

# Christ Church Higher Bebington

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2024  
Epiphany 3

Sidespeople: Rhona Snelson & Bev Price  
Next week: Fiona Murphy & Liz Bird



**Welcome to Christ Church!** We are all one in the Spirit!  
This morning Revd. Eunice Blackmore will lead and preach at our  
10.00am Parish Communion Service.

## **HYMNS**

- 473 The Church's one foundation
- 53 Be still
- 372 O Jesus I have promised
- 500 There is a redeemer

## Prayer for the week

**God of all mercy  
your Son proclaimed good news  
to the poor,  
release to the captives,  
and freedom to the oppressed;  
anoint us with your Holy Spirit  
and set all your people free  
to praise you in Christ our Lord.  
Amen**

## Thoughts for the week:

The story of Jesus turning water into wine was not just a story in the life of Jesus; it is the story of His life!  
*Susie Michaels*

The miracles Jesus performs...do not compel faith; but those with faith will perceive their significance.  
*D.A. Carson*

Some of the miracles do locally what God has already done universally: others do locally what he had not yet done, but will do. In that sense, and from our human point of view, some are reminders and others prophecies.  
*C S Lewis*

Jean Lippiatt will kindly be selling home-made pies and cakes after the 10.00am service, **today** in the Kings Hall. Please bring appropriate containers to take home your purchases.

There will be a meeting to plan for the **Summer Fair on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January at 7.00pm** in the Troughton Room. If you would like to help in any way, please come along on the evening.

The first reading is from Revelation 19:6-10 (NIV UK)

Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting:

‘Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns.

Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory!

For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready.

Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear.’

(Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of God’s holy people.)

Then the angel said to me, ‘Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!’ And he added, ‘These are the true words of God.’

At this I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, ‘Don’t do that! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers and sisters who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For it is the Spirit of prophecy who bears testimony to Jesus.’

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**

(2: 1-11)(NIVUK)

Jesus changes water into wine

On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus’ mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine was gone, Jesus’ mother said to him, ‘They have no more wine.’

‘Woman, why do you involve me?’ Jesus replied. ‘My hour has not yet come.’

His mother said to the servants, ‘Do whatever he tells you.’

Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from eighty to a hundred and twenty litres.

Jesus said to the servants, ‘Fill the jars with water’; so they filled them to the brim.

Then he told them, ‘Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet.’

They did so, and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realise where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside and said, ‘Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now.’

What Jesus did here in Cana of Galilee was the first of the signs through which he revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

This is the gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Regular Activities at Christ Church

<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January</b> 	9.00am	Start the week with prayer	
	9.30am	Toddler Group	
	1.30pm	Sit Fit - chair based exercise class	
<b>Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January</b>	5.00pm	Music Group	
	10.30am	Happy Reading Group	
<b>Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January</b> 	10.30am	Sewing Group	
	9.30am	Bumps & Babies	
	10.00am	Connect Café	
	10.30am	Holy Communion	
<b>Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January</b> 	3.30pm	Kids Crafty Church	
	10.30am	Line Dancing	
	12.30pm	Prayers for Peace	
	1.30pm	Sit Fit	
	2.00pm	Choir practice	
<b>Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January</b> 	12 noon	Lunch Club	
	2.00pm	Bridge Group	
<b>Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January</b>	10am-12noon	Christian Aid Attic Sale	

### Experience Easter - Monday 18<sup>th</sup> - Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March

A special week when we invite local primary schools to come and hear the Easter story. It is a really fun week, do come and join in! We need volunteers for all sorts of jobs. Volunteer for as little as 2 hours, or more if you can.

You are invited to a **Planning meeting on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January at 12.30pm** in Kings Hall.

Please ask Libby Potter or Eunice if you'd like to know more.

### Christian Aid Attic Sale & Coffee Morning Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January 10.00am-12 noon

Tables £5.00 ..... if you would like to start the New Year by decluttering!

We would appreciate donations of any unwanted gifts, toys and good quality clothing and accessories for our stalls. These can be left at the office during the week prior to the sale. Also, we would greatly appreciate any donations of cakes and biscuits.

For catering purposes, if you could please let us know if you are able to provide these.

For further information, or if you are able to help on the morning, please speak to Diane Shaw or Jill Loach or leave a message at the Parish Office. Thank you.

### Rose Queen Family Quiz Night - Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February in the Kings Hall

Tickets: £2.00 Adults, £1.00 Children  
Doors open at 6.30pm for 7.00pm start  
All are welcome





We will be starting a new bereavement journey on

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February at 2.00 pm.

If you know of anyone who would benefit from this course, please let them know and encourage them to contact Eunice. It is for anyone bereaved anytime and takes the format of 7 sessions (around 2 hours each) with films, discussion and refreshments.

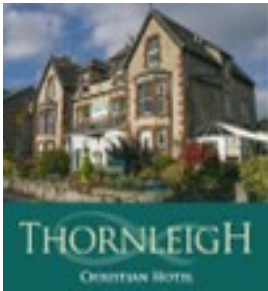


**Called to Serve: Vocations Day Conference 27<sup>th</sup> January 2024  
Foxhill, Frodsham**

There are many ways to serve God.

This is a valuable opportunity to find out more about different types of ministry and service, including licensed or lay ministries e.g. ordination, pastoral work or Reader and a variety of other ways of serving God in both the church and the world.

For more information, please speak to Revd Mike or Revd Eunice.



**Thornleigh Weekend - Friday 10<sup>th</sup> - Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May**

There are a few spaces left for our Thornleigh weekend.

We are anticipating another great time of fun, good food, fellowship and encouragement. Why not consider joining us? (Accommodation cost £284; transport (to and from church) and outings extra.) If you are interested, please see Eunice.

**Funeral this week:**

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January

11.30am

Betty Worthington

Christ Church

**Anniversaries:** Alan Atkinson, Winifred Louise Gibson, Walter Meadowcroft, Arina Jones, Stanley Nelson, Chris Green, John Scarffe, Jack Hussey, Mildred McGrey, Audrey May Evans, Doreen Tierney, Florence Higgins, John McGreevey, George Henry Burkey, Lewis Emrys Jones, Jean Adlard, Tilly Woods, Marc Clarke, Maurice Rawsthorne.

**Prayer List:** Finley Armstrong, Sharon Beecham, Rob Bell, Ian Buckley, Eloise Cook, John Henry & Edna Edwards, Linda Evans, Deborah Ferguson, Geoff Hall, Pam Hollinshead, Kitty, Arthur & Louise Jones, Ted Jones, Jim & Maureen Lloyd, Will McElroy, Geoff News, Grahame Owen, Dave Price, Rita Quine, Sam Roach, Howard Rogers, Jenny Russell, John Russell, Janet Shorrock, Yvonne Slerman, Audrey Smith, Barbara & Steve Smith, Roisin Terris, Amelia Trenbirth, Gill & Terry Walters, Jane & Malcolm Wheatley, Linda & Ron White, Theresa Whitfield.

Vicar: Rev. Mike Loach 0151 609 0943 [mgloach@gmail.com](mailto:mглоach@gmail.com)

Associate Minister: Rev. Eunice Blackmore 0151 648 5343 [euniceblackmore@talktalk.net](mailto:euniceblackmore@talktalk.net)

Parish Secretary: Victoria Gleave 0151 608 4429

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