



Christ
Church
Orpington

Family News

9th September 2023

Sunday 10th September 14th Sunday after Trinity

9.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Morning Worship

Welcome, Notices

Opening Prayer, Confession

Worship

Sing Glory 55 O for a thousand tongues

Sing Glory 222 When the music fades

Song Way maker

Bible Reading

Job 31 v 13-23

Sermon

Intercessions

Worship

Sing Glory 657

For the joys and for the sorrows

Song God of justice

Final Prayer & Blessing

6.30pm Evening Worship – Go Deeper



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

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/84610974627?pwd=Z1g4TzlvVFVtcEUxeGRWbIFLUDVuZz09>

Meeting ID: 846 1097 4627

Passcode: R4V5My

A letter from Sharon and Andi -

Dear lovely, kind, generous, beautiful Christ Church,

Psalm 84: 4 (Amplified Bible)

Blessed and greatly favoured are those who dwell in Your house and Your presence;

They will be singing Your praises all the day long.

Blessed and highly favoured –

God is so utterly good to those who love Him and we have felt so very blessed and highly favoured!

But first things first - Thank you so much for all the love you have shown us over the last four weeks. Thank you for all the cards, flowers, gifts, offers of help and offers of food – every single one has been treasured. Thank you for all the practical help that has been given – some of it way above and beyond the call of duty – every single act has been treasured. Thank you for all the prayers that have been said – every prayer is a powerful weapon and all have been treasured. And thank you to all those who have stepped in and organised, worked and helped to make sure the church kept running smoothly – you are all precious jewels. Thank you.

It has been a painful four weeks. While returning from a lovely retreat and holiday, we were on the M1 passing through Bedfordshire when a lorry swiped us from behind. This is a photo of the front of our car. The back wasn't much better.



We had been hit and sent spinning, causing us to hit the crash barrier at least three if not four times.

As I was lying in hospital strapped to a scoop board, my head and hips locked in restraint, underneath me the broken bits of glass and gravel that had accumulated on the side of the motorway, shivering as I was nearly naked under the blanket as the ambulance crew had cut my clothes off, and in severe pain, I said to God with some reproach "I had prayed to You for protection!"

In His infinite mercy He replied instantly in a voice as clear as a bell saying "I did protect you", and in that moment I felt a flood of peace and warmth fill my heart. I had a momentary impression of what might have happened if He hadn't protected us, and I was overwhelmed with gratitude. What a miracle He had done for us. What love He has for us and what a great and awesome and glorious God we serve!

My scans in the hospital showed no broken bones or internal bleeding, but soft tissue injuries and a very aggravated spine. Andi was far more fortunate than me, with whiplash and a few cuts and bruises to his arm. We are so grateful to God for His mercy!

We lost quite a few belongings as we had our holiday suitcases and bags and stuff in the boot which exited onto the motorway at 60mph. Andi lost the most with his laptop and guitar being two of the casualties, but how little belongings matter when God has given us life! The thoughts of the policeman who picked up our dirty washing off the motorway has helped with an extra dose of humility 😊

Since then, we have felt the Lord closely with us almost continually, and there are times when I can almost feel His loving arms around me. He has been quick to answer our prayers and there have been so many small miracles He has done for us, we can barely remember what they all are!

He is the God who loves His children passionately, and protects us. Maybe we will never know how many times He has protected us from something worse as we have gone through life? He is the God who blesses and highly favours His children. He is the God who works miracles for His children. The greatest miracle being that He came to Earth to die for us so that when we face death, we won't have to face the horror of judgement for all our sins. Hallelujah! Thank you Lord. I for one am so grateful!

On the practical front - Andi is back at work doing admin and prep, but he may not be up to being in church before Sunday 17th. It will take me a little while longer. I have come a long way in my healing, but I still have a long way to go. I start physiotherapy next week and if all goes well, I am hopeful for the possibility to return to work in October. In the meantime, Anna knows what is happening if you have any questions.

We are so looking forward to coming back to see people again – we have missed you all!

With much love,

Sharon & Andi xx

Evening services update

Mike and Melanie have very kindly offered to step in and cover the Go Deeper evening services in the absence of Sharon and Andi.

Therefore, all evening services have now resumed. The first Go Deeper service of the autumn term will be

Sunday 10th September at 6.30pm

Café Mosaic

The café is open **Wednesdays & Fridays**
9.15am to 2.00pm
with last orders at 1.30pm

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

Several members of the congregation are thinking of holding a Christmas craft Fair to sell things they have made. We are keen to hear from anyone who would be interested in having a stall and also keen for others to come to buy, probably

Saturday 2nd December.

Please contact Mel Bailey or Judith Motto if interested, and watch this space for more information in the autumn.

Deanery Synod Meeting

Our next meeting is open to all and will be held at St Francis, Greencourt Road, Petts Wood at 7.45pm on

Tuesday 12th September.

The guest speaker is Claire Boxall, the Diocesan Called Together Manager, who will speak on the subject of Eco Churches.

The talk is entitled 'How Green is Your Church?'

Community Club, Tuesday 12th September

Study period from 11am. All Welcome.

Refreshments served from 10.30am.

Our Menu is

Pea and Ham soup

Creamy chicken, new potatoes and
green vegetables

Chocolate sponge and chocolate custard

Tea/coffee.



- **Canned Vegetables**
- **Canned Cold Meat**
- **Men's deodorant**
- **Canned Rice Pudding and Custard**
- **Squash**
- **UHT Fruit Juice**
- **Shampoo and Conditioner**
- **Also in gluten-free and reduced-sugar products if possible**

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

WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF: PASTA, CEREAL & 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**

"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

Guild of Church Flower Arrangers

The Guild of Church Flower Arrangers AGM will be on **Monday 3rd October** at **7.30pm** followed by a demonstration by Graham Harmer at

All Saints Church,
Bart Hart Rd,
Orpington, BR6 0QD.

Harvest flowers – Sunday 8th October

The flower arranging team would like donations of foliage on **Saturday 7th October**. Please bring to church from **9.45am**. If you would like to help them as well, please to come along - no experience needed!



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, late September.

To find out more, please contact:

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

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

Family News notices

Next issue will be 16th September with notices please by **midday, Friday 15th September**

Send to Vernon at: vandjmapp@gmail.com

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 September and October are: **18th & 19th September**

9th, & 10th, 23rd & 24th October.

Community Club drivers needed

Despite running a minibus to and from club we now find we are in need of more transport to assist our members. If you could spare some time to run folk to and from Club we would very much appreciate it.

We really don't want to turn folk away just because we can't accommodate them with a lift. Where possible dial a ride is used, but it hasn't been fully successful and is frequently unreliable hence the need to ask for help.

Club meets every Tuesday term time only and hopefully with enough help we wouldn't be asking you for assistance every week. Contact Mel Ketchin if you can help in this way on 07970 289089.

2023 Services at Christ Church Orpington

Sunday 10th September

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

Sunday 17th September

10.30am Morning Worship
6.30pm Holy Communion – Reflect

Sunday 24th September

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

Sunday 1st October

10.30am Holy Communion
6.30pm Evening Worship – Reflect



Hi ... I'm contacting as many people as I can to make a direct appeal for volunteers for next Sunday's Churches Together in Orpington (CiTO) Sunday Social, i.e. preparing and serving the 'free' burgers and hotdogs to the community of Orpington.






This is also a great event to bring family and friends, especially as it is going to be nice and sunny


I've been asked to also make an appeal for much needed volunteers for our Sunday Social.

We would like anyone who would like to help with serving the Orpington Community to come. this year, it has all been last minute and I'm trying to complete the same task, with less than a week to go ...?! Sorry about that, but if you are free, please contact me Janie - CTO Secretary

Failing that, if you do go to the event and realise, whilst the food is being served, that you can actually spare half an hour, then please feel free to approach

the 'tired' ...  and 'hottest'  looking

volunteer () and ask them if they'd like

a break! 

The food doesn't hang around for long and so we fully expect all to be burgers/hotdogs to be gone, well before 3pm - when the event ends.

Many Thanks

Jaine's contact details are: jaineferreira@sky.com

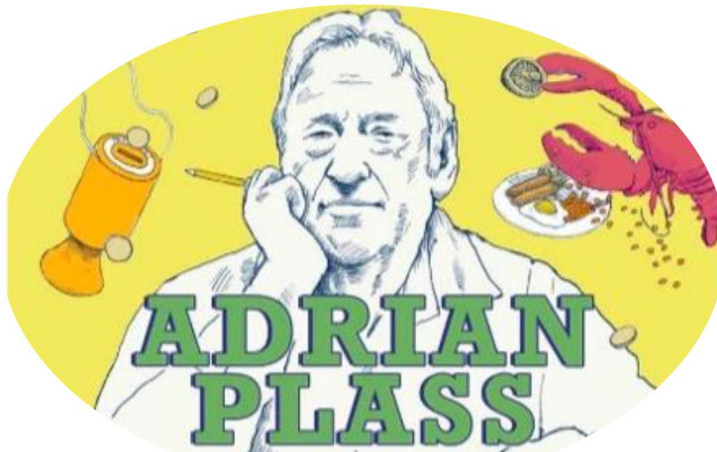
Christ Church Orpington is delighted to be hosting an evening of light entertainment, starring Christian author and comedian, Adrian Plass. Adrian is best known as a satirical broadcaster and writer, with his book "The sacred diary of Adrian Plass (37 and 3/4)" having sold more than a million copies.

The evening will be one of gentle humour, under the theme of:

LAUGHTER AND TEARS

Adrian and his wife, Bridget, will lead us in an evening of humour, sketches, stories, reflections and the odd poem. There will be references to Christianity, but nothing "cringy"! It will be suitable for people from all backgrounds and ages, Christian or otherwise. Please think about inviting your friends along, it will be suitable for them.

The performance will be held on Friday 6th October from 7.00 pm until 9.00ish, including a half time interval for refreshments, which are included within the ticket price. Tickets are priced at £10 for those who are able to afford this, so that we can cover our costs. However, no-one should be put off from coming because of the cost of the ticket - we will accept a lower amount, if this means that people are able to come. We just want everyone to have a fun night out in a happy environment. Tickets will be available after Sunday services, at Community Club and via Anna Carey in the church office.



A fun and easy night out with...

Adrian Plass

**Christ Church Orpington
Charterhouse Road, BR6 9EP**

Friday 6th October 7-9pm

An evening of gentle humour

£10 per ticket, but concessions are available to anyone who wants one.

Refreshments are included within the ticket price.

For more details please contact:

ccorpington@talktalk.net / Tel: 01689 871601

Tickets are available via Christ Church Orpington and from participating churches near to you.