAL SPORTS COACHES

Fluff it. Duff it. Score it. Smash it. Whatever you do, just give it a go. That's our motto to sport and to life. We're for jumping right in and going on new adventures together, as a team. We're passionate about building a network of fun-loving groups where everyone is invited to try different sports, make new friends and explore what life is all about.

WILL YOU JOIN TEAM SPORTILY?

As a valued member of the team, you'll help us to run fantastically fun, high-quality sports sessions for children, young people and families in Cirencester.

On our bank, we'll offer you work assignments which you can choose to accept and get paid for.

We're a Christian faith-based charity, but we're 'open to all' and welcome applications from anyone who is supportive of our values.

Will you give it a go?

To find out more about applying or to have a chat about what's involved contact

luke.campbell@sportily.org.uk

07949 111509

www.sportily.org.uk

All appointments are made under a Safer Recruitment processes and are subject to an Enhanced level DBS check.



sportily
PLAY SPORTS, TALK LIFE

Dear Members and Friends

Mothers' Union has been active for nearly 150 years, with over 4 million members across 83 countries; here in Cirencester we have been busy for 120 years.



In 2023 we raised £1383 for MU projects, through soup lunches, cake & craft sales, raffles and bring and buy sales. With donations received we were able to send £1500 to the Diocesan Office in Gloucester, to be forwarded to Mary Sumner House, our H.Q. in London.

A big thank you to all those who have helped us raise these funds. Funds received at MSH are used to support MU projects both at home and overseas. For 20 years we have been supporting MU Burundi Literacy & Financial Education programme. In that time 1291 facilitators have been trained in multiple subjects. The programme has directly benefited 165,416 participants, 77% being women.

It has resulted in 140,000 people, 89% women, being accredited as literate and mobilised 6,200 community owned savings and loans associations, and an estimated 7,500 participants have had access to parenting education, the newest component of the programme.

In Britain and Ireland over 2238 family members have benefited from the 'Away from it All' (AFIA) programme, supported by their Diocese. In Gloucester Diocese we have funded coach trips to the sea side for clients of the Family Haven in Gloucester and The Churn Project in Cirencester, in some cases it is the first time the children have been to the seaside. We have also provided funds to enable some year 6 pupils attend residential courses, who might otherwise have missed out.

In Cirencester not only do we raise funds, but we have collected items for the Cirencester Food Bank and The Family Haven in Gloucester. Members have also knitted items for the Neo Natal Unit in Gloucester

Hospital and made fabric bags for deceased patients' personal effects.
If you would like more information about the work of Mothers' Union
please contact me. (01285 654038 or pcotter@talktalk.net)

With Love and prayers

Kathie Cotter

Dates:-

Friday March 1st - World Day of Prayer. Stratton Church 10.30am

Wednesday March 6th - MU meeting 2.30pm Parish Hall, Watermoor.
Guest Speaker Rev. Rosemary Franklin, 'Lent Reflections'.

Saturday March 9th - Making posies for Mothering Sunday. 9.30am
to noon. Holy Trinity Church, Watermoor

Thursday March 21st - MU Chill & Chatter. 7.30pm, The Vicarage

Sunday March 24th Palm Sunday - Cake Sale, Parish Hall,
Watermoor, after the 10am service

Thursday March 28th Maundy Thursday - Corporate communion
10.30am Parish Church

Wednesday April 3rd - MU meeting 2.30pm Parish Hall, Watermoor.
Guest speaker Karen Martin. Bring & Buy sale.

Wednesday April 10th - SOUP LUNCH Parish Hall Watermoor
12noon until 1.15pm.

LUNCH

Home-made soups, bread and cheese, fruit
& coffee

£4.50

PARISH HALL, WATERMOOR

Car Park from Trinity Road, GL7 1NE

Noon – 1.15pm

Wednesday 10th APRIL 2024



Funds raised will go to Mothers' Union projects

Longfield Hospice Launches Urgent Furniture Appeal

**We are in desperate need of furniture!
Can you help?**

We urgently need donations of good quality furniture. We need tables, chairs, armchairs, sofas, wardrobes, side tables, coffee tables, cabinets etc.



We can accept any upholstery items with fire safety labels on, and working electrical items with a CE label.

Unfortunately, **we cannot take** any beds or mattresses, upholstery without fire safety labels or faulty electrical items.

So, if you're having a clear out, or are upgrading/changing some of your furniture, please think of us at Longfield. We rely on donations to raise funds to provide care and support to those with a life-limiting condition across Gloucestershire. From our Hospice at Home services to our Wellbeing centre, all our care is free of charge.

If you have any good quality furniture you wish to donate you can either:

- take it to our Thrupp Furniture Shop (Unit D1, Kingfisher Business Park, London Road, Thrupp, Stroud GL5 2BY),
- take it to our Up Hatherley Shop (Unit 5-6 Morrisons Centre, Caernarvon Road, Cheltenham GL51 3BW),
- call our Warehouse Team on 01453 836715 to discuss and arrange a collection,
- or send photos of your items by email to logistics@longfield.org.uk.

Thank you for your support.

Laura Owen (Head of Retail)



Counting the Cost of Following Jesus

Open Doors has just published its World Watch List for 2024 listing the 50 worst countries in the world where Christians are persecuted for their faith.

The worst ten countries at present are North Korea, Somalia, Libya, Eritrea, Yemen, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sudan, Iran and Afghanistan. The full list of fifty countries is published on their website giving examples of the persecution suffered in each country.

We are asked to keep praying for the persecuted people in these countries.

Pam Barnes



Joseph Haydn Nelson Mass

Missa in Angustiis

Michael Haydn
Requiem

Stroud Choral
society



Saturday 16th March 2024 7pm

Parish Church of St. John Baptist, Cirencester

Stroud Choral Society with the Bristol Ensemble
Conductor: Simon Bell

Soloists: Emma Brain-Gabbott Soprano, Juliet Curnow Alto
Paul Badley Tenor, Julian Empett Bass

Tickets £25, £20 and £5, under 13s free

Available from Cirencester Local Information Centre (Bingham House)
choir members or on the door



bit.ly/StroudChoralHaydn



Stroud Choral Society
www.stroudchoral.org

Charity no. 1198620

Stroud Choral Society is affiliated to Making Music

THOMAS TALLIS REIMAGINED



Cantores Chamber Choir directed by Simon Harper presents a programme centred on the music of one of England's greatest composers Thomas Tallis, including many of his magnificent Latin motets, as well as his nine tunes for Archbishop Parker's Psalter as the centrepiece of the programme. Tallis' music will be interspersed with contemporary settings of some of the same texts, and pieces directly inspired by Tallis, including works by Cecilia McDowall, Bob Chilcott, David Bednall, and a new work specially composed for this programme by Esther Kay.

Saturday 9th March 2024 at Cirencester Parish Church (7:00pm)
Saturday 23rd March 2024 at Holy Trinity Church, Minchinhampton (4pm).

Tea and cake available!

Tickets £15 (U18s & Students £5) from the Cantores website

Longfield Hospice Calls for More Volunteers

A spare three hours a week is all it takes to develop a new social circle and spend time doing something fun while developing new skills - while making a huge difference across Gloucestershire.

We are urgently seeking volunteers to help across all areas of the hospice in Minchinhampton, out and about in the community or in our charity shops across Gloucestershire.

We have a wide range of volunteering roles, there is something for everyone and find out more at www.longfield.org.uk

If you can find some regular time each week to volunteer with us, we promise fun, new friends, new skills and the simple joy of knowing you are making a huge difference contact volunteering@longfield.org.uk.

Longfield Community Hospice is a charity and relies on voluntary donations to provide the much-needed care and support to patients, their families and loved ones.

Louise Cook



THE THOMAS PERRY FOUNDATION.

This is a small Charitable Trust (No. 311490) which was set up and founded by the will dated 1st March 1706 of Mr Thomas Perry, a Christian and resident of Cirencester. A stone slab recording his death and burial in the church can be found in the centre of the floor of the Lady Chapel in Cirencester's Parish Church.

His Will left monies to be invested, and the income from those investments to be used to enable '*one poor boy*' to be given an apprenticeship locally, or to '*take up a commendable trade, occupation*

or calling in the city of London’ according to the discretion of a group of Trustees empowered to regulate the Trust.

The Trust has continued from the time of Thomas Perry’s death, albeit with lapses between 1899 and 1916 and again 1940 and 1963, and has provided financial support for many young people from Cirencester in line with the conditions of the Will, to help them start out in employment, purchase their tools of the trade, and improve their education.

Currently the Trust can provide financial benefits for:- *persons of either sex who have not attained the age of 25 years; who are resident in the parish of Cirencester; or have for not less than three years at any time attended a school in Cirencester; and are in need of financial assistance.* Full details of the scheme can be found on the Charity Commission website www.charity-commission.gov.uk entering the Charity Number 311490 and clicking on ‘charity framework’ in the LH box.

The Trustees meet to consider any applications received and to make grants as they are able to those who meet the criteria. Current Trustees are:- Alan Moss, Peter Wilson, Helen Tonks and Pauline Skinner. Anyone who feels that they might wish to benefit from this Foundation, and who meet all the relevant criteria, are invited to contact one of the Trustees and/or to apply in writing setting out their case to:- The Secretary, Thomas Perry Foundation, 76 Siddington Road, Cirencester, Glos. GL7 1PF.

Alan Moss



Treasurer/Finance Trustee Needed

Do you want to help the community where you live, work or study and gain valuable skills and at the same time make sure your family and neighbours get the advice they need now and in the future?

We are looking for someone with appropriate financial expertise to join the Board and the Finance Sub Committee with a view to taking on the role of Treasurer. They ideally will have an appropriate accountancy qualification but, as importantly, has relevant financial management skills and experience (not necessarily from within the Not For Profit sector) to work alongside our CEO to oversee the financial aspects of the Charity.

We would particularly welcome applications from those with lived experience of poverty and living on a low income, black and ethnic minority candidates, disabled candidates and those from under-represented groups and marginalised groups.

We are also keen to encourage applications from younger members of the community and from those who have accessed Citizen Advice services. Previous Board experience is not required as induction and training will be provided, as is support from Trustees and the staff team.

Time commitment

Overall, the total time commitment for a Finance Trustee is approximately one day per month made up of a couple of hours or so per week which includes chairing the monthly Finance Committee and attending the bi-monthly Trustee Board meeting which typically last a couple of hours and may be online via Teams, or in person, in either Cirencester or Stroud. Trustees can also participate in other projects which would involve some additional time on occasions.

For more information or to register your interest and request an Information Pack and Application Form please email info@ca-scd.org.uk

Closing date: 29 March 2024



Dates for March 2024

Daily

12 – 1pm	Eucharist - Catherine Chapel	St John Baptist
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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)
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1 Mar, Fri

9 – 9:30am	Morning Prayer	St John Baptist
10 – 11am	Funeral Michael Goscombe	Holy Trinity
12 – 1pm	Eucharist - Catherine Chapel	St John Baptist
4 – 6pm	Cirencester Food Pantry	Parish Hall, Watermoor
5 – 6pm	Evening Prayer	St John Baptist

2 Mar, Sat

12 – 1pm	Eucharist - Catherine Chapel	St John Baptist
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3 Mar, Sun

8 – 9am	Eucharist	Holy Trinity
8 – 9am	Holy Communion BCP - Lady Chapel	St John Baptist
10 – 11:30am	All Age Eucharist	St John Baptist
10 – 11:30am	Non-Eucharistic Family Service	Holy Trinity
10:30–11:30am	Eucharist	St Lawrence
4 – 5pm	Choral Evensong	St John Baptist
4 – 5pm	Restore@4	St Lawrence Church
5 – 7pm	Junior Youth Group	The Parish Forum

4 Mar, Mon

9:30 – 11am	Little Angels	St John Baptist
2 – 3pm	Memorial Clifford Hilditch	St John Baptist
5:30 – 6:30pm	Vicars Open Office	The Parish Forum
7:30 – 9pm	Lent Pub Group	The Parish Forum

5 Mar, Tue

4 – 5pm	Spend time with Benedict	St John Baptist
6:30 – 9pm	Bell Ringing	St John Baptist

6 Mar, Wed

12 – 12:30pm	Eucharist Catherine Chapel	St John Baptist
7 – 8pm	Eucharist	Holy Trinity

7 Mar, Thu

8 Mar 4 – 6pm	Cirencester Food Pantry	Parish Hall, Watermoor
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9 Mar, Sat

7:30 – 9:30pm	Cantores Chamber Choir Choral Concert	St John Baptist
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10 Mar, 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 Prayer	St John Baptist

11 Mar, Mon

9:30 – 11am	Little Angels	St John Baptist
2:30 – 3:30pm	Guided Tour	St John Baptist
5:30 – 6:30pm	Vicars Open Office	The Parish Forum
7:30 – 9pm	Lent Pub Group	The Parish Forum

12 Mar, Tue

6:30 – 9pm	Bell Ringing	Holy Trinity
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13 Mar, Wed

12 – 12:30pm	Eucharist Catherine Chapel	St John Baptist
2 – 3:30pm	SJB Congregational Meeting	The Parish Forum
7 – 8pm	Eucharist	Holy Trinity

14 Mar, Thu

9:15 – 10:45am	Seedlings	St Lawrence
10:30–11:30am	Guided Tour	St John Baptist

15 Mar, Fri

2:30 – 3:30pm	Guided Tour	St John Baptist
4 – 6pm	Cirencester Food Pantry	Parish Hall, Watermoor

16 Mar, Sat

1 – 2pm	Wedding	Holy Trinity
7 – 9:30pm	Stroud Choral Society Concert	St John Baptist Church

17 Mar, 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
10:3–11:30am	Eucharist	St Lawrence
1 – 2pm	Baptism	St John Baptist
2:30 – 6pm	Bell Ringing	Holy Trinity
4 – 5pm	Choral Evensong	St John Baptist
4 – 5pm	Restore @4	St Lawrence
5 – 7pm	Junior Youth Group -	Parish Forum

18 Mar, Mon

9:30 – 11am	Little Angels	St John Baptist
5:30 – 6:30pm	Vicars Open Office	The Parish Forum
7:30 – 9pm	Lent Pub Group	The Parish Forum
7:30 – 9pm	Quarter Peal	St John Baptist

19 Mar, Tue

10:30–11:30am	Guided Tour	St John Baptist
6:30 – 9pm	Bell Ringing	Holy Trinity

20 Mar, Wed

10:30–11:30am	Guided Tour	St John Baptist
12 – 12:30pm	Eucharist Catherine Chapel	St John Baptist
7 – 8pm	Eucharist	Holy Trinity
7:30 – 9:30pm	Full PCC/Accounts	St Lawrence

21 Mar, Thu

2:30 – 3:30pm	Guided Tour	St John Baptist
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22 Mar, Fri

4 – 6pm	Cirencester Food Pantry	Parish Hall, Watermoor
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23 Mar, Sat

10:30–11:30am	Guided Tour	St John Baptist
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24 Mar, 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	Iona/Taize Service	St John Baptist

25 Mar, Mon

9:30 – 11am	Little Angels	St John Baptist
2:30 – 3:30pm	Guided Tour	St John Baptist
5:30 – 6:30pm	Vicars Open Office	The Parish Forum
6:30 – 7:30pm	Stations of The Cross	Holy Trinity
7:30 – 9pm	Lent Pub Group	The Parish Forum
9 – 10pm	Compline	St Lawrence

26 Mar, Tue

10:3 – 11:30am	Guided Tour	St John Baptist
6:30 – 9pm	Bell Ringing	Holy Trinity
6:30 – 7:30pm	Stations of The Cross	Holy Trinity
9 – 10pm	Compline	St John Baptist

27 Mar, Wed

12 – 12:30pm	Eucharist Catherine Chapel	St John Baptist
2:30 – 3:30pm	Guided Tour	St John Baptist
6:30 – 7:30pm	Stations of The Cross	Holy Trinity
7 – 8pm	Eucharist	Holy Trinity
9 – 10pm	Compline	St John Baptist

28 Mar, Thu

9:15 – 10:45am	Seedlings	St Lawrence
10:30-11:30am	Mothers' Union Corporate Communion	St John Baptist
2:30 – 3:30pm	Guided Tour	St John Baptist
7:30 – 8:30pm	Liturgy of the Upper Room	St John Baptist

29 Mar, Fri

9 – 10am	Ante Communion	Holy Trinity
10am – 12pm	Junior Church	Holy Trinity
10am – 12pm	Messy Church	Parish Hall, Watermoor
12 – 2pm	Led Quiet Reflections	St John Baptist
2 – 3pm	Liturgy of the Cross	St John Baptist
4 – 6pm	Cirencester Food Pantry	Parish Hall, Watermoor

30 Mar, Sat

10:30–11:30am Guided Tour
7 – 8pm Easter Vigil

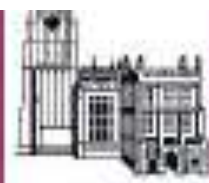
St John Baptist
St John Baptist

31 Mar, Sun

8 – 9am Eucharist
8 – 9am Holy Communion BCP - Lady Chapel
10 – 11:30am Eucharist
10 – 11:30am Eucharist
10:3 – 11:30am Eucharist
3 – 4pm Solemn Evensong

Holy Trinity
St John Baptist
Holy Trinity
St John Baptist
St Lawrence
St John Baptist





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