



Christ
Church
Orpington

Family News

25th February 2023

Reflection

Earlier this week I had an appointment in London but as it turned out I ran half an hour early. This is definitely my preference because I cannot stand running late and arriving flustered and, even worse, sweaty. My meeting was in Holborn and there is the beautiful church right next to the building where I was due to meet. I popped in at the church, just to have 20 minutes of me time; in fact what I was after was some me & God time. After settling down and blocking out all my thoughts and just being in the moment, Psalm 23 came to my mind so I started praying through the verses, slowly and in conversation with God.

"The Lord is my shepherd; I have all that I need."

- Thanks Jesus for caring for me and looking out for me like a shepherd tends to his sheep. You sustain me with your abundant love and I need nothing else than your presence.

*"He lets me rest in green meadows;
he leads me beside peaceful streams.
He renews my strength."*

- Where I find myself right now is exactly where you want me. I know when I feel weak, that is when I can rejoice because your Holy Spirit is alive in me and gives me strength. I will not rely on my own strength but wholly expect you to get me through every challenge.

*"He guides me along right paths,
bringing honour to his name."*

- I want to hear your voice so that I may follow your path mapped out for my life. Help me live a life that brings honour and glory to the name of Jesus.

"Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me."

- I know I will face hardship and I will be hurt; but as I child of God, I know You will carry me through it.

"Your rod and your staff protect and comfort me. You prepare a feast for me in the presence of my enemies."

- I will, amidst the noise of the world, focus on you Word and make that my only true point of reference. In that way I will not be thrown off-course by the plans and lies of the devil.

*"You honour me by anointing my head with oil.
My cup overflows with blessings."*

- Because you know exactly what I need and you know what I want even before I ask; you shower me with blessings and favour beyond my most extravagant imaginations.

"Surely your goodness and unfailing love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will live in the house of the Lord forever."

- When I wonder off the path you set for me, You will come and look for me, and even when I rebel against your will for me... You never give up on me. You are the Dad that every child craves and you have beautiful things in mind for me whilst I am on earth; and when I am no longer here I will spend eternity at home with You!

Amen

Pieter

Sometimes these unexpected moments present themselves where we can take a break from the world; let's grab them and spend them in the presence of Jesus.

Bring-and-Share for Jo

POSTPONED

Unfortunately, Jo is unwell so we are postponing her farewell bring-and-share lunch on Sunday

We will let you know once we have a new date organised.

Easter Leaflets

Our Easter Leaflets are now ready for delivery and have been left at the back of the church separated into piles for each road in the parish.

If you are able to help with the distribution of these, it would be most appreciated, just pick a pile which is most convenient for you.

Thank you so much!

Sunday 26th February 2023

First Sunday of Lent

9.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Morning Worship

Welcome, Notices

Opening Prayer, Confession

Worship

King forevermore
Thank you for saving me
Never gonna stop singing

Bible Reading

Genesis 2 v 15-17; 3 v 1-7

Sermon

Intercessions

Worship

Lord I need you
All creatures of our God and King

Final Prayer & Blessing

6.30pm Evening Worship – Go Deeper



Can you please note that there will **NOT** be zoom coffee after this morning's service church **today** (Sunday 26th February 2023)

Warm Space

can anyone please volunteer to help with 'warm space' on a Sunday at Christ Church?

if anyone would like to know more about what is required when helping out, or any other questions, please contact Mandy Callaghan

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

10.30am - FRIDAY 3rd MARCH

St Mary's Church

Worlds End Lane, Orpington BR6 6AG

Please come and join friends from St Mary's and other churches in Orpington as this year we focus on and pray for Taiwan.

Refreshments will be available after the Service.

Lent

Our Lent course is starting on Wednesday 1st March at 8pm in church and will be running for 5-weeks.

The course will be based around Bishop Emma Ineson's 2023 Lent Book 'Failure'. You can find out more at Failure - The Big Church Read

<https://thebigchurchread.co.uk/failure/>

If you would like to attend there is a sign-up sheet at the back of church or, alternatively please let us know by emailing the church office at ccorpington@talktalk.net so that we can get an idea about numbers.

If you would like a copy of the book copies are available from Amazon at £10.11. If you are unable to get a copy from Amazon, please contact the office and ask Anna to get one for you.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Community Club, Tuesday 28th February

Liesel is leading the worship time at 11.00am
Tea and Coffee served from 10.30am.

Lunch Menu:

Minestrone soup
Cottage pie and vegetables
Upside down cake and custard
Tea or Coffee.

Mother's Day – Sunday 19th March

The flower arranging team are meeting in the large hall at about 10am on **Saturday 18th March** to make posies for Mother's Day – if you would like to help, please do along and join them. This year they have need of small leaved and ferny type foliage to go in the posies – if you can help with this, please drop off between 9.30am and 10am that day.

Northumbria Daily Prayer

You are invited to come along to Daily Prayer at 9.00-9.20am in the chapel on Mondays and Tuesdays.



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

Dates we are meeting in March are:
6th, 13th & 14th, 20th, 27th & 28th March.

Café Mosaic

Café 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.

For more information, contact Jeanette on 07445477710, email jeanettexox@hotmail.com

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

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 Roger Wilkinson

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



WANTED

OUR MOST NEEDED ITEMS ARE:

Canned Vegetables
Ready-cooked Meat
Hot Chocolate
UHT Milk
Canned Potatoes
Bleach

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

2023 Services at Christ Church Orpington

Sunday 26th February

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

Sunday 5th March

10.30am Holy Communion
6.30pm Evening Worship – Reflect

Sunday 12th March

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

Sunday 19th March, Mother's Day

STARFISH MALAWI

The next container headed out to Africa from Unity Church is going in May. They are asking if we have any bibles (or theological works) we might wish to donate. If you have any, please will you put them to one side and I'll let you know when in April to bring them to church for collection.

Thank you so much –
a bible is a gift of life to someone.

Next issue of **Family News**

Can you please send notices etc to Vernon by
12noon on **Friday 3rd March please**
for inclusion in Family News for
Saturday 4th March 2023
Email is **vandjmapp@gmail.com**



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

Hello, I (Sarah) hope this finds you well. One of my favourite things about the last couple of weeks was having a coffee with a neighbour. It reminded me how much we all need to relate to each other, and that somehow in the business of wanting to 'do' ministry, I have missed out on simple joys like that. Anyway, here are some of the latest updates from us:



Villedomer, the campsite location of the upcoming youth weekend away.

Youth work updates

There are various events coming up for the youth in the church. One example is that, in spring, there will be a first ever centre-region Perspectives (France Mission) youth weekend away in Villedômer, just north of Tours, in a campsite run by a christian couple associated with the Bless network. The Baptists and Foursquare gospel church youth groups (who we have been getting to know over this academic year) are also invited.

The theme will be 'what hope for youth in 2023?' exploring the counter-cultural, hope-bringing news of

the gospel. For this year they have enough volunteers, but we're hoping that this will become a yearly event, and so for those of you with DBS checks, there may be opportunities to come and help with this sort of thing in the future!



The recording studio for songs worship songs written by a member of our congregation.

Is being a missionary about leading or about enabling? Or is leading enabling? Reflecting on leading in the area of worship ministry.

Missionary training taught us that the long-term goal in church ministry is raising up local leaders. Jack and I have wrestled a bit with the question of how we do that when we are not yet that experienced in leadership ourselves. I think the answer for me, at least at the moment, is to continue to lead and grow in leading (through reading, practising my instrument, spiritual discipline) but always with an eye to growing, developing, and supporting those around me. I have discovered that there is great joy in enabling others to contribute in ministry.

I enjoyed having a coordinating role in the Christmas service (in particular, I was responsible for the flow of the service and bringing different elements together in a way that made 'sense'), which meant working with the choir leader on the flow of songs, planning in a drama which involved lots of people who wouldn't have otherwise participated, choosing readings and getting others involved in leading it, and including two songs written by a lady from our church. I won't say it wasn't stressful, but it was a joy that the end result was a service that had a clear 'story' to it, was joyful, and felt like it came out of a family because most people in the church had a role to play.

It's also been a joy to come alongside a young couple in the church who have led worship a couple of times and will continue to do so once a month until they move away in April 😊



Crosslands

I (Jack) started an MA in Christian ministry at Crosslands at the end of January. It's about 10 hours a week, distance learning, over 4 years. At some points there will be residential weeks at the UK centre too.

I'm glad for the chance to study and be equipped for our ministry. I'll have the chance to study a wide range of content in biblical theology, pastoral and mission studies and historical theology. They also include elements tailored to people working in cross-cultural situations. You can see more details at <https://crosslands.training/training/seminary/> or feel free to get in touch and I'll gladly share more.

I'm currently fundraising to meet some of the costs of the course, so do get in touch if you would like to contribute.

Please pray for:

- For the youth. There are various youth events coming up including socials, weekend away and a youth-led worship evening together with two other churches (rehearsal on the 4th march, worship evening on the 18th march). Do pray for the young people's faith to grow and for them to grow 'together' as they get to know other young people from Christian backgrounds and serve together. Some of the youth who come along already know the Lord, others don't. Some are having a great time in life and others have various struggles. I would also love for our church youth group to grow 'outwards' - with the youth bringing along friends. Do pray for that to happen in the right way at the right time!
- For planning of the King's Church Durham mission week to Tours in April. Praise God for the planning progress made so far. Do pray for church members to contribute and join in with what the team will be doing, and for them to be encouraged. Pray for God's spirit to be on the move, changing people's hearts, and for us to respond to the Spirit's promptings and join in with what He wants to do.
- For Jack's preaching and teaching on Sunday mornings and at men's breakfast, for it to be inspired by God, faithful to God's word and useful to the congregation.

- For worship in the church. For those leading, for the congregation to come expectant to meet with God and be changed by His Spirit, for me to be diligent in practise and obedient to the Spirit's promptings, for the team to work well together, for provision of tech people in particular.
- For more opportunities for Jack to do 1-1 discipleship, and for the various people being prepared for baptism in the church.
- For us as a family as we adapt to Jack beginning his theology study, and for that study to be helpful.
- Relationships at the community centre, for us to be a light there and be in the 'opposite spirit' to the sometimes unpleasant atmosphere
- Sarah as she continues to teach on the book of Romans (in a kind of Saturday morning 'school of theology').
- For us to get a good balance between 'doing work stuff' and being with people. Being a missionary is a funny kind of 'work'. We want to make sure we have time to get to know people, to share our faith, to be 'available' to those around us, as well as doing more structured work.

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

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.
