

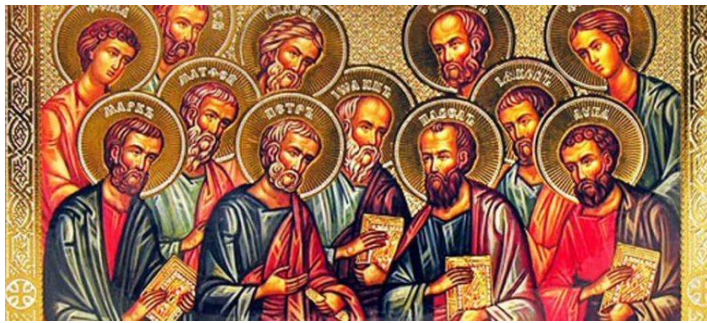
# ALL SAINTS NEWS

14<sup>th</sup> April 2024  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter

## 'Acts is hard work during Eastertide' Angela Tilby, Church Times, May 2019

Since the arrival of Common Worship, the Sunday lectionary between Easter and Pentecost (based on the Revised Common Lectionary) prescribes readings from the Acts of the Apostles at the principal Sunday service.

These are meant to replace an Old Testament reading during Eastertide, which means that, if there are three readings at a Sunday eucharist, they are all from the New Testament. Even if there is to be only one reading before the Gospel, Acts has precedence. (An Old Testament option is provided, somewhat grudgingly, but even if this is used it must not supplant the Acts reading).



There is an obvious logic to reading the early chapters of Acts in Eastertide, as the Church lives out its Easter hope and looks forward to the coming of the Holy Spirit.

But, although it makes sense in thematic terms, I find it hard work liturgically. The problem is the clash of two often strong (and sometimes long) narrative passages coming one after the other: Acts and then a Gospel;

either one of the resurrection appearances of Jesus, or a passage on resurrection life from John. You want to listen to those: they really matter.

Acts needs space to be heard well, which is why I find that I am more likely to attend to it when it is read in the course of the daily office than when it is crowded into a Sunday eucharist.

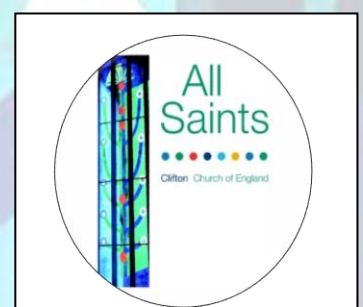
It is not that I don't appreciate Acts: in purely literary terms, it is probably one of the best compositions in the Bible, skilfully crafted to tell its story of the Spirit's work in the Early Church. It also wonderfully reflects the Mediterranean urban world in which Christianity emerged and spread, giving a vivid insight into ordinary secular life, commerce, travel, law, and gossip, as well as the dangers of fire and shipwreck. Thematically, it both completes the mission of Jesus from Luke's Gospel, and provides a careful apologetic for the mission of Paul, who, at the end of the story, is in Rome, still free, though awaiting trial.

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I know that there are those for whom the Acts of the Apostles is a blueprint for the mission of the Church today, and who might jump at the chance for a programmatic exposition of the narrative in preaching. I don't read Acts in that way, but I do see anticipations and warnings of how the Spirit works through human frailty to form communities shaped by the gospel. I don't always like the results — one thinks of Ananias and Sapphira — but we need to know the worst if we are to emulate the best.

So, I want to do justice to the Acts of the Apostles, but I am afraid that, on Sunday mornings between Easter and Pentecost, it all rushes past in a bit of a blur.

## **Recommended Introductions to the Book of Acts of the Apostles**

**Tom Wright, Acts for Everyone, 2014 SPCK Publishing**

Tom Wright is Research Professor Emeritus of New Testament and Early Christianity at the University of St Andrews and Senior Research Fellow at Wycliffe Hall, Oxford.

### **Father Charles**

Father Charles will be acting as Area Dean and conducting worship at Abbots Leigh and Leigh Woods on this Sunday (14 April 2024).

## **Some People News**

### **Lisa Price**

**And news from the White Peak Group of Parishes (Youlgreave, Middleton, Stanton in Peak and Birchover) in the Diocese of Derby. Lisa will be ordained Priest this Petertide.**

'After two years as an Ordinand at Trinity College and on placement at All Saints Clifton, I wanted to drop you a line to say how much I am missing you all at All Saints this Holy Week and remembering with fondness and awe my experience of two Holy Weeks with you these past 2 years. What an enormous privilege it was to worship with you all and experience Easter as I did at All Saints. It is something I will always treasure.

I have just been to my first Chrism service and was asked to present the oil of catechumens to the bishop which was a huge privilege and I loved it all, got my words right and processed out the right way! You can let Fr Paul know that!! I now have my own set of oils for ministry which feels significant and a big step in heading towards ordination as priest.

Sadly, my Training Incumbent is moving on to a diocesan role so there may be some changes in my curacy.'

### **Sister Teresa Mary**

**To be Ordained Priest this Petertide on 30 June at Bristol Cathedral**

Sister Teresa is now finishing her first year of curacy at Holy Trinity Hotwells. As you're aware she is progressing toward being a 'Religious Priest, rather than a 'Parochial Priest'. Following her ordination, in June, her first Mass will be at St Michael's Convent, Gerrards Cross (the Community 'home').

Sister Teresa's first Mass at All Saints will be on Sunday 14 July at the Parish Mass.

Sister Rosie is currently waiting for surgery on her shoulder and is spending this time at the Community House in Clevedon. Sister Rosie is on our prayer-list and we very much look forward to seeing her back in person!

### **Professor Karla Pollmann**

**Previously Dean of Faculty of Arts and Professor of Classics and Theology at Bristol University, leaving in 2022; now President of the University of Tübingen. Karla returned to visit ASC and preach in February.**

Following her visit, Karla wrote to say how she looks back on her visit, and her time, at All Saints very fondly and how good it was to be back amongst such friendly and familiar faces even for such a short time. She also commented on the huge range of activities that All Saints engages in – from the range of social events to the wide variety of ways we engage with the local community, and also the strength of music as part of the living church.

## **All invited!**

Please be aware of two dates for your diary.

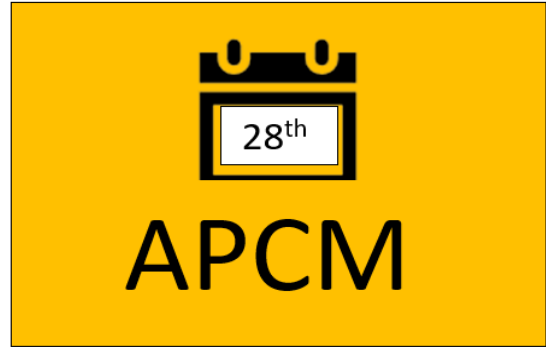
On **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm** there will be a 'walk through' of the scheme for the redevelopment of the atrium. Plans of what is intended will be available along with the computer-generated images that have previously been displayed. Adam Chivers will explain what is intended, the present position with our planning application and the processes that are to be followed in securing a faculty and putting the project out to tender. The churchwardens will be providing drinks at the event.

Later that week on **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April at 6pm** there will be a voice training session. This is primarily intended for those using the pulpit for readings, intercessions and sermons and will concentrate on voice projection and modulation but all with an interest in public speaking are very welcome to attend. We are very fortunate that our resident thespian Magnus Gordon has kindly offered to provide the training.



## APCM and Presentation of the Revised Electoral Roll

The APCM will be held on Sunday 28th of April 2024 in the Randall Room.



The Electoral Roll has been revised for 2024. Applications are now closed. The new Roll will be available for viewing from Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2024 for 14 days.

Please contact the Electoral Roll Officer via the Parish Office if any corrections are required.

**Free Wellbeing Course**

### Mindfulness for Cancer

Care-Compassion-Connection

Do you regularly worry, experience anxiety, or feel overwhelmed?

*"Massively helpful in reframing and being with potentially catastrophising thoughts"*

Reaching the end of treatment can feel isolating

Connect with others whilst learning skills to reconnect with life

In-person or online (Zoom), including an all-day retreat

Tuesdays, 1.45 - 4.15 pm  
16 April - 4 June 2024 (8 weeks)  
Retreat Saturday 11 May

**In-person:** All Saints Church, Pembroke Road, Clifton, BS83ED

**Book Now!** 0117 370 1875  
enquiries@ncim.org.uk  
www.ncim.org.uk

For people living with cancer and/or their carers

Delivered by  National Centre for Integrative Medicine

Supported by  





Bristol Friends of WNO warmly invite you to a talk at The Apostle Room , Clifton Cathedral on Wednesday 17th April 6.45 for 7.15 start

**Britten's *Death in Venice***

Ahead of WNO's critically acclaimed production soon to be performed in Bristol, writer and broadcaster **Nigel Simeone**, explores Britten's extraordinary score, its close relationship with Thomas Mann's original story and the extent to which the opera can be seen as a kind of musical biography.

*Easy parking, bar, Friends £8, Visitors £10*

*Further information from Melanie David,*

*Tel: 01934 842014 email: [melaniej david@btinternet.com](mailto:melaniej david@btinternet.com)*

LOOKING FORWARD, A DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES

## EASTERTIDE CHURCH CRAWL

Saturday 27 April 2024

Leave All Saints at 9.15am

Arrive back around 5.30pm

Hereford Cathedral; All Saints Brockhampton; St Mary's Kempsey; St Edward the Confessor Kempsey. These are four interesting and very different churches.

Please bring your own lunch or have lunch in the café at Hereford Cathedral. Tea at Valerie's Tea Rooms Monmouth

We have booked a 17 seater minibus which we hope to fill!

Cost £30-£35 depending how many sign up!

Please sign list on porch notice board

Further details from Liz Badman

[liz.badman@virginmedia.com](mailto:liz.badman@virginmedia.com)

ASC Walks - everyone, and their dog, welcome

Saturday 13th April

### Barrow Court



This is a country walk on tracks through the woods.

The circular walk takes about an hour.

The woods will be wonderfully in bud, with extensive patches of bluebells.

It may well be muddy, and good shoes/boots are recommended.

Meet outside All Saints at 10.45am

We will car-share for the 15 mins drive as there is limited parking.

Any questions ask:

[georginaharford@hotmail.com](mailto:georginaharford@hotmail.com)

07767746168

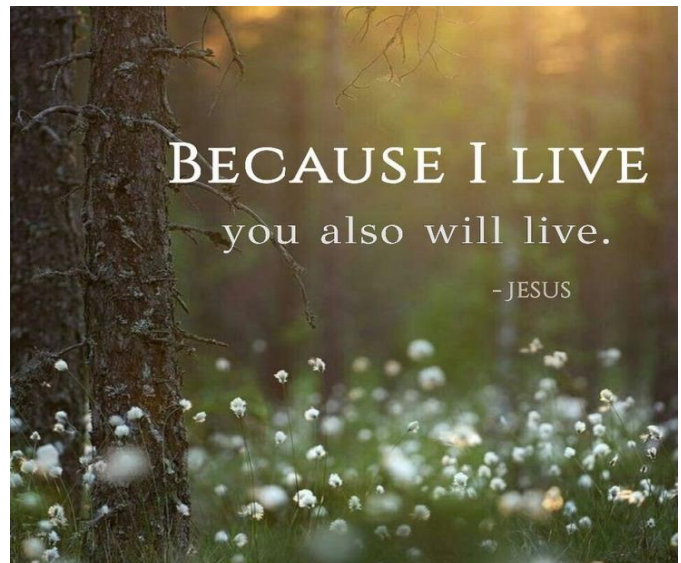


## Prayers Requests

'In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live.'

(John 14: 19).

Please let Fr Charles know of anyone who would like to be remembered within the weekly prayer list or anyone who you would like to be remembered in prayer.



## Those of the parish and our hearts whom we remember in our Prayers:

### Sunday

Tabitha Clark, Ruth and Richard Harding, Katie Norman, Neal Gordon, Joyce Shepherd, Cynthia Ashford Elisabeth Morgan Sathia Aruliah Sister Rosina Jean Detheridge Nicholas Parker John Badman

### Monday

Sue Hilliar Hugh Farry

### Tuesday.

Ryan Lindsey George Lympelopoulos

### Wednesday

Katrina and Katherine King, Philip Miles, Diana Verity, Samantha Tucker, Maureen Mumford

### Thursday

Steve Cooper Barbera Freeman

### Friday

Charlotte Hopkins, Andy & Gina Ford, Caroline Semon, Nicole Kaneza Nadine Benn

### Saturday

Jenny Rogers Leonie Benn

## The Departed

Toby Leathwood Eric Lloyd-Davis Nick Atkinson Mario Toffolo Mary Greenacre Sholto MacTurk Peter Firth (Bp) Margaret Denmead

## Years' Minds - this week we remember:

Betty Carpenter Stephen Ostler Tom Hodge Charles Clarke Beryl Dean

# ALL SAINTS PRAYERS

Mon 15	Pray for those without faith, for those searching, for those who have experienced trauma that means they are unable to have faith. An estimated 2% of the world population are atheist.
Tue 16	<b>Isabella Gilmore, Deaconess 1923</b> Pray for woman who minister as Readers, Deacons, Priests and Bishops throughout all denominations and in all parts of the world.
Wed 17	<b>Mass 10.00 am</b> This is about the time that bats emerge from hibernation. Bats play an important role in many environments around the world. Some plants depend partly or wholly on bats to <a href="#">pollinate their flowers</a> or <a href="#">spread their seeds</a> , while other bats also help <a href="#">control pests</a> by eating insects. Pray for all who are involved in bat research and conservation.
Thurs 18	Pray for journalists and 'good' journalism. This is about getting facts as right as possible, helping inform, acting in good faith, adding value, providing a service, employing critical analysis. We need to be informed about our world and the decisions of respective governments – without 'good' journalism we would be informed about neither and may be misinformed about either or both.
Fri 19	<b>Mass 10.00 am Alphage, Archbishop of Canterbury 1012</b> St Alphage Church in London represents those many churches destroyed in war. We pray for their worshipping communities. Alphage was also Abbot of Bath, Bishop of Winchester and Archbishop of Canterbury, then killed by Vikings.
Sat 20	Pray for China. For the churches across Zhejiang Province which have had their crosses torn down. Pray for human rights lawyers who are targeted by the Chinese government for their work defending religious freedom. Pray for ethnic minority Christians who are doubly under threat: because they are ethnic as well as religious minorities. Pray for young people in China's middle class are under huge pressure to get a good education and a good job. Employment opportunities often depend on them joining the Communist Party – but this means they have to abandon their faith.
<b>Sunday 21</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>  Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.  <b>Early Worship 9.00am</b> <b>Mass 10.30am</b>

If you would like to give regularly to the Church, please set up a standing order to the church account, details below

**Parochial Church Council of All Saints**  
**Account No. 65256747**  
**sort code 08 92 99**

Gift Aid forms are available from the office  
[office@allsaintsclifton.org](mailto:office@allsaintsclifton.org)

We are committed to safeguarding children, young people, victims of domestic abuse and vulnerable adults.

If you have any Safeguarding concerns please contact :  
The Parish Safeguarding Officer - Stephen O'Keefe  
[stephen.c.okeefe@gmail.com](mailto:stephen.c.okeefe@gmail.com) and Caroline Davenport  
[c2davbristol@hotmail.com](mailto:c2davbristol@hotmail.com)