

Christ Church Higher Bebington

Sunday 20th March 2022

Third Sunday of Lent



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

This morning, Rev Eunice Blackmore will lead and Rev George will preach at our 10am Parish Communion service.

Thoughts for the week:

“Who needs a doctor: the healthy or the sick? I’m here inviting the sin-sick, not the spiritually fit.”

Jesus (Message version)

“God has promised forgiveness to your repentance but has not promised tomorrow to your procrastination”

Augustine


Prayer for the week

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified:

mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

HYMNS:

Alleluia Sing to Jesus, Kum ba yah,
From heaven you came, Onward Christian pilgrims.

 A huge thank you to all involved in organising the generous donations for the Ukraine appeal and delivering them to the Teams 4U warehouse in Wrexham. Any monetary donations can be left in the Parish office and these will be sent to the Red Cross Appeal for Ukraine. We are currently registering Christ Church with the "Homes for Ukraine" scheme and Mike would love to hear from you if you have a room available that could be used to support refugees. There is a minimum 6 month commitment, but the church would work alongside all those who are able to host. If you can help in any way, please contact the Parish office (0151 608 4429) or the Vicarage (609 0943). Many thanks.

Thirsty Thursday restarting on Wednesday(!) March 23rd at 9pm, in the Traveller's Rest, all are welcome.

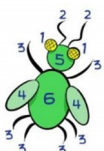
Rose Queen Fundraiser on **Saturday 26th March 6.00pm** (doors open at 5.30pm)

Come and join in the fun of a Beetle Drive.

Adults £3 Children £2 (Tickets available from the Parish Office)

Raffle & Light Refreshments. All welcome!

Raising funds for Dementia UK and Christ Church Community Centre.



The first reading is from Psalm 63

Comfort and Assurance in God's Presence

A Psalm of David when he was in the Wilderness of Judah.

O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you;
my flesh faints for you,

as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.

Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

So I will bless you as long as I live;

I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast,

and my mouth praises you with joyful lips

when I think of you on my bed,

and meditate on you in the watches of the night;

for you have been my help,

and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.

My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.

But those who seek to destroy my life

shall go down into the depths of the earth;

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

(13:1-9)(NRSV)

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

The Parable of the Barren Fig Tree

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Regular Activities at Christ Church

Monday 21st March



9.00am Morning Prayer via Zoom



9.30am Toddler Group for pre-school children and their parents and carers

5.30pm The Music Group will meet in church



7.00pm Confirmation class at the Vicarage

Tuesday 22nd March



10.30am The Sewing Group will meet at the back of church



10.30am Happy Reading Group in the Troughton Room

1.00pm Living in Love & Faith course in the Troughton Room



7.00pm Confirmation class at the Vicarage

7.45pm Men's Group at Ian Murray's house



9.15pm Celtic Prayer via Zoom

Wednesday 23rd March



9.30am Bumps & Baby Group will meet in the Troughton Room

10.00am Connect Café in the Kings Hall



10.30am Holy Communion in church

7.00pm Living in Love & Faith course in the Troughton Room



Thursday 24th March

2.00pm Choir Practice in church



7.00pm Bereavement Journey course



Friday 25th March

10.00am Indoor Bowls



7.00pm Boulders' Social in the Kings Hall

Mothers' Sunday

Sunday 27th March at 10am - a special All Age Worship service for Mothers' Sunday with a collection for our Mothers' Union 'Make a Mother's Day' appeal. Our Rose Queen and her retinue will also be parading.


Lent reading group on **Wednesday 30th March at 7.30pm in the Vicarage** looking at Rowan Williams' short book titled "Being Disciples". Please speak to Rev Mike for more details. Refreshments will be provided!

Friday 1st April 10am Church Walking Group to leave church car park. Walking to Brimstage and Brackenwood. Signup sheet at back of church.



The Confirmation Service will take place on **Sunday 3rd April at 10am** with the Bishop of Birkenhead, Bishop Julie. Please do support our Confirmation candidates.



ECO CHURCH  **Eco Tip:** With more awareness around peat-bog depletion, and peat as a limited resource, many gardeners prefer to use peat-free composts. Peat-free composts are great for water retention but, for plants that require good drainage, adding a bit of grit and sharp sand to the mix will help support growth.

Following a recent successful application for funding, we are delighted to be able to advertise the role of **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT WORKER**. The 18 hour per week role will lead the development of **REVIVE BEBINGTON**. This project seeks to bring our community together by creating a programme of activities within the Church Buildings and grounds.

The successful applicant will have had experience in developing community programmes and display the skills and attributes to engage and enthuse with people of all ages and backgrounds. The role is dependant on external funding and because of this will be until 31st March 2023.

To express an interest in this role please email Rev Mike Loach at mgloach@gmail.com by 9am on Friday 25 March 2022.

Funeral last week: William Valentine Roberts.

Funeral this week:

Thursday 24th March 11.00am John Theobald Christ Church

Anniversaries: Eric James Patten, John Newland, Gordon Youd, Elliot Wild, Ruth Callaghan, Sylvia Haswell, Reginald Duncan, Florence Tomkins, John Elwyn Legge.

Prayer List: Kyrill and his family, Sara, Tracy, Shirley Anderson, Finley Armstrong, Cliff Barr, Sharon Beecham, Ann Bisbrown-Lee, Ian Buckley, Jim Byrne, Beverley Caffrey, Jenny Campbell, Barbara Coffey, Yvonne Cranny, Siobhan Curtis, Mavis Duggan, Aaron Fox, Mary Garland, Mark Graves, Geoff Hall, Cara Elise Hartt, Simon Hayes, Pam Hollinshead, Linda Hopkins, Lyndsey Howard, Ted Jones, Richard Kelly, Paul Lewis, Jim Lloyd, Maureen Lloyd, Holly Martin, Wendy Martin, Brenda McGrattan, Will McElroy (age 8), Grahame Owen, Lorraine Petropoulou, Rita Quine, Diane Randles, Howard Rogers, Joanne Russell, John Russell, Harry Scarsbrook, Janet Shorrocks, Audrey Smith, Barbara Smith, Rachel Stanovic, Matt Storey, Ann Tait, Keira Taylor, Roisin Terris, Jackie Turner, Keelin Turner, Terry Walters, Malcolm Wheatley, Ron White, Theresa Whitfield, Whittaker Family, Lyndsey Wild, Eve Williams, Christopher Williamson.

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

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

Curate: Rev George Roach 0151 645 4258 frgeorgeroach@gmail.com

Parish Secretary: Victoria Gleave 0151 608 4429

parishoffice@christchurchhigherbebington.org.uk

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

Website: www.christchurchbeb.org.uk