



Christ
Church
Orpington

Family News 12th March 2022

2nd Sunday of Lent

As we began Lent with that wonderful talk from J. John still resounding in our hearts and continued this with last week's reflection from him, I thought I would share with you his Lenten thoughts each week as we journey through. This week it is called ...

Nail Your Colours to the Mast



A friend recently reminded me of the expression 'nail your colours to the mast' and wondered about its background. A little research came up with a most rewarding answer.

In the 'Age of Sail', ships were identified by the flags (or 'colours') that they flew from the top of their masts. At a time before radio this was vital, allowing sailors to identify who was on their side and who was the enemy. This action has given rise to all sorts of English phrases. So sometimes ships would disguise themselves by hoisting other flags and would 'fly under false colours'. If they then suddenly changed their flags to reveal their true identity, they were 'showing their true colours'.

In a sea battle, any ship that wished to surrender would lower her colours. There is a story of how, during the great sea battle of Camperdown in 1798 between the Royal Navy and the Dutch, the colours of the British flagship were shot down. Recognising the danger that this would be taken as a sign the British had surrendered, a sailor, Jack Crawford, climbed to the top of the main mast and, ignoring heavy fire, replaced the colours, nailing them to what was left of the mast. The battle continued and eventually the Dutch fleet was destroyed. Some historians consider that it was this victory that allowed 'Britannia to rule the waves' of the world for the next hundred and fifty years. In which case, Jack Crawford's

single act of heroism had consequences of extraordinary significance.

So, for a ship's captain 'to nail his colours to the mast' was to do two things. First, it was to state clearly the identity of the ship and who she served. Second, it also made surrender virtually impossible. It was a bold act of defiance, saying, in effect, that we will sink rather than admit defeat.

For anyone who is a Christian today this idea of nailing colours to the mast is incredibly appropriate. In this aggressively post-Christian age there has never been a greater temptation to 'sail under false colours' and to hope that no one notices you. This is a disastrous strategy. After all, if you have been disguising yourself for some time, when you do have to take a stand on a matter of faith you will find it very difficult. So you may find, like Peter at the trial of Jesus, that you have denied your faith (Mark 14:66-72).

In any new setting it is wise to reveal as soon as possible that you are a Christian. In Acts 4:13-20, after the resurrection and the giving of the Holy Spirit, Peter adopts a very different attitude towards keeping a low profile. There may be a time and place for Christians to be secret believers, but I do not believe that in the West it is yet. Far better in the long run to fly the colours openly and make it clear where our allegiance lies.

Actually, it is a good idea not just to fly the colours of the Christian faith but to *nail* them too. Most of us like to be liked and it is always tempting to back off when we are threatened. Yet the fact of the matter is that we have to speak and live as Christians whatever happens. We cannot lower the flag of Christ just because we face hostility.

Let's nail our colours to the mast!

J. John

Reverend Canon

www.canonjohn.com

Andrea Owen

All are welcome to a celebration and thanksgiving service for the life of **Andrea** on **Thursday 17th March 2022 at 1pm**, at Christ Church Orpington, with refreshments afterwards.

Notices for the next issue of CCO Family News

email them to Vernon vandjmapp@gmail.com

by **12noon Saturday 19th March** please

What's on...

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

Sunday 13th March, 2nd Sunday of Lent

9.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Morning Worship

6.30pm Evening Worship - Go Deeper

Tuesday 15th March - Community Club

Wednesday 16th March

Café Mosaic, open 9.15am to 2pm

Friday 18th March

Café Mosaic, open 9.15am to 2pm

Sunday 20th March

10.30am Morning Worship

6.30pm Holy Communion - Reflect

Mothering Sunday, 27th March

9.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Morning Worship - Mothering Sunday

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 on Sunday morning from 11.45am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5852280960?pwd=b1ByNjdxUzJ4bGY5TEp0YUphEzZUT09>

Meeting ID: 585 228 0960

Passcode: 8Uwg8H

Northumbria Daily Prayer



You are invited to come along to Daily Prayer at 9-9.20am in the chapel on Mondays and Tuesdays led by Helen Musson

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

Dates we are meeting until Easter are:

14th, 21st, 22nd March; 4th and 5th April.

Sunday 13th March

9.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Morning Worship

Welcome, Notices

Opening Prayer, Confession

Worship

Sing Glory 572 Christ is made the sure foundation.

Song Jesus lover of my soul [it's all about you]

Sing Glory 264 Great is the darkness

Bible Reading

Luke 13:31-35

Sermon

Intercessions

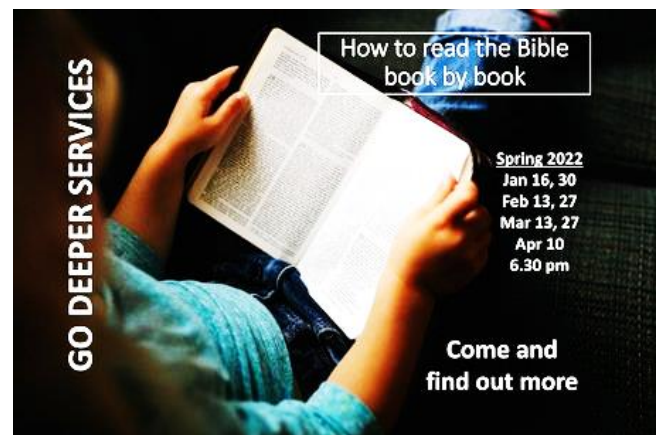
Worship

Sing Glory 657 For the joys and for the sorrows

Sing Glory 615 Men of faith

Final Prayer & Blessing

6.30pm – Go Deeper



Community Club - Tuesday 15th March

After our lovely celebration last Tuesday, we'll be resuming normal service this week. All are welcome to join us from 10.30am for coffee prior to our Bible study time at 11am.

Our menu is

Vegetable soup

Roast Gammon, roast potatoes & seasonal vegetables

Trifle

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.

Geoffrey Bailey

We wanted to let the Christ Church family know that Dave's Dad, Geoffrey Bailey, died peacefully in the early hours of Friday morning 4th March.

When Dave's family came to Christ Church in 1981, his Dad made quite an impact, setting up the banner group to create the hanging banners, and getting involved with church life, not least bringing along two lively boys aged 10 & 11! His ebullient personality was well loved, as was the quiet, gentle and strong demeanour of his wife Sylvia, Dave's Mum.

Geoffrey was also responsible for the cream/red interior design scheme for the church. Evidently an impasse had occurred with the refurbishment of the interior, and Geoffrey came to the helm to come up with something suitable! So, the red carpet, chairs, and ceiling infills, along with the cream walls - all Geoffrey! Dave remembers a little model of Christ Church in their lounge while the ideas were taking shape. Geoffrey was Head of Art at Roehampton and drew and painted extensively until his stroke 17 years ago. He initiated a community art module, which inspired me to co-create the mosaics and ceramic poppies at Christ Church! So, a continuing legacy!!

They moved to Norfolk in 1987, and were very friendly with Muriel Spooner who lived up there too for a long time before returning in recent years back to Orpington & Christ Church.

Geoffrey had been in a nursing home since the beginning of Covid, as a succession of falls, decreasing mobility and other health problems had increased. He declined gradually physically but remained buoyant in character, robust in faith, with good humour and much interest in the comings and goings of family...right until the end. In fact, whenever anyone expressed concern about his situation, he would declare, 'Come on, cheer up! It's not that bad!'

He went downhill suddenly last week and was taken into hospital, and it was clear he wasn't going to pull through.

Dave travelled up to York where his family now live and was able to spend time with immediate family at Geoffrey's bedside, where they were all able to say their final goodbyes. Geoffrey then passed away peacefully that night.

With our love and prayers for you all at Christ Church,

Caroline xx

Mother's Day – Sunday 27th March

The flower arranging team are meeting in the church at about 10am on **Saturday 26th March** to make posies for Mother's Day – if you would like to help, please do come along and join them. This year they have **NO NEED** of small leaved and ferny type foliage to go in the posies.

Admission of Baptised Children to Holy Communion

The PCC have unanimously agreed to support an application to the Bishop, after consultation with the congregation, to allow baptised children to be admitted to Holy Communion before being confirmed. An explanation of the change is further on in CCO Family News.

Please send any comments to Sharon or the PCC Secretary, Don Bower, by 31st March.

Cafe Mosaic

For this week's special at *Cafe Mosaic* we will be serving:

- ▶ Homemade Creamy Chicken Tarragon served with baby potatoes with herbs and butter, green beans and carrots
or
- ▶ Homemade Tender slow cooked beef and Onion Pie in a red wine sauce served with creamy buttery mash, green beans, carrots and gravy.

Special desserts are

- ▶ Homemade French Almond Sponge with custard
or
- ▶ Homemade Traditional Lemon Drizzle Cake

"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."

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 Body 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.



Photo by Sebastian Coman Photography on Unsplash

Cafe Mosaic EASTER MEAL

Come and join us for our 3 course Buffet Style Easter Meal on **Wed April 13th 2022** starting from 12.30pm for £18.00

Creamy Carrot soup with served with a fresh roll and butter

Roast Lamb served with Roast potatoes, Roasted Carrots, Baked Onions Green beans and garden Peas along with Yorkshire pudding, gravy and mint sauce

Warmed Hot Cross Buns and Butter

A deposit is not needed but if you think you may come along, please may you let us know. Meal is buffet style but we have helpers on standby if you require assistance.

Vegetarian option available.

**Starts
10th March**

Try Alpha

If you are wanting to explore faith, then the Alpha course is an excellent way to start. Over 24 million people have already tried it.

At Christ Church the Alpha course involves food (an evening meal), a short video clip and an opportunity to express your views and listen to what others have to say in a relaxed environment. It could be one of the best resolutions you make, to go on an Alpha course.

To find out more, please contact:

Alpha@ccorpington.org or call the church office (01689) 871601

Afternoon Alpha

session with coffee and cake also starts 10th March.

Travelling On My Knees

Last night I took a journey
To a land across the seas.
I didn't go by ship or plane
I travelled on my knees.

I saw so many people there
In bondage to their sin,
And Jesus told me I should go,
That there were souls to win.

But I said "Jesus, I can't go
To lands across the seas."
He answered quickly, "Yes, you can
By travelling on your knees."

He said, "You pray, I'll meet the need.
You call, and I will hear.
It's up to you to be concerned
For lost souls far and near."

And so I did; knelt in prayer,
Gave up some hours of ease,
And with the Saviour by my side,
I travelled on my knees.

As I prayed on, I saw souls saved
And twisted persons healed,
I saw God's workers strength renewed
While labouring in the field.

I said, "Yes Lord, I'll take the job.
Your heart I want to please.
I'll heed Your call and swiftly go
By travelling on my knees."

(Sandra Goodwin)



Tech Desk Rota coordinator (volunteer needed)

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.

(Photo by Felicia Buitenwerf on Unsplash)

All Saints'
Coffee Recitals
Bark Hart Rd

featuring
The
Marigold
Ensemble



Saturday
19 March 2022

Coffee & Tea served from
11.00 am
Recital starts
12 noon

Free Entry
(Retiring Collection)

Formed in 2020, the Marigold Ensemble are all current or former students of the Guildhall School of Music. They were the winners of the St James's Chamber Music Prize 2020, resulting in performances at St James Piccadilly and Milton Court Hall. They have played in masterclasses with members of the Heath and Endellion Quartets, whilst also receiving coaching from Carole Presland, Richard Lester and Adrian Brendel. Across the group they have performed at many of Europe's major concert halls including Wigmore Hall, Barbican Centre, Royal Festival Hall, Royal Concertgebouw and Berlin Philharmonie.

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

P.S. Please note that if you are already on the electoral roll and your details have not changed since last year there is no need to complete another form.

Admission of Baptised Children to Holy Communion Regulations 2006

The Church of England has a procedure under which children who have been baptised but who have not yet been confirmed and who are not ready and wanting to be confirmed may be admitted to Holy Communion. A main purpose of this procedure is to treat children as part of the people of Christ and to help them feel they belong there.

Before the procedure is introduced in Christ Church Orpington, the Vicar must apply to the Bishop with the support of the PCC. At its meeting on 7 February, the PCC unanimously agreed to support an application but asked that the congregation should have an opportunity to comment.

The Regulations include a number of safeguards to ensure that the procedure is carried out in an orderly fashion:

1. The Bishop must satisfy himself that the parish has made adequate provision for preparation and continuing nurture in the Christian life and that it will encourage any child admitted to Holy Communion under these Regulations to be confirmed at the appropriate time;
2. The Vicar must be satisfied that the child has been baptised and that a person having parental responsibility for the child is content that the child should be so admitted. The Vicar has discretion to decide when a child should be first admitted to Holy Communion; in Christ Church, it is intended that only children from Year 7 upwards would normally be considered;
3. The Vicar will maintain a register of all children admitted to Holy Communion under these Regulations, and will record on the child's baptismal certificate or else on a separate certificate the date and place of the child's first admission. A child who presents this evidence shall be eligible to be admitted to Holy Communion in other churches.

If any member of the congregation wishes to comment on this proposal, would they please contact Sharon or the PCC Secretary, Don Bower, by 31 March 2022.

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



Mr S Georgiadis
Christ Church Orpington
165 Charterhouse Road
ORPINGTON
Kent
BR6 9EP

02 February 2022

Dear Mr Georgiadis

Thank you so much for your gift of £900.00 from Christ Church Orpington to the London City Mission. Because of your support, people who are part of communities least likely to hear the gospel are being shown God's love and sensitively receive an invitation to follow Jesus.

Adam has had an awful year; after a marriage breakdown and losing his job he was unable to pay rent and ended up living on the streets. He recently opened up to London City Missionary Jenn Garibay at our Webber Street Day Centre about how lonely his life is.

What Adam said he misses the most – even more than a safe and secure place to stay – is having people to talk to, being part of a team, being part of a family. He told Jenn, "Having a place like Webber Street to come to, having people like you to meet and talk to makes life more bearable." Your gift means that Adam has a place of refuge, where he is warmly welcomed by people who care about him. He is supported with everyday essentials such as food, showers and clean clothes.

Each day as breakfast is served, our guests at Webber Street hear a presentation of the gospel which brings eternal life and a welcome into the family of God, and members of our Webber Street team take time with individuals to provide practical support and share about this life-giving hope. Your gift will help towards hundreds of people like Adam hearing the good news of Jesus.

If you would like to find out ways that you can help bring the work of London City Mission in front of your congregation, including having an LCM speaker, to further encourage and inspire the church about gospel mission, please do contact me and I will be happy to chat through some options with you. Your church reference is 32613.

We thank God for your partnership in sharing a vision to reach everyone with the good news of Jesus.

Yours in Christ,

Helen Howells
Church Engagement Manager
helen.howells@icm.org.uk