

Christ Church Higher Bebington

Sunday 29th December 2024
Christmas 1



Our God is a God of
"New" Beginnings!!

Sidespeople: Bev Price & Grace Fagan
Next week: Fiona Murphy & Diane Shaw

Welcome to Christ Church! We are all one in the Spirit!
This morning Revd. Mike Loach will lead and Pam Hollinshead,
Lay Reader, will preach at our 10.00am Parish Communion Service.

HYMNS

- 526 Unto us a boy is born
- 251 Infant holy, infant lowly
- 439 See amid the winter's snow
- 183 Good King Wenceslas

Prayer for the week

**Almighty God,
who wonderfully created us in
your own image and yet more
wonderfully restored us through
your Son Jesus Christ:
grant that, as he came to share in
our humanity, so we may share
the life of his divinity;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.**

Amen

Thoughts for the week:

- "Another year, another set of resolutions I forgot about by February."
- *Unknown*
- "Every moment is a fresh beginning."
- *T. S. Eliot*
- "When rival worldviews are in play, it is not adaptation that is called for but confrontation: confrontation"
- *John Piper, The Supremacy of Christ in a Postmodern World*



New Year's Day Coffee, Chat & Prayers
Pam Hollinshead will be leading prayers in the
Community Centre on **Wednesday 1st January** (New
Year's Day) at **10.30am**. Please join us then.



The first reading is from Luke 2: 41-52 (NIVUK)

The Boy Jesus at the Temple

⁴¹ Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. ⁴² When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. ⁴³ After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. ⁴⁴ Thinking he was in their company, they travelled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you." ⁴⁹ "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰ But they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁵¹ Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. ⁵² And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Colossians 3:

Glory to you, O Lord.

12-17 (NIVUK)

¹² Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³ Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

¹⁴ And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

¹⁵ Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

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

Wishing our wonderful church family a very happy Christmastide
and a blessed 2025.

Thank you for all the support and love that you have given us over the
course of the year - we are very lucky.

With love and prayers,

Mike, Sarah, Sam & Harry (& Jumble!) xxxx

And blessings and thanks from Eunice too! x



Parish Office Christmas/New Year opening hours

The Parish Office will be closed between Christmas and New Year
and will **re-open on Thursday 2nd January.**

If you need to contact a member of the Clergy during this time,
please ring the **Vicarage on 0151 609 0943** and we will aim to
get back to you as soon as possible.

Befrienders' Group

Befrienders, a group for the recently bereaved, will next meet
on **Thursday 2nd January at 12.30pm** for a sandwich lunch.



Chris & Ted Edwards will be leading the next walk on
Friday 3rd January from West Kirby to Hoylake via Red Rocks.
Refreshments in Hoylake and return to West Kirby by train so
travel passes needed. Distance is 3 to 4 miles.
Usual start time 10am at church. All are welcome.



Sunday 5th January at 4.00pm

A fun event with Bible stories and activities for children
their siblings and parents/carers.

Topic: "Moses and the burning bush".



Bereavement Journey

The next Bereavement Journey will start on

Thursday 16th January, 2.00-4.00pm.

If you are aware of anyone who could benefit from this course
please ask them to contact Eunice via the Parish Office.

The next monthly **New Testament study** will be on
Monday 20th January at 7.00pm in the Troughton Room
when Revd. Mike will be leading the session on
'Philemon, 1 Timothy, 2 Timothy & Titus'. All are welcome.

We are always looking for **volunteers** to help run our many groups, which
often offer an invaluable lifeline for many in the parish.
If you feel you might be able to help in any way, please speak with Mike or
Eunice or pop into the Parish Office any weekday morning. Thank you.

11th Bebington Scout Group (Beavers, Scouts are desperately in need of people. They especially need someone willing to step forward to lead the **Cub group**, but also tea-makers, activity planners, tidy-uppers and helpers, for as little or as much time as you can spare (Mondays or Thursdays). Training and support is available from Merseyside Scouting, but you are welcome to come along first to see what happens at the meetings. For more information, please email: 11thbebingtonbeavers@gmail.com;11th bebingtoncubs@gmail.com or 11thbebingtonscouts@gmail.com, or contact the Parish Office. Thank you.

Church Chats: Working Conversations Group and Christ Church are continuing to offer "Church Chats", a free talking therapy service. You can have up to six sessions of face-to-face talking therapy. A solution-focused approach is used to help you move from where you are to where you would like to be, whatever your hope. If interested, please contact Laura Gregory:m:07842 312542/laura@workingconversationsgroup.org

Forthcoming Funeral:

Val Butterworth	Monday 30 th December	11.30am	Landican
Awen Burton	Monday 6 th January	11.00am	Landican
Joan McNally	Wednesday 8 th January	12.30pm	Christ Church
Gwendoline Prince	Friday 10 th January	12 noon	Christ Church

Anniversaries:

Colin Christian, Bill Jones, Philip Humphries, Heather Millington, Sheila Timmons, William Swaby, Jeff Rickards, Dorothy Lewis, John Wild, Keith Royden, Francis Duffy, Marguerite Burton, Ian Lauder, Denise Eyre-Walker, Alex Cameron, Amy Fazakerley, Reginald Turner, John Halliday, Ken Harrison, Hilda Collins, Annie Hindley, Mary Turner, Olwen Bowles, Margaret Hauffe, George Martin.

Prayer List: Finley Armstrong, Sharon Beecham, Rob Bell, Ian Buckley, Eloise Cook, Sonia Croft, Julie Crosbie, John Henry & Edna Edwards, Deborah Ferguson, Gerry Ffrench, Geoff Hall, Pam Hollinshead, Kitty, Arthur & Louise Jones, Ted Jones, Finley Kay, Caroline Kirchin, Jim & Maureen Lloyd, Will McElroy, Lin Murphy, Geoff Newns, Trev Noble, David Owen, Grahame Owen, Ben Parkinson, Dave Price, Joan Price, Joyce Preston, Rita Quine, John Russell, Kate Sharp, Jan Shorrocks, Yvonne Slerman, Audrey Smith, Barbara & Steve Smith, Theresa Smith, Roisin Terris, Amelia & Sue Trenbirth, Paddy Walsh, Gill & Terry Walters, Jane & Malcolm Wheatley, Linda & Ron White.

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