

# Open Space

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JUNE 2018

SAINT STEPHENS SOUNDWELL

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## The Saints Peter & Paul

THERE ARE many Saints and also a multitude of days set aside to celebrate them and their example to us as Christians.

ON JUNE 29th we remember and celebrate two of the greats – **St Peter** and **St Paul**.



So, I thought I would share a little of what I know about them in the hope they will be an encouragement and inspiration to you.

### St Peter

His name was not always Peter... and his parents called him Simon.

He had a brother called Andrew and they lived by the Sea of Galilee and grew up to become fisherman. Not far away, Jesus had grown up in a carpenter's family.

Perhaps Jesus did some of the work on the boats down by the sea shore.

One thing is for certain; he noticed Simon and was impressed.

When Jesus wanted others to help him preach about the kingdom of God, he was quick to ask Simon and Andrew to leave their nets and follow him.

Simon was strong and enthusiastic. He was always the first to jump in and offer his opinion. Unfortunately, it was not always sensible; as he used to speak first and think later. People called him a 'hot head', but Jesus did not mind this, as He knew that Simon was really intent to be supportive and enthusiastic about their work.

So, Jesus changed Simon's name to Peter, which means 'a rock'. He knew that one day Peter would be brave and strong enough, like a firm rock, to be the foundation of the first Church communities. But it did not always seem like that.

The Gospel writer, Mark, tells a number of stories where Peter does not sound rock-like at all. He kept misunderstanding what Jesus told the group of 12 friends.

We can imagine that Jesus sometimes shook his head in disappointment when Peter could not grasp what was being told to him.

But Peter never lost his enthusiasm, even jumping out of a boat to meet Jesus across the water.

He eagerly promised his friend that he would follow him to the cross, even though when it came to it, Peter ran away, scared. He was devastated when Jesus died.

*But an amazing thing happened.* After the Resurrection, a new Peter emerged. This time he lived up to his name and became the 'rock'.

He became the leader of the group of friends, and boldly led them to preach the Good News that Jesus had brought.

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### Mission Partners with St Stephens:

Bristol City Centre  
Soup Run  
Bristol/Uganda Link  
Christian Aid  
Community of  
the Sisters of  
the Church  
Emmaus  
Fair Trade  
Kingswood  
Street Pastors  
One25 Project

### St Stephens

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# The next Bishop of Bristol



**HER MAJESTY** the Queen has appointed the Very Revd **Vivienne Faull**, currently Dean of York, as the 57th Bishop of Bristol.

**SPEAKING AT** the Barton Hill Settlement in Bristol following the announcement, Viv said:

*"This is where my family comes from, and so coming here feels like I am returning home.*

*It was twenty four years ago that Bristol became the first diocese to ordain women as priests, and I want the Diocese to continue to show that pioneering courage.*

*I look forward to leading a church that shows the love of Christ to everyone, whoever they are."*

**FOLLOWING** a visit to the homeless drop-in at St Luke's Church, Barton Hill in inner city Bristol, the Bishop Designate spent the day at a village church in Wiltshire, a Church School in Chippenham, and the newly announced Pattern Church in Swindon. She ended her day at the mother Church of the Diocese, Bristol Cathedral.

## Early history

VIV'S mother was brought up in Bristol, and her grandparents lived here all their lives; with Viv herself brought up in a village on the Wirral.

Her grandfather apprenticed and worked all his life at Rolls-Royce and her grandmother was a seamstress.

They were bombed in the Second World War and relocated to Sea Mills and her parents were married at St Edyth's.

Her sister lived in Purton near Swindon and found a welcome at St Mary's, Purton where she was married.

Viv later taught with the Church Mission Society in North India and did youth work in Everton before doing training at St John's College, Nottingham.

She was ordained a deaconess and returned to Liverpool.

Amidst a variety of ministry roles, she was ordained priest in 1994.

## Appointments

Viv became the first woman to lead a Church of England Cathedral as Provost and then became Dean of Leicester in 2000.

In that role, she was incumbent of St Martin, Leicester, a city centre parish with significant diversity and areas of deprivation.

In 2012, she was appointed as the Dean of York.

The current Archbishop of York, the Most Revd John Sentamu, said:

*"I rejoice with the Diocese of Bristol that Her Majesty the Queen has accepted the nomination of the Dean of York, the Very Revd Vivienne Faull, to be the 57th Bishop of Bristol.*

*Dean Faull leads by following Jesus' way with insight and oversight, with a readiness to be led as well as to lead.*

*She has been a great Dean for York, taking risks for the Kingdom of God, for example persuading the Dean and Chapter to put on the Mystery Plays inside the Minster.*

*She has made the Minster a great home of hospitality, worship and friendliness. A comment I will never forget was made by the Head of one of the Minster's biggest departments who had been prepared for confirmation.*

*I asked "Why confirmation now?" and the reply came back with a beaming smile, "Because the Dean has, and is, making God credible and believable.*

*Dean Viv will leave us with our prayers and love, and I am sure she knows that she will be greatly missed."*

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**THE Rt Revd Dr Lee Rayfield**, Bishop of Swindon, also welcomed the announcement of Viv's new appointment. He said:

*"Having begun to get to know Viv, I am seeing many of the qualities and experience she will bring to this next season of ministry in our Diocese.*

*As the next Bishop of Bristol, Viv will help us to build on what is and has been fruitful while enabling us to make progress in areas where fresh approaches are needed."*

## Installation

Viv is married to Michael, who is a hospital consultant and she will be consecrated as Bishop at a service at St Paul's Cathedral on 3 July and installed as Bishop of Bristol at the Bristol Cathedral in the autumn.

# St Peter & St Paul

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The ordinary fisherman who sometimes messed up became the strong, determined leader of the early Church.

Peter had a difficult time setting up the new groups of Christians and he travelled widely, ending up in Rome. There he was imprisoned and finally put to death, like Jesus, on a cross.

He is buried in Rome and Catholics think of him as their first Pope, which is why popes always live in the Vatican in Rome.

*Peter is good news for us all – saints are not perfect people either!*

## St Paul

I expect you know what a tornado is, it is a terrific storm that bursts over an area and can cause massive destruction. There was once a man called Saul who was described as a 'tornado of energy and enthusiasm'.

This Saul lived around about the same time as Jesus, but never actually met him. Saul was a tent-maker and at that time people lived in tents out in the desert.

Saul was also a very enthusiastic Jew. After Jesus had died his friends began to preach that it was not the end of the story. Jesus was still alive, but in a new way.

This upset Saul.

He felt these followers of Jesus, now called Christians, were criticising his Jewish faith.

So, like a tornado, he rushed around the country in a mission of destruction, intent on killing all the Christians he could find.

But a very strange thing happened. He was riding to Damascus where he knew some Christians were preaching, when he fell off his prancing horse.

He told his companions that Jesus had spoken to him.

## Thank you

I WOULD like to say thank you for the all the encouraging and supportive good wishes I have received since taking up the post of Church Warden. I have been praying that God will, not only lead me in the right direction, but will give me the strength and ability to do all that is required of me in order that I may serve St Stephens well. **Gill Mayo**



They didn't hear or see anything, but Saul was absolutely sure he had met Jesus. He changed completely, and even changed his name to Paul – to prove he was a new man.

He spent many years thinking about the way Jesus had lived and what he taught. Then Paul put all his energy into spreading the Good News about Jesus.

Over the next twelve years he made three enormous journeys, travelling about 8,000 miles altogether, stopping in towns and preaching about Jesus, telling the crowds that they should become Christians.

He set up groups of followers and wrote letters to them when he had moved on to other places.

He called these communities of Christians, his 'Churches'.

His letters are full of kind messages and encouragement to ordinary people, but he was sometimes angry with people who were being selfish and greedy.

Paul was the first missionary.

Missionaries are Christians who go to other lands to spread the good news about Jesus.

Paul had many adventures and his life was very hard. He got into trouble with robbers, with the authorities, and his own Jewish people.

He was imprisoned and even shipwrecked off Malta.

Paul finished up a prisoner in Rome, where he was beheaded as a troublemaker, but Christians will never forget Paul, the 'tornado', who caused such an uproar that people had to sit up and listen.

*Paul is good news for us all – but do we share our faith as enthusiastically as he did?*

**LISA**

# NEW ARCHDEACON

REVD CANON Michael Johnson has been appointed as the Acting Archdeacon of Bristol.

He will take on the role for the next 12 months when a permanent appointment will be made.

Michael is looking forward to the new challenge of being Acting Archdeacon of Bristol.

He said: 'I thought that I was going to retire but it turned out to be just a gap year! I'm now ready for this new challenge and to working with our new Bishop and the senior staff team, to encourage the love of the Gospel across the Diocese.'



Michael's hobbies include travel, restoring and driving classic cars.

He is married to Sue, a teacher and they have a married son who is a car designer.

Bishop Lee said: 'I am delighted that Michael has been appointed as the Interim Archdeacon of Bristol'.

## ST STEPHENS SOUNDWELL



**SUMMER FAYRE!**  
**SATURDAY 2~4PM**  
**7 JULY**

STALLS, bric-a-brac, cakes, fun and games, food, drink, children's entertainment, something for all the family!  
*Or bring a friend and enjoy an afternoon together!*



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## JUNE CYCLE OF PRAYER BEGINNING SUNDAY OF EACH WEEK

|    |                        |                                                                                                                          |                                                 |
|----|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 03 | Downend School         | June Jones, Bronwen Kucharski<br>Bill & Pat Lawrence, Kristine, Ian, Emily & Jack Lockwood, Gerald Marshall              | Barrington Court<br>Beazer Close<br>Birch Road  |
| 10 | Mangotsfield School    | Gill Mayo, Julia Merrifield<br>Ted Milkins, Carol Millard<br>Andrea Monks                                                | Blackthorn Walk<br>Bridge Road<br>Caddick Close |
| 17 | Father's Day           | Margaret & Gordon Moore<br>Leonard, Josie, Tanya & Bradley Morris<br>Dave Newton, Stella Odle, Gill Ogborne              | Canon's Walk<br>Champion Road<br>Chedworth      |
| 24 | Bristol Brunel Academy | David Packe, Dave & Jan Parker<br>Wayne, Rosie, Annie-Mae & Joseph Pearce<br>Karla, James & Hadley Pearson, Trish Phipps | Chestnut Road<br>Chestnut Way<br>Chiphouse Road |

## JUNE DIARY

### REGULAR WEEKLY GROUPS:

|            |         |                                                 |
|------------|---------|-------------------------------------------------|
| TUESDAYS   | 01.30pm | Knit & Natter in Church Room                    |
| WEDNESDAYS | 01.00pm | See & Know* (For toddlers & carers) (Term time) |
| THURSDAYS  | 09.00am | See & Know* (For toddlers & carers)             |
|            | 01.00pm | See & Know* (For toddlers & carers)             |

### SERVICES AND OTHER GROUPS/MEETINGS/EVENTS:

|                                       |                                          |                                                                                                                            |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 03 SUNDAY<br><i>1st after Trinity</i> | 08.00am<br>10.00am<br>11.00am            | Holy Communion (Prayer Book)<br>St Stephens Community Worship<br>Café Central ('til 12.15pm)                               |
| 05 TUESDAY                            | 07.30pm                                  | Men's House Group (52 Gladstone Street)                                                                                    |
| 06 WEDNESDAY                          | 10.15am<br>02.00pm<br>07.30pm            | Holy Communion<br>Home Group (Church Room)<br>Planning Meeting for Dedication Sunday (In Church)                           |
| 07 THURSDAY                           | 07.30pm                                  | Drama Group Musical Comedy stage show begins                                                                               |
| 08 FRIDAY                             | 01.30pm<br>07.30pm                       | Pensioner's Group (Church Hall)<br>Drama Group Musical Comedy stage show<br>(No Outburst Youth Group this week)            |
| 09 SATURDAY                           | 09.30am<br>07.30pm                       | DAD & ME (Church Hall)<br>Drama Group Musical Comedy stage show                                                            |
| 10 SUNDAY<br><i>2nd after Trinity</i> | 08.00am<br>10.00am<br>11.00am<br>03.00pm | Holy Communion (Prayer Book)<br>St Stephens Community Worship<br>Café Central ('til 12.15pm)<br>TEA Service! (Church Room) |
| 11 MONDAY                             | 09.30am<br>08.00pm                       | Retreat Memory Café (Church Hall)<br>Choir Practice                                                                        |
| 13 WEDNESDAY                          | 10.15am                                  | Holy Communion                                                                                                             |
| 14 THURSDAY                           | 07.30pm                                  | Men's Group (Church Room)                                                                                                  |
| 15 FRIDAY                             | 06.30pm                                  | <b>FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE!</b>                                                                                                  |
| 17 SUNDAY<br><i>3rd after Trinity</i> | 08.00am<br>10.00am<br>11.00am            | Holy Communion (Prayer Book)<br>St Stephens Community Worship<br>Café Central ('til 12.15pm)                               |
| 18 MONDAY                             | 07.30pm                                  | Hall Users Meeting                                                                                                         |
| 20 WEDNESDAY                          | 10.15am                                  | Holy Communion                                                                                                             |
| 21 THURSDAY                           | 08.00pm                                  | Ladies Group (Church Hall)                                                                                                 |
| 22 FRIDAY                             | 01.30pm<br>07.00pm                       | Pensioner's Group (Church Hall)<br>Outburst Youth Group (Church Hall) 'til 9pm                                             |
| 24 SUNDAY<br><i>4th after Trinity</i> | 08.00am<br>10.00am<br>11.00am            | Holy Communion (Prayer Book)<br>St Stephens Community Worship<br>Café Central ('til 12.15pm)                               |
| 27 WEDNESDAY                          | 10.15am                                  | Holy Communion                                                                                                             |
| 28 THURSDAY                           | 07.30pm                                  | Men's Group (Church Room)                                                                                                  |



## JULY PREVIEW

|              |                               |                                                                                                           |
|--------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 01 SUNDAY    | 08.00am<br>10.00am<br>11.00am | Holy Communion (Prayer Book)<br>St Stephens Community Worship with Baptism<br>Café Central ('til 12.15pm) |
| 02 MONDAY    | 08.00pm                       | Choir Practice                                                                                            |
| 04 WEDNESDAY | 10.15am                       | Holy Communion                                                                                            |
| 05 THURSDAY  | 08.00pm                       | Ladies Group (Church Hall)                                                                                |

E&OE

## FROM THE REGISTERS

### Baptisms SINCE APRIL

29 April: **Alissia Marie Giles**. Please include Mum and Dad, Teresa and Marc, and sister, Lexi, in your prayers.

29 April: **Cruz Daniel Reed**. Please include Mum and Dad, Tania and Nathan, and sister, Brooke, in your prayers.

13 May: **Logan Tony Stephen Martin Webber**. Please include Mum and Dad, Emma and Brent, in your prayers.

13 May: **Lisa Louise Taylor**. Please include Lisa's husband, Carl and her 'boys', Charlie and Jordan, in your prayers.

20 May: **Frankie Alan Paraskeva and Nico Peter Parasekva**. Please include the twins Mum and Dad, Jo-anne and Paul, in your prayers.

20 May: **Isla Elizabeth Reed**. Please include Mum and Dad, Samantha and Jordan, and brother, Cooper, in your prayers.

### Funerals: SINCE APRIL

08 May: **Joan Mary Faulkner**. The celebration of Joan's life took place at St Stephens Church, Soundwell and Westerleigh Crematorium. Please keep Joan's children, Andrew and Carol, her sister, Rita, and all Joan's family and friends in your prayers.

09 May: **Albert William Churchill**. The celebration of Albert's life took place at St Stephens Church, Soundwell and Westerleigh Crematorium. Please keep Albert's step-son Kevin, niece Jackie and brother-in-law Malcolm, and all Albert's family and friends in your prayers.

14 May: **Leslie George Lines**. The celebration of Leslie's life took place at St Stephens Church, Soundwell and Westerleigh Crematorium. Please keep Les' wife June, his children, Ronnie, Phillip, Jaqueline and John and all their families in your prayers.

16 May: **Ian Henry Smith**. The celebration of Ian's life took place at St Stephens Church, Soundwell and Westerleigh Crematorium. Please keep Ian's wife, Mary, their children, Richard and Rachel, brothers Derek and John, and all their families and friends in your prayers.

17 May: **Jean Aitkenhead**. The celebration of Jean's life took place at St Stephens Church, Soundwell and Avon View Cemetery. Please keep Jean's children, Peter and Colin, and all their family and friends in your prayers.

21 May: **Patricia Grace Grant**. The celebration of Pat's life took place at St Stephens Church, Soundwell and Westerleigh Crematorium. Please keep Pat's husband, Brian, their 'girls', Allison and Helen, and all their family and friends in your prayers.

## SAINT STEPHENS SOUNDWELL



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