



Notices Sunday 5th January, 2025

Epiphany

Welcome to The Bridge church. If you are a visitor you can find out more about the life and ministry of the church by visiting our website www.thebridgeredditch.co.uk or by following our facebook page or X (formerly Twitter) account.

TEWKESBURY HOSTS THE LONGEST YARN

D-Day 80th anniversary commemorated as The Longest Yarn comes to Tewkesbury Abbey. The Longest Yarn is an 80m 3D depiction of that fateful day, 6th June 1944, in wool art. With 80 displays, each measuring one metre in length, depicting scenes of the world's largest amphibious invasion. The Longest Yarn is something quite unique and not to be missed.

Scenes include the build-up to D-Day in England, the horrors on the landing beaches and inland battles. This particular case shows domestic life continuing whilst armoured vehicles went by. Please note the exhibition ends on **Tuesday**, so you only have a couple of days to make a visit. Check Tewkesbury Abbey's online calendar to ensure that the exhibition is open before travelling.



NEW YEAR, NEW OPPORTUNITIES!

It seems like only a few weeks ago that I was drawing up the rota for December - February. Already it is time to cast your mind ahead to the warmer and sunnier days of March, April & May. Some might call this the Spring Rota - I call it the Bank Holiday Bonanza, as it includes no less than three Bank Holiday weekends - Easter, May Day and the Spring Bank Holiday fall during this period.

I would be very grateful if you could let me know your availability - particularly if you are available on the Bank Holiday weekends or prefer to not be included on those Sundays. It would be a good idea to remind me of what you are happy to volunteer for,...

Meanwhile, if you would like to try something new - reading, welcoming, helping as an assistant Steward, then please have a word with Roger, Maureen, Terry or Julian, who will be able to provide further details.

FROM DARKNESS INTO LIGHT

Cookhill Baptist Church will be holding their annual day apart on Saturday 1st February at Kings Court Hotel, Coughton. The day will begin at 10am for 10.30am start, to finish around 4pm.

Four Chaplaincy Speakers have been provisionally booked:

- ◆ **Reverend Steve Tash:** Former chaplain working mainly in mental health chaplaincy. Author of 'Faith in Mind'
- ◆ **Reverend Canon Clare Griffiths:** A hospice Chaplain in place at St. Richard's Hospice Worcester for 9 years.
- ◆ **Reverend Bill Smith:** Chaplain in place at Salisbury Cathedral.
- ◆ **Reverend Dick Johnson:** Development Officer of Faith at Work Chaplains and Chaplain at West Mercia Police

There is a limit of 40 places. Please book with Jackie Morgan by Sat January 25th. Telephone: 01527 893408. Telephone: 01527 893408.

Epiphany

10.30am Holy Communion with Father Glenn Reading

1 John 3:22 – 4:6
Psalm 2:7 to end,
Matthew 4:12-17,23 to end.

Collect for Epiphany

O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Baptism of Christ

10.30am Morning Worship with Ian Athey

Isaiah 43:1-7, Psalm 29,
Acts 8:14-17
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Online Evening Prayer

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>

CONTACT DETAILS

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Web Site www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/safeguarding

Bishop Martin, lighting a candle

EVERYWOMAN'S CIRCLE SWAP

Everywoman's Circle begin 2025 with a Swap Shop, when they will bring an unwanted present and swap it for another. Next year I think I might do this with all the presents I buy and save the hassle of wrapping them up... What could possibly go wrong?

READY STEADY STOP!

Please note that whilst **Little Fishes** is scheduled for Tuesday 8th Jan, **Toddlers** will restart on Mon 13th Jan.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Events in the hall unless stated otherwise

Monday 6th January

7.30pm Friends of Gruchet (private)

Tuesday 7th January

10.00am Little Fishes in church

10.00am Holy Communion
at Astwood Bank church

2.00pm u3a

6.30pm Girls' Brigade

Wednesday 8th January

10.00am Holy Communion

2.30pm Everywoman's Circle

Thursday 9th January

10.00am Charity Shop & Café

10.00am Holy Communion at Crabbs
Cross church

11.30am Wardens & Stewards

1.30pm Crafty Thursday

7.30pm Kingfisher Quilters

Friday 10th January

10.00am Charity Shop & Café

6.30pm Boys Brigade

WHEN THE SONG OF THE ANGELS IS STILLED

When the song of the angels is stilled
when the star in the sky is gone
when the kings and princes are home
when the shepherds are back with their flocks
the work of Christmas begins:

to find the lost

to heal the broken

to feed the hungry

to release the prisoner

to rebuild the nations

to bring peace among the people

to make music in the heart. Howard Thurman

ON A WING AND A PRAYER

The Mercian Society launch this year's programme on Wednesday 15th January, with a talk on the Glider Pilot Division, by Steve. The group welcome anyone with an interest in military history to join them.

Let us acknowledge the LORD;

let us press on to acknowledge him.

As surely as the sun rises, he will appear;

he will come to us like the winter rains,

like the spring rains that water the earth."

Hosea 6:3

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thur 9 Jan 11.30am Wardens & Stewards Meeting

Sat 18 Jan 7.45am Men's Breakfast @ Kings Court Hotel

Thur 23 Jan 12.30pm Lunchtime Learning - Praying with
St. Patricks Breastplate on Zoom

Sat 1 Feb 10.00am Darkness into Light @ Kings Court Hotel

Sun 2 Feb 3.30pm Forest Space@Peckwood

Wed 5 Feb 7.30pm Church Council

Thur 13 Feb 11.30am Wardens & Stewards Meeting

Thur 13 Mar 11.30am Wardens & Stewards Meeting

Thur 10 Apr 11.30am Wardens & Stewards Meeting

Thur 8 May 11.30am Wardens & Stewards Meeting

Thur 12 June 11.30am Wardens & Stewards Meeting

Wed 25 June 7.30pm Church Council

Thur 10 July 11.30am Wardens & Stewards Meeting

Thur 11 Sept 11.30am Wardens & Stewards Meeting

Thur 9 Oct 11.30am Wardens & Stewards Meeting

Thur 13 Nov 11.30am Wardens & Stewards Meeting

START THE YEAR WITH ST PATRICK'S BREASTPLATE

This term the Diocese organises Lunchtime Learning sessions will be focusing on the spirituality of classic prayers. In the first of our series and fresh from having sailed round the Atlantic coast of Ireland last summer, Alison Maddocks will reflect on the prayer known as St Patrick's Breastplate.

It's in many of our hymn books in a version written by Mrs C F Alexander. It is perhaps the best known prayer of the whole Celtic tradition of praying and reflects many of the themes of that tradition, and offers us much food for thought for our own prayers. A copy of the prayer will be sent out with the Zoom link. Alison Maddocks is the Dean of Smaller Churches, and a priest in this diocese. She and her husband are also enthusiastic sailors.

Booking essential. Further details on the diocesan website <https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/calendar/1357>

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Christian Wienkamp will be the guest speaker at the next Men's Breakfast on Sat 18th January's Men's Breakfast at Kings Court Hotel. 7.45am for 8am start.

Christian is the Assistant National Director for Sports Chaplaincy UK in England and Club Chaplain to West Brom Football team. Christian has extensive experience across various industries including sports, prisons, airports and the emergency services. He is passionate about offering pastoral and spiritual support, and helping individuals navigate through the highs and lows of life and sharing the love and compassion of God in sport and broader communities. Book by Wed 15th Jan email salt-waysmensgroup@gmail.com 07776301469.

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We realise that many of you will want to make a donation to the life and ministry of the church, but many of us do not carry cash. Good news there are other ways to give. You can scan the QR code or go to our website <https://www.thebridgeredditch.co.uk/> and click the link at the top of the home page which will provide details of the church bank account as below. The Bridge Church Sort code 40-43-54 Account 81604015 Please put ref as "QR (then your name or leave blank)".

If you would like your donation to go to any specific use, then please email our treasurer

terry.bill@blueyonder.co.uk and let him know. If you prefer more traditional methods of payments you are still able to make donations by cash or cheque.

Cash donations are particularly welcome as we can reclaim Gift Aid even if you are not a tax payer. For further information speak to our Treasurer, Terry Bill. Thank you for supporting the life and mission of The Bridge.

