

Christ Church Higher Bebington

Sunday 22nd February 2026
1st Sunday of Lent



Welcomers: Ny & Dave Gibson and Geraldine Taylor

Next week: Mike Thorne, Rhona Snelson, Margaret Williamson & Jean Coventry

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

This morning Revd. Eunice Blackmore will lead, Helen Byrne, Lay Reader will preach, and Pete Roach will be talking about his involvement with Wirral Foodbank at our 10.00am Service of the Word. There will be a short Communion service at 11.45am.

HYMNS

- 422 Praise my soul the King of Heaven
- 145 Forty days and Forty Nights
- 27 Amazing Grace
- 298 Let there be love

Prayer for the week

**Heavenly Father, your Son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to you in the desert: help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord
Amen**

Thoughts for the week:

“Repentance is a process and not something that happens at one particular moment. It requires consistency.”
- *Francisco J Vinas*

“Never forget the three powerful resources you always have available to you: love, prayer and forgiveness.”
- *H. Jackson Brown Jnr*

“The time is always right to do what is right.”
- *Martin Luther King Jnr*



Please join us **this evening at 6.30pm in the Centre** for a Service of Reflection, ‘Free to be’. The theme is ‘Let go and let the prayer flow’.



Don't Eat Sunday Lunch Alone - **Sunday 1st March at 12.30pm**
Broadway Steak & Wine



Sunday 1st March at 4.00pm: A fun event with Bible stories and playful activities for children, their siblings and parents/carers. Theme: Adam & Eve

The first reading from Genesis 3: 1-7 (NRSV)

The First Sin and Its Punishment

³ Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’” ² The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³ but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’” ⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die, ⁵ for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God knowing good and evil.” ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Regular Activities at Christ Church

Monday 23rd February



9.00am Morning Prayer on Zoom 

9.30am Toddler Group

1.30pm Sit Fit

Tuesday 24th February



10.00am Indoor Bowls 

10.30am Happy Reading Group

Wednesday 25th February



9.30am Baby Group 

10.00am Connect Café with Oasis 

10.30am Holy Communion

Thursday 26th February



10.30am Line Dancing 

12.30pm Prayers for Peace

1.30pm Sit Fit

2.00pm Choir Practice

2.00pm Bereavement Journey 

7.30pm Dru Yoga 

Friday 27th February



10.30am Tai Chi 

12 noon Lunch Club



Experience Easter: 16-20 March

The next Planning meeting is on **Wednesday 4th March**
at 12.15pm in the Troughton Room.

Please come before 12 noon for a drink at Connect Coffee and support the Co-op Academy students holding their charity cake sale.

If you would like to help with the Experience, please speak to Libby or Eunice.



Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 4: 1-11
Glory to you, O Lord. (NRSV)

The Testing of Jesus

4 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. 2 He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. 3 The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." 4 But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

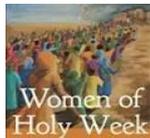
5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, 6 saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

7 Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, 9 and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." 10 Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

11 Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

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



Lent Course: Women of Holy Week

Fiona Murphy will be leading this course of 4 sessions on:

Tuesday 24th February, Monday 2nd March, Tuesday 10th March & Tuesday 24th March, 1.30pm-2.45pm in the Troughton Room. Please add your name to the sign up sheet, if you would like to join the sessions.

A few **Lent booklets** are available at the back of church. If you would like to take one, please make a small donation, which can be left in the wall safe.

A Big thank you from Mothers' Union to all who supported our 150th Anniversary Scone and Soup Lunch on Ash Wednesday. It resulted in a great attendance and the fellowship with our church family and visitors was just wonderful and carried on into the early afternoon. Our branch members really appreciate everyone's support for this event and it was great to be able to raise awareness of the 'faith in action' work of the MU over the last 150 years! . Donations on the day raised an amazing £350 towards ongoing MU projects, particularly on this occasion to those linked to the prevention of gender based violence.



I Will Give You Rest: Come

World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice. This year's service prepared by Nigeria.



Join with others at St John the Evangelist, New Ferry - Friday 6th March, 2pm

Good Friday (3rd April) Journey to the Cross: 10.30am Mayer Park

We are invited to join with St Andrew's to re-enact the events of Holy Week.

If you are interested in taking part in the drama, please let Eunice know this weekend.

APCM: Our annual meeting will be on Sunday 26th April, following the main service.

Please send reports for the various groups to the Parish Office ASAP.

If you have not yet completed an Electoral Roll form, please consider doing so - copies are at the back of church.



Proposed date: Saturday 27th June

We are looking for someone to co-ordinate a team of volunteers to organise our much appreciated Summer Fair this year. If you are interested, please speak to Eunice or the Parish Office as soon as possible.

Bible Reading Notes 2026

Have you ever considered reading the Bible daily by yourself, but would like some help? If so, you may like to consider purchasing (starting in May) a set of daily notes. Please see Gaynor Galway for an application form and prices (even if you already purchase these notes) as soon as possible.

As our vacancy for a new incumbent is re-advertised, so our prayer is:-

God our Father, help us to put our trust in you to send your chosen person to lead us on to where you would have us to be. Amen

Anniversaries:

Peter Salmon, John Theobald, Malcolm Brown, Tom Wood, Isobel Audrey Williams, Patricia May Benson, George Stanley (Stan) Chiocchi, Frederick Fox, Martha Brown, Megan Rhonwen Shaw, Robert Howarth, Elizabeth Marion Porter, Lisa Light, Jean Christian.

Prayer List: Finlay Armstrong, Sharon Beecham, Thelma Brooks, Barbara Champion, Seth Cheesbrough, Eloise Cook, Debbie Edwards, John Henry & Edna Edwards, Gerry Ffrench, Gaynor Galway, Bridget Hamilton, David Hamilton, Pam Hollinshead, Kitty & Louise Jones, Ted Jones, Steve Joyner, Finley Kay, Deborah Lawrence, Jim Lloyd, Holly Martin, Lin Murphy, Grahame Owen, Andy Parnaby, Rita Quine, Anne Samuels, Yvonne & Terry Slerman, Audrey Smith, Barbara & Steve Smith, Theresa Smith, Autumn Philippa Tavui, Natasha Taylor, Roisin Terris, Amelia & Sue Trenbirth, Paddy Walsh, Gill & Terry Walters, Jane & Malcolm Wheatley, Linda & Ron White.

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

Parish Secretary: Victoria Gleave 0151 608 4429

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