

Christ Church Higher Bebington



Sunday 28th February 2021
Second Sunday of Lent

Welcome to Christ Church! We are all one in the Spirit!
This morning, Rev Eunice Blackmore will lead and preach at our 10am
live-streamed Parish Communion service.

HYMNS

Hail thou once despised Jesus
Take up thy cross thy
Saviour said
In Christ alone

Prayer for the week

Almighty God, by the prayer and
discipline of Lent may we enter into
the mystery of Christ's sufferings,
and by following in his Way
come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Thoughts for the week:

"Discipleship involves giving up our own lives through sacrificial love, leading to the surprising and ultimately saving discovery that in giving we have received."
Paul Shupe

"If you want to make a difference and leave your world a better place, let others know how important they are as you put their needs above yours."
Jaren L. Davis

"The world is changed by your example and not your opinion."
Paulo Coelho

From **Sunday 14th March**, we will start to welcome our church family back into the building at both our 8.30am and 10am services. Social distancing measures will need to remain in place and livestreaming will continue, but it will be great to see those who feel ready to return ☺x



We've got some very exciting projects about to start around the church gardens. If you'd like to get involved please do contact Mike or Pam to join the **Eco Church Meeting on Thursday 4th at 7pm** and do look out for working group sessions in the coming weeks.

The first reading is Galatians 2: 17-21 The Message
Have some of you noticed that we are not yet perfect? (No great surprise, right?) And are you ready to make the accusation that since people like me, who go through Christ in order to get things right with God, aren't perfectly virtuous, Christ must therefore be an accessory to sin? The accusation is frivolous. If I was "trying to be good," I would be rebuilding the same old barn that I tore down. I would be acting as a pretender.

What actually took place is this: I tried keeping rules and working my head off to please God, and it didn't work. So I quit being a "law man" so that I could be God's man. Christ's life showed me how, and enabled me to do it. I identified myself completely with him. Indeed, I have been crucified with Christ. My ego is no longer central. It is no longer important that I appear righteous before you or have your good opinion, and I am no longer driven to impress God. Christ lives in me. The life you see me living is not "mine," but it is lived by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I am not going to go back on that.

Is it not clear to you that to go back to that old rule-keeping, peer-pleasing religion would be an abandonment of everything personal and free in my relationship with God? I refuse to do that, to repudiate God's grace. If a living relationship with God could come by rule-keeping, then Christ died unnecessarily.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Morning Prayer via Zoom **9.00am**
Monday 1st March.

Tuesday 2nd March 9pm
Celtic Prayer via Zoom.
Details from Helen Byrne.

Wednesday 3rd March 7.30pm PCC via Zoom.

Thursday 4th March 10.00am Lectio Divina: Psalm 134 via Zoom.
Please contact Eunice for more details.



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 2nd Commandment: 'Do not make for yourself an idol' or
'Know God'. 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

QUIZ

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

Glory to you O Lord.

(8: 31-38)(NIVUK)

Jesus predicts his death

He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. 'Get behind me, Satan!' he said. 'You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.'

The way of the cross

Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

World Day of Prayer: The service, prepared by the Christian women of Vanuatu in the South Pacific with the title "Build on a Strong Foundation", will be live-streamed from our church on **Friday 5th March at 2pm** and we would love you to follow the service. Service booklets and more information are available in church.

As this service is the World Day of Prayer's only source of income, donations which support charities around the world, would be gratefully received and can be sent as cheques made payable to World Day of Prayer, Commercial Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2RR or by donating on line through the website <https://www.wwdp.org.uk>. Thank you.



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: 'Ceramics: Old coffee mugs and chipped dishes cannot be recycled as damaged heat treated glass or porcelain is unsafe for reuse. So unfortunately you'll have to toss them in the trash. Or better yet turn old ceramic containers into planters or as drainage stones at the bottom of plant pots. (cleanriver.com)' Download the un.org/actnow app, for sustainable living and log your habits!

MOTHERING SUNDAY falls on **14th 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 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.

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.

Forthcoming funerals:

Thursday 4 th March	2.30pm	Dorothy Peers	Christ Church
Thursday 4 th March	3.30pm	Cheryl Probbing	Landican South
Thursday 11 th March	2.30pm	Ina Shorrocks	Christ Church

Anniversaries: Megan Rhonwen Shaw, Robert Howarth, Elizabeth Marion Porter, Lisa Light, Jean Christian, Elaine Johnson, Mona Hall, Charles Dillon, Edna Chiocchi, Annie Alexandra Hughes, Joyce Rathbone, Joyce Wilkins, Jean Lowe, Gordon Edwards, Sheila Roberts.

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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