

This week at The Bridge		
Sunday 20th January	9.00am	Morning Worship Rev Ruth Wilson
	10.30am	Holy Communion Rev Ruth Wilson
	10.30am	Cafe Church led by Rev Glenn
		Reading Caroline Baker Judith Grubb
Tuesday 22nd January	6.00pm	Girls Brigade
Wednesday 23rd January	9.30am	Holy Communion
Thursday 24th January	12 noon	Mid-day Prayers in church
Friday 25th January	6.00pm	Boys Brigade
Sunday 27th January	9.00am	Holy Communion Rev Glenn Reading
	10.30am	Morning Worship Rex Needles
	10.30am	Messy Cafe Church led by the Messy
		Café Team

Music for 20 January 2019			
<i>Organ</i>	<i>Prologue</i>	<i>Topfer</i>	
	<i>Prelude</i>	<i>Dubois</i>	
Hymn	Brightest and best of the sons	227	Singing the
	Come, let us use the grace divine	549	Faith
	Here am I, Lord	552	
	Here on the threshold of a new beginning	684	
	Best of all is God is with us	610	
<i>Organ</i>	<i>New Year's Song</i>	<i>Shumann</i>	

Please give any items for inclusion in this weekly news-sheet by Wednesday of each week, to Matthew Bailey or Roger Ling
or send them via email to: bailey_matt@btinternet.com **and** roger.j.ling@virginmedia.com

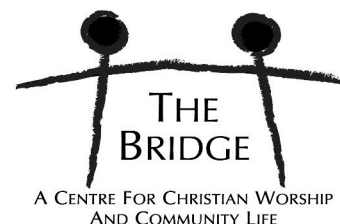


Rev Glenn Reading Tel: 01527 894436 / 0796 4282278

Rev Ruth Wilson Tel: 01527 541885

Rosie Humphrey, Administrator Tel: 01527 545120

Web site: www.thebridgeredditch.co.uk



W E L C O M E

January 20th 2019

*A warm welcome to our services today
especially if this is your first visit to The Bridge.*

I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.
John 15 vs. 5

CURATE TO BE APPOINTED TO THE BRIDGE

Glenn writes: I am delighted to announce that the parishes of S. Matthias and S. George, Astwood Bank and The Bridge, Headless Cross will be receiving a Curate in June of this year.

Victoria Barlow is a Worcester Diocese Ordinand currently training at Queens Theological College in Birmingham. (a little bit about Victoria is below)

The parishes in the Christ the King Team are diverse in their nature and style of worship and will offer an exciting and broad experience for a Curate in training. Could I ask you to keep Victoria, Christopher, Hannah and Stephen in your prayers as they prepare for this new and exciting chapter in their lives and ours. Victoria will be ordained in June at Petertide in the Cathedral and details of that will be made available as and when we receive them.

Victoria writes: I am Victoria, (obviously, but please don't shorten it), and my husband is Christopher. My children are daughter Hannah, aged 13 years, and son Stephen, aged 11.

I am training at Queens Foundation in Birmingham, and thus currently spend my life divided between large theology books, my church family, my motorcycle, a choir that I accompany, and my family; probably not always in that order! My current church is in Perry Barr, where I am blessed by the good humour, energy and prayer of the lovely church family there.

I lived in Worcestershire for four years previously to coming to Queens, but have never lived in Redditch and am looking forward to getting to know the local communities. We are really excited about coming next summer to serve with both the church families.

New Year! New Volunteer Opportunities!

Welcome to 2019. and the opportunity to be involved in the life of The Bridge.

Perhaps you have never volunteered before - in which case have a word with Ruth or Glenn, or one of the Wardens/Stewards - Brian, Julian, Matthew, Doreen, Terry or Maureen to find out how you can get involved - in either Church or Café Church.

Maybe you haven't been able to help out for a while, but circumstances have changed - we would love to have you back as part of the team.

Towards the end of January/early February we will be compiling the rota for the most challenging quarter of the year, covering the months March to May which includes THREE Bank Holiday weekends!

It would be greatly appreciated if you could let me know when you are NOT available to be included on the rota, by email, message left on my desk or on my answerphone (01527 545120) by **Monday 21st January, 2019.**

Look forward to hearing from you.

Many thanks ***Rosie Humphrey, The Bridge Administrator***

TIME FOR PRAYER

An informal prayer meeting will be held on Tuesday January 22nd at 11.00am at 104 Malvern Road, the home of Pam Mills.

Everyone is welcome to come to this gathering to pray for the work of the church and other needs.

The Bridge Prayer Walk

A small group of us have been meeting regularly to walk and pray along the Evesham Road. A gentle 45 minute stroll starting at the Church and finishing on the Green and stopping at various points to be led in prayer by others or reading prayer provided. We pray for the work of the church, for our neighbours, for Redditch, and for the world. We are a small group but we want to grow, grow, grow!! **Why not come and see how good it is to be part of our Prayer Walks.**

Joyce Meyer said this "Prayer is simply talking to God like a friend and should be the easiest thing we do each day."

We walk at 10 o'clock, (meet in the Charity Shop at around 9.55am) on the 1st Thursday of each month. **Please come and join us!**

Speak to Rev. Ruth for more information

CHRISTIAN AID COLLECTION CO-ORDINATOR REQUIRED

The Bridge is looking for a new Christian Aid Co-ordinator to take over the role from Phil Drewell who is stepping down after his considerable period undertaking this important work.

In our support of the vital work of Christian Aid we are part of the national collection week. In Redditch the streets are shared amongst all the churches in the town. This week, in Mid May, raises a significant part of the income for Christian Aid and also raises national awareness of their work.

The role of The Bridge Co-ordinator is to prepare the batches of envelopes for each of our 'rounds', liaise with previous collectors to ask whether they can again collect and be the contact for new volunteers for rounds needing collectors. At the end of Christian Aid week, which is in mid-May, all envelopes are emptied and money banked (via the Post Office).

Phil Drewell will be very happy to talk to anyone seeking more information and will also be happy to guide the new Co-ordinator through the first year.

Please contact Roger Ling (401238) if you would like to consider this role, or require further information.

2018 CHURCH ACCOUNTS.

We had a number of donations large and small arrive and additional services towards the end of 2018 which helped our situation greatly.

At the end of the year we had a balance of £4,876 in our bank, BUT we still owe £6,249 Parish Share and Assessment. So thanks to the additional donations we were only £1,373 short of paying our way. A big thank you to those people who together donated in excess of £5,000 in the last few weeks of 2018.

The budget presented to Council for 2019 with the increases in many consumable costs, Parish Share and other outgoings shows a deficit of £12,000 for 2019. If we deduct the funds we have at the start of the year, it means we will be £7,124 short - an extra £600 a month additional income needed.

Perhaps now is the time for us all to review our regular giving, or what one off donations we can offer for the day to day running of our church.

If you give to the church by putting loose cash in collecting dishes, and you are a tax payer, why not ask for a white giving envelope and we can then claim 25% extra in gift aid tax recovery.

If you have any questions, please ask me. Terry Bill