

Christ Church Higher Bebington



Sunday 4th February 2018

2nd Sunday before Lent

Sidespeople today: Derek Fogg, June Fogg John Theobald, Judith Renton.

Next Week: Jim Wallace, Janet Wallace, Gill Cook, John Champion.

This morning Rev Mike Loach will preach at our 10am Parish Communion service.
Weekly sermons are available on the church website: christchurchbeb.org.uk

HYMNS

Processional	9
Gradual	295
Offertory	393
Communion 1	27
Communion 2	490
Recessional	532

Prayer of the week:

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever. Amen.

Thoughts for the week

"I would rather be what God chose to make me than the most glorious creature that I could think of; for to have been thought about, born in God's thought, and then made by God, is the dearest, grandest and most precious thing in all thinking."

George MacDonald

"Jesus came to announce to us that an identity based on success, popularity and power is a false identity- an illusion! Loudly and clearly he says: 'You are not what the world makes you; but you are children of God.'"

Henri J.M. Nouwen

"Define yourself radically as one beloved by God. This is the true self. Every other identity is illusion."

Brennan Manning



Noisy Church Sunday 18th February at 4.00pm

a monthly interactive musical experience of Church for young families (pre-school children) with Bible stories, lots of noise, great activities and refreshments. Programme lasts less than an hour and will include teas and coffees and cake for parents.

If you are able to help with refreshments please let Eunice or Krista know.

The first reading is Colossians 1:15-20 (NIV)

The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (1: 1-14)
(MSG)

Glory to you O Lord.

The Word was first, the Word present to God, God present to the Word. The Word was God, in readiness for God from day one. Everything was created through him; nothing—not one thing!—came into being without him. What came into existence was Life, and the Life was Light to live by. The Life-Light blazed out of the darkness; the darkness couldn't put it out. There once was a man, his name John, sent by God to point out the way to the Life-Light. He came to show everyone where to look, who to believe in. John was not himself the Light; he was there to show the way to the Light. The Life-Light was the real thing: Every person entering Life he brings into Light. He was in the world, the world was there through him, and yet the world didn't even notice. He came to his own people, but they didn't want him. But whoever did want him, who believed he was who he claimed and would do what he said, he made to be their true selves, their child-of-God selves. These are the God-begotten, not blood-begotten, not flesh-begotten, not sex-begotten. The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighbourhood. We saw the glory with our own eyes, the one-of-a-kind glory, like Father, like Son, Generous inside and out, true from start to finish.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Our confirmation service is pencilled in for **Sunday 15th April** and classes to prepare candidates (young and old!) will take place during Lent. Please speak with Mike or Eunice if you or someone you know might be interested in making this important commitment.

Eco meeting - Monday 5th February at 7pm in the Centre.

A meeting for anyone interested in exploring how we might improve awareness of our responsibilities to the environment and consider what more can be done on a local level. All are very welcome.

An open meeting to discuss possible developments within our church building will be held in the Centre after our morning services **today** starting at around 11.45am. Everyone is welcome.



Tuesday Coffee Club
Tuesday 6th February 10.30-12.00noon in the Kings Hall

Men Only **Tuesday 6th February** at 7.30pm at 27 Mount Road

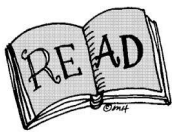
Knit and Natter
Wednesday 7th February
1.30pm - 3.30pm
in Community Centre



Connect Café
Wednesday 7th February
9.30-11.45am
in the Community Centre
All are very welcome.



PCC meeting on **Wednesday 7th February at 7.30pm**
in the Troughton Room.



Reading Group **Thursday 8th February 2.00pm - 3.30pm**
in Troughton Room.

Thirsty Thursday
In the Traveller's Rest 9pm.
All are very welcome.

Art Club
Friday 9th February
2.00pm-4.00pm

Lewis Club - the group will be concluding their reading of C S Lewis' Screwtape Letters on **Thursday 8th February at 7.30pm** in the Vicarage.

We're hoping to run a visual interactive **Easter Experience** for our local schools around March 21st or 22nd. If you are willing to help either on the day or designing the various scenes please join us on **Monday February 18th** at 10am in the Troughton Room.

Lent at Christ Church: As we approach Lent, please look out for seasonal resources on the bookshelves at the back of church. Also, please do consider joining in with some of the special events taking place over the Lenten period: **Compline (Night Prayer)** Every Tuesday night in Lent (starting on 20th Feb) from 8.15pm in the Chancel and lasting for about 20 minutes.

Lent Film Nights

An opportunity to look at two films containing themes important to the Christian life. For each, the film will be shown in full on one week and discussion will follow (in a relaxed setting) on the following week. Please do feel most welcome to invite friends and family along (both films are certificate 12).

Wednesday 21st February: Film - *The Shack*

Wednesday 28th February: Discussion

Wednesday 21st March: Film - *Chocolat*

Wednesday 28th March: Discussion

Lent Reading group

We will be looking at "How to be a bad Christian (and a better human being)" by Dave Tomlinson. Copies can be found at most good book stores or online for around £7.

Meetings will be held at the Vicarage on the following dates:

Thursday 1st, 15th & 29th March

It would be helpful if those attending could have read up to the end of chapter 6 before the first meeting. All are very welcome!

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 :

Monday	2.00pm	Norma Johnson	Christ Church
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Anniversaries: May Holden, George Hirst, Muriel Morris, Helen Jane Warwick, Alfred Taylor, Louisa Murray, Prem Neermul, Peter Anthony McNicholl, Irene Clegg, Maurice Entwistle, Kay Sloman, Edith Jones, Tom Reece, Mary Haslam, Karen Anne Wilson, Joyce Roden,

If you have a concern or a thanksgiving for which you would appreciate prayer please approach a member of the pastoral team who 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