

new winepress

40p

November & December 2019



Christ Church Orpington

Devoted to Christ – Dedicated to Community

Sharon’s Sharings

As our thoughts might tend towards what we are going to do for Christmas, what presents we need to buy, and where we might spend that special day, let’s pause for a moment to think about Advent.

Advent can sometimes be consumed with busyness, shopping, and preparations, but it is a very special time in its own right, and deserves some attention.

It begins with the first Sunday of Advent on Sunday 1st December on which some of us will put Advent Wreaths on our doors – the first sign of Christmas in our homes – and in church we light the first of our Advent candles. There are many variations of what each of the five candles on the Advent wreath stands for, but a common theme is: first the Patriarchs, second the Prophets, third John the Baptist, fourth the virgin Mary, and finally Jesus Christ. Another popular meaning is hope, faith, joy, peace, and light & purity. So whichever way you look at it, Advent is a time of promise, of expectation, and of hope. It is a time to think about what Jesus means in our lives and our world, and prepare our hearts for Christmas.

As we journey through Advent, memories of childhood Christmases may dance through our heads, and Christmas decorations delight our eyes, while the reality of what our own particular Christmas might look like either enhances, or dampens, our feelings.

This time of Advent, leading up to the climax of Christmas day, is the one and only time of year when people seem to possess a different attitude – one of warmth and joy - wanting to give presents and then enjoying the pleasure their

choice of gift has given; wanting to share fun, laughter, food and drink with other people; writing cards to people they may not have seen in years to let them know they still care enough to keep in touch with them; even wanting to share a friendly smile or word with complete strangers. It is as if in honour of Jesus’ birthday God too gives us a present – the present of a loving spirit to give us a small taste of how good it is to live in His love.

He gives us a second present as well. While we are enjoying all the good feelings of Christmas, He reminds us what it is all about and plants a seed in our hearts that makes us think about His son Jesus whose birthday we are celebrating. So this Advent, maybe think about offering the gift of an invitation to a carol concert or Christmas Eve service to someone who doesn’t yet understand about Jesus. He is waiting to give all who would come to Him the gift of a seed of desire to find out more about who He is, and experience personally how good it is to walk the path of their life with God.

And if you are reading this and you aren’t sure about Jesus, please grab His second gift with both hands and come and find out. You are so welcome! I know from personal experience that if someone



makes the first move, scary and daunting as it may seem, God will come running to welcome them with open arms.

Happy Christmas ☺

With much love, Sharon

Vicar of Christ Church, Orpington

Why celebrate?

When the tree is put up and the bulbs are all lit,
And the tinsel and baubles are dangling on it,
Decorations are done and presents are bought,
Would you sit down a while and give Jesus a thought?

When the parties are over and you've had a good time,
Good food, good laughter, good friendship, good wine,
You've danced and chatted with Christmas bliss
Won't you just wonder why we celebrate this?

We celebrate Christmas – the birth of our Lord,
Who came down from Heaven to live in our world.
The birth of all hope for the whole human race,
To give us a future in God's saving Grace.

He taught of His Father to all who would hear,
He always reached out to those who came near.
Prostitutes, thieves and those bound by greed,
He never once turned them away in their need.

Two thousand years later, that baby so rare
Still holds out His arms to all who draw near.
He stands at the door of your heart, knocking still,
'Mid the glitter and tinsel, the laughter and thrill.

So celebrate Christmas with passion and joy,
But remember the birth of that precious small boy.
Remember why we have Christmas at all -
GOD'S SON CAME TO EARTH, TO GIVE LIFE
TO US ALL.

With much love, Sharon

The Bible Course



The Bible Course is set up by the Bible Society. It is simply 8 DVDs which go through the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, showing the whole story of God's people. Each DVD lasts about 35 minutes.

Many of you came to this course earlier in the year. Others have followed the series in House Groups. We hope you have found it useful; we also hope it has helped you to understand, and read, the Bible more.

If any individuals or groups would like to work through the Course, you are most welcome to borrow the DVDs from me – Free! Equally, if you missed one of the series, you can borrow a particular DVD. Please see me if you would like any further information. Or ask those who came to the course! There's also a Guide book, useful but not essential, costing £5.

Bob Kendall



PRIZEWINNERS



Well done to those who had a go at my Questions based on the Time Line, which graced the church café area for the summer months.

And well done to the winners: Don Bower, Colin Fox, Gordon Holt and Barry Remnant, all of whom contributed interesting and fascinating answers. Prizes are winging their way to you. Also congratulations to two younger members, Benjamin and Luke Dunkerley, who showed great enthusiasm each week.

I do know that at least some families (yes, Caroline and Jenny, you know who you are) had a go but did not give in their answers. Shame. But it's not too late – have a try at the key question:

“Which Bible writers were not born in (what we now know as) Israel?”

Maybe House Groups would get together to produce their ideas!

There is no definitive answer, so plenty of scope for skilled research and original thought. And the following article may give you some clues!...

Bob Kendall

Who wrote “GENESIS”?



Last issue we found out that the third Gospel was written by Doctor Luke, who also wrote the Acts of the Apostles.

This article is getting to the deep end!

GENESIS, the first book of the Bible, refers to stories and history which took place

before writing as we know it was properly developed. We haven't got contemporary records of how the Book was built up. So, not easy! But we are undeterred!

Evangelical Christians believe that the Bible is a special book whose writers were inspired in a special way by God. No-one knows exactly how this works. And hasn't science disproved it all anyway? Well, the easy answer to that is: Definitely No! The Bible stands up remarkably well. And of course, the Jews see Genesis and the next four books, making up the Pentateuch, or Torah, as the keystone of their Jewish Old Testament.

But who wrote it? Well, we are not told in the book itself, which is, frustratingly, quite common. So, a slight cop out, but I give you 4 answers!?

1st: The People: Word of mouth

In those days not much was written down.

Writing was gradually introduced: in Mesopotamia, Egypt, and no doubt China. Papyrus from the river reeds in Egypt was good but not widely distributed. Stone tablets in Babylon were not practical for ordinary use, and were mainly kept for legal contracts and official recording.

In every nation, mothers and fathers would tell stories to their children. These of course would be passed on through generations. “Never forget these commands I am giving you today. Teach them to your children. Repeat them” (Deuteronomy 6 v 6) was the Jewish mantra.

2nd: Moses

In some Bible editions, this is called the First Book of Moses. But these words were added by the translators into English. They

are not wrong, because the Jewish commentators, and Jesus himself, called the first 5 books The Law of Moses. Certainly, Moses was entrusted by God to make sure things were recorded: “Yahweh said to Moses, write an account of this victory, so that it will be remembered” (Exodus 17v14).

In practice, people would name books after the key character.

Julius Caesar’s Gallic wars, for example, were not written by Caesar himself. He was far too busy winning battles. But his followers, very wisely, wished to give him the kudos and glory. The cult of celebrity ruled then!

In the same way, Moses would not have written Genesis. He had a nation to look after – no easier then than today! But I’m sure he would have influenced it. He had a Court education (Exodus 2) in Egypt. He could write (Exodus 34v28). He would have been the source material for his meeting With God on Mount Sinai (Exodus 20). And he was asked by God to be responsible for the writing (see Exodus 17v14 above).

But as we have suggested, this is not the same as expecting Moses to do all the work himself. He was fortunate: to assist him, he had...

3rd: Scribes

Clearly many of the details in the first 5 books were written down very early in Jewish history. We do not know when, but God’s instructions were clear. The Deuteronomy 6v6 passage we looked at earlier, after “Never forget these commands... Teach them to your children” continues “Tie them to your arms”! That is, Jewish boys wore phylacteries on their arms,

with room for, probably, sheets of papyrus recording key issues.

Clearly there were also central copies kept somewhere. The Levite tribe were responsible for all aspects of the law, including recording it.

And the well-educated Scribes were instructed to write this information, from legal documents to historical incidents and stories. In our section on the History Books, we shall look more closely at these Records.

4th: Ezra the Priest

Now this will surprise some of you. Over the thousand or so years of the history of God’s people, written records were made, kept carefully, maybe added to, read (sometimes!), and revered (sometimes!).

Most scholars are fairly convinced that during the time of the Exile, when God’s people were captive in Babylon and Persia, they realised the need to get all their written records together in some way. Many of God’s people were being spread round the known world somewhat. So when some, but by no means all of the Jews, returned to Jerusalem around 500 B.C., this need was even greater, and what we know as the Old Testament was gradually built up (though some of the later prophet Books had not yet been written).

Ezra the priest was the leader during this period, and was probably responsible for this and for tidying up the texts which the scribes had gradually collated. The final Canon – the actual 39 books of the Hebrew Bible which make up our Old Testament – was decided much later.

Note that the earliest writing was not in Hebrew – this was developed later in the

Promised Land from Phoenician – but of course it became the official language of the Old Testament. By Ezra’s time, due to dispersion, fewer Jews spoke Hebrew, another reason why it was important to record God’s dealings with his people before the language died out!

Of course, Hebrew remained the language for religious documents, and still is, but later translations were often in Greek and then Latin, so there was more universal access to what they believed to be God’s Word.

Bob Kendall

The Two Minute Silence

Schoolgirls in 1918 were warned that they might never be married. So many prospective husbands had been killed in World War I, that their chances could be slim. It’s hard for us to imagine the slaughter. The total number of both civilian and military casualties is estimated at around 37 million people, ending only when the Armistice took effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month in 1918.

The idea of a ‘Two Minute Silence’ originated in South Africa. The first minute was to be a time of thanksgiving for those who had returned alive, and the second minute was to remember the fallen. It was taken up by King George V, writing, “it is my desire and hope that at the hour when the Armistice came into force, there may be for the brief space of two minutes a complete suspension of all our normal activities.”

It had an immediate impact. An observer wrote, “The whole World Stands to Attention. From the Indian jungles to Alaska, on the trains, on the ships at sea, in every part of the

globe where a few British were gathered together, the Two-Minute pause was observed.”

The Great War was said to be ‘the war to end all wars’. But it wasn’t. About three per cent of the world population were to die in World War II. Today’s 11th November commemoration, repeated on the nearest Sunday, now incorporates all wars.

The Royal British Legion describes the Act of Remembrance as a deeply personal act available to everyone, acknowledging the service and sacrifice of the Armed Forces and their families, across all conflicts.

In keeping the Two Minute Silence, many will long for the day when, in the words of the prophet Isaiah, “They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.”

Farewell Andrena

Dear CCO YOUTH, parents/carers, colleagues and friends,

I can officially announce that I shall be leaving Christ Church this term, and I shall be going to the Church Army to become a Pioneer Evangelist with their Hackney centre of mission

(https://www.churcharmy.org/Articles/528842/What_we_do/Centres_of_Mission/England/Hackney_Centre_of.aspx).

This centre of mission is a part of Hackney Marsh Team Ministry

(<https://www.hackneymarshteam.org.uk/welcome.htm>)

The purpose of my role will be: "To work as a pioneer evangelist within the Hackney Centre of Mission focusing on unchurched young people 11+, delivering innovative high-quality ministry that through relationships and projects invites young people to experience the life transforming power of the Good News of Jesus".

I have many great memories of my 6 years at Christ Church - and leaving has made me very sad.

A scripture to bless you with:

Second Thessalonians 3:16

"Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in every way. The Lord be with you all."

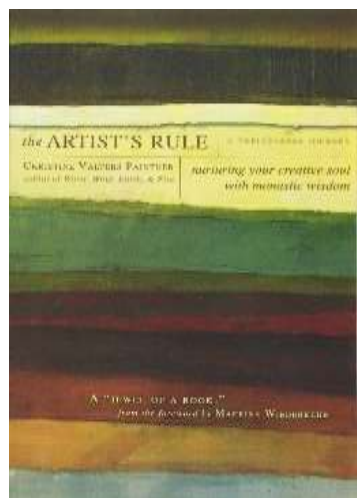
With best wishes
and love,

Andrena Palmer

Youth and Community Minister,
Christ Church Orpington



The following poem was inspired by the book, the Artist's Rule by Christine Valters Paintner and a poem within, *I am*



going to start living like a Mystic by Edward Hirsch. The challenge is to take the title of a poem and use it as a writing prompt to develop your own.

Start Living

*I am going to start living life
like a monk:*

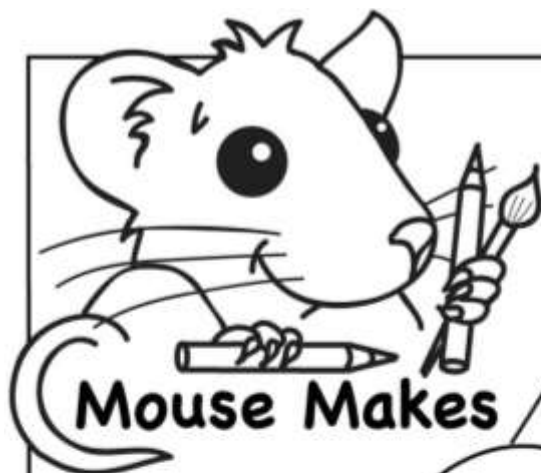
*Seeking God in the small things,
Listening for the still whisper,
Feet grounded, step stepping the
spiral path closer to my Lord,
Doing the rhythms of daily routines
in love and worship,
Following steps of grace,
Cloaked in love.*

*Time to be.
Inner self restored, renewed,
strengthened,
Rooted and centred.
Breathe in
Breathe out
Small acts of service
In gratitude for His large ones.*

*I am going to start living life
like an artist:*

*Open hands reaching wide,
Senses taking in His creation,
Inspiration everywhere,
Allowing joy to rise
As steps become dance,
Making space to breathe,
To receive, to create,
A cracking open, a freeing,
A widening,
A response to my Creator God
To His light streaming, star twinkling,
Bird choir, beetle orchestra
Dewy glass glistening, waves crashing
Cool air to the heat of the day
So many blessings
My soul soars to respond.*

Lyall Wade



Mouse Makes

Colour in one star
a day as you
countdown to
Christmas

"I bring you **good news** that
will bring great **joy** to all
people. The **Saviour** has
been born today! ...

Glory to God in the
highest heaven, and
peace on earth to
those with whom
God is pleased".

*from Luke 2
vs. 10,11,14*



C H R I S T M A S

B A B Y T H O L Y J U D E A R T H
B J P E A C E S O N O F L O C K P U S
R O F I E L D E G A S H E P H E R D S
I Y O N B O R N O Z E G M A R Y A A A
N M R N A T O Z O A P A A L I R I V V
G O D S C H I L D R H L N A S O S I I
L J E S U S H O N E L I G H T O E D O
O G U A R D I B E T H L E H E M Z S U
R S L S H E E P W H Y E R L O R D O R
Y N N A N G E L S B H E A V E N A M E

MARY • JOSEPH • NAZARETH • GALILEE • JUDEA • BETHLEHEM • DAVID
HOLY • CHILD • BABY • SON • NAME • JESUS • MANGER • ROOM • INN
SHEPHERDS • FIELD • GUARD • FLOCK • SHEEP • ANGELS • SHONE • BRING
GOOD NEWS • JOY • SAVIOUR • BORN • CHRIST • LORD • LIGHT
PRAISE • GLORY • GOD • PEACE • EARTH • HEAVEN • CHRISTMAS

Mystery Sudoku

Sudoku with a twist – solve the puzzle and you’ll discover that one of the rows/columns/blocks spells out a word, phrase, place or a song

NGE	K!T				ER		DA	
	ER		HEH		LSS			
			K!T			ING		
DA							ER	NGE
AL	HAR							DA
		HAR			NGE			
			LSS		K!T		HEH	
ING	HEH		AL			DA	LSS	

Last edition's sudoku solution



FA	THE	RT	RW	OUR	VEN	HOA	INH	EA
INH	OUR	HOA	RT	FA	EA	RW	THE	VEN
EA	RW	VEN	INH	THE	HOA	OUR	FA	RT
THE	HOA	FA	EA	RW	OUR	VEN	RT	INH
VEN	RT	INH	FA	HOA	THE	EA	OUR	RW
OUR	EA	RW	VEN	RT	INH	FA	HOA	THE
RW	VEN	THE	OUR	INH	FA	RT	EA	HOA
RT	INH	OUR	HOA	EA	RW	THE	VEN	FA
HOA	FA	EA	THE	VEN	RT	INH	RW	OUR



OUR FATHER WHO ART IN HEAVEN

Word Search

War and remembrance

2019 marks the 75th anniversary of the D-Day Landings, when the Allied Forces of Britain, America, Canada, and France attacked the German forces on the coast of Normandy, France. The Allies' victory became the turning point for World War II in Europe. 2019 also marks the 100th anniversary of the first Armistice Day (now Remembrance Day). It was in 1919 that King George V had issued a proclamation calling for a two-minute silence at 11:00am on 11th November, to remember the members of the armed forces who lost their lives in the line of duty.

DDAY	WORLD
LANDINGS	WAR
ALLIED	TWO
ARMED	ARMISTICE
FORCES	KING
BRITAIN	GEORGE
AMERICA	REMEMBRANCE
CANADA	MINUTE
FRANCE	SILENCE
GERMAN	LOST
COAST	LIVES
NORMANDY	DUTY
VICTORY	

A T I C S E S C U I A C E
 L N A M R E G R O E G C A
 W O R L D B R I T A I N M
 M D E M L G E A U T S V N
 D E T U N I M C S I I T I
 A M T I O E E I N C U L N
 N R K S R R M D T A A A Y
 T A F I M R B O D N R I V
 I W C L A S R N D A R F O
 L A O E N Y A I E D Y I D
 L S E N D B N R E A U O Y
 T I I C Y G C O M R L T L
 L I V E S S E C R O F O Y

D A N E L E H L R N E
 N R O R E P M E O T M
 E C I L M T S A M M O
 D M X U D Y I R A L R
 E N I T N A T S N O C
 A R F G R C Y I E B H
 T V I C T O R Y E M U
 H S C I P R H O L Y R
 S B U R I A L M S S C
 Y E R H C L U P E S H
 S S C E L E B R A T E

Last edition's solution



I am stockpiling, just in case...

The Ordained Ministry – Jenny Warrington

At the successful conclusion of training, an ordinand is made deacon to serve in a specific *parish*, usually for a three-year appointment. He cannot, in fact, be made deacon without the promise of a post in a *parish*, and is said to serve his title there. After a year of such service, during which he will be undergoing post-ordination training, he will be ordained priest and will continue in the same parish until his period of contract is completed or extended. In his first year as deacon, the *curate* is not authorised to preside at a service of Holy Communion (that authority is given when he is ordained priest); nor is a deacon authorised to pronounce the absolution or blessing. Not all deacons proceed with ordination to the priesthood; some remain permanent deacons.

There were joyful scenes at Rochester Cathedral on Saturday 28th September as 15 people were ordained as deacons



and priests



The ordinands come from a wide variety of backgrounds and experiences and include a former barrister, founder of a charity, bonsai tree grower and doctor.

"Although there is so much to learn I bring my skills in pastoral care, music and group work. My quiet, calm character that longs for flourishing and reconciliation and a passion for Jesus who can do immeasurably more than we can ask or imagine."

Jenny
Warrington
All Saints,
Chatham



A trained doctor, Jenny has always enjoyed using her medical skills alongside short term mission work in Africa. She enjoys music in many forms and has run choirs and music groups over the years. She's looking forward to encouraging both young and old to have a go to develop a lively worshipping music group.

The services were live streamed on the CofE Rochester Facebook page, bringing this special occasion to more than 2.5 thousand people, including some who were sick or housebound.

Friends and family of those being ordained tuned in from across the globe too, from as far afield as India, America and Australia.

Having been ordained in the morning, the Rev Luke Bacon went online to watch those being deaconed: "*It's great to be able to watch live having just got back from this morning's ordination service.*" Catch up with the broadcasts and meet the #NewRevs at:

www.rochester.anglican.org/ministry/new-revs/

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The Great Friday Bake Off

As part of our commitment to helping others, Christ Church Orpington Youth groups on Friday 27th September made and iced fairy cakes, rocky road biscuit bars, chocolate krispies and flapjacks! After the Harvest service on Sunday 29th September, some of the Pathfinders and Juice members sold these cakes to raise funds!



MANY THANKS for those who bought cakes and/or donated towards our MacMillan coffee morning. The young people worked really hard and raised over £100 for this great charity!!!



WELL DONE!!!
I am a VERY PROUD YOUTH MINISTER!!!
Andrena Palmer

Cream Teas



I love a nice cream tea. So I was delighted to learn that our very own Café Mosaic was to introduce them on the last Friday of the month, from 2.30pm to 4pm.

The last Friday in September was the first time they were on offer so we made sure to be there to see what they were like. We were given a warm welcome by Jeanette and given the choice of a plain scone or a fruit scone. Having made our choice, the components were soon delivered and we were told that there would be unlimited refills of tea, but not scones of course.

There was a choice of raspberry or strawberry jam and a generous portion of cream was provided. The usual brief discussion took place as to whether the jam or the cream should go on the scone first and soon the spreading started. But it was not there just to be looked at - after a (very) short period of anticipation we ate slowly and enjoyed the experience.

Superb. We will be back.

David Grimwade

The man who married Mary

The traditional Nativity scene on our Christmas cards has Mary with the Holy Babe. Around her are the shepherds and Magi. We may also see stable animals, angels and a star! While Joseph is often included, his presence seems to be of minor importance. After all, we praise God for Jesus with our familiar Christmas carols, mentioning angels, shepherds, Wise men and Mary but the name of Joseph is absent! Why is Joseph given a low profile? For he is a man to be remembered.

Joseph was a resident of Nazareth. He worked as a carpenter and his skills would have included making furniture, repairing buildings and crafting agricultural tools. Although Joseph had an honourable profession, he would not have been a man of great wealth.

The gospel writers Matthew and Luke give Joseph a few brief mentions. After the birth of Jesus, Joseph and Mary go to the temple in Jerusalem to dedicate the Baby to God. Afterwards, they flee into Egypt to escape the wrath of Herod and much later return to Nazareth. Twelve years later, Mary and Joseph go with Jesus to Jerusalem for the Passover feast. Here they lose Jesus, and find Him in the Temple talking with religious leaders!

Apart from these verses, the New Testament is silent about the rest of Joseph's life. However, we do know that Joseph was father to other children by Mary. His four sons are named and they had at least two daughters (see Matthew 13 v 55).

And we also know that Joseph was someone who quietly and humbly took on the awesome role in caring for the early life of the Son of God. Joseph would have taught Jesus many things – not just the skills of a labourer, but the lore of the countryside which was evident in our Lord's teaching. Jesus grew up within a loving family and described God as 'Father', knowing also the good fatherly qualities of Joseph.

In the Christmas story, Joseph is placed into a situation that brought him misunderstanding and suspicion. But Joseph remained faithful in the knowledge that as long as God had spoken, the

opinion of others mattered little. Before Jesus began His ministry, it is believed that Joseph died. It is likely Jesus took on many of His father's responsibilities before He left home.

In the eyes of the world, Joseph was a nobody. He was not a man of valour, fame and fortune. But he was the one who had parental responsibility for the greatest person who has ever lived!

It is sad that we often equate ordinariness with ineffectiveness. Down the ages, God has used many ordinary people to accomplish great things. God continues to use ordinary people. Like Joseph, we need to know that doing God's will is the most important thing in life. May we, this Christmas, respond to God's call to us and please Him in all that we do.

Lester Amann

ARTS OF THE APOSTLES



A Christian dance, drama and performance group for Young People
Meeting Venue:
Christ Church Orpington
Charterhouse Road
BR6 9EP

Time: 1st & 3rd Saturday monthly
(3-5pm Prompt)

Fee: £5 At First Entry/Joining
(Then £1 each month afterwards)

Refreshments will be
provided at rehearsals

Young people will participate in acting, dancing, singing, stage setting, make-up, photography and other associated skills related to performance production

FOR MORE INFORMATION
PLEASE CONTACT 07909 288681

2019 Diary...

Sunday 3rd November

10.30am Holy Communion
6.30pm Reflect

Wednesday 6th November

10.00am Holy Communion

Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 10th November

9.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship
3.00pm Service of Remembrance -
remembering loved ones

Sunday 17th November

10.30am Sunday Serving
6.30pm Holy Communion

Christ the King

Sunday 24th November

9.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship
6.30pm Go Deeper



Advent Sunday – Gift Day



Sunday 1st December

10.30am Holy Communion
6.30pm Reflect

Wednesday 4th December

10.00am Holy Communion

Friday 6th December

Articles for *new winepress*

Sunday 8th December

9.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Morning Worship
4.00pm Christingle

Sunday 15th December



10.30am All Age Worship
6.30pm Carols
by Candlelight

Sunday 22nd December

9.00am Holy Communion
10.30am All Age Crib Service

Christmas Eve

Tuesday 24th December

11.15pm Holy Communion

Christmas Day

Wednesday 25th December

10.30am All Age Worship

Sunday 29th December

10.30am Morning Worship

new winepress

Would you like to promote a forthcoming church event or write about one that has just happened (outings, special days, re-unions, etc) then *new winepress* may just be the place to tell the wider community about what life is like at Christ Church!

The closing (copy) date for articles for the **January & February 2020** issue is **Friday 6th December 2019**

Please email your articles to our editor Vernon at vandjmapp@gmail.com If you need more time, contact Vernon on 01689 832433

NB due to copyright issues we have had in the past, can you please make sure any pictures, photo's etc can be reproduced with permission

Article: essay, report, account, story, write-up, feature, item, piece (of writing), composition, column, paper, tract, study, review, commentary, treatise, analysis, disquisition, discourse.

Acknowledgements

The Two Minute Silence; Mouse; Word Search; Cartoon; The man who married Mary; Page 16 reproduced courtesy of www.parishpump.co.uk
Nativity photo's by Chris Sowder & Gareth Harper reproduced courtesy of <https://unsplash.com>

On the Grapevine...

Welcome

We welcome to the family of Christ Church Orpington
George born to Katie & Russell Wood on Saturday 29th June 2019

With sympathy

We remember those who have recently passed away
Ann Bisset

Children's Groups

On Sunday's

During Morning Services:

The **Rainbow Room** Crèche is a fun, supervised soft play facility available on Sunday mornings for babies and children aged 0-3 years (inclusive)

CLIMBERS is for children aged 3 to 7 years and meet in the Small Hall. Activities each week include singing, Bible stories, games and craft

EXPLORERS is for children aged 7 to 11 years and meet in the Large Hall for singing and crafts in a framework of Christian teaching

Pathfinders is for young people aged 11 to 14+ and meet in the basement of the church for games, videos, drama and discussions, looking at the Bible and discussing relevant issues

During Evening Services:

Juice for young people who are year 10+ in a place where you can be yourself and hear something about how great our God is!
Juice meet on alternate Sunday evenings (6.30pm – 8pm) in the Undercroft at Christ Church.

ATSOC POD (for those year 11+) meet bi-weekly at Costa, Tesco, 4pm - 5pm

Woof?

If dogs could talk, it would take a lot of fun out of owning one.

Branding

The word ‘aerobics’ was invented when the gym instructors got together and said: ‘If we're going to charge £20 an hour, we can't call it Jumping Up and Down.’

Your choice

One beautiful Sunday morning, a priest announced to his congregation:

‘My good people, I have here in my hands three sermons...a £100 sermon that lasts five minutes, a £50 sermon that lasts fifteen minutes, and a £10 sermon that lasts a full hour.

‘Now, we'll take the collection and see which one I'll deliver.’

Weight lifting

Here’s an exercise for people who want to build muscle strength in their arms and shoulders.

Begin by standing on a comfortable surface, where you have plenty of room at each side. With a 2.5kg potato sack in each hand, extend your arms straight out from your sides, and hold them there as long as you can. Try to reach a full minute, then relax.

Each day, you'll find that you can hold this position for just a bit longer and do at least ten repetitions. After a couple of weeks, move up to 5kg potato sacks, then 12.5kg potato sacks, and eventually try to get where you can lift a 25kg potato sack in each hand and hold your arms straight out for more than a full minute.

After you have worked your way up and feel comfortable at this level, put a small potato in each of the sacks, but be careful!

Oddest

A parish magazine was reporting on a recent parish away-day at the seaside.

It said: ‘The results of our competition for the oddest item found on the beach were:

- First prize: Mrs Wainwright;
- Second prize: The Vicar; and
- Third prize, Mr Simpson.

Hold on

While out in the town, I saw an elderly couple holding hands while they were walking. As they approached, I commented on how romantic it was. The man replied, "We have been holding hands when we go out in public for years. I have to. If I let go, she shops."

Standing at the gates of heaven

At the end of the age when all the believers were standing in line waiting to get into heaven, the angel Gabriel appeared and said, “I want all the men to form two lines. One line will be for the men who were the true heads of their households. The other will be for the men who were dominated by their wives.”

Gabriel continued, “And now we need all of the women to report to Mary and Martha on the other side of the gate.”

The women left while the men hurriedly formed two lines. The line of men who were dominated by their wives was seemingly unending. The line of men who were the true head of their household had just one man standing in it.

Gabriel said to the first line, “You men ought to be ashamed of yourselves. You were appointed to be the heads of your households and you have not fulfilled your purpose. Of all of you, there is only one man who obeyed.”

Then Gabriel turned to the lone man and asked, “How did you come to be in this line?”

The man sheepishly replied, “My wife told me to stand here.”
