

# The Church in Warden Hill

## SUNDAY LIVE STREAMS

The South Cheltenham Team will continue to live stream a service each Sunday from one of the churches; this can be accessed via [www.facebook.com/pipandjims](http://www.facebook.com/pipandjims) or [www.stpetersleck.org](http://www.stpetersleck.org) if not on social media.

**ST CHRISTOPHER'S HISTORY** - Please help us to update this for our 60th anniversary - there will be copies to borrow in the Entrance Room. (See the August Lantern for further information)

**PRAYER CORNER** The prayer corner in church is open again for quiet prayer and reflection at any time each day from 8 am till 5 pm. For a couple of weeks we are invited to pray for the **Global Church** using some suggestions from Tearfund.

**WEDNESDAY SOCIAL GROUP - WE WILL BE BACK** in September. The committee has decided that we will restart the Group on 8th September at 2pm. The first meeting will be a 'welcome back' one. Book the date and come along and renew friendships.

**LIFTING RESTRICTIONS** St. Christopher's is now open again during the week to visit for prayer. We do ask that those attending still test and trace for a while longer, use the hand gel before entering, consider wearing a face mask during services (especially if singing) and continue to socially distance and respect others' space. Other aspects of church life, including refreshments and midweek services, will be considered after the summer. If you or a member of your family or household feels unwell, please do not attend.

**COMMUNITY FILM SHOWS** You may remember that before the virus hit us and cancelled everything we used to have a monthly film show on a Saturday afternoon. One or two folk are asking if we are going to start them again. SO is there anyone willing to organise the shows again? We have one person willing to help, but not lead. If you are willing to lead then please see Brian Miles.

## **MAUREEN SAYS**

Thank you, Thank you and Thank you.

I've been ruthlessly scissor & lopper happy in the church garden this week. Thank you to Roy for shredding the compostable stuff and to our church neighbours Eddy and Sean for letting me use their brown bins for the rest.

Arrangements for Thanksgiving for the Birth of a Child, Baptism, Confirmation, Banns of Marriage, etc., should be made with Revd Gary Grady or Revd Iain McLaren

If you are aware of anyone who is ill, in hospital, or in need of a pastoral visit please contact Clergy, Elders or Readers.

Safeguarding Officer: Debbie Cypher

If you have anything for the Grapevine please send it to

Brian Miles ([grapevine@tcivh.org.uk](mailto:grapevine@tcivh.org.uk) Tel 862142) by midday on Wednesday.

Church website: [www.tcivh.org.uk](http://www.tcivh.org.uk)



The Church in Warden Hill  
(Anglican & URC)

# Welcome



## THE GRAPEVINE 8th AUGUST 2021 THE TENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Holy Communion will be held at St. Christopher's at 10.30am  
and will be led by Revd Iain McLaren

### **Readings:**

Zachariah 8: 14-23

John 6: 41-51

### **Hymns:**

- 117 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
354 Come, living God, when least expected  
199 Jesus the Lord says, I am the bread  
453 Let us talents and tongues employ

### **The Collect for the 10th Sunday after Trinity**

Lord of heaven and earth, as Jesus taught his disciples to be persistent in prayer, give us patience and courage never to lose hope, but always to bring our prayers before you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

### **Morning Prayer**

TEAM MORNING PRAYER 9am DAILY

[www.facebook.com/pipandjims](http://www.facebook.com/pipandjims) or [www.stpetersleck.org](http://www.stpetersleck.org)

*You can attend in person as follows:*

*Mondays at Pip & Jim's, Tuesdays at St. Christopher's Wednesdays at Emmanuel and Thursdays at St. Peter's.*

### **Services for August commencing at 10.30am**

8th	Holy Communion	Revd Iain McLaren
15th	Morning Worship	Rachel Tarling
22nd	Holy Communion	Revd John Horan
29th	Morning Worship	Roy McBane

# The Church in Warden Hill

## LETTER FROM IAIN MCLAREN

One of the joys of attending worship in recent weeks is that congregations can now sing together (albeit masked up). I know I am not alone in having missed congregational singing. I know of people who have refrained from returning to worship in a church building because they find it hard to relate to worship without singing. It is worthwhile taking a moment to reflect why the singing of hymns together is such a valued part of our worship tradition.

In the first place, humans are naturally musical creatures. Young children start to sing as soon as they learn to vocalise. In later life some adults lose confidence in their singing ability, often after having been told by someone that they can't sing, but good singing teachers will say that virtually anyone can be taught to sing to a passable standard, especially if singing in concert with others, as Gareth Malone has shown repeatedly in his various choir TV programmes. I have personally been present when John Bell of the Iona Community, working without written music, with no musical accompaniment and with no prior preparation, has taught the words and tune for a new song to a congregation of over a hundred people in a matter of minutes.

Singing together builds community. It is a shared activity that gives people a sense of belonging together. This, of course, is not unique to churches and explains, for example, why football crowds like to sing together. In our church tradition it is often the case that, aside from the recitation of the Lord's Prayer, hymn singing is the only contribution to worship made by ordinary members of the congregation. Without congregational singing, worship can become a 'spectator sport' of watching screens while listening to soloists, readers and preachers.

Singing is an excellent way of communicating information in a memorable format. Long before humans learnt to read and write we were passing on information using rhymes and songs. Preachers should be under no illusion – people will remember the hymns they have chosen long after they have forgotten the sermon. Think about how much of a traditional Christmas nativity scene is derived, not from the Biblical texts, but from the words of our favourite carols. Good hymnwriters are able to convey complex ideas in a few memorable lines. Many people who have difficulty reciting John 3: 16 from memory or articulating a theory of atonement will nevertheless be able to sing confidently, 'To God be the glory, great things he has done! So loved he the world that he gave us his Son, who yielded his life in atonement for sin, and opened the life-gate that all may go in.'

Therefore, to borrow a quote from the Bible's songbook – the Book of Psalms, let us 'praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of the faithful' (Psalm 149: 1) – even if we may need to be singing through masks for a little longer yet.

Yours in Christ,  
Iain

# The Church in Warden Hill

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** all those impacted by extreme weather events throughout the world and the emergency services and others who are trying to help local communities.

**PLEASE ALSO PRAY FOR** all suffering in body, mind or spirit; those who have recently died and those mourning their loss.

**WE ALSO REMEMBER** those who are awaiting exam results in the next few weeks, and their plans for the future.

## WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS

8th	Lichfield Drive & Rochester Close	12th	Warden Hill Close & Friars Close
9th	Hawkswood Road & Abbots Close	13th	Warden Hill Road & Warren Close
10th	Hampton Close & St. Alban's Close	14th	Gwernant Road & Bala Road
11th	Farmfield Road & David French Court	15th	Dinas Close & Dinas Road

**BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES and CELEBRATIONS** let's celebrate the birthdays and anniversaries of those who have them this week. We have two special birthdays coming up, - Rob, Gary's son is celebrating his 21st and Tony Jeans has a special birthday on 14th August - he will be 80 . On 9th August Jenni Townsend also has a birthday. Please let me know of any future birthdays and celebrations so that we can celebrate together.

**Brian Miles**

## MESSAGE FROM REVD GARY

Thank you to all who have helped, supported and sent messages of support to myself and the family during our recent period of isolation. The good news is that the PCR tests are negative, so see you around!

**PAM EXPLAINS** Following last weeks service: I had a query as to why I hadn't included any women in the list of commemorations: the answer is simple - there weren't any for that period. HOWEVER: there are for this coming week: 9th Mary Sumner, Founder of the Mothers' Union, 1921 (our Branch will be meeting at 2pm to celebrate) 11th: Clare of Assisi, Founder of the Minoreneses (Poor Clares) 1253 (friend of St. Francis of Assisi) 15th The Blessed Virgin Mary.