

# Christ Church *News*

News, Opinion, and Information from Christ Church, Malvern

Issue Number 1 : Easter 2013 : FREE Copy

## Smiles from Belarus

Happy, laughing and smiling children in Belarus were the result of the success of the Operation Christmas Child. This is our first issue of *Christ Church News* and we are pleased to include in it below recently received feedback from Belarus:

"Oh my word...the overwhelming rush of emotions that each team member reported. I had a lump in my throat as I watched the smiles and laughter as children squealed with delight at the contents. Some children were very quick to pull things out of their boxes to examine all the contents and show them around. A few children were quieter, choosing to keep their boxes private for when they arrive home to share the excitement with their families. This was very endearing. One child who stood out to me was a little girl named Victoria who was sat at a table with two other young children and was intently watching them rummage



their respective boxes, whilst hugging her box with her head actually laid on the box. The love of appreciation that shone from her eyes is a memory I will treasure."

As a reminder of the shoebox campaign that ran before Christmas, we are reproducing here an article that appeared in the Malvern Gazette:

### **Shoeboxes are Sent with Love**

The generous parishioners of Christ Church Malvern have just sent off 215 shoeboxes packed with Christmas treats for needy children in the eastern European state of Belarus.

The boxes were collected at the Avenue Road church over the last month, before being loaded into a

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Look for our next issue in about two months

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# Bishop John at Christ Church

*Jill Budd writes*

We were delighted to receive a message from his office to say that Bishop John would like to come and take our service on February 24th. This was also a special occasion for James Frederick Davis, whose baptism day it was, and who was baptized by the Bishop himself. What a photo for the family album!

Bishop John said what a pleasure it was to be with us, and commended all the people who have worked hard over the years to sustain the life and worship of Christ Church. He said what a great future the church has. He later wrote to me to thank us for the welcome he received.

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## Book Fair

*A Report from Jill Budd*

On Saturday 9th March we held a Book Fair when a steady stream of visitors browsed through our really great and varied collection of books, and partook of tea and coffee and Angela's and Brian's homemade cakes. Thank you to Angela for organising this, and all who helped. It was good to see Vera Lane, who enjoyed meeting old friends. And another Book Fair on May 25th from 10am to 12 noon.

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## Articles for the Magazine

Please send any articles which you wish to be considered for publication in the magazine, to Sandra Cole by email at: cole.s10@sky.com  
Mobile: 07843 822681



## Contacts for Christ Church

### **Baptism, Wedding, and Funeral Enquiries:**

Reverend Canon Harold Goddard 01684 563350

### **Other Enquiries:**

Angela Green 07756 722426

### **Ministry Team:**

We have a team of ministers for Christ Church including Reverend Canon Harold Goddard

### **Pastoral Care:**

Mrs Dorothy Clark,  
Flat 8 Milton Court, Kipling Close,  
Malvern WRI4 2UH 01684 899056

### **PCC Secretary:**

Allan Green, 18 Wedderburn Road,  
Malvern WR14 2DG 01684 893015

### **Electoral Roll:**

Allan Green

### **Verger:** Mr E Dodsworth

### **Flowers:** Mrs Viv Sinclair & Mrs Dorothy Clark

### **Events Committee Chairman:**

Mr E Dodsworth

### **Magazine Team:**

Sandra Cole, Jill Budd, Angela Green,  
Harold Goddard, and Richard Perkins

### **Hall Lettings:**

Kate Lynch, 18 Martin Close,  
Malvern WRI4 2GA 0742 769 3088

### **Humpty Dumpty Parent & Toddler Group:**

Rosemary Webb, 7 Willow Grove,  
Malvern WRI4 2SE 01684 565708

### **Visits:**

In case of sickness, or if visits would be appreciated please contact Dorothy Clark 01684 899056

# Finding Our New Vision

Things have been changing at Christ Church since Revd Peter Furber left at the end of 2008, and now we are moving towards a future in a parish on our own with the formal connection with St.Mary's broken.

At the beginning of 2009 the outlook seemed bleak but since then we have undergone a gradual change and we are now experiencing a growing confidence

and development. We have increasing attendance with fresh faces at our services and we have a group of retired clergy able to take services. People coming into our church are impressed by the welcoming atmosphere that they find. We have begun to look forward to being able to improve on our outreach and mission in the Barnards Green area of Malvern, an area with which Christ Church has

traditionally been associated. Christ Church regards itself as an iconic landmark, important community centre and place of worship, primarily for the residents of Barnards Green and environs. The traditional architectural style of Christ Church with its tall spire, large space inside, and its good acoustics make it an attractive place for people to come to. Many people seek to have baptisms, weddings, and funerals in a church such as ours because they are more able to find the spirituality that they are looking for there.

This is an aspect of church life which we are keen to develop, and we are now well placed to be able to handle more of these services. The good acoustics make our church an excellent venue for concerts and other events, and this is an aspect of Christ Church that we are already beginning to develop and expand.

Recent decisions made about the Parish of Christ Church with St.Mary's have given Christ Church the assurance it needed that it will be remaining open. This has led Christ Church to feel even more renewed energy and optimism for the future in its move forward with regeneration and transformation towards being a parish on its own, separated from St.Mary's. We believe that reaching out to our community is important in terms of spreading the Word of God, carrying out social and pastoral work, and welcoming all of our parishioners to a varied, challenging and comforting programme of worship.

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*Smiles from Belarus continued from page 1*



*Angela Green with some of the shoeboxes before despatching*

van and driven off to a distribution point to be flown to Belarus. Angela Green, of the church said "we can only imagine the thrill with which they are opened and so gratefully received. They know they have not been forgotten and have been sent a box of love from Malvern. Thank you to all of you who filled boxes, knitted hats and

gloves and scarves and gave so generously." She said special thanks should go to Brays of Malvern who supplied the boxes and to the staff and pupils at Malvern Parish School, who filled over 60 boxes.

*The above appeared in the Malvern Gazette on 21st December 2012*

## An Evening with Vladimir

Tuesday 23rd April, 7.30pm  
At Great Malvern Priory  
Don't miss the visit of Vladimir Ubeivolc, our special guest from Moldova. He will speak about how his Christian ministry "Beginning of Life" is helping to rescue and rehabilitate the victims of trafficking, protect vulnerable families, and raise awareness of the problem in schools, summer camps, and other venues around the capital. "Beginning of Life" is a partner ministry of WorldShare who have arranged this visit.  
Refreshments, Questions, Prayers, Retiring Collection

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## A Tribute to Arthur 'Bill' Berry

*Written by Jill Budd*

Our dear friend, Bill Berry, died at the end of January after a painful illness which he bore with great courage. The church was packed to the doors for his funeral. Someone even came for the service from Bolton, and he had never met Bill, just talked to him on the phone. That says a lot. He was a skilled craftsman specialising in bells and the restoration of churches. I cannot do justice to him in this short space, but he deserves the words on the tomb of Christopher Wren: "If you seek a monument, look around you." That must be true of all of the Diocese. We send our love and condolences to Hilary and to all of his family. He was a special person.



**Churches Together In Malvern**

# Pentecost Talks

## 'The Holy Spirit and Us'

- Monday 6th May - "The Spirit Who Fills Us"  
Reverend Gary Gibbs  
Elim's National Director of Evangelism
- Monday 13th May - "The Spirit Who Befriends Us"  
Reverend Dr. Keith Warrington  
Vice Principal Regents Theological College
- Monday 20th May - "The Spirit Who Forms Us"  
Reverend Geoff Richardson  
Dean of Students Regents Theological College

VENUE

LANSDOWNE CRESCENT METHODIST CHURCH  
Coffee served 7.15pm, Talk 7.45pm – 8.30pm  
Questions 8.30pm – 9.00pm

ALL WELCOME

## ESO Friends Introduced to Christ Church

*Jill Budd Reports*

On February 12th the English Symphony Orchestra held a meeting for the Friends to introduce them to Christ Church. As a Friend, I was invited, and a very enjoyable evening it was. I felt very proud when the Leader of the orchestra, Michael Bochman, praised Christ Church both before and after the main event, which was introducing the new concert programme and conductor. He also thanked Ken, as we do, for helping to set this up. The first concert was on March 22nd. Since then the

programme, complete with a stunning colour photo of the interior of Christ Church, has been widely distributed. My neighbour came over especially to show me, so it really has put us on the map. The programme even has a seating plan with the prices. Come to church on Sundays and you can sit in the best seats for free! There will be another ESO" concert on 23rd May. Bookmarks with the year's concert programme are available in church.

# English Symphony Orchestra at Christ Church



*Looking east down the nave of Christ Church*

In their brochure for 2013 ESO Chief Executive Peter Sheeran writes that the idea of concerts at Christ Church was suggested by a group of Friends based there, and when they investigated further it

seemed the perfect place for a concert series in 2013 and also as a good base for other activities in the area.

The concert series director Kenneth Woods has written the

following in their brochure:

“The central theme of our inaugural ESO concert series at Christ Church, Malvern is “Resilience - How Music Brings Light in Dark Times.” Each of the major works on this year’s programme illustrates how its composer found empowerment, solace or freedom in their music. When we bring great pieces like these to life in the concert hall, music gives all of us, performers and listeners alike, a chance to tap into that same life-affirming wellspring of energy.

“However, there are all sorts of other threads that weave between the works in the series. One is the idea of generations— each concert contains works that embody specific musical heritage. In March, we begin with the early flowering of Viennese musical life, launched by Mozart and brought to full flower just ten years later by Beethoven— a musical heritage inherited and continued by Viktor Ullmann, whose death in many ways came in the twilight of that lineage.

“In May, we hear the best of British music from the 18th to the 20th century, and in September, the music of the last of the Viennese masters, Hans Gál alongside that of his musical grandfather, Felix Mendelssohn. Finally, in November we finish our series with the music of the greatest Russian composers of the 19th and 20th centuries, Tchaikovsky and Shostakovich.”

# What's On



**28th March. 7.00pm.  
Maundy Thursday Holy Communion**

Conducted by  
Revd. Canon Harold Goddard.

**29th March. 2.00pm to 3.00pm. Good Friday Devotional**

Conducted by Revd. Canon Harold Goddard

**31st March. 8.00am & 11.00am. Easter Day Holy Communion**

Conducted by Revd. Canon Harold Goddard

**20th April. 10.00am to 1.00pm. Spring Fair**

With our usual bacon and egg breakfasts, cakes and refreshments and many stalls

**15th April. 7.30pm. Parish AGM.** At St Mary's, Sherrards Green

**11th May. 7.00pm. Cheese & Wine**

At the home of Kathleen McQuillan. Further details to follow, but please note in your diary!

**23rd May. 7.30pm. ESO Concert**

Programme:

Arne: Symphony No. 1

Britten: Serenade for Tenor, Horn and strings

Boyce: Symphony No 8

Finzi: Dies Natalis

Arnold: Sinfonietta no 2

**25th May. 10.00am to 12.00pm. Book Fair**

With coffee and home made cakes

**9th June. 3.00pm. Strawberry Tea.** Chez Kathleen McQuillan

**22nd June. 10.00am to 12.00pm. Book Fair.**

With coffee and home made cakes

**13th July to 20th July. Civic Week at Christ Church**

**19th July. Civic Concert.** Details to follow

**10th August. 7:30pm.**

**Concert with Robin Ward International Harpist.**

Baroque, classical & Romantic.

Adults £10, Concessions £8 & under 18 Donations. Tickets available from Malvern Theatre 01684 892277 or See Angela for tickets please.

**Please see article on right.**

## Harp Concert by Robin Ward International Harpist



International harpist, Robin Ward, will be performing at Christ Church, Avenue Road, Malvern, WR14 3AY on Saturday the 10th of August, as part of his 2013 concert series. Robin will be presenting a programme that is an exploration of music, played on his own handcrafted triple harp. Robin's talent, combined with his engaging and informative performance approach, is a treat not to be missed. Audiences thoroughly enjoy the wide selection of Robin's programmes, as well as his performance style, that brings each piece to life. The programme includes music from Folk Traditions, the Baroque, Classical, and Romantic periods, with a combination of his own transcriptions and music originally written for the instrument. The concert starts at 7:30pm. Tickets are £10 for adults, £8 concession, and a donation for children under 18. Tickets are available from Malvern Theatre Box Office on 01684 892277 and [www.malvern-theatres.co.uk](http://www.malvern-theatres.co.uk).

## Parish Annual Meeting

Don't forget our Annual Meeting on Monday April 15th at 7.30pm in St Mary's. This is a very important meeting open to everyone so please come along and have your say.

# New Beginning

It is a great privilege to write the leading article in the new Christ Church magazine. We are at the start of a great adventure. Christ Church is looking ahead to a new, independent future. Plans are being formed to keep Christ Church as a centre of worship, but also to turn it into a great cultural centre for the whole of Malvern. It is already the venue for meetings of the Malvern Civic Society. Now the English Symphony Orchestra has made Christ Church their home for four Concerts in 2013. Other concerts and events are being planned. In time we hope to improve the lighting, heating & seating; to provide toilets inside Christ Church and to provide a kitchen and cafe inside Christ Church. By the time you read this Ken Johnson, Christ Church's Churchwarden, and I will have been to a conference run by the Heritage Lottery Fund about grants for repairs to church buildings and their use by the wider community. We are hopeful that this will lead to financial help from the Heritage Lottery Fund for Christ Church. At this time of year we are reminded of those first disciples of Jesus as they prepared for a new beginning



*Canon Harold Goddard*

without the physical presence of their leader, Jesus. The events of Holy Week tell of the last week of Jesus's earthly life. On Palm Sunday they entered Jerusalem to a tremendous triumphal welcome from a great crowd of people. Then followed days of Jesus teaching in the Temple and nights at Bethany with his friends Mary, Martha and Lazarus, away from the crowds in Jerusalem. They ate their Passover Supper with Jesus and remembered their Jewish salvation history of how Moses had led their ancestors the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt, through the wilderness and into the Promised Land. But Jesus had given this historic meal a new meaning - the bread he called "My Body, broken for you" and the wine he called "My blood, shed for you". The Passover Supper was to be their Last Supper with Jesus. But he commanded them to continue to take bread and wine; to bless the bread and wine; to break and share the bread and to share the cup of wine - "Do this in remembrance of me". On the Friday Jesus was

condemned to death and crucified - a brutal, cruel end to his life of love. The surprise came on the first Easter Day, when Jesus rose from the dead and appeared first to Mary Magdalene and then to his disciples. The resurrection of Jesus proves that good can overcome evil; that there is life after death; and that God's love is the ultimate reality for us all. The first disciples of Jesus had to learn how to be Christ-like and Christ-centred Christians. It was an exciting and a frightening time for them. But Jesus still led them through the power of his Holy Spirit. Our new beginning for Christ Church is an exciting and at the same time a frightening time for us all. But we trust that Jesus is still leading us through the power of the same Holy Spirit. Our worship is still Christ-filled and Christ-centred as we share the bread and wine of Holy Communion every Sunday and follow our Lord's command to "Do this in remembrance of me". The adventure of Christ Church, Malvern is just beginning.

**Canon Harold Goddard**

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**113 Barnards Green Road**  
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# Transforming Our Church

Our vision is to transform Christ Church into a multi-purpose space for worship, lectures and concerts, a hub for the literary and cultural life of the town.



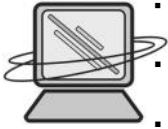
We have exciting plans to develop our church to include:

- **More comfortable seating**
- **Enhanced lighting, heating, and audio visual facilities**
- **Toilet and kitchen facilities, café**
- **Improved parking**
- **We are already well placed on an excellent rail and bus route.**

If you would like to be involved and help in this exciting new project, or indeed hold an event or know someone who would like to, please contact:

**Angela Green on 07756 722426**

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