October

2024



50p

St Peter's

Leckhampton Parish Church **Parish Magazine**



www.stpetersleck.org

parishofficeleckhampton@btinternet.com

part of the South Cheltenham Team Ministry. The contents of this magazine do not necessarily reflect the views of the PCC or the editor, but are those of the individual contributors

Our Vision Statement

St Peter's Church Leckhampton exists to love and worship God, to serve our neighbours and to pass on the faith in Jesus Christ.

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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Gary writes.....

How would you answer that question for the medium and long term?

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) will be meeting this autumn to think about this very question and to review the vision for St. Peter's for the next 5-10 years.

A vision is a picture of what you want to achieve. It's your dream.

There has been a church on this site since 1132 AD, probably longer, and the building has served God's mission locally throughout that time, and we should rightly give thanks to all who have faithfully ministered here and supported the life of the parish over the many years.

The 'church' is, however, much more than just the building and the different services that are held there, although St Peter's is a very special place for so many.

What is the special part that St. Peter's can play in God's mission of love and the reason for its existence?

Once we have agreed the vision, a mission plan can be built to explain how it can be achieved; this will include aims and objectives, actions, owners, timescales and benefits.

We can then think about how we make it a reality.

In advance, we will conduct an audit of church resources, but I would also like the whole church community to contribute and start thinking about the following questions:

- What is the purpose of St. Peter's?
- How does the church connect with the community?
- Are we making the most out of our resources? If not, what's stopping us?
- How do we engage children and young people?
- What is the style of worship? Is this enough?
- How can St. Peter's bring more people to know the love of Jesus Christ?

Do look out for a more detailed on-line questionnaire, but also drop me an email with your thoughts at <u>revgarygrady@btinternet.com</u>

Revd Gary

Live Stream Services for October

We will be live streaming the 10am service from St. Peter's most weeks. This can be accessed via <u>www.stpetersleck.org</u> or <u>www.facebook.com/stpetersleckhampton</u>

Date	Day	Readings
6 th		Joel 2.21–27
	HARVEST SUNDAY	Galatians 5.22-26
		Matthew 6.25–33
13 th		Job 23.1–9, 16–end
	TRINITY 20	Hebrews 4.12–end
		Mark 10.17–31
20 th		Isaiah 35.3–6
	ST LUKE	2 Timothy 4.5–17
		Luke 10.1–9
27 th	TRINITY 22	Job 42.1–6, 10–end
		Hebrews 7.23–end
		Mark 10.46-end

Readings for October

FRIDAY LUNCH with FRIENDS 2024

Come and enjoy a light lunch with friends old and new Friday 27 September Friday 25 October Friday 29 November 12.30 – 2pm at the home of Sally & Peter Marlow 1 Vineries Close (off Kidnappers Lane)

Donations for The Children's Society will be welcome Please come and join us!

Sally & Peter Marlow

'Notes from the Director of Music'

It has been wonderful returning to choral services since September, and we are now firmly into autumn as we enter October! We have been delighted to welcome some new



members of the choir - adults and children - and this has resulted in the need to purchase some new choir robes and put out some extra chairs to accommodate them all too. What a wonderful dilemma to have - and long may that continue!

We have some fantastic music coming up this month. This includes the beautiful, modern anthem 'Fill your hearts with joy and gladness' for the morning of Harvest by Sarah Quartel. The following Sunday sees the choir perform Gibbons anthem 'Almighty and Everlasting God' - a wonderful Tudor anthem. Following that, given that we are in the 100th anniversary year since the death of Sir Charles Villiers Stanford - we are going to perform one of his anthems 'How beauteous are the feet'. This starts lyrically, but - given the words are all about Saints - it builds to a triumphant conclusion. Stirring stuff! The final anthem this month is a setting of familiar words that we sing as a hymn 'Be thou my vision'. This is a setting by the modern composer, Bob Chilcott, and is a wonderfully crafted piece - enjoyable to sing and beautiful to listen to.

On the first Sunday of the month (Sunday 6th October), we are singing a full choral evensong to celebrate Harvest. The music will include the **Preces** & Responses by Radcliffe, the Canticles in Bb by Stanford, and a majestic anthem - 'Thou O God art praised in Sion' by Malcolm Boyle. It starts with a grand organ introduction, matched by powerful choral singing by the full choir. The middle of the piece sees the trebles and sopranos singing a lilting, beautiful section for the words 'Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace', before the anthem concludes in triumphant fashion as per the start of the piece. Very exciting! We will welcome a few additional singers to our ranks (already enlarged with our new members...), so do come and listen to us and enjoy the fully choral offering of this ancient liturgy.

Dr. Kit Perona-Wright Director of Music

From the Parish Registers

There were no baptisms or weddings in September.

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

Peter John Allen on 28th July aged 89 June Lillian Bennett on 10th August aged 90 Mabel 'Louise' Shipfield on 15th August aged 92 Daphne Nutland on 16th August aged 86 Michael Kenneth Kilburn on 17th August aged 69 Jeremy Lancelot Prince on 25th August aged 76

<u>AtaLoss.org</u> is the UK's most comprehensive hub of bereavement support and information for anyone bereaved and for those supporting them. You can easily search using filters according to age, location or relationship to the deceased and find support from the many hundreds of services listed, confident that the details are accurate, up to date and offer choices from a wide range of support available. Useful things to read, helplines and a FREE live-chat counselling service are also available on <u>www.ataloss.org</u> to help anyone deal with their loss, whatever the circumstances and whatever their faith or none.

Bereavement Support Please contact one of the clergy if you would like to talk about a bereavement. Please visit the church Wellbeing webpage for more details.

Little Pebbles

Tuesdays 10.00 to 11.30 in the Cottages during term time. Please contact Lara Skinner via the Parish Office for details.

Craft-T-Time

Do join our friendly and supportive group on Wednesday mornings from 10-12 in the Cottages. All are welcome to join, even if just for a 'cuppa' and a chat.

Helen Shill coordinator

Display of The St Peter's Wednesday morning Craft Group projects.







Leckhampton Local History Society Programme 2024/2025

Tuesday 24th September 2024 2pm

Tom Denny windows at St. Christopher's Adrian Barlow

Tuesday 29st October 2024

'Witches in Gloucestershire' John Putley

Tuesday 26th November 2024

'Hailes Abbey & the Mystery of the Holy Blood' David Aldred

December 2024

Christmas gathering & Quiz

Tuesday 28th January 2025

'Cheltenham's Iconic Buildings' David Elder

Tuesday 25th February 2025

Member's Evening

25th March 2025

Katherine Parr Gloucestershire's Queen Mike Bottomley

Tuesday 29th April 2025

Malcolm J Watkins The Birdlip Grave Group, a 2000-Year Mystery

Tuesday 27th May 2025

AGM- Eric Miller "Treasures from the Bendall archive"

Meet at St. Peter's Church, Leckhampton. Last Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm

LLHS St Christopher's Church Warden Hill on September 24th at 2pm. Adrian Barlow will talk about the stained glass windows by Tom Denny. All welcome. Please note the change of venue and time.

Leckhampton Village Hall - Extension Fund-Raising Events

9th to 12th October - Leckhampton Players' "Our Greatest Hits" concert 16th November - Autumn Fair - free entry 7th December - 7.30pm Quiz Night - tables of 4 - £20 13th December - 10am Christmas Wreath Making - £20 each to include wreath, foliage, tea and coffee.

Men's Group

Thursday 3rd October at 12:30 lunchtime in the Wheatsheaf. **Tuesday 8th October** walk to Charlton Kings Common from the Star College, being organised by Alan Booth. If you are interested in participating, please confirm the details with him.

Celebrate or Commemorate with Flowers

The Flower Guild would like to give you the opportunity to celebrate a special occasion or commemorate someone by sponsoring a pedestal of flowers at the high altar in church. The flowers would be of the colour appropriate to the church calendar or a colour of your choice if the calendar permits. We would appreciate a donation of £20 towards the flowers. The occasion can be acknowledged in the church news sheet or can be kept confidential – the choice is yours. If you would like to mark a special date in this way please have a word with Averil Murray (Flower Guild Co-ordinator) or Sally Marlow (Flower Guild Treasurer) or email sally.marlow@softcopy.co.uk.

Sally Marlow

Econews

We are in Creationtide, or the Season of Creation, which lasts until St Francis' day on 4th October. While celebrating the positive side with the Harvest Festival, let us not forget the negative. Here is an extract from the Diocese of Gloucester news:

'Something more than gentle nurture is needed, as we seek to minimise further damage created by the expectations and lifestyles of western society. We cannot continue to waste in the way that we do, to pollute the atmosphere, to destroy the homes of our fellow creatures, or to use energy in ways that are catastrophically warming the planet. We need to take these things as seriously as we do any other commitments we make as part of our faith. To be Christian is to consider the needs of others – other people in parts of the world most affected by climate change, and wider 'others' in God's wider Creation.'

We are reminded by Pope Francis that all creation is connected, and he encourages us to undergo an 'Eco conversion'. We must be more aware of our links with nature and how we can learn from the natural world.

Richard Kerr-Wilson

Forthcoming event with Rowan Williams, former Archbishop of Canterbury, and Pete Atkin, former Radio 4 producer and singer/songwriter.

Title: Words and Music, Poems and Songs – Rowan Williams and Pete Atkin inConversation and PerformanceDate and Time: Friday October 4th 2024. 7.00 to 9.00pmVenue: St Andrew's URC, Montpellier Street, CheltenhamTime: 7.00 to 9.00pmInterval: for refreshmentsTicket Price: £12.00 (£6.00 for Under 25)Phone 01242 522658 to book or scanQR code on poster in St Peter's Church.

Rowan Williams will be known to many. Pete Atkin's name is not so familiar, perhaps, but for many years he had a critically successful song writing partnership with the poet Clive James; a relationship to which both returned in the latter years of James's life.

Youth News The Youth program is below and can also be found here. <u>https://southcheltenham.wordpress.com/youth/</u>

To young people and parent/carers,

We had such a good time at **Satellites Youth Camp** and are really excited for more of you to experience it next August. You can book your young person's space for free, and then pay for the ticket in instalments. We will travel and camp with other youth groups from Fabric Worship Night. If not having your own space is putting you off, you are allowed to bring a small tent just for yourself. If cost is an issue, please get in touch with me.

Satellites Youth Camp 2025

6th-11th Aug 2025 Book for free with no deposit: https://booking.youthscape.co.uk/satellites-2025/group/q53x0

While the youth camp is a chance to join with young people from across Cheltenham and beyond, our **Youth Weekend Away** in February is a chance for our youth in South Cheltenham Churches to have a shared experience together and build friendship. We are asking for a £10 deposit per young person as we have had to pay a deposit to secure the residential centre. If cost is an issue, please get in touch with me.

Youth Weekend Away 2025

21st-23rd Feb 2025 Book with a £10 deposit: https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/southcheltyouth

In addition to these bigger events, we now have our key dates for the **Autumn Term**, for you to add to your diaries. There will be no Tuesday youth on the weeks where we have Fabric worship night, and the week of the Sleepover.

Sunday Youth Back on: 8th Sept, 10am Pip and Jim's and Emmanuel Monday Lunch Club
Back on: 9th Sept, 1.20pmBalcarras Classroom 5A5Tuesday Youth Back on: 10th Sept, 7pmEmmanuelHalf-term Social
22nd Oct (or another day that week)TBCFabric Worship Night
Friday 8th Nov, 6pmTrinity CheltYouth Sleepover
Joining in with:Fabric Worship Night
Trinity Chelt

https://youth.opendoorsuk.org/choose-to-lose-your-bed/ 6th-8th Dec St Peter's Cottages

Youth Christmas Party Tues 10th Dec, 7pm Pip & Jim's

Finally, we are going to be learning a bit more about prayer over the next academic year, taking wisdom from this new book for young people: **Signal Fire by Martin Saunders**. It is not essential for you to have a copy, but if you would like to read it for yourself then we would love that. Purchase for £11 with free delivery: https://www.youthscape.co.uk/store/product/signal-fire

Young people in Year 6 are also invited to come along on Tuesdays during term-time 7-8.30pm at Emmanuel church. Click to see the programme for the summer: https://southcheltenham.wordpress.com/youth/ Abbie Marsh, the team Youth Worker, can be contacted on 07708 540732 or via email at: abbie@cnc.church. The socials are: @southcheltyouth facebook.com/southcheltyouth

Abbie Marsh

JNC Professional Youth Worker South Cheltenham Churches e: abbie@cnc.church m: 07708540732

The Messenger, October 2024

Bishop Rachel on prison reform – an exclusive for The Messenger

"Prisons have been in the headlines a lot this summer. The criminal justice system is on its knees with overcrowding. Victims of crime are not being well served by this system and prisoners are leaving jail without having been rehabilitated.

"Most people simply see prison as punishment and accept the popular narrative that locking people up will make our streets safer, even though the evidence does not support this.

"I do not believe we are asking the right questions. We need to consider what prisons are for, and how we build stronger communities.

"People often talk about the revolving door of prisons because those serving short sentences for often non-violent crimes, often return to custody within a year. Going to prison for less than a year rarely offers rehabilitation but does huge damage to family ties, housing and job prospects.

"We've seen so called 'swift justice' following the riots and unrest in many communities this summer. While people do need to bear the consequences of their actions, we surely want to be enabling the creation of stronger communities and I don't believe that sending many of the offenders to prison will achieve this, but will simply lead to greater fracture, which will not be good for victims, offenders, families and wider society.

"Neither will it address many of the underlying issues. We need to be much more creative and put resources into more and better community sentencing as well as looking upstream.

"As Anglican Bishop for Prisons, I hope for a better system, and it is a privilege to visit prisons, hear people's stories, and thank committed chaplains and prison officers who make such a big difference. Many faith communities and charities already help resettle prison-leavers into the community as well as facilitate alternatives to custody which tackle addiction and help people turn their lives around.

"If we believe that at the heart of the gospel is reconciliation and transformation, then Christians are well placed to get involved with prison and probation work, including welcoming prison leavers to our worshipping communities. There is much more that can be done."

The Welcome Directory

When people are released from prison, they often find themselves in need of community. While many people are able find or renew their faith while they are in prison, sadly only 1 in 5 people go on to join a faith community when they are released.

The Welcome Directory helps worshipping communities to safely connect with prisoners who are released and offer a safe space without judgement or rejection. Being welcoming, accepting and safe can transform people's lives and help them to build confidence as they rebuild their lives.

If your worshipping community is interested in applying to be part of the Welcome Directory, visit www.welcomedirectory.org.uk.

Consider getting involved with the work of Prison Fellowship https://prisonfellowship.org.uk/.

Holding the key podcast: Marc Conway shares how IPPs take away hope Bishop Rachel has released the third episode of her podcast series, which discusses the purpose of prison sentences and the possible alternatives.

Bishop Rachel is the Anglican Bishop for HM Prisons in England and Wales. In this podcast she spoke with Marc Conway about serious issues with the criminal justice system, and outdated IPP laws.

Marc Conway is the CEO at Fair Justice, an organisation which aims to get the voices of those who live and work within the criminal justice system, out and into the public.

He tells us, "I've been speaking with someone who got a two-year IPP [type of open-ended prison sentence] for stealing a mountain bike, because they pushed the person off, it was classed as a robbery; and they've been in prison for 18 years."

He continues, "When I explain this to people who are naive about it and I say, 'What country do you think that happens in?', they all say 'America' or 'Russia', and I say, 'Actually no it's happening here in the UK'.

"Ninety-one people who are serving that sentence have died by suicide. What that does to someone, when you're serving that [open-ended] sentence, is it takes away hope."

Listen to the podcast episodes by visiting

https://gloucester.anglican.org/2024/podcast-holding-the-key-a-series-ofconversations-to-unlock-the-door-to-doing-prison-differently-2/n.org or visit our Spotify or Apple Podcast channel by searching 'In conversation... Diocese of Gloucester'.

Events and training

More details for all these events at **gloucester.anglican.org/events**

Ageing gracefully – a practical theology of later life

St Lawrence Parish Centre, Church Lane, Barnwood, GL4 3JB, 1 October, 2pm to 4.30pm

A course for those who are ready to face up to the reality of ageing, using biblical themes try to understand God's purposes in a long life. https://gloucester.anglican.org/event/ageing-gracefully-a-practical-theology-oflater-life/

An evening with Rowan Williams and Pete Atkin

St Andrew's URC, Montpellier Street, Cheltenham, GL50 1SP, 4 October, 7pm to 9pm Rowan Williams, former Archbishop of Canterbury, writer, theologian and poet, in conversation and performance with Pete Atkin, one half of the critically acclaimed song writing partnership with the poet Clive James. https://pipandjims.churchsuite.com/events/6v8onto9

Journey to planet Mars at Gloucester Cathedral Gloucester Cathedral, College Green, Gloucester, GL1 2LY, 15 October to 3 November Experience Luke Jerram's incredible artwork, Mars: War and Peace, within the sacred walls of Gloucester Cathedral.

https://gloucestercathedral.org.uk/whats-on/mars

Tewkesbury Abbey autumn spectacular concert Tewkesbury Abbey. Church Street, Tewkesbury, GL20 5RZ, 19 October, 7pm to 9.30pm An evening of performances showcasing two renowned male voice choirs, who together mark 175 years of choral tradition. The event is hosted by Gloucestershire's DJ-turned-author Mark Cummings and features special quest soloists Jessica Robinson and local tenor Gregory Steward. https://www.visittewkesburv.info/whats-on/tewkesburv-abbev-autumnspectacular-concert/

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Advert for Ben Hummel temporarily removed as he has changed some of the services he offers and we are awaiting a revised advert.

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Whilst pleased to welcome adverts and grateful for the support St Peter's PCC cannot offer endorsement of any specific advertiser or event. Please contact Sue Marlow 581661 for details.



CCP FOOD COLLECTIONS

Grateful thanks to the many people who continue to donate to CCP, quite often leaving their donation on a Sunday morning when they come to church. The total for August is 76.5kgs. Donations can be left in the church porch. Please contact Gilly Whittingham via the Parish Office if you would like to arrange a home collection.