



Christ
Church
Orpington

Family News 5th February 2022

Dear everyone,

Before Christmas, in Advent, a very kind person put a Christmas wreath on the gatepost of our drive, between us and the church. It was beautiful! Truly lovely, with roses and other flowers, seasonal greenery, pearl and silver sprayed ornaments, and oasis' in it filled with water to keep it alive as long as possible. It meant that whenever we came into, or went out of our house, it was a blessing to see. It was a blessing to the church, as people may see it as they came and left. It was also a blessing to any who walked past, as it was right next to the pavement. I have asked many people in an attempt to find the kind person who did it so I could thank them, but as yet, to no avail. If you are the kind person, please will you let me know so I can thank you properly?

Because it was so beautiful, we left it there as long as we possibly could, until the flowers were so dead and brown that we thought we really had to move it...

...but then we noticed that our Forsythia was in bloom. So, all we needed to do was to replace the flowers of Advent on the wreath with the flowers of whatever season we were in, and it could go on giving pleasure for as long as the wreath base itself lasted. Joy!

And I think we can be a little like that with other areas of our lives and journeys with the Lord. When we are given a lovely gift or ministry, which maybe has a season, sometimes we are anxious to prolong it as long as possible because we love it so much. We maybe even hang on to it after it has started to wilt and even show signs of dying. We remember back to when it was so good, and want it to last as long as possible. But seasons change as Ecclesiastes 3 points out, and now we are finding that winter is starting to give way to early spring blossom and bulbs. And it is as we recognise that our season in one area may have come to its end and accept it, that we can embrace the next season that God may have for us which will bring a new beauty all of its own, different from the last beauty, but just as good.

In my own life, it is often as I look back that I recognise where God was moving me on from something, even though I was happy where I was. There are only two times when I have been blessed to hear His audible voice audibly, and once was when He told me to go to another church, even though I was happy where I was and didn't want to move. But what I didn't know was that He was taking me into an even greater ministry there, as it was from there that I was launched into my journey towards becoming a priest. New seasons are good!

Do take a look at the wreath if you go past our house, and hopefully it will reflect the changing seasons as we go through them. And a huge thank you again to the kind person who gave it to us. May the Lord bless you as you have blessed us.

With much love and blessings,

Sharon & Andi xx

Dear Christ Church,

We are very excited to announce that on **Sunday 27th February**, J. John will be joining us to speak at our morning service.

There will be home-made cakes and tea/coffee to follow and it would be lovely for you to join us. Please invite family, friends and neighbours.

To find out who J. John is, follow the link below:

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=j+john+wheelbarrow



**YOU ARE INVITED
TO COME AND
LISTEN TO
J. JOHN**

Minister, author,
speaker and
teacher of what
Christianity is
about

**CHRIST CHURCH ORPINGTON
SUNDAY 27TH FEBRUARY AT 10.30AM**

We look forward to seeing you all there!

What's on...

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

Sunday 6th February, 4th Sunday before Lent

10.30am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evening Worship – Reflect

Tuesday 8th February – **Community Club**

Wednesday 9th February

Café Mosaic, open 9.15am to 2pm

Friday 11th February

Café Mosaic, open 9.15am to 2pm

Sunday 13th February

9.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Morning Worship

6.30pm Evening Worship - Go Deeper

Sunday 20th February

10.30am Morning Worship

6.30pm Holy Communion - Reflect

Sunday 27th February

9.00am Holy Communion

10.30am The Great Invitation with guest speaker J.John

6.30pm Evening Worship - Go Deeper

For online services:

through the Christ Church Orpington website:

www.ccorpington.org

or on Facebook (you don't need to have a Facebook account)

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



Join **Heather Kroiter** for zoom coffee after church, Sunday 30th January from 11.45am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5852280960?pwd=b1ByNjdxUzJ4bGY5TEp0YUpheEtZUT09>

Meeting ID: 585 228 0960

Passcode: 8Uwg8H

Notices for the next issue of CCO Family News

email them to Vernon vandjmapp@gmail.com

by **12noon Saturday 12th February** please

communion Photo by [James Coleman](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Sunday 6th February

10.30am Holy Communion

Welcome, Notices

Wedding Banns

Opening Prayer

Confession

Worship

Song Amazing grace my chains are gone

Song All hail the lamb

Bible Reading Micah 6 v 1-8

Sermon

Intercessions

Peace

Worship

Song O the mercy of God



Holy Communion

Worship

Song Cornerstone

Final Prayer & Blessing

6.30pm Reflect



Community Club resumes this **Tuesday, 8th February** with our usual coffee and worship/study time at 11am.

Our menu will be

Vegetable and lentil soup

Roast Gammon, roast potatoes and seasonal vegetables

Sticky toffee pudding

Tea or coffee.

Please wear a mask until you are sat at your table and dress appropriately as the windows will be open for ventilation.

An invite to Deanery Synod

The next Orpington Deanery Synod Meeting is an 'open' meeting and so can be attended by anyone.

Rev Bimbi Abayomi-Cole of St Pauls Crofton will facilitate a discussion about the Archbishops' Anti-Racism report 'From Lament into action'. The report paints a vision for the Church and how we might in the future lead our nation on issues of anti-racism and racial justice (this is the meeting postponed from last November)

The meeting is on **Thursday 24th February** at 7.30pm at **Christ Church Orpington** - refreshments from 7.30pm, meeting starts at 7.45pm in the church. I encourage you to attend.

Andy Goddard
Lay Chair of Deanery Synod

Christ Church membership

Do you consider yourself to be a member of the congregation of this church?

Would you like to enter more fully into the life of the church?

If so, then perhaps you would like to take the first step by applying to be put on the Electoral Roll of the church.

Application forms are available from the table at the back of church. An explanatory leaflet 'Belonging and the Electoral Roll' is also available.

Please feel free to speak to either myself, one of the churchwardens or Sharon, our Vicar, if you have any queries. You need to be 16 or over to apply.

Roger Wilkinson

Would you, or one of your family like to be baptised? Or would you like to renew your baptism vows?

On Easter Sunday, April 17th, we will celebrate Jesus' glorious resurrection by holding a service of Baptism in our 10.30am service. So, if you would like to be baptised, or renew your baptism vows, please contact Sharon on sharon@ccorpington.org or phone the office on 01689 871601 and leave a message.

Would you like to be confirmed?

Confirmation is the second part of the Christian journey that began with Baptism where we look more fully at our Christian faith. It is the rite that opens up for us the chance to come to the Lord's Table and receive the Bread and Wine – His Bod and His Blood (when Covid-safe to do so).

If you would like to be confirmed, please contact Sharon on sharon@ccorpington.org or phone the office on 01689 871601 and leave a message.

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

"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 PCC Orpington' to 165 Charterhouse Road, Orpington, Kent BR6 9EP

Thank you so much for your wonderful generosity."

Tech Desk Rota coordinator (Volunteer needed)



Photo by Felicia Buitenwerf on Unsplash

Every Sunday, our dedicated tech team make sure that the audio and visual elements of the service run smoothly. But this does not just happen, a rota is prepared, and friendly reminders are sent to the teams involved. If you like to organise and are looking for a simple way to get involved, this might be a good place to start. We would love to hear from you. It is a great role that can be done from anywhere and does not require too much time. All you need is to be organised and send out weekly reminders. This can be done from email wherever you are.

Please get in touch if you think this is a role you would like to try.

J. John's visit to us on Sunday 27th February

We are so excited about J. John coming to talk to us in our 10.30am service on February 27th. He will be giving an evangelistic talk - and we are hoping that as we invite those who don't know Jesus, or may have drifted away from church, that the church will be ready to respond and we would like to offer some ways in which you might be able to help that day.

There are some things we can all do which would be: to be praying and giving out lots of invitations beforehand, baking cakes and being willing before and after the service to forgo chatting with those we know, to enjoy chatting with those we don't or haven't been to church for a while. I love the old saying "strangers are just friends we haven't met yet".

We will need more people than usual to help with welcoming (before the service and during refreshments), the cafe, and being part of the Response Team ready to respond to people after the talk.

Please will you get in touch with the office if you can offer to help with any of the above (01689 871601 ccorpington@talktalk.net) as it would really help us to plan.

With many thanks and every blessing,

Sharon

Archdeacon Paul Wright's Farewell Service

We are saying farewell to our lovely Archdeacon Paul at a service at Rochester Cathedral, on **Sunday 20th February** at **3.15pm**. He has been a good friend to Christ Church, and it would be lovely if we could give him a good turnout.

All are invited, so if you would like to go, please let the office (01689 871601) know so we can send in approximate numbers.

Friends of Welcare in Bromley

Taken at Midnight

by Mark Hayhurst

A charity preview in aid of Welcare in Bromley

*Your chance to see the Bromley Little Theatre entry
into the Kent Drama Festival*

Thursday 10th March 2022 at 7.45pm

**Bromley Little Theatre,
North Street, Bromley BR1 1SD**

Tickets £12 (all seats reserved) from Gillian Scales,
4 Clifton Court, The Avenue, Beckenham, BR3 5EW

Tickets must be bought in advance and
paid for (cheques to Welcare), with a
stamped addressed envelope for reply

*NB Please state if you wish to be
seated with social distancing*

*Government guidelines in place
at the time will be adhered to*

Doors and bar open at 7pm Raffle

Please note that there are about 20 steep stairs up to
the theatre, but there is a very small lift (2 persons
max). There is one wheelchair space in the front row.

The theatre is diagonally opposite
Bromley North Station.
Allow plenty of time for parking



**Welcare is a charity working with families
and children up to the age of 13,
in South London and East Surrey.**

Our services are based on Christian values,
and we strive to empower families and change
lives for the better, offering practical and
emotional support to overcome challenges.

welcare.org

Charity No. 1107859, Limited Company No. 5275749



Open Kitchen – Please vote for us!

We have been nominated by Asda Swanley to be part of their Green Token Giving scheme during December and January. This gives us the opportunity to be awarded **£500** from the Asda Foundation, but we need your support. Only the charity with the largest number of votes will be awarded this grant.

Please vote for us **EVERY WEEK** during January 2022. Go to www.asda.com/green-tokens, select Swanley from the dropdown menu, and then vote for Open Kitchen at Christ Church Orpington. Please share this with your family and friends, encouraging them to vote each week. This money will make such a difference to local families who are in need, all with the click of a button.

Thank you so much for your support!
Liesel Stanbridge
Open Kitchen foodbank

Photo by [Levi Bare](#) on [Unsplash](#)

