



Christ
Church
Orpington

Family News

18th November 2023

Sunday 19th November Safeguarding Sunday

9.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Morning Worship

Welcome, Notices

Opening Prayer, Confession

Worship

O for a thousand tongues to sing
He's got the whole world in his hands
The Spirit of the sovereign Lord is upon me

Bible Reading Luke 4 v 14-22

Sermon

Intercessions

Worship

God's Spirit is in my heart
Safeguarding hymn

Final Prayer & Blessing

6.30pm Holy Communion – Go Deeper



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

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/84610974627?pwd=Z1g4TzIvVFVtcEUxeGRWbFlLUDVuZz09>

Meeting ID: 846 1097 4627

Passcode: R4V5My

Family News notices

Next issue will be 25th November with notices please

by **midday, Friday 24th November**

Send to Vernon at: vandjmapp@gmail.com

How do we respond to fear?

We don't need to look too far to find something that scares us. I look at the news and wars, natural disasters and human callousness scares even the bravest of souls.

It's been said that we cannot always control what happens to us, but we can control how we respond to what happens to us.

"The Lord is my light and my salvation - whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life - of whom shall I be afraid? When the wicked advance against me to devour me, it is my enemies and my foes who will stumble and fall. Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then I will be confident. One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple." Psalms 27:1-4 NIV

As we spend time with God today in prayer - please join me in asking God to guide us into His loving arms when we are afraid. It can be so easy to panic and respond out of our own weakness; but if we focus on these verses of Psalm 27, we choose to respond to what is happening to us; but we respond as people that are saved by the blood of Christ.

When we read the last part of verse 4 above against what Paul says in 1 Corinthians 3:16 it really becomes quite mind blowing:

"Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst?"

Please pray with me: Lord, as we come before you in prayer, and as we seek you in your temple; may you guide us, that we can find you living deep inside our own hearts and minds - Amen!

Pieter

Can you please note that Café Mosaic is closed this week (22nd & 24th Nov) due to illness

Community Club, Tuesday 21st November

Helen will be leading our Communion service at 11am.
Tea and Coffee served from 10.30am. All welcome.

Our menu will be

Butternut squash soup
Roast pork, roast potatoes and seasonal vegetables
Rice pudding
Tea or Coffee.



Northumbria Daily Prayer

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

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

November dates: **20th & 21st**, 27th & 28th.

December dates: 4th & 5th, 11th & 12th

Christmas Choir rehearsals on **FRIDAY** evenings from **8.00 to 9.30pm**, in preparation for the Carols by Candlelight service which will be on Sunday 17th December at 6.30pm.

All are welcome to join us whether you read music or not. We'll sing traditional favourites and some new music too, so there's something for everyone. If you would like any more information, please get in touch with me.

Liesel 07511 876928 Liesel@ccorpington.org

Mosaic Coffee and Cake Co-ordinator

Are you looking for an opportunity to serve and meet people?

Café Mosaic is changing in 2024. Our Café Manager is going to focus on our normal fayre on Fridays. Instead of the normal Café on Wednesdays we are hoping to have coffee and cakes available from about 10am to 2pm run by a volunteer team. The proposal is that people will make home-made cakes and a small volunteer team will serve coffee and cakes and receive payment on a donation basis.

In order to launch this initiative, we are looking for a volunteer who could organise the running of the Wednesday session including rotas for staffing by volunteers, organising a rota for cake-making and ensuring that the session runs smoothly. Jeanette our Café Manager will be able to give advice but will not be able to manage these sessions.

If you think you might be interested, then please contact the Church Office or Alan Goddard on 07985 974048 for an initial informal chat. Closing date to express an interest is 17th December.



- long life milk
- desserts/puddings/jelly/angel delight
- cold tinned meats
- fruit juice
- Also in gluten-free and reduced-sugar products if possible
 - children's toothbrushes
 - shaving gel
 - men/women deodorant

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

Bromley Picturehouse, 242 High Street, Bromley, BR1 1PQ is showing the Christian film "**The Mission**" until 23rd Nov, at the following times:

- Sun 19th November at 4.15pm;
- Mon 20th November at 4.30pm;
- Tue 21st November at 4.30pm;
- Wed 22nd November at 4.15pm;
- Thu 23rd November at 5.00pm.

Tickets are £9.99 (£7.99 on Monday)

The Mission (12A) is a gripping and deeply moving Christian film from National Geographic about John Chau who in 2018 sought to bring the gospel to a people group in the Andaman Islands whose culture nobody knows.

Operation Christmas Child



A huge **THANK YOU** on behalf of the children who will receive a shoebox of gifts this Christmas through the mission of Operation Christmas Child. Your support will let them know that they are loved and not forgotten and together with the local church worldwide, to hear and share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

46 shoeboxes from Christ Church and an additional 6 shoeboxes via the Samaritans Purse Goal Page were gratefully received and are now with Samaritans Purse. Please pray for the safe delivery the shoeboxes and for the child who will receive your box of gifts this Christmas.

If you would still like to pack an online shoebox, the Goal Page is open until 20th November

<https://shoebonline.samaritans-purse.org.uk/goal-pages/e13b0d1c>

The processing centre in Tonbridge would welcome volunteers to help with the checking and processing of shoeboxes, you are invited to sign in for a session using this link:

<https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/seasonal-processing/>

2023 Services at Christ Church Orpington

Safeguarding Sunday, 19th November

10.30am Morning Worship

6.30pm Holy Communion

Wednesday 22nd November

10.00am Prayer Meeting

Sunday 26th November

9.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Morning Worship

6.30pm Evening Worship

Wednesday 29th November

10.00am Prayer Meeting

Sunday 3rd December

10.30am Holy Communion

6.30pm Evening Worship

Wednesday 6th December

10.00am Holy Communion

Sunday 10th December

9.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Morning Worship

6.30pm Evening Worship

ALL WE WANT FOR
CHRISTMAS...

- 1 CHOCOLATES**
- 2 CHRISTMAS BISCUITS**
- 3 CHRISTMAS CAKE OR YULE LOGS**
- 4 CHRISTMAS PUDDING**
- 5 CRANBERRY SAUCE**
- 6 SAVOURY BISCUITS**
- 7 HOT CHOCOLATE**
- 8 PRINGLES**
- 9 STUFFING**
- 10 CUSTARD**
- 11 GRAVY**

Bromley Borough
foodbank

PLEASE DONATE BY 24TH NOV FOR ITEMS TO BE PACKED IN OUR FESTIVE HAMPERS!

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:

gdp@ccorpington.org

Gift Day – Sunday 26th November 2023

Dear Friends

As we approach our annual Gift Day, I thought it would be a good time to let you know the present position of the church finances. As you may well be aware we now have been living off our reserves for some years. Our reserves are now quite low and will be unable to cover significant losses going forward.

I reported at last year's AGM that during the previous 4 years we had sustained a total loss of £102,000. Last year, thanks to some very generous legacies of £47,000 we were able to show a surplus for that year of £20,000, reducing the 4-year loss to £82,000.

Sadly, showing that despite every effort to contain our overheads we are looking at a loss of a further £37,000 this year and we have produced a budget that projects a loss of £54,000. next year. Clearly these losses cannot continue and a detailed discussion will be held at our next PCC meeting on 27th November.

So why are we making such large losses? Set out below are some, but not all of the reasons:

1. We have reduced numbers in our congregation.
2. We have sadly lost some very generous givers.
3. Inflation has hit many people's pockets, so donations have not kept up with our rising costs. (Despite this so many of you still give generously and sacrificially)
4. Electricity and Gas costs have doubled.
5. Our Parish share has increased from £78,000 last year to £89,000 next year.
6. We have had to make repairs that we have been holding off for a few year's now.
7. Inflation has hit the church in the same way as it has for many of you.

I am detailing below some suggestions as to ways we can increase income and reduce expenditure which will be a basis of discussion at the PCC meeting.

Please pray for our situation which in many ways is better than what is faced by a number of churches.

INCREASE INCOME:

1. Attract more people to join our congregation.
2. Ask people to give a little more each week. If 100 people gave an extra £2.50 a week (less than the price of a cup of coffee) this would increase our income by over £12,000.
3. Encourage people to volunteer to run fundraising events, quizzes, socials etc.

REDUCE EXPENDITURE:

1. Write asking for a reduction in our Parish Share as it is at a level that is hard to sustain.
2. Look at where/if reductions can be made to our mission partners.
3. From next year we are reducing the full cafe to just Friday's with the hope that we can have the Wednesday cafe run by volunteers serving home-made cake and drinks. This will reduce the loss the café makes by at least 60%.
4. We have replaced our Church examiner for someone who will do an equally good job saving us two thousand pounds.

Please feel free to speak to me or any member of the finance team and discuss any worries or concerns you may have and equally any ideas that can be put forward to reduce our loss.

May God bless your continued support.

Derek Foxen
Treasurer.

PS on a related note our finance committee is now very small and we would welcome new members to share the workload. Ideally new people should have a background in finance or at least be numerate and able to give a 2 or 3 hours each month to help with the finances of the Church.

*Christ Church - are you on your
own for Christmas Day?*

*Come and have Christmas lunch at
the Vicarage...*

...after the Christmas Morning service



11.45am - 3pm

*For more details and to book your place,
please contact the church office on
ccorpington@talktalk.net or 01689 871601*