

ST PETER & ST PAUL

NORTH CURRY'S PARISH CHURCH MAGAZINE



New Vicar
appointed!!

After many
months, the
wait is over...



**THE VILLAGE WELCOMES
REV DR SIMON BALE**



JANUARY 2021

**HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL
MAY IT PROVE TO BE RESTRICTION FREE
A FREE PUBLICATION**

Elderly forced to dine in pub garden...

I had the pleasure of meeting up with Rev John Tyler and his wife Meg just prior to Christmas, and we decided to meet at a local pub. Unfortunately in Boris's new world, we were no longer permitted to dine together inside the pub, as we were not from the same household.

Alfresco in December, what next I wonder, dying our hair green...

Fortunately, we had the Rosco dog under the table to keep all our feet warm. So whilst we did not contract COVID, we probably suffered from hyperthermia and caught pneumonia! Someone with a greater mind than mine will have to explain the logic in these new protocols...

A Frozen Editor

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A listing for Church officers and other local useful phone numbers, can be found on the inside back page.

www.northcurrychurch.co.uk/ email ncurrymag@gmail.com

For local events, check out the Parish Council website and calendar at www.northcurry.com

Would you like to advertise your business in the magazine?

ADVERTISING RATES 2021– running monthly from January to December

Annual/ single issue rates

Full Page: mono £100 for the year - £10 per single issue – Colour £200per annum

Half Page: mono £60 - £6/issue - Colour £120pa

Quarter Page: £40 - £4/issue – Colour £80pa

Enquiries to Sue Harrison at ncurrymag@gmail.com.

Whilst every care is taken to ensure all stated facts are correct, the editor cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions printed in the magazine, or the opinions of the contributors.

The views expressed in the magazine are those of the individuals/societies who send in items. The deadline for contributions is the 13th of the previous month. The editor reserves the right to change any copy provided without recourse to the contributor. Copyright 2021.

Gathering and use of information in carrying out its tasks, North Curry PCC is involved in collecting personal data, addresses etc. We take privacy and confidentiality seriously, and fully comply with the principles of the United Kingdom GDPR/ Data Protection Act 2018.

PRODUCE

Saturday

2nd January

9.30am-11.30am

MARKET

DELIVERED TO YOUR DOOR!

A guaranteed copy of the magazine delivered monthly to your door – all for only £10

Renewal fees for 2021 due on 1st January!

Please contact Jenny Satchwell on 490463

Announcements/ News in Brief

North Curry Parish Church

Congratulations to our 200 Club Winners

Prizes: First £30, Second £20, Third £10

October

1st John de Winton

2nd Jean Smith

3rd John Attwood

November

1st Geoffrey Durrant

2nd Sue Cable

3rd Mike Flemming

December

1st Joh Popham

2nd Jenny Satchwell

3rd Ethne Conlon

Xmas: Haley Perry

The magazine delivery charge for 2021 is due now.

The fee for 2021 will be £10 (from £6) – personally hand delivered to you...

A progress report on the Bell Tower is now hoped for the February issue.

As highlighted on the front page, the PCC are pleased to formally announce the appointment of Rev Dr Simon Bale as Vicar to North Curry.

Message from the Archdeacon: We are delighted to announce the appointment of The Reverend Dr Simon Bale to the post of Vicar of the Athelney Benefice. A licensing date will be arranged in due course. We hold Simon and his wife, Louise, and our parishes in our prayers at this time of transition.

Message from Simon Bale: I am overjoyed to be joining you as your new vicar. It was wonderful to meet some of you recently and I am looking forward to meeting all of you very soon. In the meantime, Louise and I wish you a blessed Christmas. You will be in our prayers as we prepare for joining you all across the benefice.

2021 Calendars just a few now available!

“Professionally” photographed by the residents of North Curry, depicting local scenes.

Just £10 each, available at the Post Office.

The Rev'd Martin Mudie writes

As I write this letter Christmas is, as usual, approaching at breakneck speed and we will soon be in the midst of what our American friends call 'The Holidays'.

These holidays come right at the end of the year and are good opportunity not only to reflect on the passing year but also on the approach of a new year. The Romans had a god called Janus, who gives his name to the month of January. Janus is depicted with two faces, one looking at the old passing year and the other towards the New Year which is to come. In the words of the Queen talking about another year, 2020 really has been an Annus Horribilis. Many have suffered from bereavement, economic hardship and separation from friends and family. The flip side of this has been to remind us all of the great good still present in individuals and communities which has been shown in the many acts of kindness and generosity. However, time and the hour runs through the roughest day and we are now in a new year with many signs of hope. Vaccines are on stream and will hopefully lead to a more normal life for all. My hope for this New Year is that as the difficulties of the year will fade we will still remember the kindness, devotion and goodness of those who have worked so hard for us all during these difficult times will be remembered and honoured.

I think we can do this in two practical ways. Firstly we can continue to show kindness and understanding to each other, as we have been asked to do this year. A little kindness goes a long way. Secondly we can appreciate the little things that others do for us. A little appreciation is also very elastic and helps to bind our friends, families and communities together for the greater good. Jesus knew this when he asked his followers to Love their Neighbours as Themselves and he certainly knew all about the ups and downs of life.

For myself when approaching a new year, I am always very comforted and inspired by the words King George VI used in the Christmas broadcast of 1939.

I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year. 'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown' and he replied. 'Put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way.'

Happy New Year to you all and stay safe and well.

With every blessing
Martin

Letter from the Right
Reverend Peter Hancock,
Bishop of Bath and Wells

One more step

January takes its name from the Roman god, Janus, who is usually depicted as having two faces, looking both to the future and the past. At the start of a New Year it is good to do the same.

2020 will sadly be remembered as the year disrupted by COVID-19. Cracks in our care for each other have been revealed and it has had a disproportionate effect on those already vulnerable or deprived. It showed us that those who are most essential to our needs, those who clean and serve and care, are often those valued least in our economy. However, we also saw extraordinary acts of kindness and compassion, as churches and communities worked together to provide comfort, support, and practical care.

So, what of 2021?

The temptation may be to forget what we have learnt, to paper over the cracks, ignore what has been uncomfortable and to seek comfort in the familiar. I hope we don't. 2020 opened our eyes to the harm caused when people are excluded on the basis of race, ability, gender, sexual orientation or wealth. Jesus calls us to a better way. Jesus broke the bounds of exclusion, refusing to accept the social norms and speaking to Samaritans, women, Gentiles, tax collectors and sinners. He teaches that the first shall be last and the last first. He reconciles humanity to God through his death and resurrection.

As we look forward to 2021, we need to think again what it means to follow Christ and to build our lives and communities based on mutual love, respect and service. 'For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.'

May we all know the Lord's leading and guiding as we step out into a New Year.

With my warmest greetings,
Bishop Peter

Service Rota for **Advent and Christmas** (*correct as at 23rd November 2020*)

3rd January

THE EPIPHANY *anticipated*

08.00	North Curry	Holy Communion	Revd John Tyler
09.30	Lyng	Holy Communion	Revd Mike Haslam
10.00	North Curry	Eucharist	Revd Dr Jane Sutton
11.00	Stoke St Gregory	Morning Prayer	Dr Robert Dunning

6th January

(Wednesday) The Epiphany

16.30	Stoke St Gregory	Evening Prayer	Revd Dr Jane Sutton
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10th January

THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST

09.30	Burrowbridge	Holy Communion	Revd Martin Mudie
10.00	North Curry	Eucharist	Revd Morey Andrews
11.00	Stoke St Gregory	Eucharist	Revd Prebendary Jane Haslam

13th January

(Wednesday)

16.30	Stoke St Gregory	Evening Prayer	Revd Dr Jane Sutton
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17th January

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

08.00	North Curry	Holy Communion	Revd John Tyler
09.30	Lyng	Holy Communion	Revd Martin Mudie
10.00	North Curry	Morning Prayer	Revd Morey Andrews
11.00	Stoke St Gregory	Eucharist	Revd Martin Mudie

20th January

(Wednesday)

16.30	Stoke St Gregory	Evening Prayer	Revd Dr Jane Sutton
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24th January

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

09.30	Burrowbridge	Morning Prayer	Dr Robert Dunning
10.00	North Curry	Morning Prayer	Mr Ralph Roberts
11.00	Stoke St Gregory	Eucharist	Revd Martin Mudie

27th January

(Wednesday)

16.30	Stoke St Gregory	Evening Prayer	Revd Dr Jane Sutton
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31st January

THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST (CANDLEMAS) *anticipated*

09.30	Lyng	Eucharist	Revd Martin Mudie
10.00	North Curry	Eucharist	Revd John Tyler
11.00	Stoke St Gregory	Eucharist	Revd Martin Mudie

3rd February (Wednesday)
16.30 Stoke St Gregory Evening Prayer Revd Dr Jane Sutton

7th February THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT
08.00 North Curry Holy Communion Revd John Tyler
09.30 Lyng Holy Communion Revd Martin Mudie
10.00 North Curry Eucharist Very Revd Dr John Davies
11.00 Stoke St Gregory Morning Prayer tba

Christmas is not yet over!

The streets and houses of North Curry looked lovely in December. Hopefully the twinkling lights and decorations can be left up a little longer. We could all do with a bit of cheer these dark winter evenings.

For the Church, the Christmas season continues through January; Christmas is not over until we have celebrated Candlemas (officially 2nd February, but this year anticipated on the Sunday before – 31st January). This festival recalls the baby Jesus being brought into the Temple at Jerusalem and recognised by Anna and Simeon, and rounds off the nativity celebrations. Tradition has our Christmas decorations taken down at Epiphany. But there seems no reason for this, other than to avoid entanglement with the Orthodox Christmas, whose 25th December comes later than ours.

The Gospel writers Matthew and Luke tell us a little about Christ's infancy, starting with St Luke's account of the Annunciation – celebrated on 25th March, counting back from Christmas Day – to the Nazareth village pilgrimage to Jerusalem for Passover and pre-teen Jesus left behind among the Temple scholars. But then nothing for 18 years or so until St Mark picks up the story again, with Jesus meeting up with his cousin John and being baptised by him.

A Somerset legend has Joseph, a prosperous Jewish businessman from Arimathea (a town somewhere near Jerusalem), taking the lad with him as far as Glastonbury; perhaps Jesus was learning the trade from him, but there's nothing written down anywhere. Perhaps when Mary's husband died, Jesus returned to Galilee to look after his mother and they set up house by the lakeside where they made friends with the local fisherfolk. The Gospel narratives continue from there with Jesus taking up his teaching and healing ministry, ultimately returning to Jerusalem for that dramatic, fatal final week. More of that on Palm Sunday, until we celebrate Easter on 4th April.

Magazine Delivery – Price Increase

The distribution charge from 1st January 2021 will be £10 per annum.

It's still a great deal. This gets you a reserved copy, delivered to your doorstep at the beginning of every month. And all this for LESS than the cost of a first class stamp!



A guaranteed copy is certainly advantageous – ensures you get your copy before supplies run out – and saves you having to remember to go out and collect one. Your distributor will turn out in the rain – so you don't have to!

If as a non-subscriber you're reading this and would like to use the delivery service, just pick up the phone and talk to either Jenny Satchwell on 490463 or Paul Scott on 490679.

Plough Sunday

Plough Sunday is celebrated on the first Sunday after the twelve days of Christmas, this being on the 10th January in 2021.

In olden times, it was traditional to plant the crop seed in spring, so the fields were ploughed in the first months of the year. This would allow the seasonal weather of frost and rain to work the freshly ploughed furrows to make a finer seed bed, and accordingly, a better platform for the crop to grow and flourish.

To bless this occasion, sometimes ploughs were taken to the church and blessed before work commences, along with a token of soil and seed.

It was noted at the Bath and Wells service for this day, a farmer says "We bring you this soil, rich soil and fertile, poor soil and stony, wet soil and waterlogged. And the seed we will sow in hopes of rich harvest. Soil and seed for your blessing we bring." The priest replies "... Bless all soil and all seed, the potential they hold, and all may have plenty and be filled. God bless the soil and the seed."



We probably would not get the assortment of modern day ploughs fitting into the church these days... but of course, planting and seed development have changed, and ploughing can often be seen from September onwards.

News from North Curry/ Curland Methodists, by Daphne Gilham

Rev'd Deborah Kirk, Methodist Minister 01823 334854/ deborah.m.kirk@googlemail.com

Back in what seems now to be the mists of time, the North Curry/Curland Church Council decided to submit an application to remove two small pews from the back of the chapel. This was in order to provide disabled access together with a space for wheelchair users to sit in comfort during the service.

It sounded a simple enough task when the idea was mooted but the higher up offices hidden away in Manchester decided otherwise. Forms had to be completed, pictures of the building with details of the existing pews sent and the hardest thing of all, original plans of the chapel located. Thanks to the Somerset Heritage centre for finding them and allowing us to photocopy them.

To cut a long story short, a recent email received, revealed that permission had been granted. Hallelujah!!

Work can begin... when the lockdown situation is over of course.

So it is still a question of watch this space.

Meanwhile the church will have been opened for a 'different' carol service led by Elaine Dew on 13th December.

A Happy and Peaceful New Year to all our friends.

The North Curry Parish Church 200 Club always has room for one more!

Players must be 18yrs+ to join. Only **£18 per year (£1.50/month)**

Prizes each month £30/ £20/ £10

Plus a special Christmas bonus draw of £60

Proceeds for churchyard maintenance

To sign up, contact Sue Bethune on 01823 490179

Cheque payments to North Curry PCC

Standing Order/ BACS payments to

North Curry PCC – Account No: 00514650, Sort Code: 30-98-45

Churchwardens' Report

Another year drawing to a close as this is written. What a strange thing time is. Mid December, preparations for Christmas in full swing, and what a different Christmas it is going to be this year. However as you read this all the material celebrations will be over and one will be looking to all the decorations being taken down!

In the Church, of course, Christmas starts on Christmas Day through the season of Epiphany to Candlemas.

Hope must be a predominant word in our minds as Covid continues to spread in the Country. There is hope though for the advancement of the Vaccine and treatments learned from months of experience. We pray you and your loved ones have, and will stay safe and healthy this year.

We have great hope in the Church with the appointment of our new Vicar, Reverend Dr Simon Bale. We extend a very warm welcome to Simon and his lovely wife Louise who will be moving in to the Vicarage soonest.

Prayers really do get answered and we are looking forward with eager anticipation to Simon leading us both in worship and Pastorally in North Curry and the wider Benefice.

Your Churchwardens and PCC wish you a very happy, peaceful and healthy New Year.

Thank you so very much for your continued wonderful support, we could not do our work without you.

Mary Piers Churchwarden
David Akerman Churchwarden

This issue is unfortunately a little short on communal news and events, well actually, most of 2020 was short on events that we could all join in, so January is just continuing the trend. Anyway, with clubs yet to open and uncertainty still with us, at least you can distract yourself from the outside world with a quizette... so time to get the ole gray matter working...

Odd January Days

Answers on page 16

1. Queen Victoria made Empress of which country on the 1st January 1877?
2. Which Home Secretary was present at the Siege of Sidney Street on the 3rd January 1911?
3. Which play by Samuel Becket was premiered in Paris on the 5th January 1953?
4. Outside which Paris magazine office were 21 people shot (12 fatally) on the 7th January 2015?
5. Which Prime Minister introduced Income Tax on the 9th January 1799?
6. Around which planet did the astronomer William Herschel discover two moons that he names Tatania and Oberon, on the 11th January 1787?
7. For what was George Fox famous when he died on the 13th January 1691?
8. Who was crowned monarch of England on 15th January 1559?
9. Brought in on the 17th January 1920 the Volstead Act prohibited the sale of what substance in the United States?
10. Who, born on the 19th January 1813 revolutionised steel production?
11. Which aeroplane made its first commercial flight on the 21st January 1976?
12. Which new town was founded in Buckinghamshire on 23rd January 1967?
13. Which nun was awarded India's highest civilian award, the Bharat Ratna, on the 25th January 1980?
14. The 900 day siege of which city was lifted on 27th January 1944?
15. Karl Benz patented which type of transport on the 29th January 1886?
16. What should every motorist wear since the 31st January 1968?

Questions/answers courtesy of Tom Jeanes

The NCS Committee wish you all a better new year - safe, healthy and virus-free.

We generally meet in the Village Hall on the third Wednesday each month, but the start of our 2021 programme is delayed until at least March. When we are able to meet again there will be talks on subjects of local interest including road safety, local history, a high flyer(!), prehistoric records and industrial heritage. Speakers have been booked, and a meetings programme will be published later.

Joint Chairmen: Gill Slocombe and Sherry Keith-Welsh

North Curry and District Amateur Gardeners Snowdrops, the harbinger of Spring, by Sue Cable



Emerging Snowdrops are one of the first signs of spring, flowering ahead of daffodils and bluebells. They are able to emerge through frozen soil from January and are in bloom until late-February.

They are tough, reliable plants, generally flowering in the height of winter. In a particularly hard winter they will often be seen poking their heads through an overlying blanket of snow. They are a cheerful sight in the garden, flowering when little else will, marking the height of winter and that the beginning of spring is not far behind. But not all snowdrops flower in late winter/spring, there are also autumn-flowering varieties.

The graceful, white nodding snowdrop flowers usually have distinctive green markings and there are double as well as single forms. It is these green markings on the petals that tend to distinguish one variety from another. Some gardeners have become rather obsessed with the genus and so fanatical about building up collections of all the different ones that they have been christened with the name 'Galanthophile' – snowdrop lover. In 2012 a single bulb was sold for a

record £725! However, garden centres, nurseries and on-line sellers have many varieties at much more reasonable prices!

Snowdrops prefer a position in light shade. They grow naturally in woodlands or cool mountain meadows, so need a position that is neither hot nor dry. The dappled shade near trees and shrubs is a perfect position for them, although they also grow brilliantly well among herbaceous perennials. The common snowdrop, *Galanthus nivalis* can also be naturalised in light grass.

They're not too fussy about soils types – including heavy clay – but prefer a well-drained, humus-rich, moist soil. When planting in light, sandy soils incorporate lots of bulky organic matter at planting time and if you are planting your bulbs in heavy soil, add a little sharp sand or grit to the planting hole to improve drainage.

If you have an established clump which is not flowering as well, or not at all, lift them after flowering and divide into smaller clumps then replant at the same depth in the soil adding some organic matter and general purpose fertiliser.

Snowdrops are usually sold "in-the-green". This is when flowering has just finished but they are still in leaf. It is the favoured method of sale as snowdrops do not establish well from dry bulbs planted in the autumn. Snowdrop bulbs do not like to dry out so always incorporate plenty of organic matter into the soil when planting.

After flowering, like many bulbs, they will appreciate a watering with a liquid plant food which will help build up their strength for next year's display.

Plant some new varieties this year and enjoy these harbingers of spring.

Archdeaconry Days
Prayer Material from the Diocese.

In the absence of a vicar (not for much longer) the churchwardens have recently received material from the diocese . If you wish to have more information, please contact Julia Hill (details below) or a churchwarden.

“We are looking forward to welcoming people to the 2021 Archdeaconry Days 10-16 January and hope that people from your parishes will be joining in exploring **Prayer – Everyone, Everywhere!**

We are sending this now so that you know you have got what you need in advance. We know that at this point of the year you are unlikely to want to do anything with it!

Each person who has signed up will receive a daily e-mail from 10-16 January giving them a link to the videos for that day and a sheet with some prayer suggestions that they could try. These links will also be on our social media platforms.

We are attaching the 6 sheets (Sheets referred to are available by email from your churchwardens) for you now in advance so that if you want to provide hard copies locally for anyone you have the materials in time to do so. As mentioned, however, **everyone** who has signed up will receive their own copy each day. Attached are:

- 5 daily sheets with prayer suggestions to try, linked to the theme for each day
- a guidance sheet for using the resources with a group. You might like to share this with any small group leaders.

If you do want to print copies to distribute and have any difficulties, then let us know as soon as possible and we will do our best (post permitting) to get copies to you. For this and any other queries contact Julia Hill (julia.hill@bathwells.anglican.org or 01749 685114)

It's not too late for people to sign up to **Prayer – Everyone, Everywhere!** so feel free to **share the link**. Everyone signed up will receive an invitation to the Saturday 16 January Gatherings early in the week beginning 4 January.

We hope that Christmas will be a time of joy despite the many complications.”

Tea Break

Answers to the quiz from page 12

- 1/ India
- 2/ Winston Churchill
- 3/ Waiting for Godot
- 4/ Charlie Hebdo
- 5/ William Pitt the Younger
- 6/ Uranus
- 7/ Founding the Society of Friends or Quakers
- 8/ Queen Elizabeth 1

- 9/ Alcohol
- 10/ Henry Bessemer
- 11/ Concorde
- 12/ Milton Keynes
- 13/ Mother Theresa of Calcutta.
- 14/ Leningrad
- 15/ Car
- 16/ Seat belt

WORD SEARCH

January

m	i	t	t	e	n	i	s
s	f	l	a	k	e	y	n
n	q	w	h	m	w	r	e
e	p	f	i	v	b	a	w
w	n	a	e	r	m	u	b
m	v	h	a	g	i	n	a
a	c	e	s	t	e	a	l
n	b	x	e	y	p	j	l



mitten



snowball



hat




snowman



flake



January



bear

WINTER WORD SEARCH



E T C G B W T B X E S S Y H I
T N A H Q L W I K Q E N T O J
A Y E H I I I A U V F O S L T
L W C Z N L L Z O S W W O I S
O I W T O F L L Z I W G R D E
C I E M W R G Y P A H O F A W
O R D O W T F W I B R F N Y O
H S N E E R T E N I P D J S S
C S C T M I T T E N S Y A N N
T E P A E L C I C I F K O A G
O J E K R H B O O T S W M C I
H Y U S E F D N I W B W O V V
F I R E P L A C E A O L E E I
A V U C R U G U L N D D C E N
C P Y I J U U L S U Q S I Y G

WORDS TO FIND:

BLIZZARD	BOOTS	CHILLY
COLD	FIREPLACE	FROSTY
FROZEN	GIVING	GLOVES
HAT	HOLIDAYS	HOTCHOCOLATE
ICE	ICESKATE	ICICLE
MITTENS	PINETREE	SCARF
SNOW	SNOWBALL	SNOWFLAKE
SNOWMAN	SNOWSUIT	WIND
WINTER		

What does being in debt feel like?

Fearful, desperate, their world out of control and in a state of chaos, this is how people experiencing the blight of personal indebtedness are described by the local charity Taunton Area Debt Advice. TADA helps people from all walks of life by providing a free, unconditional, non-judgmental, fully confidential advice and practical support to help them become debt free.

TADA is supported by local churches, but offers its free debt advice to people of faith or no faith at all. The TADA Debt Advisers are regulated and authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority. People can gain access to this free support by going to the web site www.tauntonareadebtadvice.uk or calling the helpline 07921 526087. TADA is a member of Community Money Advice which is a national charity with 1300 volunteers working in 160 debt advice centres across the United Kingdom.

The enforced government lockdown restriction will cause financial ruin and hardship to many, and once furloughing ends, the unemployment and fallout of closed businesses will hit many young individuals who have no guaranteed income. TADA is a local based charity that help these individuals to best plan and manage their financial stresses. If you would like to know more, either to help, donate or are in need of help yourself, please contact them 07921 526087.

The Somerset Village Agent project is run by the Community Council for Somerset (CCS).



Village Agents help to bridge the gap between isolated, excluded, vulnerable and lonely individuals & statutory and/or voluntary organisations which offer specific solutions to identified needs.

We work with people of all ages and deal with a wide variety of issues although a considerable number of our clients are elderly and involves social care issues.

Ruby Coles has recently taken over as our Village Agent, and for the surrounding villages. She is keen to get to know the community and offer signposting and support.



Please contact Ruby if you or someone you know would benefit from her support.

Ruby Coles, Village Agent,
Tel: 01823 331222 – ext 625

Email: rubbyc@somersetccc.org.uk

North Curry Church

Is part of the Benefice of Athelney, along with the parishes of Stoke St. Gregory, Lyng and Burrowbridge – the Parish Church is frequently referred to as 'The Cathedral of the Moors', and from the River Tone valley it is easy to understand why. It was built on a site of an earlier Norman church in about 1300 in the Decorated style, using Ham Hill stone, blue lias stone, and some grey sandstone from a quarry within the parish.

About a hundred years later it was updated in the Perpendicular style when the roofs of the nave and aisles were raised to accommodate larger windows.

Evidences of the original pitches can be seen both outside on the south and east faces of the tower, and inside on its west arch. At this time the upper stage of the tower and the parapets were added, as was the interesting collection of gargoyles and hunkypunks.

The North Curry Parish Registers of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials date from 1539 and are almost complete.

The churchyard is just over two acres and remains a place of solace and tranquillity, with seating on the north (far) side affording magnificent views across the River Tone to yonder hills in all directions. In springtime, the natural beauty is never more apparent, when the wild flora carpets amongst the headstones. The lower part to the north has been in use since 1952, whilst around the church, gravestones that are centuries old can be located along with 4 war memorials. A plan of the graveyard can be found in the church porch.

Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals

If you are interested in getting married, having a church blessing for a civil marriage or organising a baptism or funeral please contact one of the churchwardens.

The statutory fees are set by the Church of England and a fee list is displayed in the church porch, or is available online from www.churchofengland.org.

Additional local fees may be due in accordance with the services required. At the time of your enquiry, all fee options will be explained, along with COVID-19 protocols. There are regulations governing the condition of the churchyard and graves, designed to ensure it remains a special peaceful place. Again, a copy is available in the church porch.

Planned Giving and Donations

Planned Giving, by standing order, is a regular charitable payment (or pledge) to the church. This type of giving is an important and integral aspect of our finances, as the majority of our income comes through the planned giving scheme.

Donation pledges by standing order are easier to administer, both for you and us.

Regular planned giving can also attract tax gift aid, enabling us to boost your donation by 25%. Donations can be given monthly, quarterly, or yearly, and the amount is very much up to you. You are not beholden once started, and can be cancelled at anytime. Please contact our Treasurer for the appropriate forms to complete, or to discuss your giving pledge. Standing order mandates are not the same as direct debit mandates. The amounts and dates are fixed, and the instruction to your bank is completely controlled by you.

One off donations can be made anytime – cheques payable to North Curry PCC, and can be mailed to the Church address – see inside back page for details.

BACS to North Curry PCC: Account No: 00514650, Sort Code: 30-98-45

Health and Safety

Our policy is to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that our activities are carried out safely and do not pose a risk to the health of our volunteers, visitors, congregation, and others who may use the church and churchyard. This will be in accordance with good practice and any relevant statutory provisions where they apply.

Personal Responsibility

It is the duty of each and every person using or visiting the church and churchyard to exercise personal responsibility for their own safety and that of others. Currently, with COVID restrictions in place, face masks are to be worn at all times whilst inside the church, and the use of hand sanitizer upon entry is required.

Specific Considerations

Meanwhile in addition to exercising personal responsibility it is essential that:

- Anyone using a ladder or reaching high places is accompanied.
- Ideally "lone working" will be kept to a minimum. Any lone workers must have an operating mobile phone on their person and ensure that someone knows where they are and that they have returned safely. No one should enter the cellar (boiler room) or bell chamber (above the ringing chamber) or onto any church roof unless accompanied.
- No easily combustible materials or sources of ignition may be left unattended in the church.
- Those who close the church must check diligently that there is no one left in the church.

Grave Stones and Memorials

Who is responsible for a grave?

Anyone resident in the parish is entitled to be buried in the churchyard. Subject to church council agreement, specific spots may be reserved for a fee and a "faculty" confirms their right to a specific location. At present the old churchyard outside the west door of the church is being reused. (plots are left undisturbed for at least 75 years and usually much much longer).

The choice of headstone is strictly governed, along with plot ornaments. Check with the Churchwarden or the Stone Mason on what is, and what is not acceptable.

The upkeep and maintenance of grave stones and memorials are the responsibility of the family they pertain to, and not the responsibility of the church, its wardens or officers. Please keep to the marked church paths to avoid unnecessary risk/ damage to yourself and unstable gravestones.

Commonwealth War Graves

Private Harry Udell Gannett, Devonshire Regiment died 13th January 1919
Private Charles William Stodgell, Devonshire Regiment died 2nd February 1919
Second Lieutenant Peter John Carr , Royal Artillery died 11th October 1941
Sgt John Bernard Hebditch, Royal Airforce Volunteer Res. died 1st December 1943
Information taken from the War Graves Commission website

Register of:

Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals (July – December 2020)

We ask for God's Blessing on all the following

Baptisms

None

Weddings

Stephen Ball/ Felicity Colston-Lane August

Funerals

Margaret Hayhoe August

CHURCH OPENING & CLOSING ROTA

January / February

Duty weeks commence on Sunday morning

January

3* David Walker 491231
10 Teresa/George Jones 491035
17* Tom Jeanes 490562
24 Mike Baker 490093
31 Alan Billinghamurst 490421

February

7* Richard Jackson 490418
14 Alex Morrice 490917
21* Geoffrey/Alex Dart 491695
28 Sarah Franks 491223

The Church is open every day 9am to 5pm (or dark if earlier)

*8am on Sunday if applicable – see service listing

COVID: Masks to be worn at all times.

Churchwardens /officers numbers see inside back page

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Church Officers and Contacts

<u>Officer:</u>	<u>Name:</u>	<u>Contact Number:</u>
Vicar	Vacant	
Reader	Ralph Roberts	01823 490933
Churchwarden	David Akerman	01823 490234
Churchwarden & Verger	Mary Piers	01823 491434
Churchwarden Emeritus	Janet Dare	01823 490747
PCC Secretary/ Safe Guarding	Helen Griffiths	01823 491298
PCC Treasurer	Vacant, Interim - David Akerman	
Tower Captain	Darren Woodyer	01823 690162
Flower List Organiser	Lorraine Bryan Brown	01823 491665
Events Bookings Secretary	David Walker	01823 491231
Produce Market Organiser	Anne Williams	01823 490319
Little Angels/ Electoral Roll	Jenny Satchwell	01823 490463
Choir	Jean Smith	01823 490961
PCC 200 Club	Sue Bethune	01823 490179

PCC (Parochial Church Council) Address, for general correspondences
St Peter and St Paul Church, Church Road, North Curry, Somerset. TA3 6LJ
(Post box by kissing gate, at vicar's parking area)

The church website is www.northcurrychurch.co.uk

Magazine Editor	Rob Ellis	01823 490599
Advertising Enquiries	Sue Harrison	use email below
Magazine Distribution	Jenny Satchwell	01823 490463
	or Paul Scott	01823 490679

General enquiries - email: ncurrymag@gmail.com

Other useful numbers for North Curry

Coffee Shop	01823 491414	
Little Herons	01823 490423	www.northcurryschool.co.uk/little-herons-pre-school/
Methodist Minister	01823 334854	Revd Deborah Kirk
Parish Council Offices	01823 490136	www.northcurry.com
Post Office/ Stores	01823 490261	
Primary School	01823 490423	www.northcurryschool.co.uk
Surgery	01823 490505	www.northcurryhealthcentre.co.uk

Community Police officers:

Tony Wearmouth 07885 655312 tony.wearmouth@avonandsomerset.police.uk

Steve Chapman 07889 655196 steve.chapman@avonandsomerset.police.uk

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