

ALL SAINTS NEWS

30th November 2025
Advent Sunday
Yr A begins

Chair donated to All Saints, Clifton in memory of Alice Victoria Marsh (1896 – 1986) and Thomas Harold Marsh (1898 – 1994)

The chair that is placed next to the altar in the Richard Chapel was donated to All Saints in memory of Alice Victoria Marsh and Thomas Harold Marsh. The picture right below shows the couple on their wedding day.



History of the chair in the Marsh family

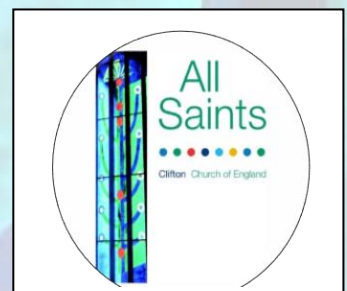
The chair was always known in the family as the Glastonbury chair, a term that entered common use in the 19th century. The last Abbot of Glastonbury, Richard Whiting sat on a chair of this design during his trial in Wells prior to his execution in 1539.

An example, that was originally thought to be contemporary with that used by Abbot Whiting, has been in St. John's Church, Glastonbury since 1842. At this date this was the parish church of the Marsh family.

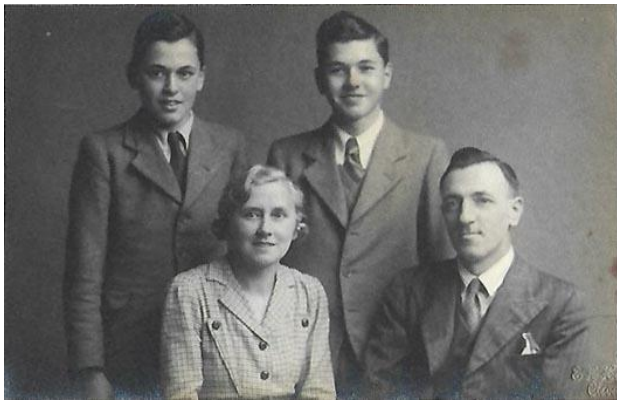
Marsh family tradition was that the chair was passed down to the oldest son. The chair was donated to All Saints by Thomas' elder son, Bryan and his children, Pauline and Robert.

Contact us

Office	01179741355	
Web	www.allsaintsclifton.org	
Email	office@allsaintsclifton.org	
Address	68 Pembroke Road, Clifton, Bristol, BS8 3ED	
Vicar	Fr. Charles Sutton	Home 0117 9078088
Mobile	07785912663	Email charleses@me.com
Associate Priest	Fr Paul Hawkins	



The views and opinions expressed in this Newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views or positions of the All Saints Church community.



Alice worked as a clerk for a wholesale confectioners in Newport prior to her marriage but moved to Bristol to set up home with Thomas after the wedding. The couple had two sons: Bryan Neville Lewellin Marsh born in 1927 and Alan Lloyd Marsh born in 1930. The picture shows the family circa 1940.

Standing behind Alice and Thomas are Bryan, right, and Alan, left.

Alice ran the family home at 89, Alma Road, Clifton which came with Thomas' job as a manager with L. Twining & Co., Coal Factors, based at the adjacent Clifton Downs Railway Station coal yard.

The boys attended Bristol Grammar School and Alice insisted that the family relocated to Clevedon for the duration of the war after the prep school was hit by a bomb during the air raid of 24th November 1940. Her decision was also influenced by the severe damage inflicted on All Saints shortly afterwards. The family had worshiped at the church since setting up home at Alma Road, which they returned to after hostilities ended

Thomas attended Eveswell School and probably worked as a clerk before his WW1 service. His experiences as a gunner with the Royal Field Artillery had a profound effect on Thomas, according to his older sister he came back a changed man.

Not demobilised until March 1920 Thomas resumed civilian life working for L. Twining & Co., Coal Factors and by the time of the 1921 census was a manager for the firm, living in Redland, Bristol. He remained working in the coal distribution sector for his whole career.

Thomas had a great fondness for All Saints and was particularly proud of the manner in which the church had been rebuilt after being bombed. He dedicated a great deal of his time to church affairs and his obituary in the Parish Magazine said that after joining the congregation in the 1920s "during the next seventy years he filled every lay position in parish life"; sidesman, P.C.C. member (Secretary for some years), Chairman of the Men's Society, Treasurer of the Social Events Committee, Recorder of the Pledged Giving Scheme and Churchwarden (as a replacement for part of a term).



This photograph shows Thomas and Alice outside All Saints on 9th August 1980, when they were amongst the guests at a wedding of a daughter of the Denham family.

Alice began to experience issues with her memory and was eventually diagnosed with dementia. Thomas cared for her until the task became too onerous and Alice moved into a nursing home at Kingsland, Herefordshire. He regularly visited her in the home until she died in February 1986.

After Alice died Thomas wished to return to his friends in Bristol and moved into Cowlin House, a nursing home along Pembroke Road from All Saints. He remained in good health until near the end of a long life; able to walk to All Saints and to pick up the Western Daily Press of which he was a dedicated reader. Thomas died on 10th April 1994 and his funeral service was held at All Saints.

Taken from a piece written by Dr. Elizabeth Caroline Marsh, younger daughter of Alan and Eileen and youngest grandchild of Alice and Thomas, 14th November 2025 – edited with permission.

Advent Carol Service

Sunday 30th

November

5 pm



Friends Together²⁶

at All Saints, Clifton

A Dementia accessible café **for all**.
Support, guidance, information and friendship
with tea, coffee and cake included.

Join us for...

- Reminiscence activities
- Support, guidance, and information
- Tea, coffee, cake
- Fun, laughter – and friendship!

WHERE? The Randall Room, All Saints Church

WHEN? 1st Thursday each month **EXCEPT JANUARY**

TIME? 10.00am-12.00pm

Café Dates²⁶ THE 1ST THURSDAY EACH MONTH EXCEPT JANUARY

No January Café	7 th May	3 rd September
5 th February	4 th June	1 st October
5 th March	2 nd July	5 th November
2 nd April	6 th August	3 rd December



**Bristol Dementia
Action Alliance**

All Saints, Clifton supports the work of BDAA to make
Bristol a dementia aware city. For more information
about the work of BDAA see their website: bdaa.org.uk

For further information, please call All Saints Parish Office
on 0117 974 1355 or see the website for latest updates.

All Saints

www.allsaintsclifton.org

Clifton Church of England

Friends Together Christmas Café

Please join everyone on Thursday
4th December from 10 am to
celebrate the start of the Christmas
season and the final café session of
2025.

Here are the dates for your Friends
Together diary next year.

There is no meeting in January as
the 1st Thursday in 2026 is New
Years Day !



• Friends Together •

@ All Saints, Clifton

Christmas Café

Thursday 4th December 2025

10am-12pm



Join us on Thurs Dec 4th for two hours of seasonal fun including
A Christmas Carol Singalong and Festive Quiz!
And not forgetting our delicious FREE home-made cakes, tea and coffee
SEE YOU THERE!

Wonderful Christmas Time

CITY VOICES BRISTOL

A celebration of festive music for all

St George's Bristol

Sunday 7th December
Concert starts at 7pm

Tickets from £15

Buy tickets from the St George's website or scan the QR code



Make a beautiful Christmas Wreath to welcome friends and family into your home during the festive period.

Two dates are available

Saturday 6th December 10 to 12 and Monday 8th December 2 to 4

All equipment will be provided and no experience is necessary.

Support from the All Saints Flower Team will ensure you go home with a stunning creation.

Refreshments available

£50 per person

Please sign up using the Eventbrite link below

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/christmas-wreath-workshop-led-by-the-all-saints-flower-team-tickets-1969119572649?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listing&utm-source=wsa&aff=ebdsshwebmobile>





Exploring Christianity

What do we mean when we say we are Christians?

- If this is a question which interests you, there are 4 opportunities over this winter designed to explore the answers.
- Ideal for those who have recently started their journey, as well as those further along the way.

Topics: Jesus Christ, Use and misuse of the Bible, Christian Worship, Christian Living

Dates: 2nd Nov, 7th Dec, 4th Jan, 1st Feb. Time: 12.30-1.30. Place: Sacristy. Sandwich lunch provided. No need to book, all are welcome.

Exploring Christianity

Four sessions on Sundays over the winter period, starting at 12.30 and finishing at 1.30pm.

Located in the Sacristy and lunch provided.

The purpose of these sessions is to explore what we mean when we talk about being Christian. It will be ideal for those commencing their journey of understanding as well as those already established on the path.

CS Lewis wrote: *'Christianity, if false, is of no importance, and, if true, of infinite importance. The one thing it cannot be is moderately important.'*

Dates: Sunday 7th December. In 2026, Sunday 4th January Sunday 1st February



Clifton High School



LUNCHTIME CONCERT

Thursday 4th December 2025, 1.00pm
All Saints Church, Pembroke Road

Featuring Soloists from Year 10 to 13
 Open to parents, staff and the public

For more information, contact Mrs Johnson, mjohnson@cliftonhigh.co.uk

All Saints Thursday Table at the Alma.

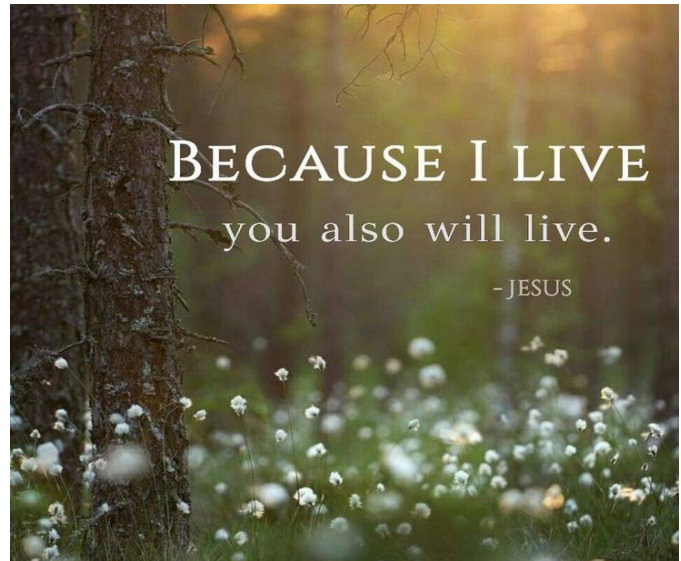
During December the Alma will not be able to reserve a table for the regular All Saints meeting. However if you would like to attend, the Choir meets at 9.15 pm after Choir Practice and they would be happy for you to join them.

Prayers Requests

'In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live.'

(John 14: 19).

Please let Fr Charles know of anyone who would like to be remembered within the weekly prayer list or anyone who you would like to be remembered in prayer.



Those of the parish and our hearts whom we remember in our Prayers:

Sunday

Tabitha Clark, Ruth and Richard Harding, Katie Norman, Neal Gordon, Joyce Shepherd, Cynthia Ashford Nicky Epinay Sarah Jean Bradford Andrew French Swarna Simpson Jenny Oates Sister Rosie Martin Rogers John Pedlar Gillian Clark Pepe Messel William and Lincoln

Monday

Sathia Aruliah Susie King Arthur Cleaver

Tuesday.

Pam Parker Oussama and Claire Sader

Wednesday

Katrina and Katherine King, Philip Miles, Samantha Tucker, Maureen Mumford Vy and Angel Wray

Thursday

Remie Clarke

Friday

Charlotte Hopkins, Caroline Semon, Nadine Benn The O'Sullivan family

Saturday

The Departed

Hugh Farry Lucille Osafa Mary Whittington Diana Verity

Years' Minds - this week we remember:

Gordon Jones Robert Potter Gillian Barron Cecilia Povey Iris Gillard

ALL SAINTS PRAYERS

Mon Dec 1	Andrew the Apostle Dementia describes a set of symptoms that may include memory loss and difficulties with thinking, problem-solving or language. Pray for those who live with dementia, for carers and the medical and support agencies that research, support and care for those living with dementia.
Tue 2	During Advent we think of the Light that shines in the darkness. Today pray for all who have their vision compromised. Good vision is something that we all recognize the importance of. However, it is something that a lot of us take for granted. For a lot of people, being blind is something that they have lived with their entire lives. For others, it is something that has crept upon them at a later age. There are then those that have good vision, but they live in fear of this taken away from them. In fact, blindness ranks as one of the top fears for aging people around the world today.
Wed 3	Mass 10.00am We pray for all who 'submit to the will of God'. This is the translation of the word 'Islam' – we pray for, Muslims, the billion followers around the world of whom 1.5M live in the UK. Pray for all those who encounter and assist us to encounter with contemporary Islam.
Thurs 4	Pray for Christians who live and work in Japan. 1% of the population is Christian (though eight Prime Ministers have been Christian). Pray for the people of Japan who follow the 'way of the Gods' – Shinto.
Fri 5	Mass 10.00am Blessed are you, Lord of all creation, it is through your goodness that we have so many gifts which the earth has given, and that human hands have made for our benefit. We pray for our farming communities, all who work on or with the land, and that we may learn the meaning of responsibility in terms of your gift of creation.
Sat 6	Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, c.326 We remember those whose circumstances mean that Christmas will not be a time of celebration. People who through poverty, homelessness, fear, illness and many other adversities are unable to experience any joy in their lives.
Sunday 7	2nd Sunday of Advent O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us Early Worship 9.00am Parish Mass 10.30am Advent Pilgrimage 6.00pm

If you would like to give regularly to the Church, please set up a standing order to the church account, details below

Parochial Church Council of All Saints

Account No. 65256747

sort code 08 92 99

Gift Aid forms are available from the office
office@allsaintsclifton.org

We are committed to safeguarding children, young people, victims of domestic abuse and vulnerable adults.

If you have any Safeguarding concerns please contact :
The Parish Safeguarding Officers - Caroline Davenport & Janice Callow at safeguarding@allsaintsclifton.org