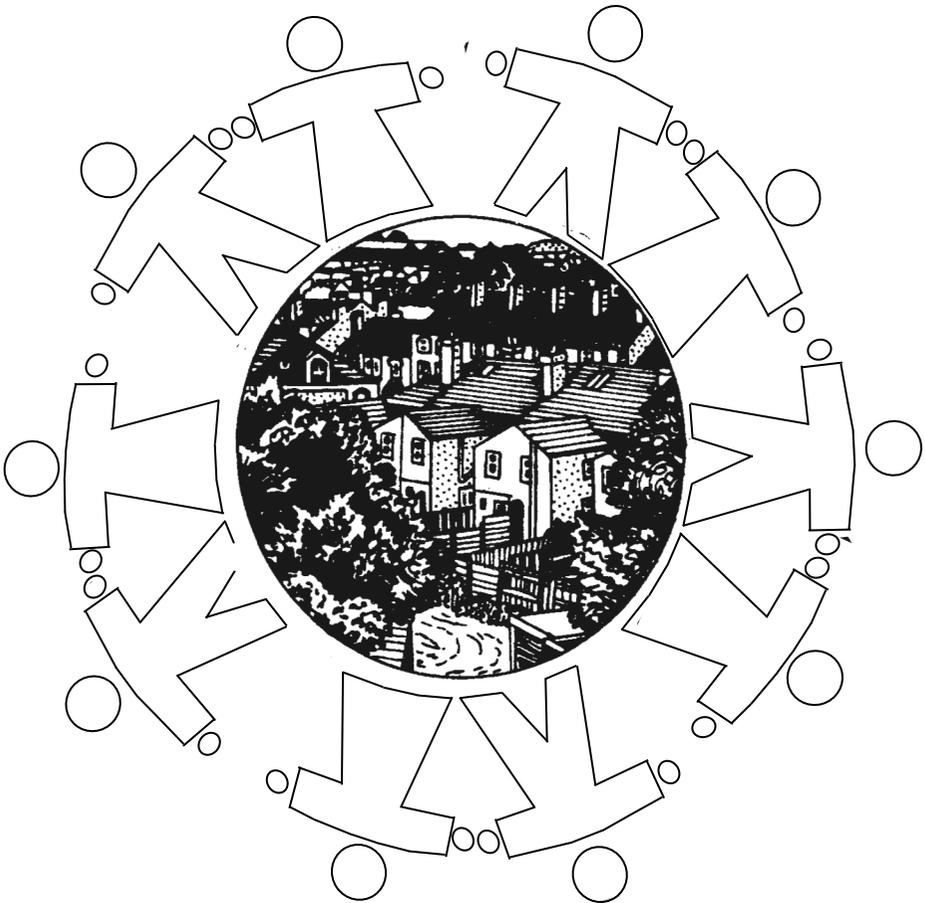

M THE MAGAZINE

35p

ST BARNABAS with CHRIST CHURCH, WORCESTER



JULY/AUGUST 2019

PARISH STAFF

Team Rector: Revd Julieann Watson (23785)
Curate Revd Kalantha Brewis (26715)
Missioner Sue Martyr (25466)
Churchwardens (St Barnabas): Mary James (455214)
Rachel Chalmers (07787 128345)
Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO):
Rachel Chalmers (07787 128345)

WEBSITE: www.stbarnabasworcester.org.uk



SUNDAY WORSHIP

St Barnabas

8.00am Eucharist

10.00am Parish Eucharist

6.30pm 1st Sunday-Night Communion/quarterly Memorial Communion

2nd Sunday-Evensong (BCP)

3rd Sunday- Evening service

4th Sunday- Prayers for Healing & Wholeness

Christ Church

10.00am Family Worship

Baptisms (Sundays by appointment)

Baptisms take place in the Parish Eucharist on the first Sunday of the month and at 12pm on second Sunday

WEEKDAY WORSHIP

MONDAY

8.30am

Morning Prayer in St Barnabas

6.00pm

Evening Prayer in St Barnabas

TUESDAY

8.30am

Morning Prayer in St Barnabas

6.00pm

Evening Prayer in St Barnabas

WEDNESDAY

8.45am

Morning Prayer in Christ Church

10.00am

Eucharist in St Barnabas

6.30pm

Tolladine Community Prayers at Mission House, 214a Tolladine Road

THURSDAY

12.30pm

Eucharist at Christ Church

FRIDAY

9.00am

Eucharist in St Barnabas

9.45am

ToddleAlong at St Barnabas

Arrangements for booking banns, baptisms and marriages can be made on Wednesdays at 6.30pm at St Barnabas.

The clergy are available, either by arrangement, or in church, for confessions, confidential interviews, advice, home visits etc. Please contact us if you know anyone who would appreciate this.

Deadline for articles to appear in The Magazine is penultimate Sunday of each month. Please e-mail contributions to jackiecampbell@talktalk.net

The Church Hall is available for private events and parties, including after weddings, baptisms and funerals and for children's parties. Contact Rachel Chalmers (458101) or Julia Adams (610830)

WATCHING & WAITING

Welcome to our two month edition of the magazine as we enter our nation's main holiday time. I'd like to thank all the contributors to our magazine over the last year and we look forward to receiving yours in the coming year. Perhaps you will be happy to share your holiday time experiences by writing for a new season in September.

It may be holiday time across our nation, but it is also a time of importance as we wait (and pray) for our government appoint a new leader and as it continues to navigate our way through the Brexit negotiations. We may try to keep in mind that 'The Lord is God' and not anyone or anything else; but living with uncertainty can try us to our wits end and renders us in many ways, powerless. We do not like this sense of powerlessness at all. We should like to act and take control of timings, people and decisions. We do not like having to watch, wait and pray; or allow others to make statements and decisions we would not make ourselves.

But it is part of the Christian life to watch, wait, trust and pray: and to hand over control to others sometimes.

Jesus did all of that in the Garden of Gethsemane, and when he was handed over to the authorities; the disciples had to watch and wait in the Upper Room as they waited in fear for their comforter, the Holy Spirit, to come. And as Jesus longed for his disciples to stay awake with him and as the disciples were together as they waited, so we would be together too. When we watch, wait and pray we are not alone - we find ourselves in the heart of God. And in the words of St Paul and Moses* "having done everything, (we) stand...and wait". Our prayers prepare us for what we do next. So, if you would like to accompany me during the summer months to watch, wait and pray for our nation, join me for morning or evening prayer at St Barnabas Church. See times below**.

In the meantime, during the next couple of months take some time to enjoy any sunshine and balmy evenings when they come.

Revd Julieann July/August 2019

**Bible references: Exodus 14; 2 Chronicles 20; Ephesians 6*

*** Morning Prayer 8.30am; Evening Prayer 6pm*



BACKPACK PROJECT

The church is again supporting Mary's Meals with their Backpack Project this summer. We all know the benefits of education and this is a chance to help children in Malawi to be able to go to school. Such was the response last summer that we already have many of the items needed for the backpacks, so this year the request list is not so long:

ballpoint pens, crayons, pencil sharpeners, rulers, pencil cases, towels, shorts/skirts, flip flops, soap, toothpaste, metal dessert spoons

If you can offer any of these items - not necessarily brand new, they will be very much appreciated. Items can be left at the back of church in the box provided. We aim to deliver these to Mary's Meals at the beginning of September.

*Many thanks for your generosity.
Ann & Mary*

MESSY CHURCH

The next Messy Church is on Saturday 15th June from 10.30-12.30 in the Church Hall.

All accompanied children welcome! Messy Church next month will be on 20th July.



TIME TO PRAY... AND SOMEONE TO PRAY WITH



As you probably know, on the fourth Sunday of every month there is an opportunity at the evening service to pray with someone else, or to be prayed for.

You might want to pray about a particular situation that is troubling you, you might want to give thanks, you might want to pray for somebody else.

Whatever the reason, gathering "two or three together" to pray about some particular matter can be a transforming part of our journey deeper into God's love for us and for our neighbours.

So, starting on July 14th we are going to be offering the same opportunity at the 10am service on the second Sunday of each month. There will be people available to pray with you in the Lady Chapel following communion.

If you have any questions about this, or would like to talk about it, please speak to either one of us.
Blessings

Revd Julieann & Revd Kalantha

All those involved in offering to pray with others will be following House of Bishops guidance on prayer ministry and have been DBS checked.

MAGDEBURG BRING & SHARE SUPPER

Everyone is welcome to come along to this Shared Supper on Saturday 13th July 7pm in Church Hall.



All together
as Kingdom People

Saturday 28th September in
Worcester Cathedral
See poster at the back of Church

LAMBETH CONFERENCE

The Lambeth Conference happens every 10 years. It's when all the Bishops across the Anglican Communion across the world are invited by the Archbishop of Canterbury to come together with opportunities for unity and discussion and fellowship and to pray for their concerns. The next one is due July/August 2020. Prior to the conference it is hoped that Bishops and their spouses will come early to the Diocese of England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland, enabling local Christians to meet and learn and share with others across the world.

The organisers of this 'pre-conference visit' to Worcester have written to Revd Julieann to ask if any parishes here would be interested in hosting a Bishop and spouse during this time.

GRENFELL REMEMBERED

St Barnabas with Christ Church was well represented in the crowd that defied the rain outside Worcester Guildhall on the evening of 14th June – the second anniversary of the Grenfell Tower fire. We'd been urged to "wear something green".

Speeches were delivered – including one by Cathedral Dean, Peter Atkinson – before a silent march along High Street and Deansway to the Cathedral Plaza. The silence was punctuated only by the beeps and honks of solidarity from passing cars in Deansway.

Once at the Cathedral Plaza the names of the 72 who died were read out. Overwhelmingly from ethnic minorities and in some cases clearly several members of the same family. To conclude a 72-second period of silence was observed.

The report into the events of the night of 14th June 2017 is not due until October this year. A second report – into the refurbishment of the tower before it caught fire – will not start until 2020. Scotland Yard do not expect any criminal charges to be made until 2021 at the earliest.

Accordingly you might consider a sombre commemoration to put in your diaries for 14th June 2020.....and thereafter.

Mark Watson

(see photo on centre pages)

CANTICLES

Canticles: songs of the church: Saviour of the world

By Ian Adams, mission spirituality adviser for Church Mission Society



*down, you set your people free:
we look to you to save and help us.*

*When they were ready to perish,
you saved your disciples:
we look to you to come to our help.*

*In the greatness of your mercy,
loose us from our chains,
forgive the sins of all your people.*

*Make yourself known as our Saviour and mighty deliverer;
save and help us that we may praise you.*

*Come now and dwell with us, Lord Christ Jesus:
hear our prayer and be with us always.*

*And when you come in your glory:
make us to be one with you and to share the life of your kingdom.*

Others have gone this way before us. The mission of the church has been shaped over two millennia, the Christ story pondered, practised and shared by a huge variety of people in different contexts. One wonderful treasure trove of this experience is the collection of songs we know as canticles that emerged from some of the earliest songs of the church.

These songs have been sung in times of plenty and in times of need, in times of joy and in times of persecution. Grounded in Scripture and shaped by experience, they continue to offer gifts to us now as we seek to live and share the Jesus Way. While necessarily reshaped for time and context, their message of faith, hope and love remains the same.

What might happen if we begin to speak or sing these canticles again? How might we be changed if we allow them to seep into us?

This article explores the canticle Saviour of the World ..

*Jesus, Saviour of the world, come to us in your mercy:
we look to you to save and help us.*

By your cross and your life laid

Reflection

The canticle takes us immediately to a key question: what is at the heart of our life and mission?

In its answer the canticle is bold. The first line is “Jesus, Saviour of the world”. He is the pivot upon which all our being and doing must rest. Christ alone. The one to whom we look, source of our hope.

We cannot engage in the task of life alone. We know that. And the canticle acknowledges that. So it speaks of Jesus as the source of help and mercy.

This is the core theme unfolding in
Cont on page 12

MAGDEBURG VISIT 2019

On the first evening, 50 of us gathered together in St Josef's – from St Barnabas, St Paulus, Christ Church, St Laurentius and friends. We had an evening full of renewed friendships, Gemutlichkeit, beer and Wein, Wurst and potato salad like you can get nowhere else, strawberry Kuchen and of course prayer, Psalmen, songs and Hymnen in truly gemischt languages. The Spirit of Pentecost was upon us.

After Gottesdienst in St Paulus on Sunday morning, we travelled out to the peaceful countryside and in Althaldensleben we found a double-church, Catholic at one end and Protestant at the other, sharing a common tower in the middle. The story goes that when both congregations needed a new church, the local agnostic tobacconist, anxious not to lose the passing trade of either, did his best to bring the confessions together by gifting them this Doppelkirche. But they remain getrennt, separated by a common wall. As Auden wrote:

*“Perhaps He frowns,
perhaps He grieves,
But it seems idle to
discuss
If anger or compassion
leaves
The bigger bangs to us”*

Monday saw us exploring the magnificent new Dommuseum Ottonianum,

where there was much about our very own Edith (910 -946), who as a young girl travelled the length of the Saxon world from Wessex to Magdeburg to marry an ambitious ruler called Otto. She was the granddaughter of Alfred the Great and sister of St Eadburh. Edith was devoted to her ancestor, St Oswald of Northumbria (604-642), and introduced his cult into Germany after her marriage. These saintly connections may have persuaded Otto, around 640, to turn towards the Catholic church as a way of consolidating his power, a policy that would eventually lead to the Diploma Ottonianum (962), by which the Diocese of Magdeburg was created, Pope John XII confirmed as head of the spiritual church and Otto as its secular protector, emperor of Germany and Italy, and founder of the Holy Roman Empire, an institution that would last 900 years.

The day ended with our host's marvellous Posaunenchor (Brass Band) playing their own arrangements of 'Last Night of the Proms' favourites, including 'Land of Hope and Glory' and 'Rule Britannia', whilst we all enjoyed a Barbecue – inevitably cooked in the rain.

The next day we visited Leipzig, accompanied by Michael Bartels, the retired



Edith

Cont overleaf

Pfarrer of St Laurentius. In the 1980's Michael was University Chaplain in Leipzig and one of five priests who played a prominent role in the events that led to the ending of the GDR. Pressure of numbers had led the priests to move the University's Monday 'Prayers for Peace' to the nearby Nicholaikirche which, by the autumn of '89 had acquired a substantial following of people seeking freedom: consequently members of the Ministry of State Security, the Stasi, also attended to watch, report and arrest. On the night of September 9th, there were over 2000 people in the church including 600 members of the Stasi.

As usual they heard a sermon based on the Beatitudes. Where else would the Stasi hear this? After the Bishop's blessing, the people left to be greeted by 10,000 people outside the church carrying candles and surrounded by regular troops and military brigades. The candles were shared with the troops who became engaged in debate. Eventually military discipline dissolved. "You will succeed, not by military power, or by your own strength, but by my spirit, says the Lord".

That night there was no riots, no violence, not a single shop window was broken, but the GDR fell. Horst Sindermann, a member of the central committee of the GDR said, "We had prepared for everything, But not for prayers and

candles".

To our hosts, the EU is principally an organisation that preserves and expands the freedoms they won that night. I was asked, 'What is your church doing to help?'

Our final Eucharist on Wednesday was a moving ceremony at the end of which we stood in an unbroken circle, Catholic and Protestant, British and German, all mixed together durcheinander.

Pfarrer Simon preached in the kind of mixed-up language which has influenced parts of this note and which provides the basis for many easy-going conversations. You didn't need to speak German to understand Pfarrer Simon's sermon. His sermon and Michael's history reminded us that in the power of Christ, even the seemingly impossible can happen.

Robin Sykes

(see photos on centre pages)

MISSION FUND DONATIONS

The following donations from the Mission Fund were approved by the PCC at their recent meeting in Church:

The Bishop of Worcester's Lent Appeal for our Diocesan Mission link with Diocesan of Peru. They are facing great financial struggles as Bishop Jorge and his colleagues seek to reach out to those in most need.

cont on page 13

FREEDOM

Three countries in the world still have endemic polio, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria. Nigeria has had no new cases since August 2016 and is expected to be declared polio free in the next few months. In Peshawar in Pakistan recently, during an attempt to deliver a vaccination programme, there were three deaths: a polio worker and two accompanying policemen. Family members are needing a lot of persuading that the vaccines are not only safe, but vital if the disease is to be eradicated.

Freedom is complex. Some children are being prevented from receiving vaccinations by relatives with the right to speak their minds. Not everyone has the freedom to go to school. Misinformation, fear and panic prevents community efforts to educate about the safety of medicines.

If freedom is 'the right to act, speak and think as one wants' how does that play out within society and in communities?

Many people, for many different reasons, are not free. They are not free or able to be themselves, to love who they wish, to travel, to read, to run, to eat any foods, to question or doubt. Others don't have access to health care, can't practise their religion freely, or keep a private life private.

Many are not free from slavery or coercion, or from poverty or war, self pity or low self-esteem, persecution or fear, guilt or pain, physical or mental.

But some things can't be taken away easily: dreams and imagination, memories and thoughts, peace and hope, faith and love. Unless of course, there is brain disease or injury and deterioration of mental capacities, that can destroy some of these.

I have just signed up to a research programme looking in to detection, prevention and treatment of Alzheimer's disease. It is one small attempt that hopefully might make a little difference to someone along the way.

How else might we do something to help those in need and maybe even ourselves, to gain and embrace freedom, together with the responsibilities it brings?

Margaret Gandon

Walk
in the
light
of the
LORD

QUIET MORNINGS

The next Quiet Morning at the Mission House, 214 Tolladine Road, will be on 28th September.

Come along—all welcome!



*Top left & opposite: Enjoying music & food in Magdeburg (see pages 5 & 15)
Centre: Julieann with Churchwardens Rachel & Mary
Bottom: Grenfell remembered (see page 3)*





CELTIC COMMUNION

For the last year or so St Barnabas Church has provided a Celtic Communion Service on the last Tuesday evening of the month. All are welcome. It is an opportunity for folk to come to a church service midweek in the evening – those who work during the day, those who cannot come on a Sunday through work or other commitments. Informal communion service in the Celtic tradition. What makes it Celtic is its focus on three things:

That God is found in creation and in particular to remember how ancient it all is and therefore how ancient God is. We remind ourselves of this by considering a fossil of some wood which is 220 million years old.

That God is found in community and as we gather around the table in fellowship and unity to share a meal.

That God is experienced in three ways (as Trinity if you like): as the one who makes us, as the one who is with and beside us as we journey in life, as the one who lives within us giving us energy, peace and life.

At the beginning of the liturgy and as we gather together we bring some things forward to help us

with our prayers: A globe, a lit candle, a cross and a Bible.

We recall some of Jesus words to help us receive forgiveness and grace, we read the Gospel and reflect on it, and we share the peace.

We give thanks over the bread and wine recalling them as being signs of hope and holding the story of life, death and resurrection and for our spiritual refreshment.

We pray the Lord's prayer and share the bread and wine together.

A blessing is given.
Some music is played.

It takes about 30 minutes and then we share some refreshments and have a chat.

The comments I have received have been that "it helps to bring me stillness while not being alone." And: "Good for the end of a busy day"

Revd Julieann July/August 2019

Why not come? Why not invite someone you know who might find it helpful?

Last Tuesdays of the month from
7-8pm on 24th
September, 29th
October & 26th
November



ECO CHURCH...ECO HOMES...ECO LIVING?

Moving to Worcester last year meant that we were living in a home that we own for the first time, since all vicarages are tied to the job and belong to the diocese. [*] So at long last we were able to look at solar energy systems, an idea I have been keen on for many years. In one of my previous parishes, I was involved with a small local charity that had the opportunity to build affordable homes for 14 local families, and solar panels were one of the features that we installed.

So last Autumn we did some research and invited three companies who install solar panels (often they are called PV panels - photo-voltaic) to visit and price up a suitable system for our house. All were keen, not least as we are blessed here with a good South facing roof. We were able to discuss possible layouts for the panels, allowing for the velux windows we wanted to install at the same time. Time was pressing as we knew the Feed-in Tariff (FiT) was due to be phased out altogether in April 2019.

Then we studied the three proposals, and agreed which company to go with, essentially due to their lower quote for a higher spec system. And on 29th January the team from TILE ENERGY installed 14 panels, along with all the the clever electronics (power inverter etc) in the cupboard under the stairs, and from which all the data re units generated comes instantly to a very clever dashboard on my PC.

Now it would be tempting to feel a bit smug at the obvious benefits that are accruing. Energy generated today 503 Wh (even though it's been pouring with rain all morning!), Energy this month 358.11 kWh, Lifetime energy 2.11 MWh (in just under 5 months), which means a reduction in CO2 emissions so far 827kg. Some of the detail is very telling, like the 2 spikes in consumption late last night which I realised were when the kettle was on to make hot drinks. But overall we now export considerably more electricity to the grid than we consume. So there's a sense that we're doing our bit in the cause of slowing down environmental damage. And as for the cost of the installation, we expect to recoup it in about 8 years.

But of course what anyone is able to do by having PV panels is just a proverbial drop in the ocean. **Global warming requires everyone's commitment to make constant lifestyle choices.** So whenever we go anywhere, is walking or cycling feasible rather than using the car? In our own case we now only use the car when we travel away from Worcester. And how about going by public transport? We plan to use the bus much more once we qualify for our bus passes. Since we all know air travel is so harmful to the atmosphere, can we reduce how often we fly? And/or plant trees to compensate?

Then there's plastic. In our home we have always tried to re-use

Cont on page 13

Cont from page 4

the first half of the canticle, drawing both on great salvation themes of Scripture and on Gospel stories of the disciples' experience.

There is an interesting link here to the practice of the classic Orthodox "Jesus Prayer": *Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy upon me, a sinner.* A prayer that is about orientation, expressing our desire to focus on Christ in all we do, asking for help to do so.

The canticle then unfolds as a threefold prayer to this Jesus, Saviour of the world and source of help and mercy.

First, a prayer for an experience of Christ's saving power. "Make yourself known as our Saviour and mighty deliverer."

This is a call for Christ's mercy to evolve from an idea into an experience. And it's an encouragement to us to be bold in our prayer and action. Lord, make yourself known!

A question: how might you be bold in prayer and action today?

Second, a prayer for Christ's presence. Seeking a new sense of Jesus close to us. "Come now and dwell with us, Lord Christ Jesus." Most of the time God's presence can seem hazy. The canticle's encouragement is to pray for God's presence, revealed in

Jesus. Or perhaps more accurately to pray for a revelation of his presence – already with us.

A question: presence calls for us to be present. How might we renew our presence to Christ today?

Third, a prayer without end. "And when you come in your glory..." The presence of Christ is without limit and without end. The encouragement here is to see our lives and mission as part of much greater, longer patterns.

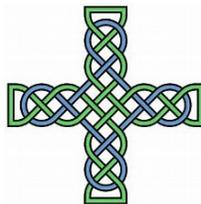
A question: how might your prayer and action today take on a "forever" character?

The canticle ends with a revelation. The path we are taking is a path towards oneness: "make us to be one with you and to share the life of your kingdom..." This is a prayer for unity with Christ in God (Colossians 3:3); unity also with all that has been created. Everything is included in the liberating mission of Jesus! All that you are and everything that you do today is part of this coming together.

Practice

As you read (and perhaps speak or sing out) the canticle, be alert for what catches your attention. What in God's grace might be the gift for you here today? You might like to commit to learning the canticle, making it part of your daily prayer, returning to it whenever prompted.

Andy Gandon



Cont from page 6



WaterAid's Lent Jar of Change Appeal for Malawi and especially for the treacherous region around the River Kasangadzi.

Locally, we will donate to three charities:

Worcester Street Pastors. These are trained volunteers from local churches, who care about our community. They have operated in Worcester City Centre every Saturday night/Sunday morning since 2010, offering to listen, care and help at times of need.

Onside Advocacy, Worcester. The charity has very limited resources as their allowance from Worcester City Council has been reduced. The charity offers support, advice and help to vulnerable and disadvantaged adults, young people and children with their problems.



Finally, *Worcester Foodbank*, as they face severe difficulties to meet the ever growing demand to help families with severe financial problems.

Our sincere thanks to our congregation and friends for their continued support .

*Ann Bryant,
St. Barnabas with Christ Church
Mission Fund*

Cont from page 11

polythene and plastic bags rather than throw them away. But however hard we try to re-use them imaginatively, we still end up with stockpiling more than we use again. So I was delighted to see that Morrisons supermarket now provide a bag recycling facility for a broader range of bags, but the problem for people who live in Worcester is finding a Morrisons!! But if one supermarket can offer this facility, perhaps we should be asking others to do the same? Not all litter is made of plastic, but the *Duckworth Worcestershire Trust* encourages litter picking by offering the basic kit anyone might need: more info is available from volunteer@dwt.org.uk

Of course if you have a garden, then growing your own is another small way of cutting back on the plastic wrappers used for so much fresh produce. We also compost our green waste, even though Margaret's always thought we had too many! We also found a brilliant booklet published by Derbyshire County Council recently entitled "50 ways to make food go further". Check their website – www.derbyshire.gov.uk/50ways - all helpful ideas if we want to reduce food waste.

[*] A recent *CHURCH TIMES* article (14 June) argues that the Church of England should radically rethink the design of clergy housing. We know how to build zero carbon houses, and the church has a wonderful opportunity to lead the way. Maybe this should be on the agenda at the next Diocesan Synod.
Andy Gandon

THE LINK TO HOPE SHOEBOX APPEAL 2019

Christmas is not far off!! And we look forward to reminding everyone that God came down for the whole world and for everyone: that it's a time of celebration for everyone, not just children, as important as they are.

So this year St Barnabas has registered with the *Link to Hope Shoebox Appeal* to broaden our concern for all struggling people & families in countries of Eastern Europe at Christmas time.

Julieann

LINK TO HOPE

We are a **Christian charity** who believe in distributing love to those in need regardless of background, colour, creed or religion.

We ask people to fill a Shoebox for a family – not just a child. Our list includes items such as showergel/shampoo, family games, stationery items, gifts for mum and dad as well as sweets, soft toys, hats, scarves etc.

Our annual **Family Shoebox Appeal** has been running since 1992—we have sent over 800,000 shoeboxes to hundreds of different locations!

The **Family Shoeboxes** of gifts are given to families who often have to make a choice between food or fuel at Christmastime – buying presents is just not a

priority. Many of these families do not have running water, heating or electricity. Some live in appalling conditions, living in just one or two rooms.

A shoebox for a family means that everyone receives a gift. Also toiletries, toothpaste, shampoo and soap to keep everyone clean and free from the germs that make them ill. And of course sweets and chocolates for everyone – a family favourite.

Due to the number of elderly people that are now being left alone because their families work away, we have launched the **Elderly Shoebox Appeal**.

These are similar but the children's games and education materials are replaced with a wind up torch, sensory items, candle and holder etc.

We are small enough that we have a personal relationship with all the key contacts in Eastern Europe who distribute your Shoeboxes and we do spot checks to ensure that your boxes are received by the correct people.



VISIT TO MAGDEBURG & SAXONY-ANHALT

St Barnabas has a 23-year-old relationship with the churches of Magdeburg (principally the St Laurentius-Kirche in the western suburb of Olvenstedt) but, for JulieAnn and me, it was a case of being Magdeburg newbies.

First impressions? After hearing tales of the dark days of the GDR I found the city remarkably bright, clean and colourful. It reminded me a little of Cologne in the West: an imposing central Cathedral surrounded by a large open public square (courtesy of us) and a city straddling the banks of a wide river.

Its cleanliness is undoubtedly due to a sensible policy of adding a small deposit to the price of canned and bottled drinks – redeemable upon returning the vessel to a shop or recycling centre – which eliminates littering almost entirely.

The St Laurentius parish is semi-rural and many live in converted farm dwellings. This affords plenty of former barns and courtyards in which to park cars, with the result that their streets are almost free of them. Population density is less than 20% of our own. One wonders what our German guests make of Church Road parking or the chicanes of Green Lane!

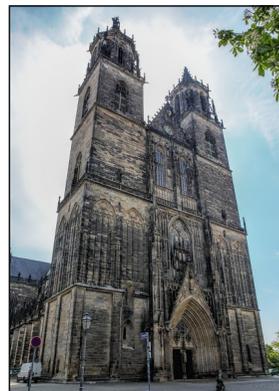
If a visit can be said to have a “theme” then in 2019 one could strongly argue for “the fall of the

GDR”. The role of Leipzig in the events of 1989 is recounted elsewhere, so I will just mention an extra trip that was extended to JulieAnn and me outside the main tour itinerary.

Just outside Magdeburg is the former Marienborn border crossing, now a service station next to the No. 2 Autobahn, but with the former GDR East-West border crossing complex preserved as a grim memorial to socialism. If you’ve ever read Orwell’s 1984 you’ll be familiar with the odd cocktail of insanity and oppression exemplified by regimes like the former GDR. Für die Vielen, nicht für die Wenigen? Nein danke.

Our Magdeburg friends had to wait nearly 45 years to achieve national self-determination in the face of a foreign, statist hegemony. How will we react to the opportunity?

Mark Watson



Magdeburg Cathedral

FROM THE REGISTER

May they rest in peace ... and rise in glory
FUNERALS:

And he took them in His arms and blessed them
BAPTISMS:

2nd June Poppy-Mae Palmer
 Ruben Ricky Willmott



TEA AT THE VICARAGE

Tea, coffee, cakes

3pm - 5pm on:
Sunday 4th August
and 13th October

Come & go as you please
all welcome!



SUBSCRIPTIONS

If you would like to take out a subscription to St Barnabas magazine (£3.50 per year) and have it delivered (within the parish) please see Sheila in church or phone 451928

DISCLAIMER

Please be aware that the PCC of St Barnabas with Christ Church does not vet the advertisements in this magazine.

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