

## God the chess Grand Master

I saw an artistic picture frame that 'paraphrased' Ester 4:14 saying: "*Perhaps this is the moment for which you have been created.*" And I just thought WOW, how cool is that! It got me thinking of my life and how often I find myself questioning, in a way, why certain things happen, how I fit into what is going on around me and wondering about purpose.

I have always taken tremendous encouragement from Romans 8:28 which says:

*"And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them."*

So, in addition to believing that this is absolutely true for you and for me, I believe that not only do things 'work together', but that God himself moves us in ways and in positions, that is incredibly purposeful - just like a Grand Master in chess.

So, as we pray together as one, we are all experiencing our own unique circumstances. We may be finding ourselves in times of blessing and abundance, or we may be experiencing heartache, loneliness or abandonment that is seemingly too painful to even share with anyone. But here again, we are so indebted to Paul who modelled for us how to deal with, and express our highs and lows:

*"I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want."*

Philippians 4:12 NIV

Let us pray then, whatever our circumstances, to the living God. May we trust that, like Esther; perhaps this moment we are finding ourselves in right now, is exactly the moment for which we have been created; placed here by the Grand Master God - Amen!

Pieter



## Family News 10th June 2023

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### Sunday 11th June 2023 1st Sunday after Trinity

#### 9.00am Holy Communion

#### 10.30am Morning Worship

##### Welcome, Notices

##### Opening Prayer, Confession

##### Worship

Blessed be Your Name  
Praise is rising  
How deep the Father's love for us

##### Bible Reading

1 Corinthians 14 v 1-5, 22-33

##### Sermon

##### Intercessions

##### Worship

God has spoken by his prophets  
These are the days of Elijah

##### Final Prayer & Blessing

#### 6.30pm Evening Worship – Reflect

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

(Sunday 11th June 2023)

join Heather from 11.45am:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/84610974627?pwd=Z1q4TzIvVFVtcEUxeGRWb1FLUDVuZz09>

Meeting ID: 846 1097 4627

Passcode: R4V5My



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**Notices** for next issue of **Family News**

please send to Vernon by

**Midday, Friday 16th June please**

Email is [vandjmapp@gmail.com](mailto:vandjmapp@gmail.com)

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## Community Club, Tuesday 13th June



Hi Kent will be in attendance

### On the Menu:

Leek and potato soup  
Mince cobbler, mashed potatoes and  
seasonal vegetables  
Chocolate sponge and custard  
Tea or Coffee.

## Café Mosaic

**Wednesdays & Fridays, 9.15am to 2pm**

This week's special:

Sausage casserole and mash

## Starts September

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 or afternoon cake and coffee), 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.

There will be an initial taster session in September.

To find out more, please contact:

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

## ROCK CHOIR AND KENTONES CONCERT In aid of BROMLEY BOROUGH FOODBANK Saturday 10th June, 7.00-9.30pm

At Christ Church Chislehurst  
40 Lubbock Road Chislehurst BR7 5JJ  
Interval refreshments included in ticket price (£12)

"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

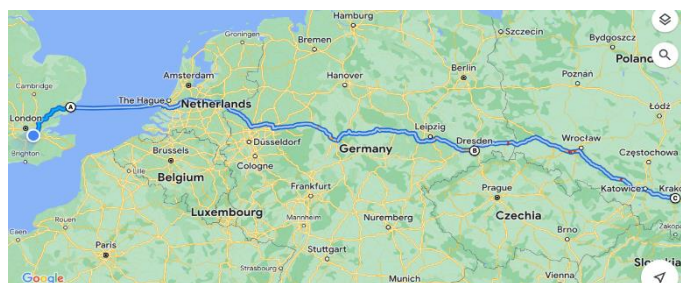
## Support and Supplies for Ukraine

As many of you will know; Will Bisley & I are doing another trip to Poland to support Ukrainian refugees. The war is far from over and the circumstances of those displaced by the war are incredibly tough.

We have been absolutely blown away by the generosity of the Mens Ministry group. We put an appeal out for financial support to buy a solar powered battery pack, and within a fortnight we had all the funds. We subsequently bought it and it was dispatched in a previous van with Hope Church, so that they had more use during the sunny months. Kudos to the guys who responded so quickly.

So, we are taking further supplies as we did in December 2022, and we will be leaving Orpington on **Saturday 24th June** and arrive in Krakow late on Monday the 26th. We aim to be back in the UK on Wednesday 28th June.

We are planning the same route as before:



**Things we really need are clothes, blankets & sleeping bags; as well as the items listed below** 😊

If you can assist, please call/WhatsApp Pieter on 07949 031183.

### items needed

- First Aid kits
- Vitamin supplements
- Paracetamol/Ibuprofen
- Antiseptic wipes
- Nappies including for the elderly
- Sanitary products
- Canned food - protein
- Rice
- Pasta
- Flour
- Batteries and torches
- Food for children - long-term and dry
- Warm blankets
- Warm children's clothes
- Warm adult's clothes and shoes
- Sleeping bags/roll mats

There is a collecting box for **Paracetamol & Ibuprofen** at the back of the church, so please let's see if we can fill it.

With gratitude and thanks, Pieter

## 2023 Services at Christ Church Orpington

### Sunday 11th June

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

### Wednesday 14th June

10.00am Prayer Meeting

### Sunday 18th June



10.30am Morning Worship - All Age  
6.30pm Holy Communion - Go Deeper

### Sunday 25th June

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

### Sunday 2nd July

10.30am Holy Communion  
6.30pm Evening Worship - Go Deeper

### Baptism?

### Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows? Confirmation?

Are you thinking about being baptised? If you would like to be baptised, then no matter what age you are, we would love to talk with you about baptism. Baptism is a once-in-a-lifetime commitment to follow Christ as your Lord and Saviour, and if you would like to know more, then we would love to speak with you.

If you would like to re-affirm your baptismal vows and make a fresh commitment to Christ, then we would love to speak with you.

If you would like to be confirmed, which involves a short course taking you deeper into discipleship of Christ and is the traditional way of being admitted to Holy Communion in the Church of England, then we would love to speak with you.

If you are interested in any of these, then please contact the office on [ccorpington@talktalk.net](mailto:ccorpington@talktalk.net) and someone will get in contact with you. Thank you, Sharon

Rev'd Dr Sharon Smith  
Vicar of Christ Church Orpington



## SUMMER FESTIVAL CONCERT

HAYDN - NELSON MASS

VAUGHN WILLIAMS - 5 MYSTICAL SONGS

PLUS A SELECTION OF ANTHEMS BY VARIOUS COMPOSERS

Soprano	Helen Eastwood
Alto	Christiana Eastwood
Tenor	Niki Zodhi
Bass	Paul Bonter
Organist	Jack Stone
Conductor	Nick Wibberley

SATURDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2023, 7:30pm  
ORPINGTON PARISH CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS  
BARK HART ROAD, ORPINGTON, BR6 0QD

Tickets: £12, Students: £6  
BOOKINGS AND ENQUIRIES: 07879 473802

Retiring collection in aid of Maternity Worldwide  
[www.asfc.london](http://www.asfc.london) charity no. 1128850

**Rochester Cathedral** will be hosting a Thanksgiving Service on **Thursday 22nd June** to celebrate the **75th anniversary of Windrush**. This will be held at **5.30pm** and will seek to be intergenerational. Bishop Simon will preach and the service is being planned as a service with music, readings and prayer, which we hope will appeal to young and the older and we hope will attract a truly diverse congregation.

We would love you to come along that together we may pray, celebrate and give thanks for the blessing that the Windrush generation has been, appreciate their legacy and lament our failings in offering generous hospitality.

There is no expectation for anyone to robe. If robing however please just wear your cassock.

Kind regards **The Reverend Belinda Beckhelling**  
Acting Precentor & Chaplain to the French Hospital



### Northumbria Daily Prayer

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

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

Dates for June and July are: 12th, 13th, 19th, 20th and 26th June  
3rd, 4th, 17th and 18th July.

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)

## Do you have a story of how you came to faith?

I was regularly taken to church as a child, and I remember quite strongly the day I decided on my faith. I was seven.

I remember thinking – “If God was real and was a God of love, then people would be singing the hymns to Him with happy faces, not the dead-pan faces they seemed to have to my eyes. If God was real, then He was God 24 hours a day 7 days a week, and wouldn’t be fooled by people’s “Sunday Best” faces and clothes. And if God was real, all-powerful and heard prayers, then everyone would surely be asking Him about how to make every decision of every day, not just make their own decisions. And so, with all the childish wisdom of a 7-year-old, I decided that God wasn’t real, He was made up by clever people to make foolish people and children behave. And I wasn’t to be fooled! My disbelief in God was sealed.

Oh dear! In my childhood “wisdom” I had judged whether God was real or not by His people.

It was a bit like choosing your spouse by the way their work colleagues acted. Or judging a book by the colour of its cover. I’m forever grateful that many years later God revealed Himself to me for the wonderful, kind, gentle, loving, holy, forgiving, generous, all-powerful, healing, and life-giving God He is.

The church is in the news a lot at the moment, showing a very painful picture of what can happen when leaders (especially) appear to abuse their position and leave their flocks with feelings of pain and devastation instead of life and healing. Can I encourage all who have been hurt by “the church” not to judge whether God is real or not by His followers, but instead go to His bible, speak to Him, and ask Him to reveal Himself to you, and show you who He really is. Please don’t judge God by His people as I had.

**If you have been hurt or have a concern about anyone in the church, leader or otherwise, recent or non-recent, please can I encourage you to reach out for help. Here are some of the ways you can get support**

Our Safeguarding Officer for our church is  
Keith Miller on [safeguarding@ccorpington.org](mailto:safeguarding@ccorpington.org)

The Safeguarding Lead for the Diocese of Rochester is

Greg Barry on 07585 952174

The National Safeguarding Team on  
[safeguarding@churchofengland.org](mailto:safeguarding@churchofengland.org)

Thirtyone:eight Safeguarding Helpline on 0303 003 1111 is staffed by trained professionals who provide safeguarding advice and guidance and operate an out of hours service for urgent calls, or email on [info@thirtyoneeight.org](mailto:info@thirtyoneeight.org)

Safe Spaces, a free and independent support service, providing a confidential, personal and safe space for anyone who has been abused through their relationship with either the Church of England, the Catholic Church of England and Wales or the Church in Wales available on 0300 303 1056 or [info@safespaces.co.uk](mailto:info@safespaces.co.uk)

**In an emergency, especially if someone is in immediate danger of harm, you should always call 999 straight away and ask for the police.**

Holding in my prayers all those who have been hurt by the Church and commending them for their bravery in speaking out.

Sharon



**BLESS GREEN ST GREEN FREE MUSIC EVENT**

Saturday 17th June 2023

Enjoy an afternoon of music and craft activities,  
Healing and prayer.

12 noon Green st Green Baptist church band  
1pm The Word by Martin Chapman  
1.30pm a time to enjoy your own picnic with others  
2pm GSGBC Messy church  
With Healing and prayer  
2.45pm Andy Mayo and Band  
From Ministry for Music.  
4pm The Word by Martin Chapman  
4.20pm a time to come forward to  
engage with the ministry team

In the event of bad weather we will relocate  
to the Baptist Church at 1 Worlds End Lane

If anyone would be willing to help with this event from 12noon-6pm,  
please contact

Richard Crowley on: [evangelism316@gmail.com](mailto:evangelism316@gmail.com)

Joan Remnant has a few surplus plants which she will bring to church tomorrow morning. Long red peppers, mild and medium chillis, and sunflowers. She put them on a table in the vestibule - take what you want.

**They are free!**

Join Spinnaker  
Orpington for

# Coffee and Cake

Friday 7th July

Orpington Baptist  
Church cafe

10.30 - 12.00



Fundraising and  
sharing our  
work in local  
schools

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 Spinnaker  
Engaging - Inspiring - Equipping

Spinnaker Bromley Hub

# QUIZ Night



fundraising for the work of Spinnaker

Friday 14th July 2023

7pm for a 7.30pm start

At St Peter & St Paul's Parish Church Bromley  
Church Road, Bromley BR2 0EG

£5 per person

(up to 8 on a team payable on the night in cash/cheques)  
Individuals welcome to sign up and will be included in a team.

Refreshments available for a donation or you are welcome to bring your own  
drinks and nibbles.



## PRIZES FOR THE WINNING TEAM

Book your team in NOW!

Email: [spinnaker@spinnaker.org.uk](mailto:spinnaker@spinnaker.org.uk)

or contact the Spinnaker Office

Tel: 0203 764 8503

