

# Christ Church Higher Bebington

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent/ Mothering Sunday**

**Sidespeople:** Rhona Snelson & Fiona Murphy.

**Next week:** Bev Price & Liz Bird.



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

This morning Revd. Mike Loach will lead and Colette Millington, from our Ministry Team, will preach at our 10am Mothering Sunday Service.

## HYMNS

313 Lord of all hopefulness

148 From heaven you came,  
helpless babe

Light of the World

10,000 Reasons

## Collect

**God of love,  
passionate and strong,  
tender and careful:  
watch over us and hold us  
all the days of our life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen**

## Thoughts for the week:

"A mother's love is something that no one can explain – it is made of deep devotion and of sacrifice and pain. It is endless and unselfish and enduring, come what may. For nothing can destroy it or take that love away. It is patient and forgiving when all others are forsaking. And it never fails or falters even though the heart is breaking."  
- *Helen Steiner Rice*

"Love is unselfishly choosing for another's highest good."  
- *C S Lewis*

"Social togetherness is more important now than it ever was.

Traditional festival days and related celebrative events in the calendar bring people together and strengthen communities."

Mothering Sunday has come a long way from its origins but remains a means of fostering closeness. "  
- *Mothers' Union website*



ViOla's Pop-Up Bread Bakery  
is here **this morning** in the  
Kings Hall following our  
Mothering Sunday service.

Please join us  
**this evening**  
**at 6.30pm**  
for Sung Evensong



The first reading is from Ephesians 2: 1-10.

Made alive in Christ

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions – it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

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.** (19: 25-27)(NIVUK)

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing near by, he said to her, 'Woman, here is your son,' and to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

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



Mothers' Union collection

Our Mothers' Union (MU) branch will be having a retiring collection today to support the MU Annual 'Make a Mother's Day' Appeal. Funds raised go to MU projects that make a big difference for mothers and their families both in the UK and around the world.



Oasis Wellbeing Support Group: Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March at 1.30pm  
Jill Wright will be leading a general discussion and planning of future topics. All are welcome.

**Garden Gang - Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March - 10.00am-12 noon**

Pam and the Garden Gang will be leading a work party in the garden, to cut back winter overgrowth, do summer planting and start to weed the memorial plots in the graveyard.

Families welcome. Refreshments on offer.



## Regular Activities at Christ Church

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March**



- 9.00am Start the week with prayer
- 9.30am Toddler Group
- 1.30pm Sit Fit - chair based exercises
- 3.00pm Housegroup - "The Chosen"
- 5.00pm Music Group



**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March**



- 10.30am Welsh Café
- 10.30am Happy Reading Group
- 10.30am 'Classy Cleaners' in Vestry



**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March**



- 9.30am Baby Group
- 10.30am Connect Café
- 10.30am Holy Communion
- 1.30pm Garden Gang
- 1.30pm Oasis Well Being Support Group
- 3.30pm Lego Church
- 7.00pm Tai Chi



**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March**



- 10.30am Mothers' Union
- 10.30am Line Dancing
- 12.30pm Prayers for Peace
- 1.30pm Sit Fit - chair based exercises
- 2.00pm Bereavement Journey
- 2.00pm Choir practice



**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March**

- 10.30am Indoor Bowls
- 2.00pm Bridge Club
- 7.00pm Boulders' Social



**Easter Egg Hunt — Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March, 10.00am-12 noon**

Easter crafts, Lego building, cakes, display of art by local school children and, of course, the Egg Hunt. Everyone is welcome.



There will also be a tombola and we would very much appreciate any donations of cakes and chocolate items for this.

Any chocolate items can be left at the parish office.

**Christ Church Magazine:** Prior to lockdown, the church magazine was an important part of how we communicated with our parishioners. Since then, we have expanded our digital connections, but haven't replaced many of the good things that the magazine offered and, understandably, people do miss it. We would love to start it up again, but in order to do so, need volunteers to help put it together and an editor to take overall responsibility. Please do give some consideration as to whether this is something that you could help with - it would be very much appreciated by many. Every blessing, Mike

### **Opportunities to further explore our faith:**

We offer several groups that meet regularly for fellowship and discussion around matters of faith.

**2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of the month:** watching "The Chosen" a drama series about those who met Jesus

3pm - 4.30pm: Led by Pam & Rev Mike in the Troughton Room

7pm – 9.00pm: Led by Helen & Diane at 3 Rotherwood Close

**2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of the month:** discussing the "Watch & Pray" Lenten booklets. 8pm - 9pm: Led by Ian, Colette & Rev Eunice on Zoom

Starting on **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March** at 7pm Rev Mike will be leading a monthly **Bible study group** attempting to read the books of the New Testament in a year! The first session will be on the **Gospel of Mark** and all are asked to have read this in advance. If you'd like to join in with this, please sign the sheet at the back of church.

All our groups are very welcoming and friendly and are open to everyone...

**Wanted!** Social media savvy volunteers to keep our Facebook page up to date. This is mainly to advertise our services and events and Mike would happily talk through requirements with anyone who is willing to help. Many thanks.



If you have any garden plants-bulbs, or small shrubs you no longer need, Duncan would like them for our new flower bed. Please leave them next to 'Beb Shed' & text him on 07906 296835.



### **Forthcoming Funeral:**

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March      2.00pm      Kirsty Mitchell      Christ Church

**Funerals last week:** Peter Barry Green, Irene May Jones.

**Anniversaries:** Reginald Chalkley, David Ellis, Jeffrey Ian Biggs, Thomas Wood, Margaret Metcalfe, Madeline Harford, Kathleen Whittaker, Margaret Howard, Olive Vera Ogden, Oriel Parnell, Marguerite Constance Hellaby, Margaret Edge, Sheila Jones, Jenny Rome, Stephen Brennan, Roy Bentley, John Molloy.

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

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