



Christ  
Church  
Orpington

## Family News, 23rd July 2022

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### Reflection

The Bible is so full of wonderful promises and affirmations that we can cling onto every day of our lives. The following verses in John 14:13-15 I find quite mind boggling:

*"And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it. If you love me, keep my commands."*

Jesus literally says 'you may ask me for anything'.  
Wow!!

It makes me think of, when my kids were small, they would come to me and say something like; 'if I ask you something, promise that you will say yes'. And as a Dad I would be very suspicious of what's to follow... but not Jesus; He delights in saying 'yes'!

But Jesus also follows up by saying 'love me & keep my commands'. When we look into His commands, they do not seem too hard (on the face of it):

*"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." The second is this: "Love your neighbour as yourself." There is no commandment greater than these."*

Mark 12:30-31 NIV

Now therein lies the secret - if we can keep the command of Mark 12:30-31 (let's just pretend we can for a minute) how would we wield the powerful gift bestowed on us in John 14:14. I find these verses are so beautifully interlinked.

As we come before God this day in prayer, let us ask Him to guide us in conversation with Him, so that our prayers will also be met with a loving 'Yes' from our Father.

Pieter

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**Family News** notices for the next issue by

**12noon Saturday 30th July** please

email: [vandjmapp@gmail.com](mailto:vandjmapp@gmail.com)

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### Courage Prayer Bracelet



as a reminder to any who might like to pray with them, the five headings are:

#### **COURAGE...**

...to live as a Christian in today's world

...to trust God when the chips are down

...to let go and love

...to give up your worldly yoke and put on Christ's

...to be open about your faith

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### Christ Church is now on *Instagram!*

If people would like to follow us, they just need to search for 'christchurchorpington' (all one word)

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### Message from Sophie Askham

'In the early hours of Thursday morning my Gran passed away and as a family we would appreciate prayer as we go through this difficult time'

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### Helen's ordination as Priest

On **Saturday 3rd September**, Helen is being ordained as a Priest at **Rochester Cathedral** at **11am**. She would be delighted to have you there to support her, and has some tickets for the event. If you would like to go, please contact her on [Helen@ccorpington.org](mailto:Helen@ccorpington.org) so she can allocate you a ticket.

### Martin's ordination as Deacon

On **Saturday 3rd September**, Martin Hayward is being ordained as a Deacon at **Rochester Cathedral** at **3pm**. He would be delighted to have you there to support him, and hopefully has some tickets for the event. If you would like to go, please contact him on [martinhayward2@hotmail.com](mailto:martinhayward2@hotmail.com) so he can allocate you a ticket. Even if you don't have tickets, I understand you can still come, but it means you may not get a seat, or may get one at the very back.

### Picnic

If you would like to go to both (or even just one) we are thinking of having a picnic in the castle grounds opposite the cathedral between the two events - weather permitting. Hopefully it will be a wonderful, joy-filled day!

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# Sunday 24th July

## 6th Sunday after Trinity

### 9.00am Holy Communion

### 10.30am Morning Worship

Welcome, Notices

Opening Prayer, Confession

Worship

Bible Reading

Exodus 3 v 7-10 & 4 v 1-5  
Mark 12 v 28-30

Sermon

Intercessions

Worship

Final Prayer & Blessing

For online zoom coffee, join **Heather Kroiter** after church from 11.45am:



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85327001951?pwd=RW13aFh1SjRSSWdwYURJL0ZESUxpUT09>

Meeting ID: 853 2700 1951

Passcode: S0EKck

### 6.30pm Evening Worship – Reflect



Until further notice, there will not be an online service as the system was damaged by the lightning strike

### Events taking a break for the summer...

Community Club  
Café Mosaic  
Tea & Toys  
Gospel Choir practice

### What's on...

#### Sunday 24th July

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

#### Holiday Club

Tuesday 26th to Thursday 28th July



#### Sunday 31st July

9.00am Holy Communion  
10.30am Morning Worship

#### Sunday 7th August

10.30am Holy Communion/All Age

#### Sunday 14th August

10.30am Holy Communion/All Age

#### Sunday 21st August

10.30am Holy Communion/All Age

#### Sunday 28th August

10.30am Holy Communion/All Age

# FREEDOM IN CHRIST COURSE

Christ Church Orpington  
Charterhouse Road, BR6 9EP



This is a 10-week life changing course which is designed to help every Christian become a fruitful disciple of our Lord.

It is an enjoyable course which will deepen your faith and is a natural follow on from the Alpha Course.

It comprises eleven sessions (including one Saturday) and is perfect for EVERYONE regardless of how long you have been a Christian or your background. It is particularly beneficial to leaders who wish to encourage all those for whom they care to enter into the fullness which God has for all of us.

If you have done this course before, please come along. The presentation has changed recently and includes many helpful testimonies of blessed lives. It's a good refresher.

Our heavenly Father wants all His children (especially you) to enjoy their lives to the full, experiencing the intimacy of His unconditional love, joy, peace, acceptance and knowing His will and purpose for your life.

The course offers a wonderful opportunity for us to explore together, in a very gentle way, exactly what freedom Jesus' death on the cross has achieved for us and what impact it can have on our day to day lives.

The course is completely confidential and is rooted only in Scripture.

It will take you through foundational Biblical truths which will bring you into the freedom that God desires. Each session you will be able to learn and apply these truths which will encourage you to embrace what God has for you.

Below is the schedule - Meet for refreshments at 7.30pm for an 8pm start until 9.30pm.

Session 1	Introduction of the team and Who Am I?	Tuesday 13th September
Session 2	Father God and Choosing to believe the truth.	Tuesday 20th September
Session 3	The worlds view of truth.	Tuesday 27th September
Session 4	Our Daily choice.	Tuesday 4th October
Session 5	The battle for our minds.	Tuesday 12th October

### *Half Term Week Free*

Session 6	Handling emotions well.	Tuesday 19th October
Session 7	Forgiving from the heart.	Tuesday 26th October

### *Freedom day – Saturday 29th October*

Session 8	Renewing the mind.	Tuesday 1st November
Session 9	Relating to others.	Tuesday 8th November
Session 10	What next?	Tuesday 15th November

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

Thank you so much for your wonderful generosity."

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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)

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Jack, Sarah and Ben, serving in mission in Tours, France from King's Church Durham.

### There and back again

We spent about 3 weeks back in the UK in June, visiting family and friends, attending a wedding, preaching (Jack not me!) and joining in with the mission week in King's church in Durham, particularly on the Sherburn Road estate where we used to be part of a missional community. So, it was a blend of 'home assignment' and 'holiday' (work and play!).

The June Project mission week in Durham was tiring but very encouraging. We were very blessed to be able to stay in the house of some church members who were away. Our church in France is around 50 people on a full Sunday, so worshipping with a much larger group and in our mother tongue was in itself refreshing. So was seeing how God was at work in the church and in the council estate (Sherburn Road estate) where we used to live. Ben was a trooper being dragged around to all sorts of places, but in a way I think he's glad to be back to normal routine now!

In some ways 3 weeks felt too short to see all of the people we wanted to see. I also think I experienced a bit of reverse culture shock. For me it took the form of feeling very disoriented on London public transport, and finding it hard to put into words what we have experienced so far in France. It was also bitter-sweet to catch up with family and old friends and new arrivals, knowing that we've missed out on a chunk of time with them.

And then we came back to France! We praise God that, on the day we arrived back, some friends from the church in France sent WhatsApp messages asking about how things were, and a couple of days later I went to a church meeting about Sunday mornings which was encouraging. These things helped as we began to transition back to life here, missing old friends but confident of having good work to do here and new friends to see.



Jack preaching at Emmanuel Croydon. Ben was interested in the fan behind Jack, so joined him for the last minutes of the sermon!



Jack speaking at a fun day on the estate where we used to live, as part of June Project.

### Summer slow down

Lots of things seem to take a slower pace here in Tours in the summer. Lots of families are going away. This means that Sunday school isn't running during the summer holidays in church. Also, the English lessons at the *Maison de la solidarité* have paused until September. It has given an opportunity to reflect - were we too busy before? Is there anything we need to prioritise or de-prioritise in September? We will also take 1 week of holiday with family in August, making the most of this slower period.

## Maison 'bla bla'

Since *la maison de la solidarité* is a bit of a mouthful, sometimes we call it the above name. Not to French people. The way we will be volunteering here is changing a bit. I've switched to doing the welcome desk on a Friday, which is when the food bank is running, which is busier. Please pray for wisdom in how to do this role with authority and gentleness. Jack may be taking on more responsibility soon as a retired volunteer is considering stepping down (responsibilities including receiving and sorting donations for the charity shop, helping organise jumble sales, organising volunteers, driving a big white van :-).

## Musical worship and tech in the church

The last couple of Sunday mornings have been encouraging. Please pray for continued good teamwork within the worship team. One key person is moving away soon. We currently don't have anyone doing tech (sound desk, wires, and other things I don't understand). Do pray that the Lord would prompt someone/some people to serve in this way. You can also pray that the worship team moves forward with the vision expressed in a recent meeting of involving more church members in the 'up front' things on Sunday morning, and to make the worship more creative and varied, and that the other worship leader (who has a full-time secular job) wouldn't be stressed by these extra 'things to do', and that doing exciting creative things would never become an end in itself but would help people to engage with God and bless His name.



Sarah saying hello to the queen (lots of people have asked us 'did you say hello to the queen?' since we returned to France)

Please pray for:

1. A refreshing time on holiday at Le Pas Opton with family during the first week of August.
2. Jack's upcoming sermons (17th July, 14th August). We are currently doing a sermon series in Acts.
3. I'm trying to organise a social event for the church youth. It is proving more difficult than expected to find a time that works during the summer holidays. Please pray that if it is God's will we will be able to find a time and that it would be a fun time for the youth to enjoy being together
4. New believers, and people seeking, for the Holy Spirit to be at work in their hearts, and for difficult situations that may prevent them committing to Jesus to be overcome (e.g. some family members thinking protestant church is a cult...). Encouragingly, one person has started coming to our church off the back of a flyer for an event that the team from Durham put on in April, which was, it seemed at the time, a 'flop'.
5. Blessing on our team life especially as and when disagreement arises. Between Dutch, American and Brits we could have quite different styles of disagreeing, not taking into account personalities :-). Praise God that so far this has been good.
6. Work at the maison de la solidarité. Good relationships with volunteers and clients, Jack as he takes on more responsibility.
7. Musical worship and tech in the church. For provision of tech people in particular!
8. Benjamin going to school in September! (yes, they do start them young here!).
9. Continuing to make friends in and outside of church.
10. Our walks with Jesus, that this would be our priority, over and above all the 'doing'
11. Mini newcomers conference with our mission agency ECM in August

Thanks so much for praying. We'd love to hear from you too! Do get in touch.

You can also sign up to receive future updates here:  
<https://kcd.us20.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=9a7fc40583aec2019a2e31b6e&id=ff5b0dbfe7>

**Our mailing address is:** [winterburns@kcd.org.uk](mailto:winterburns@kcd.org.uk)

We're trusting God to continue providing the finances we need. To join the financial support team, just get in touch and we can give you the details.

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