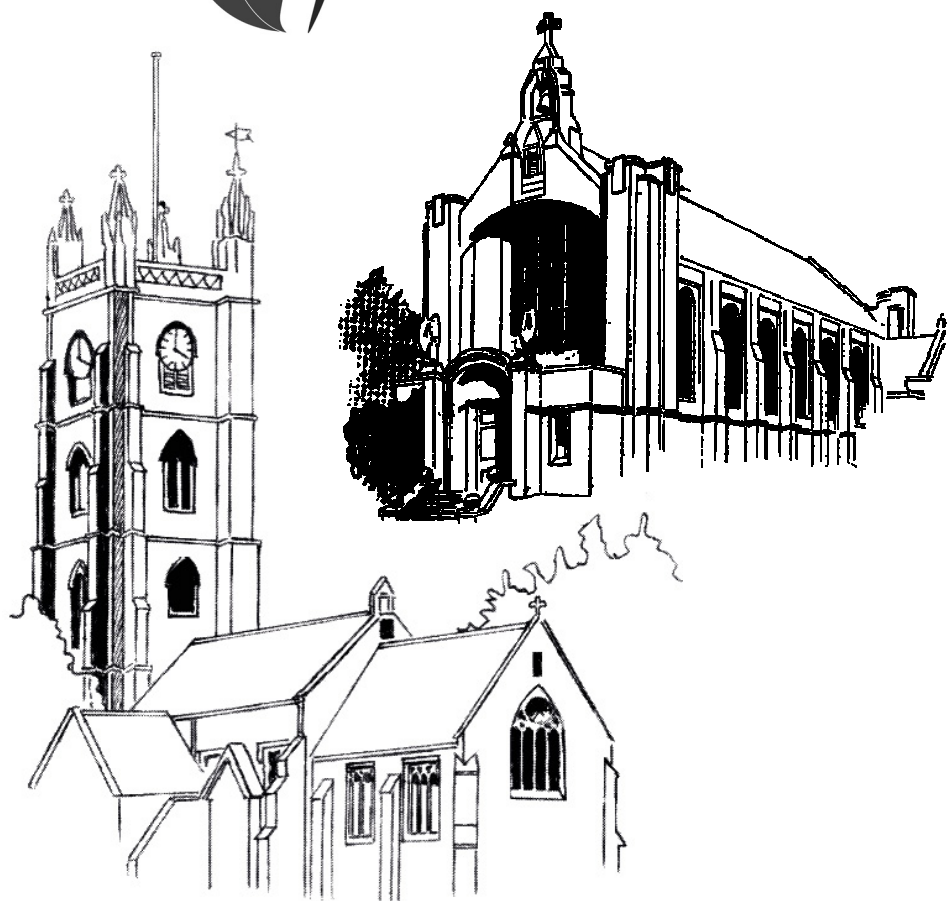


Portishead Parish Magazine



Portishead Church of England
Growing & Going in God's Love



November 2025

50p

Portishead Church of England · St Peter's & St Nicholas' Churches
in partnership with St Peter's C of E and Trinity Anglican-Methodist Schools

Team Rector	The Reverend Rob Eastwood Dewing 2 Brambling Lane, Portishead BS20 7NN 846592 · rector@portisheadparish.co.uk
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Safeguarding	The Rector (contact details as above), Sarah Stevens and Linda Taylor safeguarding@portisheadparish.co.uk
Church Office	St Barnabas Centre, West Hill, BS20 6LN 846230 · office@portisheadparish.co.uk
Parish website	www.portisheadparish.co.uk  Portishead Church of England
Church Wardens	John Knightbridge · 843113 Kathryn Phillips · 07834 097595
PCC Secretary	Gill Colston · 845970
St Peter's School	Head Teacher: Catrin Battista · 843142 www.st-peters.n-somerset.sch.uk
Trinity School	Headteacher Claire Howell · 397710 www.trinityprimaryschool.co.uk

For initial enquiries about Baptisms, Weddings, Banns and other special services
please contact the Church Office.

Sunday Services See Church Calendar (middle pages)
or check the website calendar

We welcome contributions to our parish magazine.
Please submit items to **portisheadparishmageditors@gmail.com**
or hand in to the Church Office.

Greetings from Revd Tonya

Autumn has definitely arrived. The trees are quickly changing colour and there is more than a nip in the air first thing in the morning. Yesterday I went for a walk through some woods and as I looked down I saw that I was walking on a carpet of beautiful golden and red leaves. The wind was gently blowing and the leaves silently fell from the trees. As they fell, they left tiny scars on their branches, which in a few months' time will be the very place where tiny buds will grow. It struck me that though autumn can seem like the end of life, it is, in fact, a sign of a new beginning.

The cycle of nature never ceases to amaze me. It is an image that St. Paul used when writing to the people of Corinth about life and death.

Loss is so hard to weather, and many of us know how it saps our energy and leaves us feeling hopeless and defeated. Yet perhaps the image from the natural world is a good one. For, as Christians we do not believe loss and death is final. We believe that Jesus came to defeat death, enabling each of us to share with him in the place he went to prepare for us. We also believe that through his spirit God can help us work through whatever losses we have experienced, finding new life after what seemed like an end.

It is those facts we remember at the beginning of this month - All Souls Day on Sunday 2nd November at 4.30pm, St. Peters Church. It's a special service for anyone at all, who has known the pain of loss and allows us to remember with thanksgiving to God those whom we have known and loved and who have died. During this service, hymns will be sung, prayers will be said and space for silence given as we remember those who have died. Names of the departed will be read out and a candle lit in their remembrance.

I invite you to pop that date in your diary and come to share with others as we join in remembering the lives of loved ones and give our thanks to God.

Blessings Tonya



From the Church Registers

Funerals: Pauline Simper

Weddings: Jason Phillips and Jessie Watters

Bishop Michael Welcomes the appointment of the Rt Revd and Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullally DBE as the next Archbishop of Canterbury.

He says, "I am delighted that the Bishop of London, Sarah Mullally, has been appointed as the next Archbishop of Canterbury. This is wonderful news for the Church of England, and the wider Anglican Communion. As our country's former Chief Nurse and as someone who has served as bishop of one of our largest and most complex dioceses, Sarah brings an abundance of leadership skills to the role which will be hugely important as we move forward together as a Church, as a country, and as part of a global society.

Having worked closely with Sarah in her role as lead Bishop for Health I have experienced at first hand Sarah's ability, wisdom and empathy. Sarah's nomination also marks a wonderful milestone for our Church. In England, our journey has taken us from the ordination of women as priests in 1994 to the consecration of our first woman bishop in 2015. Now the first woman will serve as Archbishop of Canterbury and her appointment will change our Church and the whole Anglican Communion forever.

I and all of us in Bath and Wells, will be praying for Sarah, Eamonn and their family as Sarah prepares to take on this role.

**Contributions to the parish magazine can be
emailed to**

portisheadparishmageditors@gmail.com

**Copy date for the December edition is
Friday 14 November**

Pastoral Care

Revd Tonya will be loitering most weeks in a café in Portishead. Should you have something pastoral you'd like to discuss or just to say hello, why not drop by.

Dates & time for November:

Wednesday 5th, Wednesday 19th, Wednesday 26th - all 10.15am-11.45am

Venue: The Port, 3 The Precinct, Bristol BS20 6AH

Or you could contact her on: 01275 840016/07341328682

pastorportishead@outlook.com

Bereavement Support Group

Grief doesn't stop after the funeral

A space to talk, to just be, a space to share memories

2nd Tuesday of each month 2.30pm – 4pm

St. Nicholas Church, Nore Road

Portishead Church of England

Martha's Kitchen @ Impero Lounge!

Volunteers from Martha's Kitchen will be in the Impero Lounge, on the following Tuesdays. Children can stop by on their way to school for a FREE breakfast of cereals and toast, while parents can enjoy an early morning coffee and chat. They will also be available to issue foodbank vouchers and lunch bag Vouchers.

Date & time:

Tuesday 4th Nov 8am – 9.30am

Tuesday 11th Nov 8am – 9.30am

Tuesday 18th Nov 8am – 9.30am

Venue: Impero Lounge

60 High St, BS20 6EH,
Portishead, UK

Revd Lindsay: 07483 932608. Email: Pioneer@portisheadparish.co.uk

Fundraising Update

Charity Abseil: The final total raised at the charity abseil was £9870, after expenses. Of this, 60% was donated to Christian Aid and 40% to the Clevedon Foodbank. Thank you again to those brave enough to take part and to those who sponsored them and supported them on the day.

Auction of Promises: At the time of going to press the auction, held on 18 October, has raised approximately £2000 for the mission and ministry of our church here in Portishead. This is a fantastic result and will see various people stepping out of their comfort zones to paddleboard, sew, sail, sauna, birdwatch but also to enjoy afternoon teas, meals out and even a caravan holiday! Many thanks for all the generous donations of time and experiences and for the support on the night.

News from our Mission Partner

St. Peter's Church and School, Northern Uganda - The Effects of Climate Change

Geoffrey Otto is our man in Uganda. He lives in Oguta Village and is a key member of St Peter's Church and chair of governors at St Peter's Primary. Here, he tells us about climate change in Oguta and the surrounding area.

The implications of climate change here are as follows:- The rising temperatures have resulted in water scarcity and food insecurity among members of the community. Health hazards through air and water pollution are on the increase. Diseases, for instance, nodding syndrome, are rising. Some people are being forced to move to other places looking for better weather, where there is rainfall for cultivation, and better water. Increased hunger and poor nutrition among members of the community are sadly leading to more deaths. There is pressure on mental health as many are being forced or displaced from their homes. A particular issue for us is that there was a refugee camp near us. Much deforestation happened and that, along with the desire to make charcoal, is now making conditions worse for local people.

Both the church and school have a scheme on environmental protection. In school it is called 'tree talk'. And in our church we call it 'go green'. These deal in environmental protection through tree planting and advocating for conservation measures. There is some crop diversification which helps farmers.

Our Harvest collections are being sent to St. Peter's Church and School. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Simon Stevens





PORTISHEAD

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Here to support you and your family every step of the way. Our experienced and caring team are dedicated to making the process stress-free and simple. Guiding you to create a personal service for your loved one. Our funeral arranger Ashley will be with you every step of the way from the first initial call to the day of the service.

We feel it is very important to give back to the community and work alongside local businesses to provide personalized services for the day of the service.

Arrangements can be made within our modern office, or in the comfort of your own home. To discuss funeral arrangements that reflect your personal wishes please contact us.



01275 814400

www.portisheadfunerals.co.uk
portisheadfunerals@outlook.com

Church Calendar

Please use this as a focus for prayer this month. Please note that the churches may be in use at other times so check the website and noticesheet for up-to-date details and changes.

Sunday 2nd November – All Souls

Daniel 7.1-3, 15-18; Ephesians 1.11-end; Luke 6.20-31

8am Holy Communion (BCP) at St Peter's Church

9.30am Morning Worship at St Nicholas' Church

9.45am The 9.45 at St Peter's Church

11.15am Morning Worship with The URC at St Nicholas' Church

11.30am Parish Eucharist at St Peter's Church

4.30pm All Souls Service at St Peter's Church

Mon 3 rd	7.15am	Mission Prayer - https://teams.live.com/join/9399632380155?p=x10GS1guFQs7vCocPK
Tues 4 th	9.00am	Refresh Parent, Baby and Toddler Group at St Peter's Church
Weds 5 th	9.30am	Morning Prayer via Zoom https://bit.ly/wednesdaymorningprayer
Thurs 6 th		'Thought for the Day' available from 8.00am via our website, YouTube and Facebook
	10.30am	Midweek Communion at St Peter's Church
	10.40am	Midweek Church Coffee via Zoom https://bit.ly/midweekchurchcoffee
	2.00pm	Lighthouse Café at St Nicholas' Church
Fri 7 th	10.30am	Table Talk at Portishead Library
	12.30pm	The wedding of Jason Phillips and Jessie Watters at St Peter's Church
Sat 8 th	10.30am	LLaDs at St Barnabas Centre

Sunday 9th November – Remembrance Sunday

Job 19.23-27a; 2 Thessalonians 2.1-5, 13-end; Luke 20.27-38

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St Nicholas' Church

9.45am The 9.45 with Communion at St Peter's Church

11.30am Remembrance Service at St Peter's Church

2.00pm The Gathering at St Peter's School

Mon 10 th	7.15am	Mission Prayer - https://teams.live.com/join/9399632380155?p=x10GS1guFQs7vCocPK
Tues 11 th	9.00am	Refresh Parent, Baby and Toddler Group at St Peter's Church
	2.30pm	Bereavement Support Group at St Nicholas' Church
Weds 12 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer via Zoom https://bit.ly/wednesdaymorningprayer
Thurs 13 th		'Thought for the Day' available from 8.00am via our website, YouTube and Facebook
	10.30am	Midweek Communion (MU) at St Peter's Church
	10.40am	Midweek Church Coffee via Zoom https://bit.ly/midweekchurchcoffee
	2.00pm	Lighthouse Café at St Nicholas' Church

Sunday 16th November – 2nd Before Advent

Malachi 4.1-2a; 2 Thessalonians 3.6-13; Luke 21.5-19

8.00am Holy Communion at St Peter's Church

9.15am for 9.30am Café Church at St Nicholas' Church

9.45am The 9.45 Special at St Peter's Church

11.15am Café Church with The URC at St Nicholas' Church

11.30am Parish Eucharist at St Peter's Church

5.00pm Evensong at St Peter's Church

Mon 17 th	7.15am	Mission Prayer - https://teams.live.com/join/9399632380155?p=x10GS1guFQs7vCocPK
Tues 18 th	9.00am	Refresh Parent, Baby and Toddler Group at St Peter's Church
Weds 19 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer via Zoom https://bit.ly/wednesdaymorningprayer
Thurs 20 th		'Thought for the Day' available from 8.00am via our website, YouTube and Facebook
	10.30am	Midweek Communion (MU) at St Peter's Church
	10.40am	Midweek Church Coffee via Zoom https://bit.ly/midweekchurchcoffee
	2.00pm	Lighthouse Café at St Nicholas' Church
	2.30pm	Mothers' Union at St Peter's Church
	7.30pm	PCC Vision Group at St Peter's Church

Sunday 23rd November – St Nicholas' Patronal

TBC

10.30am St Nicholas' Patronal Service at St Nicholas' Church

Mon 24 th	All Day	St Peter's Church Closed for Star Trail
	7.15am	Mission Prayer - https://teams.live.com/join/9399632380155?p=x10GS1guFQs7vCocPK
Tues 25 th	All Day	St Peter's Church Closed for Star Trail
	10.30am	Lighthouse Carers Group at St Nicholas' Church
Weds 26 th	All Day	St Peter's Church Closed for Star Trail
	9.00am	Morning Prayer via Zoom https://bit.ly/wednesdaymorningprayer
Thurs 27 th	All Day	St Peter's Church Closed for Star Trail
		'Thought for the Day' available from 8.00am via our website, YouTube and Facebook
	10.40am	Midweek Church Coffee via Zoom https://bit.ly/midweekchurchcoffee
	2.00pm	Lighthouse Café at St Nicholas' Church
Fri 28 th	All Day	St Peter's Church Closed for Star Trail
Sat 29 th	9.00am	Star Trail at St Peter's Church, all are welcome

Sunday 30th November – Advent Sunday

Isaiah 2.1-5; Romans 13.11-end; Matthew 24.36-44

9.30am Parish Eucharist at St Nicholas' Church

9.45am The 9.45 at St Peter's Church

11.30am Parish Eucharist at St Peter's Church

3.00pm Christingle at St Peter's Church

4.00pm Christingle at St Nicholas' Church

5.00pm Christingle at St Peter's Church

The monthly Cruse bereavement support Drop in is held on the last Thursday morning of each month at the Methodist Community Hub. Many people find meeting up with others who are facing similar situations very supportive.

Refreshments are provided. Trained Bereavement Volunteers are available. Just come along between 10 am and 12 noon. The next meet up is on Thursday 27th November.

Cruse Bereavement Support

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Please note new address for Portishead

Environmentalism to speak at next Deanery Meeting

Our next Deanerywide Meeting is on Wednesday 19th November at 7.30pm Walton St Mary's Church Hall, Castle Road, Clevedon, BS21 7BX. Refreshments will be served from 7.00pm.

Our speaker will be Mary Colwell. Mary is an English environmentalist author and producer. She previously worked for the BBC Natural History Unit.

All are welcome to attend.

For further information contact Caroline Edwards, Portishead Deanery Secretary caroline.edwards91@hotmail.com 07917 570617

Will Aid Month

If getting an up-to-date Will is on your to-do list, but have been put off by the cost, now might be the month to make it a priority!

Every November there is a Will Aid campaign in partnership with a number of charities, including Christian Aid. Participating solicitors volunteer their time and waive their fee for writing a basic Will. Instead, they invite clients to make a voluntary donation to Will Aid – suggesting £120 for a single basic Will and £200 for a pair of basic 'mirror' wills. Go to <https://www.willaid.org.uk> for further information.

Some charities will offer a free will writing service at different times of the year in return for a donation to their charity. Examples, are the Alzheimer's Society Will to Remember Will-writing service for the over 60s and Macmillan Cancer Support who offer the service to anyone over the age of 18.

Another initiative is **Free Wills Month** which brings together a group of well-respected charities to offer members of the public aged 55 and over the opportunity to have their simple Wills written or updated free of charge by using solicitors in selected locations across the UK. The next 'free' month is March. Go to <https://freewillsmoth.org.uk> to register your interest.

The Church of England has partnered with Farewill to offer a free online will writing service throughout the year. Go to <https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-life/lasting-gift-your-church/writing-will/free-wills> or the Church of England website and search 'free wills'. We hope you'll consider leaving a gift to our parish to help its ministry and mission thrive for the benefit of future generations.



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cafe@portisheadparish.co.uk

Macular Support Group

The Portishead Macular Support Group meet on the last Thursday of the month in The Folk Hall from 2 - 4pm. The group is open to everyone who suffers from Macular Degeneration to enable them to be able to get together with others in the same position so they don't feel so alone and try to make life easier. We make new members very welcome. For further information please phone Hazel on 01275 845238.

Tea and
Toast served
from 9.30



9:45 SPECIAL

Informal and Creative Service

Date: **Sunday 16th
November**

Time: **9.45**

St Peter's Church, Portishead



Portishead Church of England
Growing & Caring in God's Love

Church Tidy-Up Days

A bright Saturday in September brought together a wonderful, enthusiastic team who rolled up their sleeves to help clean and tidy both St Peter's and St Nicholas churches — inside and out.

At St Peter's, our regular fortnightly cleaning was in full swing, while eight enthusiastic helpers tackled outdoor tasks. Gutters were cleared, a brand-new compost bin was built, and the churchyard and garden received some much-needed weeding and care.

At St Nicholas, the opportunity was taken to refresh the flower beds, and a thorough deep clean of the church interior followed a couple of weeks later.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who has contributed their time and energy — not just on this occasion, but over the years. Your dedication has helped keep our churches welcoming, well-kept spaces for worship and community, and in doing so, you've helped nurture a spirit of fellowship and care. As we look ahead, we're hoping to welcome more helping hands to continue this important work. Could that be you? Whether you can sweep a floor, vacuum a carpet, dust a window sill, pull a few weeds, or offer advice on garden care, your help would be hugely appreciated. Just a little time from a few more people would make a big difference. And of course, no tidy-up day is complete without a good chat and a proper cup of coffee!

Please contact our churchwardens or clergy team.

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Let's walk into the light

A story that's often told in our churches comes from the fourth chapter of John's Gospel. It tells of Jesus, in the blinding heat of midday meeting a Samaritan woman at the well in a town called Sychar. The woman is hoisting up heavy buckets of water in the hot sun. She's there because she's a woman with 'a reputation' and it's the only time of day she can avoid the muttering of her neighbours who meet at the well at cooler hours.

In an extraordinary encounter, Jesus sees deep into the woman's heart. Through their conversation Jesus brings about her healing and restoration into the community from which she is estranged. It's a story of life, possibility, new beginnings and forgiveness.

The woman at the well is not the only Biblical story set in Sychar. There's another, contained in the 34th chapter of the Book of Genesis. This is a tale of terror that's never heard in our churches; the rape of a girl called Dinah. It's a dark, nasty tale of violence that wrecks the life of individuals, families and the entire community. So we don't speak about it. We keep it hidden.

Sometimes people say to me of safeguarding 'It's just a tick box exercise', an onerous compliance requirement. Rather I would say that our work in safeguarding asks

fundamental questions about the kind of places we want our churches to be. Just like the Bible passages I've mentioned, we can be places of hiddenness, silence, and hurt. Or places of life, new beginnings and restoration.

Accounts like the Makin review have shone light on our story. We've also been working hard to bring about change. While we cannot be complacent, I am intensely proud of all that was revealed about safeguarding in Bath and Wells by our independent audit that happened earlier this year. This told us that we are moving towards a much better story. So let's build on the momentum we have created. Let's walk into the light.

Michael Beasley

Bishop of Bath and Wells



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Bath&Wells

Living the story. Telling the story.

Editor's Note: Safeguarding Sunday is 16 November-a time to recognise all those who work hard to keep others safe and the role we all play in safeguarding. If you have any concerns please speak in confidence to the Rector or our Safeguarding Officers, Linda Taylor and Sarah Stevens.



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