

Christ Church Higher Bebington



Sunday 11th April 2021
Second Sunday of Easter

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

This morning, Rev Mike Loach will lead and Jill Wright (Reader Emeritus) will preach at our 10am live-streamed Parish Communion service.

HYMNS

Praise my Soul the King of
Heaven

This is my Body Broken for
you

Thine be the Glory

Prayer for the week

Risen Christ,
for whom no door is locked,
no entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts,
that we may seek the good of others
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice
and peace,
to the praise of God the Father.
Amen

Thoughts for the week:

There lives more faith in honest doubt believe me than in half the creeds.

Alfred Lord Tennyson

I show you doubt to prove that faith exists.

Robert Browning

He doubted; but God said, " Even so; nothing is lost that's wrought with tears;
the music that you made below is now the music of the spheres"

John Davidson



**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.**



Please return your Christian Aid envelopes (sent out in the Parish Easter cards) to the Parish Office as soon as possible. Many thanks.
Additional envelopes are available if needed.

The first reading is from Acts 4:32-35 (NIVUK).

All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all that there was no needy person among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

Glory to you O Lord. (20:19 to end) (NIVUK)

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you!' After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

Again Jesus said, 'Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.' And with that he breathed on them and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.'

Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord!'

But he said to them, 'Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you!' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.'

Thomas said to him, 'My Lord and my God!'

Then Jesus told him, 'Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.'

Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Morning Prayer **Monday 12th April**
9am.

Tuesday 13th April 9pm
Celtic Prayer via Zoom.
Details from Helen Byrne.

Wednesday 14th April 10.30am
Holy Communion in church.

Lectio Divina Thursday 15th April
10am. Please contact Rev. Eunice
for more details.

unanswered
prayer

Have you ever struggled with why some prayers seem to be unanswered? This course may help!

A series of 5 online videos (30 minutes each) based around the Easter story which provide an opportunity to process life's most painful questions. Watch the videos in your own time at <https://unanswered.prayercourse.org/> and join via Zoom on Thursdays at 8.15pm to discuss. Please contact Rev. Eunice for the Zoom details.

Session 1: God on Mute: Engaging the silence will be on **Thursday 15th April.**

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

Friday 16th April at 7.45pm Boulders' Social via Zoom.

On **Tuesday 20th April**, Rev Mike will be licensed as **Priest-in-Charge** at St Paul's Church, Tranmere by the Bishop of Chester. Please pray for our ministry team across the two churches as we begin our life and witness together.

Book Club – the group will now be meeting on a monthly basis and all are very welcome to join in. Next book is “The Power & the Glory” by Graham Greene, which we'll discuss on **Wednesday 28th April at 8pm.** For further information, please contact Rev Mike.

Starting up again! We're currently giving thought to what we would like to see returning to our church and community centre as the restrictions begin to ease. If you have any thoughts about what we should prioritise or any new ideas about activities or events that we might wish to introduce, please do get in touch with Revs. Mike, Eunice, George or the Parish Office.



The collection box for poppies for the bell tower installation (this November) is at the back of church. Poppies can be knitted (patterns available), crocheted, felt or other robust material, (any size as long as they are red). 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:

'The use of spray cleaning products can be as bad for lungs as smoking 20 cigarettes a day.' A research project followed 6,000 people over a 20 year period and found women in particular suffered significant lung health problems after long term use of these products. They are also very wasteful in terms of plastic which can't be recycled and most end up in land fill. A safer way to clean is with a liquid cleaner, or you can easily make your own effective, safer spray cleaning products at a fraction of the cost and donate the difference to Christian Aid. (www.goodhousekeeping.com/home/cleaning/tips/a24885/make-at-home-cleaners/)

Download the 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.

Funerals last week: Tina Kay Sherlock.

Anniversaries: Samuel Ledsome Williams, Harold Dwerryhouse, Audrey Furlong, Bernard Ryan, Arthur Cook, Joyce Johnson, Muriel Hannah Garland, James Henry Williams, Jean Henrikson, Archiebald Dalziel, Elsie M. Jones, Irene Swann.

Prayer List: Shirley Anderson, Cliff Barr, Sharon Beecham, Ann Bisbrown-Lee, George Bond, Yvonne Cranny, Mavis Duggan, Nora Duncan, Mary Garland, Cara Elise Hartt, Simon Hayes, Pam Hollinshead, Linda Hopkins, Lyndsey Howard, Charlotte Jones, Ted Jones, Richard Kelly, Paul Lewis, Jim Lloyd, Holly Martin, Wendy Martin, Brenda McGrattan, Will McElroy (age 6), Helen Nealy, Rita Quine, Diane Randles, Mike Robinson, 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, Mark and Roy.

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