



Christ Church Orpington

Family News for 9th January 2021

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Dear Christ Church,

Because of the rising cases of Covid-19 and in order to keep everyone safe we will be having online services only until at least February 7th, when the PCC will review whether or not it is safe and wise to gather again in person.

Now is a good time, however, to remind ourselves that the church is not a building. The building is the church building, the church is the community of people who use it, who love the Lord Jesus Christ and want to praise, worship, and learn more about Him. It is also a community of people who want to have fellowship with, help and serve each other, and let those around them into the glorious knowledge of His love for us. So please do keep joining with us online at 10.30am on Sunday mornings, and keep looking for opportunities as to how you might serve others through a phone call, an email, a card, or your prayers. It is nice to receive something, but as the Lord Jesus Himself said *"...it is more blessed to give than to receive"* (Acts 20:35). And as Peter says in his first letter *"Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect..."*

(1 Peter 3: 15).

The church will still be open for individual private prayer though. I will be in the church every Wednesday morning between 10am and 11am, so the church will be open if anyone wants to come in to pray during that time. The church can also be available at other times – just contact Dave Humphries for details. If you would like to sit in the church for an hour one day a week yourself to allow others to come and pray, please let me or Dave know. Social distancing, masks and warm clothes are all essentials!

We have a mighty God who is powerful to save. Let's keep knocking on heaven's door and trusting Him with the answers.

With love and blessings,

Sharon & Andi xx

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Reflection

On the "Catford & Lewisham Way Back When" Facebook page a few weeks ago, there was reference and lots of comments about the St John's Train Crash on 4th December 1957 (surely not that long ago – but yes, it is). Although for many years it has felt as if it happened to someone else, and not me, in fact I was on that train coming from London Bridge to Catford. I was 21 at the time.

Somebody said, "How awful" and – though it was awful – for me good came out of it which I want to share with those of you who don't know, and some who will have forgotten.

I was in the last carriage of the train. It was very foggy and I remember looking out at the platform of St John Station and thinking "We're not making bad time, considering the fog".

One minute I was standing on the stationary train, reading my Woman's Own magazine, and the next I knew there was total darkness and I was sitting down. I remember saying, "Why aren't there any lights – another train could go into us" and tried to stand up, but a man stopped me and said, "A train has already gone into us, but we just have to sit quietly until they come and get us out". We were in the back of the last carriage which had been lifted up quite high by the impact.

So, there we sat in the dark – I don't know how long I had been unconscious but probably not more than a few minutes. As I sat there, I thought, "If I had died, I know I would have gone to heaven because I gave my life to Jesus a couple of years ago – but what have I ever done for Him? "I'd been invited to attend a Bible Study Group on Tuesday evenings, but didn't go because it clashed with my ballroom dancing classes. In those quiet moments, I decided it had to be Jesus first from now on. The rest is history!

Well, the rescuers turned up, a ladder was placed so we could climb down to the track, somebody put my belongings into my hands and I started to walk through someone's back garden, then along a road until finally I was in Lewisham High Street and wondering why there were so many ambulances about. I walked and walked and walked (which was probably a good thing because I may have 'walked off' the worst of the shock) until I arrived home in Hexal Road on the South Downham Estate where I collapsed in tears.

63 years have passed, but I have never regretted that decision to make Jesus Lord of all.

Joan Remnant

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2021 Online Sunday Services

Available through the Christ Church Orpington website at www.ccorpington.org

Or on Facebook (you don't need to have a Facebook account to view services online)

<https://www.facebook.com/ccorpington/live>

Sun 10th Jan 10.30am Morning Worship online

Sun 17th Jan 10.30am Morning Worship online

Sun 24th Jan 10.30am Morning Worship online

Sun 31st Jan 10.30am Morning Worship online

Sun 7th Feb 10.30am Morning Worship online

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Items and Notices for next issue of Family News

Email to: vandjmap@gmail.com by

12noon Saturday 16th January 2021

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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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Solution to 19th December 2020 **Word**

D	O	V	E		O	F	F	E	N	D	E	R	
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Zoom Virtual Coffee

Sunday 10th January 2021

You are invited to join **Alan Goddard** for virtual coffee after the morning service on Zoom at:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71117046566?pwd=N3FZNTdMREpFMW1rSXBWc3dObUNNQTO9>

Meeting ID: 711 1704 6566

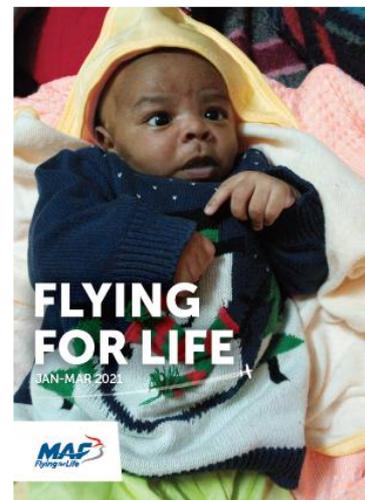
Password: 020075

There are many ways to **join a Zoom meeting**, but the easiest way is to click the join links above. You can also click **Join** in your Zoom client and enter the meeting ID and passcode. You will want an internet device with a camera, microphone and sound like a 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.

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

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MAF FLYING FOR LIFE MAGAZINE



Some of you already receive the magazine direct from MAF, but Joan Remnant has three spare copies of the First Quarter 2021 edition. If you would like one, do let her know and she will make arrangements to get it to you.

joan.remnant@btinternet.com or 01689 825393

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23/12/2020

**CHURCH
MISSION
SOCIETY**

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Church Mission Society
Watlington Road, Oxford, OX4 6BZ

T: +44(0)1865 787400
E: info3churchmissionsociety.org

churchmissionsociety.org

To the congregation of Christ Church Orpington,

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it. (John 1:5)

As the nights lengthen, my heart is lightened by your generosity in a year so full of difficulty and darkness. You are empowering our CMS people in mission to bring light into dark situations.

Thanks to your generous gift of £1330.00, CMS people in mission are inviting their neighbours and communities to experience the Christ who comes as the light of the world. Churches like yours are enabling street children to be brought to safety in Latin America; unreached people groups to be introduced to the gospel in Asia; and pioneers in the UK to be equipped as they explore fresh expressions of church.

I am so grateful for the light and hope you offer us through your gifts - we cannot bring the light of Christ to others without your help! This year especially, I give thanks every day that God has blessed CMS with the support of faithful and loving churches like yours. Please know that you can get in touch with us at any time. Your Church Relations Adviser John Orchard (01865 787523) is very happy to help in any way.

May Christ, the light of the world, bring you, your congregation and your community hope and peace this Advent.

With many blessings,



Alastair Bateman

Chief Executive Officer

Date	Destination	Amount	Gift Aid
17/12/2020	Paul and Sarah Tester	£600.00	
17/12/2020	Pat Blanchard	£600.00	
17/12/2020	CMS General Fund	£130.00	
	Total:	£1330.00	

Version 2018-1a/CHU

Church Mission Society is a mission community acknowledged by the Church of England
Registered Company No. 6985330 and Registered Charity No. 1131655 (England and Wales) and SC047163 (Scotland) Also part of
CMS: The South American Mission Society. Registered Company No. 65048 and Registered Charity No 221328 (England and Wales),
The Church Mission Society Trust. Registered charity number 1131655-1 (previously 220297), Registered and principal offices of all
above entities: Watlington Road, Oxford, OX4 6BZ

FOODBANK

At this sad and difficult time, the Foodbank's work to support those in crisis in our borough continues...

BROMLEY BOROUGH FOODBANK

These are the items that we are short of at the
Warehouse as of **04/01/2021**

**VEGETABLES, ESP. CARROTS
LONG LIFE FRUIT JUICE
UHT MILK (URGENT)
SPONGE PUDDINGS
INSTANT WHIP
COLD MEAT
SWEETS
JELLY**

SHAVING GEL/RAZORS

**We do not require any of the
following items at the present time**

**PASTA
RICE
BEANS
SOUP
CEREALS
TEA**

TOILET ROLLS

**We want to thank all our donors for their amazing
support, especially in this current situation.**

Dear Foodbank Supporters,

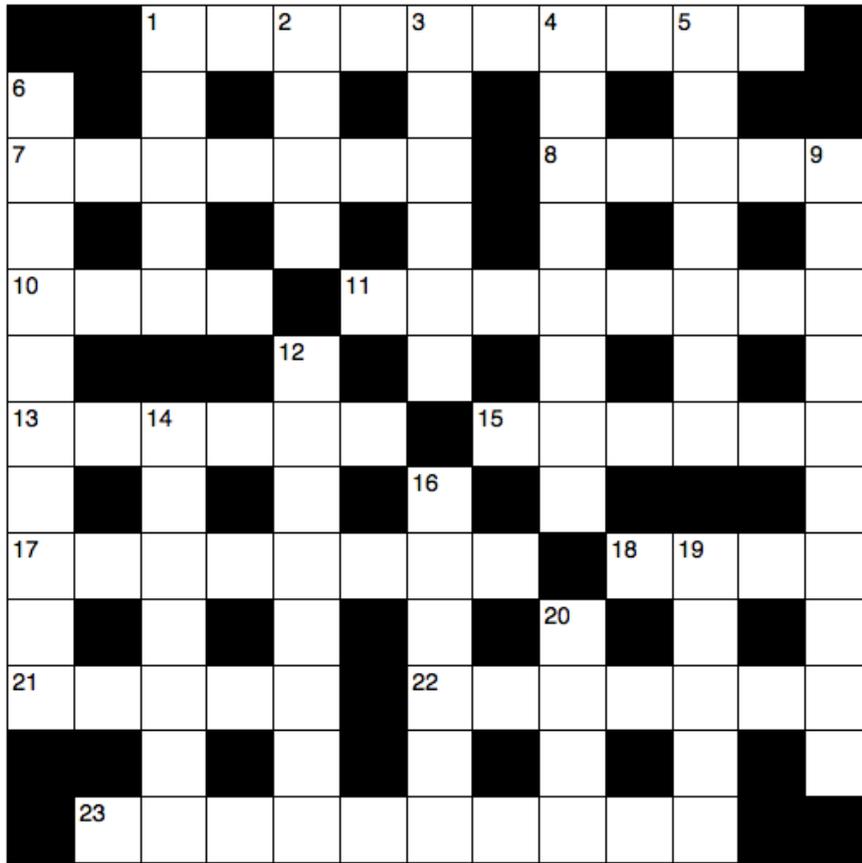
The Project Manager has sent the following message:

We have currently closed our warehouse for food donations and suspended supermarket collections due to an outbreak of Covid-19 which has affected our warehouse and operations. Our team are tremendous and although many are having to self-isolate, we are still able to ensure that our food support service will continue to serve those in need.

If you would still like to support us then financial giving would be greatly appreciated at this time. This will help us ensure we can purchase food items we're running low on directly, obtain appropriate PPE for our staff and volunteers as well as other essentials, such as cleaning services to help instil confidence for the team and the required I.T. equipment which is continuing to increase during this crisis.

We thank our wonderful volunteers who continue to serve on the front line and who help make this crazy world we're currently living in a little happier and brighter for many. Bless you all!

word



Across

- 1 'You are no longer — and aliens, but fellow-citizens with God's people' (Ephesians 2:19) (10)
- 7 'Religion that God our Father — as pure and faultless is this' (James 1:27) (7)
- 8 'Do you want a — ? Signal then to Jesus' (5)
- 10 Throw (Exodus 9:8) (4)
- 11 We rank it (anag.) (8)
- 13 Encourage (Isaiah 59:13) (6)
- 15 'Then Jesus — from Galilee — the Jordan to be baptized by John' (Matthew 3:13) (4,2)
- 17 Coming to rest (Matthew 3:16) (8)
- 18 Provisional decree in divorce proceedings (4)
- 21 Long earnestly (Psalm 84:2) (5)
- 22 'Put these old rags and — clothes under your arms to pad the ropes' (Jeremiah 38:12) (4-3)
- 23 'He defends the cause of the — and the widow, and loves the alien' (Deuteronomy 10:18) (10)

Down

- 1 Self-evident truths (Acts 19:36) (5)
- 2 'Open your eyes and look at the fields! They are — for harvest' (John 4:35) (4)
- 3 'Your great learning is driving you — ' (Acts 26:24) (6)
- 4 'Spring of water' on the borders of Judah and Benjamin (Joshua 15:9) (8)
- 5 Rile Eve (anag.) (7)
- 6 'Remember, O Lord, how I have walked before you — and with wholehearted devotion' (Isaiah 38:3) (10)
- 9 Paul was mistakenly suspected of leading 4000 of these into the desert (Acts 21:38) (10)
- 12 Relationship of an omer to an ephah (Exodus 16:36) (3,5)
- 14 Galilean home town of Mary, 'from whom seven demons had come out' (Luke 8:2) (7)
- 16 'If I tell you, you will not believe me, and if I asked you, you would not — ' (Luke 22:67-68) (6)
- 19 Fetters (Mark 5:4) (5)
- 20 'No good — bears bad fruit' (Luke 6:43) (4)





Lake Louise, Canada

Photo by [Daniel Roe](#) reproduced courtesy of [Unsplash](#)