

# Christ Church Higher Bebington

*Dwellers  
all in time  
and space*

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2021

First Sunday of Lent

**Welcome to Christ Church!** We are all one in the Spirit!

This morning, Rev Mike Loach will lead and Ian Millington will preach at our 10am live-streamed Parish Communion service.

## HYMNS

Praise my soul the king  
of Heaven

In Amongst – Sam Evans

Who you say I am

Be Thou My Vision

## Prayer for the week

Heavenly Father, your Son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to you in the desert: help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen

## Thoughts for the week:

Every act of love, gratitude, and kindness; every work of art or music inspired by the love of God and delight in the beauty of his creation; every act of care and nurture, of comfort and support, for one's fellow human beings; and of course every prayer, all Spirit-led teaching, every deed that spreads the gospel, builds up the church, embraces and embodies holiness rather than corruption, and makes the name of Jesus honoured in the world - all of this will find its way, through the resurrecting power of God, into the new creation that God will one day make.

*Tom Wright*

“When I feel alone, I reach for you, and you bring me home  
When I'm lost at sea, I hear your voice, and it carries me  
In this world, we're just beginning to understand the miracle of living  
I was afraid before, but I'm not afraid anymore  
They say in heaven, love comes first. We'll make heaven a place on earth”

*Written by Rick Nowels and Ellen Shipley,  
performed and made famous by Belinda Carlisle*

Please do keep sending in your Church news to Mike to share on Sunday (mgloach@gmail.com). It is great to find out what you have all been up to.

The first reading is Psalm 62: 5-8.

Yes, my soul, find rest in God; my hope comes from him.

Truly he is my rock and my salvation;  
he is my fortress, I shall not be shaken.

My salvation and my honour depend on God;  
he is my mighty rock, my refuge.

Trust in him at all times, you people;  
pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

**Glory to you O Lord.**

(1:9-15)(NIVUK)

The baptism and testing of Jesus

At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised by John in the Jordan. Just 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 wilderness, and he was in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

Jesus announces the good news

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. 'The time has come,' he said. 'The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

We are hoping to open for communal worship very soon. In the meantime, if anyone would like to watch the filming of the livestream service in church, you would be very welcome.



Christ Church You Tube channel is live streaming our 10am Sunday service every week. Just open YouTube and search for "Christ Church HB" or follow this link:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPD\\_Phsd0o2MYNudgbzFUzq](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPD_Phsd0o2MYNudgbzFUzq)

During Lent, our Eco Church group and Chester Diocese are encouraging us to think seriously about how we might make changes to our lifestyles that would help protect the environment. Look out for the 'Pledges for an Eco Lent' document and see how many you can commit to.

Chester Diocese are offering 40 environmentally themed reflections for Lent. These are available each day on our Facebook page or the Chester Diocese website [www.chester.anglican.org/Lent](http://www.chester.anglican.org/Lent)

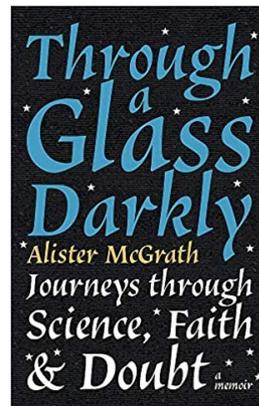
Morning Prayer via Zoom **9.00am**  
**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February.**

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 9pm**  
Celtic Prayer via Zoom.  
Details from Helen Byrne.

Books n' beer! On three Wednesdays in Lent, the Vicar would love you to join him on Zoom (with a glass of beer or something else) to discuss "Through a glass darkly: journeys through science, faith and doubt" by Alister McGrath.

The book is a fascinating memoir from a leading scientist and theologian, detailing how he has understood the relationship between these two disciplines over many years.

The book is split into three sections and each of these will be covered on the following dates: **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February, 10<sup>th</sup> March and 24<sup>th</sup> March.** The book is available from online book sellers - please read the first section ahead of the session on 24<sup>th</sup> Feb. Contact Mike or the parish office for more details. All are welcome.



**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February** Singing cafe on Zoom 10.30am.  
Joining details are as follows: Meeting code: 84104661286  
Password: 099355



Are the 10 Commandments still relevant today?

Laws of Love set in stone. Listen to J John on You Tube and discuss by Zoom **Thursdays 8.15pm.** This week, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Commandment: 'Do not take the name of the Lord your God in vain' or 'Take God Seriously'. Contact Eunice for details.

**Every Friday evening, at 7pm,** weekly quiz via Zoom open to the whole family. If you are interested in taking part, please contact Tracy: [traocon@googlemail.com](mailto:traocon@googlemail.com)

QUIZ



**Going for Gold!** We are on the way to attaining A Rocha's gold award for Eco Church. However, there is still a lot more we could be doing. Making small lifestyle changes is key, eg: **Eat less meat!** A vegan or vegetarian diet does wonders for the waist and wallet. Vegetarians live longer than meat eaters on average and are much less likely to have heart disease ([www.wsj.com](http://www.wsj.com)). 20% of global greenhouse gas emissions can be attributed to the meat industry. Start simply with meat free Mondays. (<https://reducetarian.org/faq/>)

Download the [un.org/actnow](https://un.org/actnow) app, for sustainable living and log your habits!

**We have set up a system where you can now donate to the Church online, using a debit or credit card. Donations can be one-off or on a regular basis. Please go to the Home Page of the Website and click on the link at the 'Donate to Christ Church' section.**

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm.** Celebrated in over 170 countries, **World Day of Prayer** is an international inter-church organisation which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world. This year we hear from the Christian women of the Republic of Vanuatu in the South Pacific, who call on us to " Build on a Strong Foundation" and live in unity, love and peace.

The local service this year comes from our own church and it is hoped that we may live-stream, dependent on current restrictions. Further information and booklets will be available in church from next week, when we hope to have a clearer idea of how we can celebrate the day.

MOTHERING SUNDAY falls on **14<sup>th</sup> March** this year. Over the past few years the lovely people of Christ Church HB have given generously to the Mothers' Union initiative of collecting donations in memory of our own mothers to whom we can no longer give gifts. These funds have then been used to help some of the most deprived mothers and their families in all the 80+ countries where MU has a presence, including the UK. If you want to know more, look at the MU website: [www.mothersunion.org](http://www.mothersunion.org) and look under "Ethical Gifts". If you would like to donate this year, please put cash or (preferably) a cheque in an envelope marked "MOTHERS' UNION" and hand it in to the Parish Office. Thank you, Liz.

**Funerals last week:** Tony Halls, Doreen Fitzpatrick.

**Forthcoming funerals:**

|                                 |        |                 |                |
|---------------------------------|--------|-----------------|----------------|
| Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> March  | 2.30pm | Dorothy Peers   | Christ Church  |
| Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> March  | 3.30pm | Cheryl Probbing | Landican South |
| Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> March | 2.30pm | Ina Shorrocks   | Christ Church  |

**Anniversaries:** Peter Salmon, Malcolm Brown, Isobel Audrey Williams, Patricia May Benson, George Stanley (Stan) Chiochi, Frederick Fox, Martha Brown.

**Prayer List:** Shirley Anderson, Cliff Barr, Sharon Beecham, Ann Bisbrown-Lee, George Bond, Yvonne Cranny, Elsa Dowling, Mavis Duggan, Nora Duncan, Mary Garland, Paula Green, Cara Elise Hartt, Simon Hayes, Pam Hollinshead, Linda Hopkins, Lyndsey Howard, Ted Jones, Richard Kelly, Paul Lewis, Jim Lloyd, Holly Martin, Wendy Martin, Brenda McGrattan, Will McElroy (age 6), Helen Nealy, Rita Quine, Diane Randles, Howard Rogers, Joanne Russell, John Russell, Harry Scarsbrook, Janet Shorrocks, Audrey Smith, Barbara Smith, Ann Tait, Keira Taylor, Roisin Terris, Jackie Turner, Keelin Turner, Malcolm Wheatley, Ron White, Theresa Whitfield, Whittaker Family, Lyndsey Wild, Sophie, Jonah (aged 8), Mark and Roy.

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