



THREE CROWNS NEWSLETTER

FOLLOWING JESUS. SERVING OTHERS. TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES.

EASTER 2026

● STORIES FROM ACROSS THE DIOCESE OF BRISTOL



Holy Cross Sherston updates historic tower with new bell ropes

The Sherston band of Bell ringers were delighted by the recent addition of a brand-new set of ropes for the six bells in the tower of Holy Cross Church. The bells weigh between 180kg and 416kg, the oldest of which was cast in the 1660s, making the bells the oldest, heaviest and largest musical instrument in the parish. They are hung on a wooden frame in the belfry and are rung by pulling on the woollen end, called the 'sally', of the rope wrapped around a wooden wheel. Regular use leads to wear which, together with the effects of moisture, causes the ropes to deteriorate. The new ropes were made locally by Avon Ropes, using traditional centuries-old methods and will last for many years. Two of the old sallies can now be seen at the Rattlebone Inn, the regular meeting place for refreshment after an evening's ringing.

Maundy Thursday Chrism Eucharist at Bristol Cathedral



On Maundy Thursday, clergy, LLMs, chaplains and lay representatives from across the Diocese gathered at the Cathedral for the Chrism Eucharist, a service in which attendees renew their commitment to ministry. Lay ministers reaffirmed their calling to serve by word and example, deacons recommitted themselves to service and proclamation, and priests renewed their ordination vows. In her sermon, the Dean of Bristol, the Very Revd Dr Mandy Ford, reflected on the story of Samuel, exploring how God's call comes differently to each person and how God remains with us, whatever our experience of vocation may be. She concluded her sermon with an invitation to pray for the next Bishop of Bristol.

St Peter's, Filton, hosts service celebrating influential women



On the Saturday before Mothering Sunday, St Peter's, Filton, hosted a service celebrating and thanking God for influential women. In the weeks before the service, members of the local community were invited to draw pictures of important women in their lives, including mothers, teachers and well-known figures, which were displayed throughout the church. The service brought together people from across the community, with contributions from local Guides and Brownies groups, library clubs, and St Andrew's Methodist Church. During the service, attendees were also invited to write messages of gratitude on small paper hearts placed around the church, offering reflections on the women for whom they were most thankful.

Do you have a story to share? Contact: comms@bristoldiocese.org