

Christ Church Higher Bebington



Sunday 7th January 2018

Baptism of the Lord (1st after Epiphany)

Sidespeople today: Fiona Murphy, Joan Rippon, Heather Whitehead, Liz Bird.

Next Week: Barbara Mayers, David Evans, Diane Shaw, Terry Cunningham.

This morning Ted Jones will preach at our 10am Parish Communion.
Weekly sermons are available on the church website: christchurchbeb.org.uk

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**HYMNS**

|                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| <i>Processional</i> | <i>90</i>  |
| <i>Gradual</i>      | <i>401</i> |
| <i>Offertory</i>    | <i>103</i> |
| <i>Communion 1</i>  | <i>375</i> |
| <i>Communion 2</i>  | <i>53</i>  |
| <i>Recessional</i>  | <i>571</i> |

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Prayer of the week:

**Creator of the heavens,
who led the Magi by a star
to worship the Christ-child:
guide and sustain us,
that we may find our journey's end
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Thoughts for the week

Missions then is less about the transportation of God from one place to another and more about the identification of a God who is already there [...] You see God where others don't. And then you point him out. So the issue isn't so much taking Jesus to people who don't have him, but going to a place and pointing out to the people the creative, life-giving God who is already present in their midst.

Rob Bell

"... the true God gives so we can become joyful givers and not just self-absorbed receivers."

Miroslav Volf



Please keep any used stamps from Christmas post for the Leprosy Mission box in church.

Many thanks. Fiona Murphy

A huge, belated "thank you!" to all those who contributed to make our Christmas Day lunch such a happy, inclusive and celebratory occasion. Over 80 people enjoyed a warm welcome, wonderful food and a jolly good singsong! Your efforts were certainly much appreciated and very worthwhile.

David Evans and Sandra Worthington would like to invite the congregation to join them **after morning service on Sunday 21st January 2018** for a glass of wine and cake to celebrate their marriage (20.1.18).



The first reading is from Acts 19:1-11.

While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul took the road through the interior and arrived at Ephesus. There he found some disciples and asked them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?"

They answered, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit."

So Paul asked, "Then what baptism did you receive?"

"John's baptism," they replied.

Paul said, "John's baptism was a baptism of repentance. He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptised into the name of the Lord Jesus.

When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied. There were about twelve men in all.

Paul entered the synagogue and spoke boldly there for three months, arguing persuasively about the kingdom of God. But some of them became obstinate; they refused to believe and publicly maligned the Way. So Paul left them. He took the disciples with him and had discussions daily in the lecture hall of Tyrannus. This went on for two years, so that all the Jews and Greeks who lived in the province of Asia heard the word of the Lord.

God did extraordinary miracles through Paul, so that even handkerchiefs and aprons that had touched him were taken to the sick, and their illnesses were cured and the evil spirits left them

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Monday 8th January 1.30pm-3.00pm Card Making in Troughton Room

Tuesday 9th January Film Morning will be showing 'Hampstead' at 10.30am in Kings Hall.

£3.50 admission to include unlimited light refreshments.



Connect Café
Wednesday 10th January
9.30-11.45am
in the Community Centre
All are very welcome.



Oasis Mental Health
Support Group
Wednesday 10th January
1.30pm in Troughton Room.
All are very welcome.

Wednesday 10th January 7.30pm PCC Meeting in Troughton Room.



Mothers' Union will meet in the Kings Hall on
Thursday 11th January between **1.30-3.30pm.**
"Samoa" - a talk by Mary Hambly



Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark (1:4-11).

Glory to you O Lord.

And so John came, baptising in the desert region and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him.

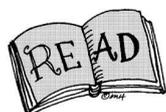
Confessing their sins, they were baptised by him in the Jordan River. John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt round his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. And this was his message: "After me will come one more powerful than I, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I baptise you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit."

At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised by John in the Jordan. As Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

At once the Spirit sent him out into the desert, and he was in the desert for forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.



Reading Group
Thursday 11th January
2.00pm - 3.30pm
in Storeton Room.

Thirsty Thursday in the Traveller's Rest from **9pm** on **11th January** .
All are very welcome.

Group members please note that House Groups will be resuming meeting shortly; **probably week commencing Monday 15th January**. There is a sign-up sheet at the back of church. Please check starting dates and topics with Group Leaders.

Men's Supper Club: The first supper club meal in 2018 is on **Thursday 25th January** at the Villa Venezia Restaurant by Tranmere Rovers. Meal booked for 7.30pm. Arrangements to follow. John Theobald 645 1083



"Men in Sheds" is a national movement that encourages people (not just men!) to come together, share skills and develop friendships...around a shed! We are hoping to start such a group at Christ Church in the New Year and Mike would LOVE to hear from anyone who might be interested in helping to set it up. It's likely to involve power tools and cake, so please spread the word!

Called to Serve is a great opportunity to come and find out more about how you might serve God and the church. People at all different ages and stages offer themselves for ministry in God's church.

Showcasing our four licensed ministries (Church Army, Ordained, Pastoral Worker, Reader) the event is an opportunity to find out the distinctions between these ministries, to talk to real people who are already involved and to listen to what you think God might be asking you to do.

The event is free and held at our Diocesan Retreat and Conference Centre, Foxhill, just outside Frodsham on **27th January from 9.00am - 3.00pm** .

It includes lunch but booking is essential via Peter Bacon at Church House (peter.bacon@chester.anglican.org or 01928 718834 ext 237)

We have had some problems with our standing order forms this year.
A revised version is available at the back of church.

Please don't forget to contact Rev Paul Dempster Head of Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care on 678 5111 ext 2275 at Wirral Hospitals (Arrowe Park and Clatterbridge) if you or a loved one has been admitted and would value a visit.

Forthcoming funerals :

Michael Harding 11.00am Thursday 11th January All Saints, Thornton Hough

Anniversaries: Mary Gallagher, Thomas Kendrick, Patrick Collins, Ray Jones, Fred Diggles, Carol Allen, John Peters, Alex Griffiths, John Neilson, Elsie Isabella McCarthy, David Simmons, Jim Mottram, Jean Evans.

If you have a concern or a thanksgiving for which you would appreciate prayer please come forward to the Lady Chapel after the service where a member of the pastoral team will pray confidentially with you.

Prayer List: Sharon Beecham, Ann Bisbrown-Lee, George Bond, Helen Byrne, Yvonne Cranny, Elsa Dowling, Nora Duncan, Denise Foster, Mary Garland, Paul Goulden, Simon Hayes, Pam Hollinshead, Lyndsey Howard, Richard Kelly, Wendy Martin, Brenda McGrattan, Diane Murphy, Lorraine Petropoulou, Rita Quine, Jeffrey Robinson, Sheila Rogers, Joanne Russell, John Russell, Julie Scarsbrook, Ina Shorrocks, Janet Shorrocks, Sam Smith, Ann Tait, Keira Taylor, Judy Tomlin, Jackie Turner, Keelin Turner, Kathleen Whittaker, Whittaker Family, Cliff White, Cara Elise.

Vicar: Rev. Mike Loach 0151 609 0943 mgloach@gmail.com

Curate: Rev Eunice Blackmore 0151 648 5343 euniceblackmore@talktalk.net

Centre Manager: John Potter: 07473 028 991 centremanager@christchurchhigherbebington.org.uk

Parish Secretaries: Victoria Gleave & Judith Nederlof: 0151 608 4429

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Office hours: Mon, Wed, Thurs & Fri: 9.00am to 12.30pm

Website: www.christchurchbeb.org.uk