



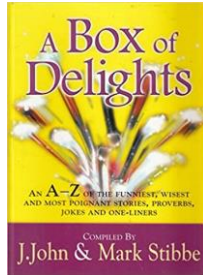
Christ  
Church  
Orpington

## Family News 16th October 2021

Dear All,

There is a story that appears to be given as true, but even if it isn't, it is fun. If you want to read it yourself, you can find it in J. John and Mark Stibbe's book

"A Box of Delights" ☺



The Canadians wanted to find a writing implement that could be used in space. It took 200 engineers and they spent over \$2 billion to invent a space pen. This pen could write in zero gravity and the ink would still flow. The Canadians proudly announced their success and congratulations flowed in from all over the world. In a short note to the Canadians, NASA congratulated them, but said that they too had found a solution at a fraction of the cost. They remarked "We use a pencil".

And while we laugh, we can sometimes look at ourselves and wonder if we sometimes we can over-complicate our faith. This can so easily happen especially in the area of worrying about our sins. It is easy to know in our minds that Jesus died for our sins so that we can be forgiven, but it seems that it can take much, much longer for the knowledge of that forgiveness to make the 12" trip from our heads to our hearts. We can ruminate over things we have done wrong, wishing we hadn't done them, taking them to God over and over again, chewing on them like a piece of sour chewing gum that should have been spat out hours ago. But the reality is, as soon as we go to God with genuine sorrow for our sins, He doesn't just forgive us, He removes them from us "as far as the East is from the West". And if you look up into the night sky and think about that distance between the East and the West, you will realise it is infinite. Your sins are gone, absolutely, completely, utterly and eternally. While God is all-knowing and does not have a memory that He should forget, Jesus has paid the price so that He may completely forgive those who choose to believe that He died for their sins.

But do we forgive ourselves? I think, that where our heartfelt "sorry" can be accepted by the person or

people involved, this may be easier to do. But when the consequences of that sin live on in our hearts through that person's or people's unforgiveness, our unforgiveness of them, or painful consequences, it can be harder to forgive ourselves.

But if God has forgiven us, who are we not to forgive ourselves? That is so important I'm going to say it again - if God has forgiven us, who are we not to forgive ourselves? Are our feelings in danger of ruling us above God's word?

This coming week – shall we all see if we can bring to God any root of unforgiveness we hold against ourselves, and bring that to Him for forgiveness? Jesus died for us that we might be free to have life, and life in all its fullness. Let's not allow the enemy to rob us of that freedom and Peace. Amen.

With love and blessings,

Sharon & Andi xx

## Operation Christmas Child 2021



Christ Church are supporting Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child again this year.

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 God's 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.

If you would like to support this project by filling a shoebox with gifts; please pick up a shoebox and leaflet on your way out from Church today and find out how to send a box of gifts to some of the world's most disadvantaged children. Your shoebox could be the first Christmas present they have ever received in their lives. Please bring your filled shoebox back to Christ Church on **Sunday 14th November**. Alternatively, you may wish to fill an online shoebox. Samaritan's Purse has made giving a shoebox online a very successful way of supporting this project. Details are available on their website:

[www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/](http://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/)

With many thanks for your support

**Notices for the next issue of the Family News by  
12noon Saturday 23rd October please**

Email Vernon on [vandjmapp@gmail.com](mailto:vandjmapp@gmail.com)

## What's on...

All **10.30am** services will be both in church and online (if we have the Tech Team to provide this)

**Please Note: The online services will be streamed at 10.30am on Mondays rather than on Sundays.**

Can you please note that **Café Mosaic** will be closed for half-term for 2-weeks i.e. 20th, 24th, 27th and 29th October – restarting on 3rd November.

### Sunday 17th October

10.30am Morning Worship  
6.30pm Holy Communion – Reflect

### Tuesday 19th October Community Club

### Sunday 24th October

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

### Tuesday 26th October NB NO Community Club

### Sunday 31st October

**clocks go back ONE HOUR**

9.00am Holy Communion  
10.30am Morning Worship  
6.30pm Evening Worship – Reflect

### Tuesday 2nd November Community Club

### Sunday 7th November

10.30am Holy Communion  
6.30pm Evening Worship – Go Deeper

### Remembrance Sunday, Sunday 14th November

10.30am Remembrance Day Service  
3.00pm Remembrance of the Departed Service

Services available online at 10.30am on Monday through the Christ Church Orpington website: [www.ccorpington.org](http://www.ccorpington.org)

Or on Facebook (you don't need to have a Facebook account)  
<https://www.facebook.com/ccorpington/live>

You are invited to join **Heather Kroiter** for zoom coffee after church on Sunday from 11.45am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83996248243?pwd=SzIyLytoZnJBOW5EMEI5aXNLTTdRdz09>

Meeting ID: 839 9624 8243

Passcode: Dxm8TV

## Community Club, Tuesday 19th October

We will be doing part 2 of our 'listening to God' series at 11am after coffee time. All are welcome to join us.

### On the Lunch Menu:

Lentil and vegetable soup  
Chicken casserole, potatoes and vegetables  
Sticky toffee sponge and custard  
Tea and coffee.

"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."



### Northumbria Daily Prayer

You are invited to come along to Daily Prayer at 9-9.30am in the chapel on Mondays and Tuesdays led by Helen Musson, our curate.

There will be readings from Scripture, a short meditative reading, prayer, reflection and silence.

Dates for October are: 18th, 19th, 25th & 26th.

### Solution to last week's Wordsearch



## GDPR

The Data Protection Act 2018 is the **UK's implementation of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)**. Everyone responsible for using personal data has to follow strict rules called 'data protection principles'. They must make sure the information is: used fairly, lawfully and transparently.

Meina is our GDPR representative and if anyone has any queries relating to GDPR to please contact her on:

[gdpr@ccorpington.org](mailto:gdpr@ccorpington.org)

## Latvian Bible College

Dear friends, we need your prayers.

It seems like we @ LBC are going through a special season.

Solvita, our administrator just lost her father. He passed away peacefully early on Friday. He was a pastor and died of natural causes at the age of 84.

Another member of our staff, Arija, our librarian is also going through a difficult "patch". Her husband Janis is diagnosed with cancer, which spread around his body. Every day counts in his life. He is close to the Lord, but not entirely...

Latvian government announced the state of national emergency once again from 11th October. We aren't going to a full lockdown, but the staff is having to work remotely.

So, we need your prayers in this difficult time. Thank you.

With all our gratitude,

Victor & Ester  
on behalf of LBC and students

## wordsearch

seed	outgrown	field
ever	farmer	fantastic
corn	learn	path
difference	rocks	sower
thorn	birds	plants
sprouted	good	grew
soil	harvest	eaten
water	best	died

## Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Mt. 13: 3-8, Mk 4: 1-9, Lk 8: 4-8

Crowds of people now came to hear Jesus, so he used stories to teach them; those who really wanted to learn would work out the meaning.



s	f	i	e	l	d	z	t	b	f	e	e
p	a	t	h	m	o	i	l	i	w	q	c
r	n	b	m	s	m	i	e	r	a	u	w
o	t	c	e	y	o	a	g	d	t	w	r
u	a	q	z	s	u	w	r	s	e	e	d
t	s	m	i	a	t	e	e	n	r	s	j
e	t	n	b	l	g	v	w	r	k	r	s
d	i	f	f	e	r	e	n	c	e	t	f
c	c	z	z	a	o	r	o	m	n	h	d
b	u	e	h	r	w	r	r	a	h	o	z
e	a	t	e	n	n	a	l	c	o	r	n
s	w	p	u	k	f	p	d	g	r	n	g