

Christ Church Orpington Family News

Issue 35, 21st November 2020

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HOPE

Hope. Hope, is so important. I don't know whether you have noticed but there seems to be a different atmosphere in the streets now a vaccine for Covid-19 has been discovered. And not only discovered but is also just around the corner – with the most vulnerable maybe even being vaccinated before Christmas. It has been prayed for and hoped for, and is looking like it won't disappoint, with success rates between 90% and 95% quoted. The hope that comes with this wonderful news gives reason for joy as restrictions can get lifted and we can begin to see those that we love again; reason for Peace of heart as we realise that we and those we love may survive unscathed; reason to believe that life as we have known it will be able to return soon, and reason for the fear that has stalked so many lives this year to become a thing of the past. In a world without hope, sadness and fear can dominate life. Hopelessness, the opposite of hope, can make life itself feel like a burden.

But we as Christians have hope - a greater hope that is eternal, and not dependent on outside circumstances.

Matthew 12:19 -21 quotes Isaiah 42, and applies hope to Jesus:

*¹⁹ He will not quarrel or cry out;
no one will hear His voice in the streets.*

*²⁰ A bruised reed He will not break,
and a smouldering wick He will not snuff out,
till He has brought justice through to victory.*

²¹ In His name the nations will put their hope.

In His name the nations will put their hope. In His name, we will put our hope. Hope for forgiveness and freedom from our sins; hope for reconciliation with God and an eternal life of joy with Him once this life has ended and the veil is drawn aside; hope that because of this we will see our loved ones again; hope for a relationship with the King of the Universe; hope for this earth that we have a God who listens to our prayers and has the power to change things; and hope that the "God of Angel Armies" will move heaven and earth to work miracles on our behalf. Hope...

Our God is gentle "A bruised reed He will not break" but able to withstand the greatest forces that set themselves up against Him, driving out the money changers in the temple and overturning their tables. He is gentle and "... will not quarrel or cry out", but will stand up to the

Pharisees by calling them a brood of vipers when they prevent people coming to Him.

He is a God who is gentle to those that love Him, strong enough to deal with their enemies, and in Him the nations can put their hope. You and I have hope. The most wonderful, powerful, eternal, and most REAL hope it is possible to have. Hallelujah. Let's think about how we can share our hope this Christmas?

With love and blessings,
Sharon & Andi xx

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Church November Services



**ALL SERVICES for at least the rest of
November will be streamed online at
10.30am**

**Please note, we will be in a better position to
inform you of December services a little closer
to the time. Thank you for your patience in
these changing and challenging times.**

**ALL CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S GROUPS
for at least the rest of November will take place
online**

Sun 22nd Nov 10.30am Worship Service

Sun 29th Nov 10.30am Worship Service
Advent 1 Gift Day

Sun 6th Dec 10.30am Holy Communion back in
church (God willing)

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"If you would like to give to Christ's work here at Christ Church, the best way to give is via our bank account, Sort code 40 52 40, and account number 00095465, or by sending a cheque payable to Christ Church Orpington PCC to 165 Charterhouse Road, Orpington, BR6 9EP. Thank you so much for your wonderful generosity."

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After service Coffee and biscuits

You are invited to join **Kaego** for virtual coffee from 11.45am tomorrow (Sunday 22nd November).

There are many ways to **join a Zoom meeting**, but the easiest way is to click the join link below. You can also click **Join** in your Zoom client and enter the meeting ID.

You will want an internet device with a camera, microphone and sound e.g. laptop/tablet or smartphone. If you do not have an internet connected device then you can still join for sound but not video with a normal phone. To join in, you will need to dial Zoom software free number 020 3481 5240 and then you will then be asked to enter the Meeting ID number and then the Passcode.

Kaego

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/78006287001?pwd=YlpaZ01YT3ZJRzBnQVR5bjhKREpuQT09>

Meeting ID: 780 0628 7001

Passcode: yrY9Vw

If anyone is interested in hosting, please contact Alan Goddard on goddardaanda@gmail.com

Operation Christmas Child 2020

As many of you know Christ Church have been supporting Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child for many years.

Operation Christmas child is the world's largest children's Christmas project, run by the Christian relief and development organisation Samaritan's Purse. Their mission is to demonstrate Gods love in a tangible way to needy children around the world, and together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

In light of the current situation, we think if you would like support this project it will best to fill an 'online shoebox'. This system has been available for a number of years and Samaritans Purse has made giving a Shoe box online a very successful way of supporting this project. This way people are not putting themselves and others under increasing risk by shopping for items. Empty shoeboxes are much more difficult to source this year as our usual supplier has closed and sales of shoes are down.

The link to the online service is

<https://shoebonline.samaritans-purse.org.uk/>

We hope that it will be possible to return to the usual arrangement next year.

Many thanks for your support

Simon Cluer & Alison Holt

Local History films from OVFM

During the first lockdown Orpington Video & Film Makers made several of their local history films available to be viewed. Now we are in a second lockdown you might like to watch some of these again. If so, links are provided below with three further Newsreels, from 1996, 2000 & 2001, added:

Classic Newsreels

<https://www.ovfm.org.uk/ovfm-classic-newsreels/>

VE Day 1995

<https://www.ovfm.org.uk/ve-day-celebrations-looking-back-with-ovfm/>

History of Orpington

<https://www.ovfm.org.uk/ovfm-history-of-orpington-project/>

Please pass these links to anyone you think may be interested

Christmas Choir

Please get in touch with Liesel if you'd like to record songs for the Christmas Choir. It would be great if you could join us. All welcome!

Thanks, Liesel

Liesel.Stanbridge@ntlworld.com

07511 876928

Items and Notices for next issue of Family News

Email to: vandjmapp@gmail.com by

12noon Saturday 28th November 2020

Solution to last week's Word

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

Foodbank's 'Twelve Days of (nearly) Christmas' Appeal



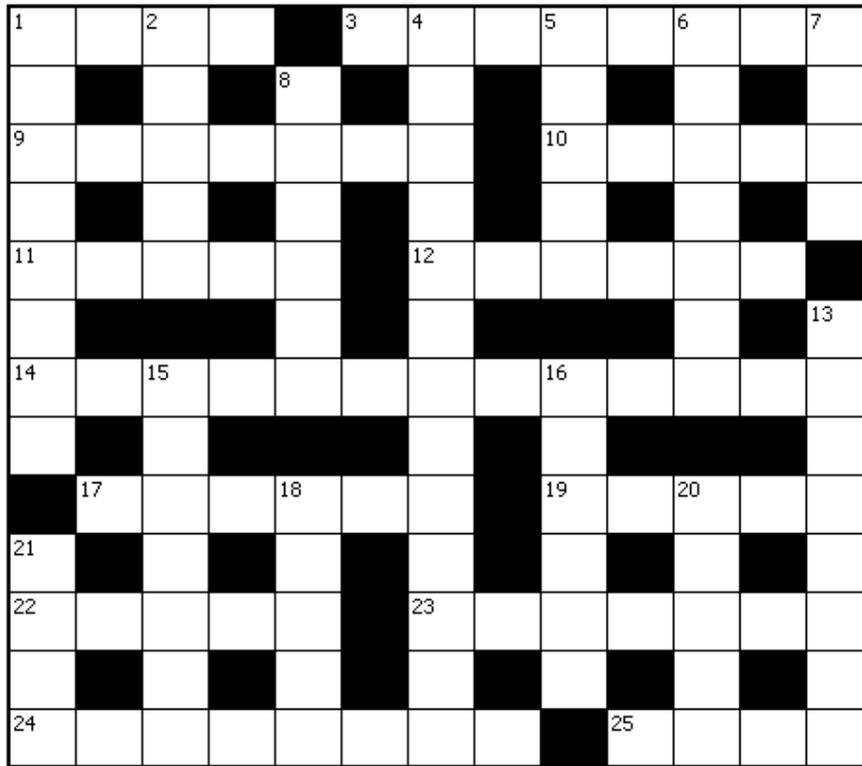
If you could deliver your Christmas donations to the foodbank by the end of November (or even sooner, if you are able to) that would be most helpful. Christmas hampers are already being packed. It takes time to do this and distribute them to the clients.

Thank you so much for your understanding, help and support!

Vanessa Dixon, Foodbank Volunteer



✚word



Across

- 1 'Those who were standing near Paul said, "You — to insult God's high priest?"' (Acts 23:4) (4)
- 3 They were assigned to guard the tree of life (Genesis 3:24) (8)
- 9 'Elkanah son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the — of —, the son of Zuph, an Ephraimite' (1 Samuel 1:1) (3,4)
- 10 Surrender (Joshua 24:23) (5)
- 11 Where American livestock can be reared (5)
- 12 Listen (anag.) (6)
- 14 Alternative name for Kiriath Jearim (2 Samuel 6:2) (6,2,5)
- 17 He founded Westminster Abbey, — the Confessor (6)
- 19 Hebrew word for the place of the dead (5)
- 22 Allies of Persia in the fifth century BC (Esther 1:3) (5)
- 23 Where John Wesley was forced to preach a lot (4,3)
- 24 Rebellion against God; abandonment of religious belief (8)
- 25 Note (anag.) (4)

Down

- 1 Give an account of (Mark 4:30) (8)
- 2 'I — — the path of your commands, for you have set my heart free' (Psalm 119:32) (3,2)
- 4 'He took the ephod, the other — — and the carved image' (Judges 18:20) (9,4)
- 5 'You are a chosen people, a — priesthood' (1 Peter 2:9) (5)
- 6 The meek, the merciful and the mourners are all this (Matthew 5:4-5, 7) (7)
- 7 Musical Instrument Digital Interface (1,1,1,1)
- 8 He was the son of Nun (Deuteronomy 34:9) (6)
- 13 'Let the little — come to me' (Matthew 19:14) (8)
- 15 'About three thousand were — — their number that day' (Acts 2:41) (5,2)
- 16 In John's vision, the wall of the new Jerusalem was made of this (Revelation 21:18) (6)
- 18 'Our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly — a Saviour from there, the Lord Jesus Christ' (Philippians 3:20) (5)
- 20 'Glorify the Lord with me: let us — his name together' (Psalm 34:3) (5)
- 21 Young Men's Christian Association (1,1,1,1)





Photo by [Dave Hoefler](#) on [Unsplash](#)