

ALL SAINTS NEWS

12th July 2026
6th Sunday of Trinity

Feast of St Peter and St Paul and the 45th Anniversary of the Ordination of Fr Charles as Priest

Sermon preached by The Rt Revd Neil Warwick, Acting Bishop of Bristol and Suffragan Bishop of Swindon, on Sunday 28 June 2026 at All Saints Clifton

Wisdom Given and Wisdom Grown.

When Jesus asks his disciples. *'Who do you say that I am?'* Peter gives a remarkable answer. *'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God'*.

Jesus responds. *'Blessed are you, Simon, son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood. But my Father in heaven'*.

Peter's answer has wisdom in that it is seeing things as God sees them.

Augustine spoke for Christians through the ages when he acknowledged God as:

'.....The wisdom in whom and from whom, and through whom all things are wise, which anywhere are wise'.

What is striking about Peter's wisdom, in verse 16, seems to arrive in an instant. One moment Jesus asks a question, and the next Peter speaks words that change history. Jesus makes it clear that Peter has not worked this out by his own intelligence. It is a gift. Wisdom given suddenly by God

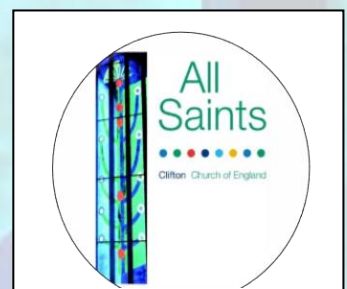
Many of us may recognise moments like this. Truth becomes clear. A decision that seemed impossible suddenly comes into focus. We know what needs to be done. We cannot entirely explain how we know. We simply see it. Sometimes wisdom arrives unexpectedly as grace.

Peter's story also reminds us that wisdom is accumulated over time.

Peter did not become wise once and for all at Caesarea Philippi. He continued learning throughout his life. He made mistakes, misunderstood Jesus, denied him. And was restored. Peter led the church and years later in the book of Acts, Peter received another vision. The great sheet lowered from heaven, containing animals the Jewish law considered unclean.

Contact us

Office	01179741355	
Web	www.allsaintsclifton.org	
Email	office@allsaintsclifton.org	
Address	68 Pembroke Road, Clifton, Bristol, BS8 3ED	
Vicar	Fr. Charles Sutton	Home 0117 9078088
Mobile	07785912663	Email charleses@me.com
Associate Priest	Fr Paul Hawkins Mthr Nicola Stanley	



The views and opinions expressed in this Newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views or positions of the All Saints Church community.

Again, wisdom came suddenly. God opened the eyes of Peter to see that the gospel was for Gentiles as well as for Jews. The insight came in a moment. But Peter was only ready to receive it because of everything God had been teaching him throughout his life. The instant of revelation rested upon years of discipleship.

Wisdom can come like that. God gives sudden insight. But usually into heart and mind that have been slowly formed over time.

We should cherish either kind of wisdom. The wisdom that came comes in a moment. And the wisdom that grows through experience.

We see this in children.

Parents, grandparents, teachers, carers and godparents know that children say astonishingly wise things. In my experience, a child can cut through and see what adults have missed.

When I went to theological college, my 5 year old daughter wrote me a note:

'That if you don't work hard college, you'll be a rubbish vicar'.

My son, about the same age, was hearing the story of Joseph in Sunday school when he said:

'Is that God in the story the same one we know?'

Children ask questions that expose our assumptions. They remind us that matter. They remind us what matters most. Their wisdom can appear unexpectedly, and we are left wondering where it came from.

Jesus told us to pay attention to children and their trust honestly and openness. Wisdom is not measured by age.

And yet age matters too.

Some wisdom can only be gained through years of faithful living. There are lessons learned through joy and sorrow. Success and failure. Prayer, service and perseverance. There is a wisdom that develops over decades as we follow Christ.

That is why today we give thanks for Charles and the wisdom he has accumulated in life and priesthood.

We give thanks for Charles, whose years of service have been years of learning, listening, caring, praying and guiding. Charles's wisdom comes from decades of priestly vocation. And is shaped by countless conversations, hospital visits, baptisms, the Eucharist, weddings, funerals, celebrations, disappointments and prayers. Also, a distinguished career in organisational psychology.

Such wisdom is one of God's gifts to our church. Charles provided the wisdom to set up our Diocesan Coaching Programme, which 70% of clergy are now doing. This is led, after two years, to an improvement in the well-being of our clergy. Also, vocations have been refreshed and ministry strengthened. Remarkable wisdom from Charles, who was the catalyst. Thank you.

I have seen Charles embody two types of wisdom: moments when God grant sudden insight. And those years when God patiently forms a person into someone capable of offering wise counsel.

The Church needs both.

Fresh wisdom that may come from a child, a person new to faith, or an unexpected voice, alongside the seasoned wisdom from people who have walked with Christ for many years.

Peter experienced both. He received revelation in an instant, and he grew in winsome wisdom over a lifetime. Let us be open to both gifts. God revealed Christ to Peter. God is still speaking, teaching, and surprising us.

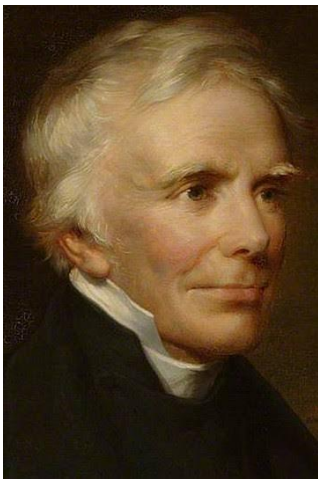
I give thanks for Charles - for the wisdom he has shared with me. And the Christ like manner he's done that in.

You will have your own reasons to be thankful this morning.....

To the God whose wisdom be all glory now and forever, Amen.

John Keble, Priest, Tractarian, Poet, 1866

In celebrating our Dedication Sunday, on the 5 July, we should not overlook that this week celebrates the 'Lesser Festival' of John Keble on Tuesday 14 July.



John Keble (1792–1866) was an English Anglican priest, poet, and key theological leader of the 19th-century Oxford Movement. Because he authored nine of the movement's *Tracts for the Times*, its advocates became known as "Tractarians". His work and writings revived High Church ideals within the Church of England.

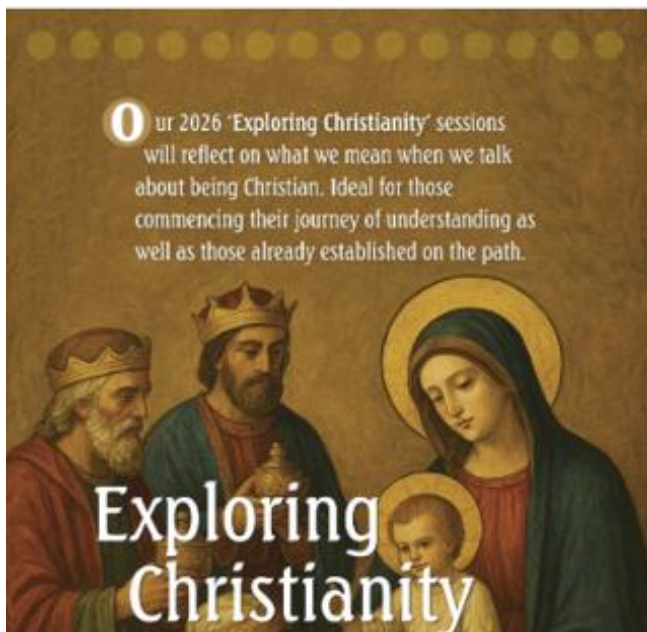
Born in Fairford, Gloucestershire, Keble was educated at the University of Oxford and later served as a tutor and Fellow at Oriel College. A deeply spiritual figure, he became the unofficial figurehead and elder statesman of the movement, guiding it with a discreet and stabilizing hand.

His most important contributions included

- **The "National Apostasy" Sermon:** On July 14, 1833, Keble preached a famous sermon at the university chapel that is widely credited as the official start of the Oxford Movement.
- ***The Christian Year*:** Published in 1827, this highly popular volume of his poetry promoted High Church ideals. It became one of the most widely circulated religious books of its time. This includes the poem (now hymn) '*New every morning is the Love*'.
- **The Tracts:** He wrote nine of the 90 *Tracts for the Times*, which were designed to rouse Anglican clergy against the notion of a state-controlled church and promote the study of early Church Fathers.

Unlike some of his fellow Tractarians (such as John Henry Newman), Keble never converted to Roman Catholicism. He remained a devoted country vicar at the parish in Hursley from 1836 until his death in 1866. The University of Oxford honoured his legacy by establishing Keble College in his name.

"Peace is the first thing the angels sang." John Keble



Exploring Christianity

12.30 - 1.30 (with sandwiches) in the Randall Room after Mass on Sundays:

July 12 The Sacraments

July 26 Heresies

All welcome, at whatever stage of the journey of faith.



The Atrium Development

In the latest phase of the work the last part of the atrium is now closed. This will protect the organ from the dust of more demolition and secure the site for safety.

It will remain as a fire escape route so that the church retains its fire compliance.

Entry to the sacristy is now via the rear door reached from the side gate of the Vicarage garden.

The Church Bell - due to work on the electrical supply the Tower bell is not currently working. The bell will be reset when all electrical work is completed.

During August the main electrical input and fuse board will be updated and replaced. There will be period when there is no electricity available on site.

Whilst this is an inconvenience it is essential maintenance and safety work as the fuse board does not meet current standards



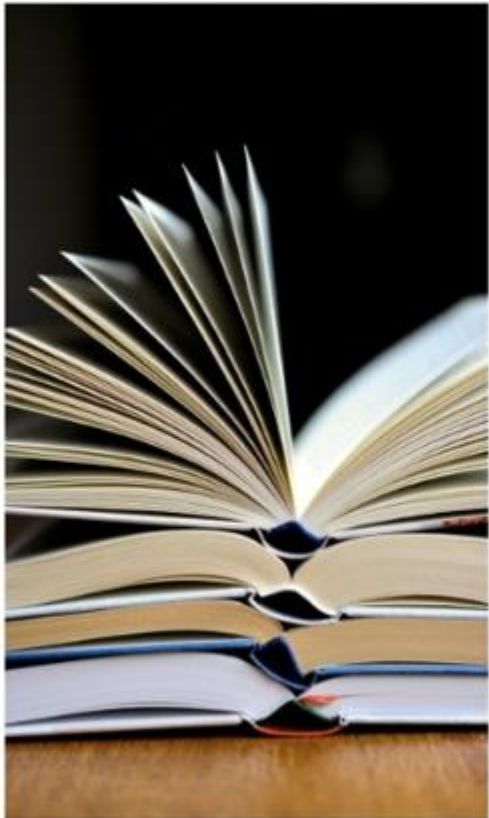
Adventure Babies come to play !

This week the Adventure Babies group came into the church to play as the Randall Room was just too hot.

This gave over 30 parents and babies an opportunity to explore a Pirate themed play session, socialise with other parents and babies and to spend time in the church.

Several visitors said how nice it was to see this activity being held in the church.





All Saints Book Group

Wed 22nd July 2026, 7-9 pm

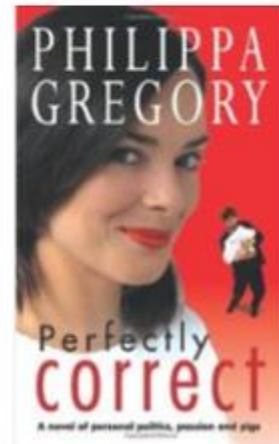
Join us for our bi-monthly All Saints' book group

Every other month, a new book – bringing readers together for lively discussions and great company!

The book for our July 2026 meeting will be:

Perfectly Correct
By Philippa Gregory

Future Dates (all Wednesdays)
23 Sept; 25 Nov 2026



Due to high temperatures over the weekend, Saturday's walk has been cancelled



Walks For Everyone!

Guided walks on The Downs and other interesting areas of Bristol.
Usually on the **SECOND Saturday morning of every month** – plus some Bank Holiday Monday walks.

Suitable for everyone, and well behaved dogs are welcome!

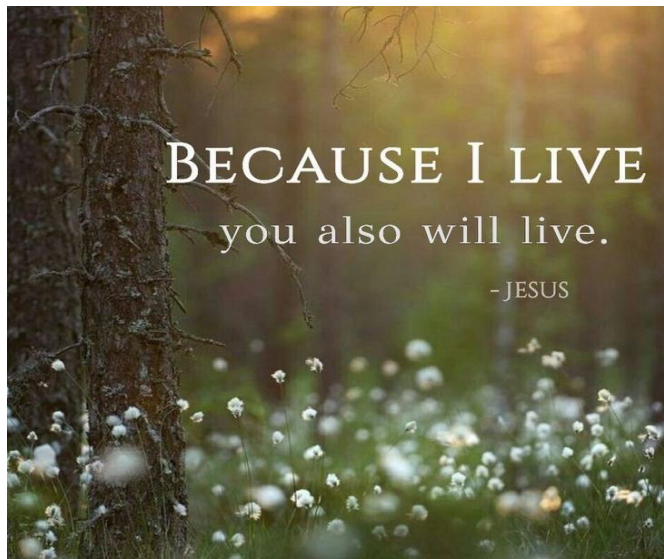
Saturday 11th July Walk for All: Arno's Vale to Temple Meads

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 Nicky Epina Sarah Jean Bradford Ossama & Clare Sader Debbie Gibbs Sara Maitland Jessica Smith Sue Gaylard-Hughes Georgina Harford

Monday

Tuesday.

Wednesday

Katrina and Katherine King, Philip Miles, Samantha Tucker, Maureen Mumford Jennie Williams

Thursday

Friday

Charlotte Hopkins, Caroline Semon, Nadine Benn The O'Sullivan family

Saturday

The Departed

Lucille Osafo Antony Keyworth-Berridge Chris Griffin Jenny Oates Brian Davage Jean Payne Jeremy Younger (Pr) Judith Bramhall

Years' Minds - this week we remember:

George Fowler Albert Leach Joyce King Mary Bond Christopher Verity Helene Chalker
Bea Wren Ken Mills Wilfred White

ALL SAINTS PRAYERS

Mon 13	Pray for those working in the Hospitality sector. Pray for the thousands of workers in service industries, restaurants and pubs who work long hours for very low wages and often in difficult conditions. Pray also for those who work to protect workers rights and raise the quality of their working conditions.
Tue 14	John Keble, Priest, Tractarian, 1866 Give thanks for the Oxford Movement and especially its focus on Eucharistic worship (bringing the insights of the liturgical movement) and the strong critique of British social policy (local and national). That this work, that established Anglo-Catholicism, may continue in our churches
Wed 15	Mass 10.00am Swithun Bishop 862 Pray for meteorologists and all those concerned with forecasting and researching the weather (St Swithun's Day weather last for 'forty' days).
Thurs 16	Pray for funeral directors and bereavement counsellors and those working with families who are living through grief and loss.
Fri 17	Mass 10.00am Pray for child carers of ill or disabled parents, that they will know practical and emotional support as they balance education, care and their own necessary social lives.
Sat 18	Elizabeth Ferard first C of E Deaconess 1883 Pray for all lay and ordained ministers. Especially those who serve and support the church in the roles of Deacon and Deaconess
Sunday 19	Trinity 7 Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same. Early Worship 9.00am Parish Mass 10.30am

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

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 Officers - Caroline Davenport
& Janice Callow at safeguarding@allsaintsclifton.org