



Family News 17th December 2022

Dear all,

As we approach the end of 2022, we look back on another year of world-wide uncertainties. As 2020 brought with it Covid, lockdown, job losses, hardship, and the fall of many small businesses; 2021 continued with the fear of Covid, different strains of Covid emerging, troubles in Afghanistan and increasing unrest in the rest of the world; so 2022 has brought financial and political upheavals, increasing world-wide unrest including war in Ukraine, increasing hardship and a winter where many are frightened to heat their homes because the cost of energy has become out of their price range.

But there is a BUT in all of this – BUT GOD.

God is omniscient – which means He is all-knowing. He has always known this was all going to happen. Nothing can ever happen that will take Him by surprise. He knows how you feel, and He has a plan!

He is omnipotent – which means He is all powerful. Sometimes it might feel as if the one Jesus called “the enemy” and the “prince of the air” is in control, but he isn’t. He might be making life difficult and might win some battles, but Jesus has already won the war. He is still in control.

He is omnipresent – which means He is always everywhere. He has never left us on our own to go through difficulties and trials. He is with us. He is with you.

So yes, we have had some hard years, but because of Jesus, we have HOPE. Hope that says whatever we are going through, He is there with us, in control, able to answer our prayers, crowning us with eternal life and allowing us to partner with Him in transforming history from death to life.

He has also left us with His word – the bible – which contains His promises to us, so that we can read them and hang on to them, as we can trust Him never to let us down.

It somehow feels even more important to celebrate Christmas in these difficulties times than in the good times. Without Jesus, there is no hope other than to

find some fleeting pleasure in what the world affords. But with Jesus, we have hope for this life, hope for eternal life, hope for answered prayers, hope for peace, hope for His promises, hope for good change, and hope for life in all its fullness. His coming to earth as that tiny baby and dying on a cross for us, has given us a sure hope and inheritance that can never fade or be taken away from us.

God loves celebrations. Celebrations were an important part of Old Testament worship, celebrating the important events in the Jewish history. In fact, they celebrated so loudly when the foundation of the second temple was built that they could be heard “far away” (Ezra 3:13).

So, thank you Jesus for being born as that tiny baby over two thousand years ago. Let’s celebrate as well as we can what our beautiful King has done for us.

Wishing you all a wonder-full and joy-full Christmas, and hope-full and health-full 2023.

With much love,

Sharon & Andi xx

Community Club Christmas meal

Unfortunately, the Community Club Christmas meal was postponed last week due to the icy conditions underfoot. We are planning to hold it this Tuesday (20th) but will be watching 'the big defrost' to make sure it's safe to bring club members out. If we don't call, members can presume it's on. Various things will be different from normal as the premises was already booked out to other users. As a consequence, we shall be in the large hall only and access will be via the halls side entrance.

In light of the large numbers of Flu cases in the area, should you feel unwell please refrain from attending for the sake of others.

church prayer calendar

We are making up the church prayer calendar for 2023, if you are not already included in the calendar and would like to be, please add your names to the sign-up sheet on the welcome desk at the back of the church or contact the office on ccorpington@talktalk.net / 01689 871601.

A copy of the current prayer calendar for 2022 is with the sign-up sheet if you would like to check if you are already included.

Thank you

Sunday 18th December 4th Sunday of Advent

9.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Morning Worship – Crib Service

Welcome & Opening Prayer

Wedding Banns

Notices, Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Confession, Absolution

Worship

While Shepherds watched
O little Town of Bethlehem
Silent Night

Bible Reading

Luke 2 v 1-20

Sermon Part 1

Bible Reading

Matthew 2 v 1-12

Sermon Part 2

Worship

Away in a Manger

Intercessions

Worship

Angels from the Realms of Glory

Final Prayer & Blessing

6.30pm Carols by Candlelight



Photo by Kenta Kikuchi on Unsplash

For online zoom coffee after morning church **today**

(Sunday 18th December)

join **Heather Kroiter** from 11.45am:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/84610974627?pwd=Z1g4TzIvVFVtcEUxeGRWbIFLUDVuZz09>

Meeting ID: 846 1097 4627

Passcode: R4V5My



Electoral Roll

- 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?
- Have you formulated your New Year resolution yet?



If not why not make 2023 the year you put your name on the church Electoral Roll as a commitment?

There are also advantages in doing so. One is the fact that you can hire the church hall for that upcoming family celebration at a reduced rate.

Application forms can be found at the back of church together with an explanatory leaflet 'Belonging and the Electoral Roll'. Complete the form and return it via a church officer or myself.

Roger Wilkinson

Family News: notices for the next issue by

12noon Saturday 31st December please

email: vandjmapp@gmail.com



WANTED
OUR MOST NEEDED ITEMS ARE:

Adult and Children's Toothbrushes

Disposable Razors

Toilet Rolls

Cooking Sauces

Cleaning Products

Sugar

PLEASE **DON'T** GIVE US **FROZEN** OR **CHILLED** ITEMS
AS WE DON'T HAVE THE CORRECT STORAGE FOR IT AND
IT SPOILS BEFORE WE CAN DISTRIBUTE IT

WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF: PASTA, CEREAL, TEA & BISCUITS

**TAKE A PHOTO OF THIS LIST
WITH YOUR PHONE TO
REFER TO WHILE YOU SHOP!**

**IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF FOOD SUPPORT
PLEASE CONTACT US ON 0800 9 20 23 24**



Mince Pies & Cake request for Carols by Candlelight Service

Dear Christ Church,

We have our Carols by candlelight service on **Sunday 18th December**.

At this service we will be serving mince pies and cakes, therefore we would be very grateful for any cake donations!

If you would like to make a donation of mince pies/cakes, please bring them on Sunday 18th December at the morning service ready for the Carols by Candlelight service in the evening.

Thank you in advance, Anna

Photo by Edward Howell on Unsplash

Cafe Mosaic

Cafe Mosaic is in need of more volunteers to keep providing a good service to our customers. Can you help between 9.00am – 2.30pm on Wednesdays and Fridays during term time.

If you can't do an entire shift an hour or two would be great or even be on a reserve list to cover illness or holidays. Our team has got smaller and we will lose another person if not more in the new year.

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

**Come have
Christmas lunch with us!
At the Vicarage...
...after the
Christmas Morning service**

**11.45am – 3pm
Roast Gammon & Turkey
Christmas pudding &
cream to follow**

**Please RSVP to
Sharon or Andi**

Services at Christ Church Orpington

Sunday 18th December

9.00am Holy Communion
10.30am All Age Crib Service
6.30pm Carols by Candlelight

Christmas Eve, Saturday 24th December

11.15pm Christmas Communion

Christmas Day, Sunday 25th December

10.30am Christmas Day - All Age

~ 2023 ~

New Year's Day, Sunday 1st January

10.30am Holy Communion

Sunday 8th January

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

Sunday 15th January

10.30am Morning Worship
6.30pm Holy Communion - Go Deeper



Dear Readers

Welcome to the November 2022 Bromley CAP Partnership Newsletter. Thank you for your interest. We want to keep supporters updated as we look at and make plans for the coming year. Please share this newsletter with those who would like to know more and/or pray about our work - you're welcome to print copies or display one on your church noticeboard.

Praise

- We thank God that five CAP clients have become debt-free since our last newsletter in May! We have now seen 33 clients go debt-free from over £700,000 of debt!!
- Praise God for the 2 people who have recently found work from the Job Club.
- Praise God that one of the ladies who has done the Job Club and Life Skills has just become a Christian through an Alpha course!
- Praise God for answering our prayers and providing four additional befrienders from different churches. We are always looking for more people to support and pastor those experiencing debt.
- Thank God for the wonderful relationship we have with the food hub and various churches who distribute food to those in need. These relationships have provided the opportunity to offer debt support to some of their clients.
- Praise God for our ongoing relationship with DWP Job Centre where we are able to offer debt support to their clients and advertise our CAP Job Clubs.

Could you consider...

- Running a CAP money courses? They are a great tool to help with budgeting and money management. If you think a course would benefit your church and its local community, please get in touch with Martin.
- Organising a fundraiser for the CAP Bromley Partnership?
- Or sending a Christmas gift to support this great work?



If you have ideas about ways we can raise funds please get in touch.

Please pray

- Pray for the Life Skills and Job Club courses that will be running in early 2023. Pray for the promotion of these courses and that God would draw in many who will be blessed by the love and care of the teams.
- We have recently been able to advertise our services in a number of ways with community links and other charities. Please pray that these links will enable us to reach new people.
- Please pray for debt client's mental health that is being exacerbated by the cost of living crisis.
- Pray for salvation across our CAP Services as the gospel is shared with actions and words.
- Pray for Martin, Babs and Kaego who meet new debt clients. Pray for Ralph, Graham and Alison as they lead our Job Clubs and Life Skills courses. Pray for good health and God's protection for the team and their families.



Our Trustees and Service Leads

If you would like to support us financially either monthly or a one-off donation, here are the details.

Bank: Metro Bank, Bromley
Account: CAP Bromley Partnership
Account N°: 22731629
Sort Code: 23-05-80

Please email Martin as above if you set up monthly giving so we can keep you in touch with developments from time to time.

giftaid it If you're a UK taxpayer you could donate through Gift Aid, meaning that as a charity we can claim back £0.25 from the Government for every £1 you donate, at no extra cost to yourself. Let us know if you'd like us to send you a Gift Aid form to complete.

