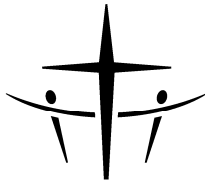


January
2012



50p

St Peter's

Leckhampton Parish Church

Parish Magazine

*Happy
New
Year*

www.stpeters-leckhampton.org.uk
email: magazine@stpeters-leckhampton.org.uk
part of the South Cheltenham Team Ministry



St Peter's

Leckhampton Parish Church

Our Vision Statement

St Peter's Church Leckhampton exists to worship God and
introduce people to Jesus Christ.

To help them grow more like Him.

And then to give to the world what God has given to each of us.

We are a church where all are welcome and where

- God is worshipped in Jesus Christ
- Prayer is at the heart of all we do
- We are all learning about our faith
- We are actively concerned about our community and the wider world
- As a growing Christian community we are a sign of hope to others
- We can accomplish nothing without the help of God's Spirit
- We believe that small things done with great love will change the world

The Parish Prayer

Loving God

Open our eyes that we might see you.

Open our ears that we might hear you.

Open our hearts and minds that we

Might respond to you and bring others to know you.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ

Our Lord who lights our way.

Amen



St Peter's

Leckhampton Parish Church

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The contents of this magazine do not necessarily reflect the views of the PCC but are those of individual contributors.

Editor: David Webber

Deputy Editor: Jacky Potter

Business and Advertising Manager: Sue Marlow

Distribution Manager: Jim Moylan

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INFORMATION

Usual Services

Sunday	08.00 Holy Communion	
	10.00 Family Communion	Junior Church
	11.30 Holy Communion	
	18.00 Evening Prayer	
Weekdays	08.30 Morning Prayer	
	17.00 Evening Prayer	
	(Area Rotation Wednesday—see Calendar)	
Wednesday	10.30 Holy Communion	

Other Regular Activities

Sunday		
Monday	19.30 Bellringers' Practice	Church
Tuesday	10.00 Tuesday Club (0-4)	Cottages
Thursday	17.45 Brownies	Cottages
Friday	09.30 Flower Guild	Church
	19.30 Full Choir Practice	Church

Other Information

Baptisms	Please ask the clergy for	
Weddings	details	
Days Off	Saturday – Paul	
Parish Office	Hours: 09.00 -13.00	Tel 513647
(Cottages)	Monday, Thursday, Friday	

Prayers are said daily at St Peter's, at 8.30am and 5pm. We invite you to request prayer for people or situations that weigh heavily on your heart and mind at this time so that we can include them on a regular basis. Unless you ask otherwise, we will pray for them for two weeks from the time we receive your request. You would also have to let us know if you would also like the prayer to be used in Sunday services.

If you would like to ask for a prayer, you may telephone, email or write to the Rector (see back cover; emails may also be sent via St Peter's website), or you may prefer to leave the prayer on the board beside the door in church. If you name somebody, please be sure that they are happy for this to happen; you may choose to use just a Christian name or be even less specific. You are; of course, welcome to join us for daily prayers at any time.

CALENDAR FOR JANUARY 2012

Sunday and Weekday service times are listed
on the Information page

- 1 SUNDAY THE NAMING OF CHRIST
Usual Services
- 2 Monday *Basil the Great and Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishops,
Teachers of the Faith, 379 & 389*
- 8 SUNDAY THE EPIPHANY
Usual Morning Services
18.00 Service of Prayer and Laying on of Hands
- 9 Monday 19.30 Worship Committee at Anne Webber's
- 10 Tuesday 19.00 New ID Course (Cottages)
- 11 Wednesday 19.30 PCC Meeting (Cottages)
- 12 Thursday *Aelred of Hexham, Abbot of Rievaulx, 1161* 17.00 Joint
- 13 Friday *Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers, Teacher of the Faith, 367*
- 14 Saturday 09.00 Glenfall Church using Cottages all day
- 15 SUNDAY THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY
Usual Services
- 16 Monday 19.45 CAW Social Evening
- 17 Tuesday *Antony of Egypt, Hermit, Abbot, 356*
19.00 New ID Course (Cottages)
- 18 Wednesday 14.30 Nurture Group (Cottages)
11.30 Holy Communion at Hampton House
- 19 Thursday *Wulfstan, Bishop of Worcester, 1095*
- 21 Saturday *Agnes, Child-Martyr at Rome, 304*
09.30 Peal
- 22 SUNDAY THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY
Usual Services
- 23 Monday 19.00 Bellringing Practice
20.00 Bellringers AGM
- 24 Tuesday *Francis de Sales, Bishop of Geneva, Teacher of the Faith, 1622*
19.00 New ID Course (Cottages)
- 25 Wednesday *The Conversion of Paul*
- 26 Thursday *Timothy and Titus, Companions of St Paul*
09.30 Leckhampton Art Society (Cottages)
- 28 Saturday *Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Philosopher, Teacher of
the Faith, 1274*
17.00 Christingle Preparation (Cottages)

29 Sunday CANDLEMAS
 THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY
 Usual Services
 10.00 All Age Worship with Christingle

30 Monday *Charles, King and Martyr, 1649*

31 Tuesday 19.00 New ID Course (Cottages)

Readings for January 2012

Date	Sunday	Readings
1 st 10am	THE NAMING OF CHRIST	Numbers 6: 22-end Galatians 4: 4-7 Luke 2: 15-21
8 th 10am	THE EPIPHANY	Isaiah 60: 1-6 Ephesians 3: 1-12 Matthew 2: 1-12 1 Samuel 3: 1-10
15 th 10am	THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY	Revelations 5: 1-10 John 1: 43-51
22 nd 10am	THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY	Genesis 14: 17-20 Revelations 19: 6-10 John 2: 1-11
29 th 10am	CANDLEMAS THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY	Malachi 3: 1-5 Hebrew 2: 14-end Luke 2: 22 -40

Parish Register

We congratulate those who have recently been baptized:

Daisy Elise Perkins 11th December 2011

Zachary James Horrocks 11th December 2011

We congratulate those who have recently been married:

Nigel Robert Clifton and Faye Hagger 10th December 2011

We offer our sincere sympathy to the families of those who have recently died, especially:

Marjorie Phyllis Georgina Brassington aged 98
Basil Anthony William Booy aged 84
George Michael Thompson aged 71
Betty Farrow aged 85

The Prayer Chain is a group of twenty people who regularly pray for people who are ill or in need of support. The names are divided into 'links' of five or so people. When an urgent need arises, the organiser contacts the name at the top of the list who then passes it on, thus enabling the message to quickly reach all. Only the Christian name is used and details of the illness or need are not disclosed unless permission is given. Confidentiality is respected. Many people find that they feel supported and upheld knowing a group of people is praying for them. The expected answer to prayer does not always materialise but a way forward becomes clear. If anyone would like to become an intercessor I would welcome them; please contact me. Please also get in touch if you wish to have someone prayed for. **Sue Marlow**

The Parish Office is situated in the Cottages. The phone number is 513647
The opening times are Monday, Thursday and Friday 9.00am – 1.00pm

The P and J Parish Office is now open Monday - Friday 9.15 - 11.00am
Helen Matthew & Martina Spreckley are the Parish Administrators

Ruth Writes: later in the magazine on page 16

.....

If you don't subscribe to the magazine and have it delivered now is the time to put your name on the list for 2012.

Contact Jim Moylan 01242 520615.

£6 per annum with free local delivery.

It really helps with our planning if we know at the beginning of the year how much income we have and it cuts wastage as we don't need to leave so many copies in church for casual buyers.

This year we just about covered our expenses. If you want your magazine to survive please support it.

Christians at Work

The evening of 5th December saw 10 of us brave the cold. Proceedings were opened by Brian Dunlop (to whom welcome) with a reading of a poem and a prayer as a lead in to what the speakers were to cover.

Liz Annett and Mark Wagstaff opened our eyes to the scope and effects of introducing sport for youth in this case in Malawi (formerly Nyasaland). It is a form of Christian outreach. The way this was done was through "Sport Malawi" which is an initiative by the University of Gloucestershire.. There are something over 100 similar sport initiatives in Africa.

. The project aims at getting indigenous people and organisations to use sports outreach and development. In particular it is aimed at the poor and under-privileged.

Liz and Mark have visited Malawi with teams of 8 students twice, once for two and a half weeks, once for four weeks to train Malawians in "sports outreach and development through sport. It addresses the role of sport as a vehicle for social change with a particular focus on youth, health, disability, gender, and human rights." Sport Malawi educates those it encounters in inter-personal relations including how to cooperate as teams to reach a pre-defined goal, things many may not have been able to do in their life up to now. These are pluses in lives of the people Sport Malawi encounters.

Questions at the end focussed on

- a) what happens when the Gloucestershire team is not there? Projects should be self –sustaining with locals taking charge.
- b) Relations with officialdom – these were generally good despite some non-related diplomatic issues involving the President and our Royal wedding in April.

At the end Liz said she was leaving Gloucestershire to return to Northern Ireland in preparation for her future marriage. We wish her every happiness.

Liz's biography and an outline of what Sport Malawi is about is under "Groups" in the St Peter's web site .

We also wish success for both Liz and Mark at whatever task God sets them from now on.

David Long

Programme for the first half of 2012

16 Jan : Cheese & Wine Evening with musical entertainment by Simon & Ruth Fitter Ticket only

6 Feb : Revd Ian Calder "Christian ministry in the Middle East"

5 Mar : Dr Ian Donald "A Christian response to ageing"

Apr : no meeting

14 May : Revd Paul Wilkinson : title tba

11 June : Simon Fitter : "Verging on the ridiculous"

* the Glebe Cottages are located on Church Road, Leckhampton adjacent to the church on the south side

CHEESE & WINE EVENING

The Cheese & Wine Evening is on **Monday 16 January at 19.45** in the **Cottages**, with **Musical Entertainment** by **Ruth & Simon Fitter**. **Tickets £8** must be bought **in advance** from **Roy Crompton** (Chelt 582750). (The evening is now fully subscribed, but if anyone wishes to be put on the waiting list, in case there are any cancellations, please contact Roy.

The next meeting will be on **Monday 6 February at 20.00** in the **Glebe Cottages*** when the speaker will be **Revd Ian Calder** on "**Christian ministry in the Middle East**".

Ian read Mathematics and Philosophy at York University where he met Penny and they married in 1969. They have three sons : Christopher, Neil and Robert.

Ian then pursued a career teaching mathematics in a range of schools and locations, culminating in an appointment at Chepstow School as Head of Mathematics for eleven years. During that time he also trained for ministry in the Church of England and was ordained at Gloucester Cathedral as an N.S.M.. In 1991 the family moved to Cirencester when Ian took up the post of Curate at Watermoor. Then in 1995 they went to Gloucester where he was

Vicar of Coney Hill. Finally , in 2001 came a move to Bishops Cleeve where lan was Rector for seven years.
lan and Penny are now retired from paid employment and live in Gloucester. However, they still find time to help out in a number of ways, including supporting some of the churches in the Middle East which will be the focus of lan's talk.

We have never had a speaker sharing with us the opportunities and challenges of ministry in the Middle East. Particularly in the light of the on-going problems in this area of the world, this promises to be a compelling and ground-breaking evening. So come and join us to hear what lan has to say.
All most warmly welcome.

Roy Crompton

Flowers Band Concert

(Championship Brass Band)
Compère Pete Wilson

Sunday 15th January 2012 at 2.30 pm

St. Andrew's URC,
Montpellier Street, Cheltenham

In aid of St. Christopher's 50th Anniversary Appeal

Tickets £10 (Concessions £8)
Available from tickets@tcivh.org.uk or Sheila (694204)

ST. PETER'S WELCOMES YOUNG PEOPLE

The Tuesday Club is for babies and toddlers aged 0-4 years, with their parents or other carers. We meet every Tuesday during term time from 10 to 11.30am in the Glebe Cottages next to St Peter's

Each session includes time for play, a Bible story, craft, drinks and songs. The adults are a very friendly group and enjoy a good chat and a cup of tea or coffee, as well as joining in with the playing and craft activities. We use a lot of glue! For more information, contact Hermione Mason 01242 516346

Young children, with their parents, are always welcome at church, particularly for the **Sunday 10am Family Communion** service. On special festivals, we hold **All-Age Worship**, usually at 10am (see 'Calendar'). St Peter's has a spacious carpeted '*children's area*' near the front where parents and children can sit together, play with the toys, and take part in the worship. Just turn up!

For older children, **Junior Church** takes place in the Glebe Cottages during the 10am service. Children attend the start of the service but leave after the first hymn, returning to church at 'The Peace'. The activities at Junior Church are based on the same Bible readings as the

adults are learning about.

For information about **Youth** activities please contact Sarah Powell, Youth Leader 573508

Child Protection: St Peter's is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. The Nominated Person is David Webber (254847).

Leckhampton C of E Primary School News

Christmas is coming! Everyone has been very busy getting ready for the celebrations and as always there have been lots of events in and out of school. An Advent service at school marked the start of the Advent season in reflective mood.

The children in Year 3 presented Roald Dahl's witty and entertaining version of 'Jack and the Beanstalk' for their families. There were songs, dances, wonderful costumes and a magic beanstalk! The children were superb and really enjoyed the performance. The children in Year 1 presented their

delightful Nativity play, 'Born in a Barn' for their families. All the children had been working very hard to prepare an extremely accomplished performance. Thanks to Year 3 teachers Miss Gill and Miss Hartley, Year 1 teachers Mrs Edden and Mrs Harriss, the many teaching assistants and all the parents for all their hard work supporting the children and helping with costumes and learning lines.

The Year 6 choir, with Mrs Thomas conducting, sang at the Salvation Army Carolcade at the Bacon Theatre. This was a very enjoyable concert, with various styles of music. The children sang beautifully. The Junior choir, with Miss Hartley conducting them, sang at the Rotary Club Carol concert at the Town Hall. One of the carols which the children sang with the Cheltenham Choral Society was accompanied by the orchestra and a bagpiper – I think that's a first for Leckhampton! The Mayor of Cheltenham was present at both these events. I hope she enjoyed them as much as we did! Thanks to all the children who take part in these events for the community, and thanks to Miss Hartley, Mrs Thomas and all the people who help with and support the choirs. It is a great experience for the children to sing in these locations around Cheltenham.

At school there were Christmas lunches and the children in Key Stage 1 had parties. Year 5 children held their Business Enterprise 'Phoenix Project' activities for the school..

The FOLPS Christmas Fair was very successful and raised over £3000 for the school. The very enjoyable Year 6 games raised over £400 of this total. Well done Year 6!

The term ends with a Christmas service in school.

We hope that Miss Porter, the staff and all the children and their families enjoy a proper rest after a long and busy term and have a happy, safe and peaceful Christmas.

Everyone at Leckhampton C. E Primary School sends you their very best wishes for a happy New Year.

Anne Gale

THE YOUTH PROJECT

We have had a great end to the autumn term, highlights included:

Confirmations

Took place in November at St Matthew's for 5 young people from South Cheltenham Churches. We were really encouraged at the high turn out of people from South Cheltenham who came along to support the candidates, thank you! Well done to the

young people for inviting so many supporters and friends along too. *(Big groups of young people there from Tommy's, Bournside, and Pates.....I believe I owe you a pizza each! - Sarah)*

Leaders Christmas Meal

It was great to see nearly 20 volunteers at our Christmas meal at Zizzi's! Thank you for all your support and hard work!

Christmas Quiz Fun!

Many thanks to Catherine and Tim Hyde for organising our end of term fun quiz, as part of the SCC Youth party at St Peter's Cottages. It was a great event, so thank you for all your hard work putting the quiz together!

Other youth parties included the Big Exalt Christmas Party at St Pauls, and the Toast Christmas Party at the URC!

CU Bournside

Do keep praying for our work in schools, particularly the CU at Bournside. We have just 5 young people attending, who are all committed and passionate about their faith, but they don't get an easy time at school, and need your support and prayer. Please encourage any young people you know at Bournside school to give the CU a go and support these other young people. Everyone is welcome, we play games, have lunch and discuss different topics as well as praying for people. It's on at lunchtimes in E37 with Sarah and Jon (YFC)

Esther Wells

Over the next few months we have a student, Esther Wells, who is on the youth work degree at Gloucestershire University, joining us for her second placement. She is in her second year, and her main placement is at The Rock on Tewkesbury Road. Esther will be helping at JAMY, TOAST, and Bournside.

Fuse needs you!

Our sessions at FUSE on Sunday evenings are attracting around 25-30 young people each week. This is great, and we have lots of young leaders pitching in. But we need enough adults there too, and we don't want to have to turn young people away. If you think you can support this group by making refreshments or helping with games or craft, contact Sarah.

Term restarts dates:

JAMY is back at St Philip and St James Church House on Friday 6th Jan 7-8.30pm, Fuse is back at Emmanuel on Sunday 8th Jan 6.30-8pm, and Toast is back at URC Warden Hill on Weds 11th January 3.15-4.30pm. Monday Nighters will be on alternate weeks from 9th January, at St Philip and St James Church 7-9pm. For a full program do join our mailing list- contact us for details.

Contact Sarah and Tom if you have any questions about the youth project. Do keep praying for us as leaders, pray for all our volunteers, and do keep praying for the young people of South Cheltenham. When we pray, good stuff happens.

Contact:

Sarah Powell 07531 739348 sarahpowellsc@gmail.com

Tom Elliott 07531 707166 youthworktom@hotmail.co.uk

Glenfall House

This year is an important year in the life of Glenfall House. 2012 marks 20 years since the opening of Glenfall House as the Diocesan Retreat & Conference Centre. To mark the occasion there are two major events happening.

The first is a **24 hour prayer vigil** to give thanks for all that has been and to offer all that will be. The vigil begins at 8.30am on **Thursday 5th January**, and will finish with the Eucharist followed by breakfast on the Feast of the Epiphany at 8am on 6th January. The House and chapel will be available for prayer throughout the 24hour period, with more formal prayers on the hour every hour in the chapel. Please do join us at the House if you can, or if you are unable to be with us, please mark this period as a time of prayer for the mission and ministry of the House wherever you are.

Then **June 22-24** marks a **weekend of celebrations**, including an open day and barbecue on the Saturday. On the Sunday (24th) parishes and church groups are invited to bring a picnic lunch and enjoy the House and Gardens before the Bishop Of Gloucester presides at the Eucharist at 3pm. We do hope that as many of you as can will be able to join us the celebrate all that Glenfall means in the life of the Diocese.

Our regular programme of events and quiet days is now available. You can download it from the website www.glenfallhouse.org or call the office 01242 583654.

We look forward to welcoming you to Glenfall in the future.

Liz and all the Glenfall Team

On the Grapevine

I missed the magazine last month so was unable to thank all who made the pre Christmas Fayre such a success.

It was Edna Kemp's idea and it was Edna who organised the event down to the last table cloth and who got us all running various stalls. The



total raised was £930.00 ... pretty good for two hours on a Saturday afternoon in the Cottages. Edna thanks everyone who helped, and there were lots of us. The money raised goes towards the St Peters' Church organ fund.

- **The Book Group** meets at Edna Kemp's' once a month on Mondays at 7.30pm For information ring Edna Kemp on 515550 or Denise Fenley on 527600.
- **Canasta Fours.** Enquiries to Anne tel.262526.
- **Knitting Group.** Thursday 26th January 2.30pm at 6, Wychbury Close. Our handwork is now being sent to the people of Chernobyl, who are still suffering from the devastating effects of the nuclear eruption a generation ago. It may not be widely known that groups of children from that area of Russia come to England every year for a marvellous holiday in healthy surroundings Tel.262526.
- As we go to press we look forward to our Christmas lunch together on 21st December, organised by Phyllis Petman

May we count our blessings this new year.

Anne Goodrich. Link Person tel.01242 262526

The Youth Group raised £421.65 at our Open Doors Blackout Weekend. All this money will be sent to Open Doors, to support persecuted Christian families across the world! Thank you for supporting the young people with this project.

Ruth Writes...

Faith Sharing Week – February 13th- 19th 2012

In the very last paragraph of the Gospel according to Matthew Jesus commissions the disciples to “go and make disciples of all nations.” After everything that they have witnessed during the three years of his ministry he is now asking them to take what they know and tell their story. We, who are baptised, follow in their footsteps and the same commission is given to us by Jesus at our baptism.

As part of that commission the Nurture group at St Peter's are organising a Faith Sharing Week in February in collaboration with Bishop John and his Faith Sharing team. Bishop John is the Bishop of Tewkesbury and he and his team have a vast wealth of experience in being part of this type of week.

The week is meant to be gentle but will be an opportunity for anyone to come and meet the Bishop, put questions to him about issues of life, faith and the universe and generally engage in friendly conversation with others from around our community. It is intended to be for those who already go to church, those who go from time to time and for those who do not go at all. It is hoped that through conversation and fellowship together (as well as a free pint or free glass of wine) we can begin to build relationships within our community that are bound together by some of the same issues that affect us all such as the economic crisis, illness, death, birth, children and jobs. There will, of course, also be an element of how faith becomes important in discussing these issues but it will be a gentle exploration.

During the week there will be several events taking place, as listed below and the Nurture Group would wish to extend a warm welcome to anyone who wishes to be part of the following events. We have split the events on a gender basis as the issues that face men are not always the same issues that face women and Bishop John's experience leads him to believe that both groups are more open when they are together with like-minded people. Please do come to as many or as few of the events as you are able.

Monday February 13th *Grill-a-Bishop*

Wheatsheaf pub in Old Bath Road.

7.30pm for 8pm.

Free pint of beer and nibbles provided.

Men only.

Wednesday February 15th

***Super Soup with Bishop John
St Peter's Cottages.***

1pm – 3pm

Soup & Jacket potato lunch provided.

For the more mature lady.

Thursday February 16th

***An opportunity for women to
explore faith and life together.***

***Wheatsheaf pub in Old Bath Road.
7.30pm for 8pm.***

***Free glass of wine and nibbles provided.
Ladies only.***

Saturday February 18th

***Entertainment evening with
Laughing Tom.
Leckhampton Village Hall
7pm – 9.30pm
Fish & chip supper.
All welcome.***

Sunday February 19th

***Parish Communion service with
Bishop John.
St Peter's Church
10am
Coffee and biscuits served
following the service.
All Welcome***

Meditation Retreat Day

On **Saturday 10th March 2012** St Peter's will be hosting a meditation retreat day. This is intended as a taster day and will be open to anyone who is interested in exploring more about Christian meditation. It is hoped that following the taster day we will be able to continue to explore meditation together in a regular group that will potentially meet on a once-a-month basis. The day will probably take place between 10am and 3pm although timings are yet to be finalised (please look out for final timings next month), at St Peter's cottages and will be led by Edward Tresize who is an experienced leader of meditation groups. Edward gave a talk on Christian meditation to the Christians at Work group in September and the idea for the taster day and regular group has grown from that evening. The day will be a chance to get a taste of how meditation works but also to spend time in contemplation away from the busy world.

If anyone feels that they would like to explore more and attend the day then please either sign up on the list at the back of church, telephone Ruth at the parish office on 01242 513647 or just turn up on the day.

Ruth Fitter

Our Diocese of Gloucester

News and information for the Church of England in and around Gloucestershire January 2012

From the Dean of Women Clergy, the Revd Robbin Clark.

Happy New Year! The greeting is on everyone's lips and it carries a wish and a promise of good things to come. We make resolutions and turn over new leaves in hopes of getting our lives and our world sorted out. It's a chance for a fresh start, and it comes just as the days are noticeably beginning to lengthen after the deepest darkness of the year. The increase in light fits right in with the spirit of optimism that surrounds a new year. Sometimes it's, "Whew! We got through that and now we're ready to move on." Sometimes it's looking ahead to a special event that is coming up and the excitement of finally turning to the 2012 calendar.

I find it worth thinking about that the Christian year begins, not as the new light of optimism is dawning, but several weeks earlier on the first Sunday of Advent (that's four Sundays before Christmas), just as we are moving into the darkest time of the year. That says a lot to me about the Christian conviction that God is always ready to walk with us through our most desperate times. For me, that's why Christmas in the dark of winter seems right. God came to be with us just when we needed light and love the most. And it reminds me that Easter, the central celebration of new and eternal life for the friends of Jesus, has to be approached through the darkness of dying.

Our world is facing serious problems this New Year, and optimism may be in short supply. But I believe that hope should not be. We can count on God's love for all people and all of creation, whatever our situation and however bleak our prospects. In this I find hope and confidence and a very good reason to repeat the greeting, Happy New Year!

The Revd Robbin Clark,
Dean of Women Clergy

Around Our Diocese

Running the Race to the Olympics

2012 is the year of the London Olympics. Running the Race is a set of five Bible studies, based on the heroes of faith in Hebrews who ran the race of faith. They have been written for the Diocesan Mission Initiatives Group and can be used in Lent or any other suitable time in the year and can be downloaded from: www.gloucester.angican.org/ministry/local/resources/

Glenfall House

Many reading this will be familiar with the beautiful gardens of Glenfall House, the diocesan retreat and conference centre. Several times a year convivial working parties take place in the gardens, when volunteers help out with all sorts of gardening tasks, some for knowledgeable gardeners and some requiring muscle rather than horticultural skill. If you would like more information please contact Janet White, 01242 523942 or email janet@jwhites.freeserve.co.uk.

Advance Notice, Friday 27 April, St Andrews Church Centre, Building the Future Conference: Widening community use and appreciation of our church buildings.

A day conference for church and community groups, decision makers, professional practitioners and social partners. Contact Natalie Hill, Churches Officer, 01452 835593, nhill@glosdioc.org.uk

Barnados Big Toddle

The Big Toddle event takes place each summer and many toddler and baby groups who meet in church halls take part in the event. Please publicise in your churches and church halls. Further details and a complete list of venues so far are available from www.bigtoddle.co.uk, 0845 270 9900

What's happening in the North Cotswolds?

For 2012 we have started a new section of the Bulletin, giving a summary of how things are going in different areas of our Diocese. In this edition, we hear from the Revd Veronica James, Area Dean for the North Cotswold Deanery.

The new North Cotswold Deanery is 'going well, but not always easy'. With the successful first year anniversary of the Deanery being marked with a special service of celebration in St James, Chipping Campden we recognise that from the River Windrush to the Vale of Evesham we often face challenges in reaching rural villages high up on the Cotswold Hills, particularly at this time of year.

During Lent we look forward to welcoming Bishop John to lead groups and Holy Week services in rural and town locations when we will explore the Passion. Come and meet with him on Saturday 21 January 10.30am to 12noon, at the St David's Centre, Moreton in Marsh as he shares his plans and hopes. And in February, at Candlemas, all the clergy and Readers are gathering together for worship, a seminar and a shared breakfast together at Lower Slaughter.

The North Cotswold Deanery has come of age, is continuing to develop its unique identity within the vision of Gloucester Diocese *to proclaim and live the Gospel of Jesus Christ*.

With Every Blessing
From Veronica

What's On

Saturday 21 January 9.30am

Sing Saturday

Chapter House

Gloucester Choral Society

Adrian Partington – Director

Admission £10 and includes music hire on the day and refreshments.

Contact singsaturdays@gloucesterchoral.com, 01242 691190

Sunday 22 January, 6pm

Unity Week

Cirencester Parish Church

Loretta Minghella, Director of Christian Aid preaching at Churches Together in Cirencester.

Contact the Revd Canon Leonard Doolan, 01285 659317

Thursday 26 January, from 6.45pm

WEMTC Open Day

Redcliffe College, Wotton House, Horton Road, Gloucester

Contact: admissions@ripon-cuddesdon.ac.uk, 01865 874404

Thursday 26 to Sunday 29 January

The Treasures of Darkness

A retreat for the bereaved

Tymawr Convent, nr Monmouth

Contact: tymawrconvent@btinternet.com, 01600 860244

Sunday 29 January 3.45pm

Ceremony of Carols—Britten Gloucester Cathedral Choristers with Harpist Eluned Pierce will perform Britten's beautiful work in the glorious Lady Chapel. Free entrance – no ticket required.

Sunday 29 January, 7pm

The Romantic Cellist

Recital by Cellist Anup Kumar Biswas and pianist Rosemary Robinson.

0th July
2011 -
etertide

Trinity Church, Minchinhampton
s £8 on the door

Saturday 4 February, 3.30pm

Choral Evensong, Bristol Cathedral

RSCM Gloucester and RSCM Bristol and Swindon Areas annual Choirs Festival

Contact: Steve Goodwin, sgoodwin@houndscroft.co.uk, 01453 873391

Saturday 25 February, 10am to 4.15pm

Revive, a day for youth with Mike Pilavachi (Soul Survivor)

St Andrew's Church, Churchdown GL3 2JT. Tickets £4.50, they must be pre-booked from 01452 712154 from early January.

Thursday 16 to Sunday 18 February

The Glories of French Organ Music from 1600 to the present

Lyme Regis Organ School, Winter Workshop Cost £160. Contact: Dr Richard Godfrey rgodfrey78@hotmail.com, 01297 445709
www.lymeregisorganschool.org

Saturday 3 March, 9.30am to 4.30pm

Water: Global Challenges for the 21st Century

The 2012 JRI and Redcliffe College Environment Conference organised in partnership with Tearfund. Cost £38 including lunch. Details from www.redcliffe.org/environment-conference-2012

For more events log on to www.gloucester.anglican.org 'What's on' events

For more coming events and the latest diocesan news, visit www.gloucester.anglican.org

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