



Christ
Church
Orpington

Family News

9th December 2023

Sunday 10th December 2nd Sunday of Advent

9.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Morning Worship

Welcome, Notices

Opening Prayer, Confession

Worship

Jesus
The Lion and the Lamb
Hymn of Heaven

Bible Reading

Mark 1 v 1-18

Sermon

Intercessions

Worship

On Jordan's bank
Prepare Him room

Final Prayer & Blessing

6.30pm Evening Worship – Reflect

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



<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/84610974627?pwd=Z1g4TzIvVFVtcEUxeGRWb1FLUDVuZz09>

Meeting ID: 846 1097 4627

Passcode: R4V5My

Family News notices

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

Send to Vernon at: vandjmapp@gmail.com

Reflection

I have, for some time now, been quite conscious how often I read or watch the News... whilst I am very conscious that it is important to stay abreast of current affairs, I also want to ensure that what enters my mind and my heart is uplifting and not poisonous. If I am honest, it may also be that some part of me would like to live without knowing about all the atrocities going on in the world!

But earlier this week I found myself watching the news late one night, and maybe because I don't get an overload every day, I was truly disturbed (and haunted) by some of the footage and stories surrounding the ongoing war in Gaza. I did not engage with the topic in a sense of who is right and who is wrong, but on a human level, as a dad, as a husband, a friend, a businessman. My takeaway from watching was that I should get on my knees and pray, because what is going on is just not right! I would love to use the phrase so often used, "we are better than this"; but we clearly are not. Mankind is evil; the fact that people can do what they are doing to others, not just in the case of war, but in dozens of other 'news' articles, is pure evil. You can watch any David Attenborough nature documentary, and you will find it hard (I would argue impossible) to match the hateful behaviour you see displayed by humans!

As we pray together today; may I suggest with the backdrop described above, we might all be lost for words. All we can do is to surrender before God because we know that God is Love!

Also, please read Ezekiel 37 with me, headed "The Valley of Dry Bones". God will create life where we can see only death and in verse 10 it says: "*So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood upon their feet - a vast army.*"

So, as we kneel before our Creator, knowing how flawed and broken we are; we clearly need saving... and who better to save us than a Saviour!! No matter how we struggle to figure out the inequalities and challenges around us, it always become clear that we need some Divine intervention....

Lord as we prepare our hearts for Christmas, celebrating the intervention of You, the living God, into our ordinary and sometimes desperate lives - ease our aching hearts to accept Jesus! - Amen

Pieter

Community Club Tuesday 12th December

Community Club will be ending term with our Christmas meal this week. As a result, there will be no session at 11.00am.

Lunch guests are invited to join us for 11.45am for some musical entertainment before we eat. This is a free lunch to all club members - visitors will be charged £5.

Club will resume on Tuesday 9th January 2024.



CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

Many thanks to all those who helped with the craft fair.

A total of £583.56 was raised which will be split evenly between Christians Against Poverty (registered charity 1097217) and Christ Church.

Café Mosaic

The Café will be open this Wednesday and **only** open on Friday (15dec2023) from 12.00 for the Christmas Buffet (see separate notice overleaf).

The Café will reopen on Friday 2nd February 2024 from 9.15am - 2.00pm (last orders 1.30pm)

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 on 01689 871601 or Alan Goddard on 07985 974048 for an initial informal chat. Closing date to express an interest is **17th December**.

Advent 2023

Dwell
Restore
Light Up



You are invited to join me for a quiet time of prayer and reflection during this busy season. We will pause together with the help of scripture, poetry, music and images to remember why we celebrate.

8-9pm Thursday 14 December
Thursday 21 December

Melanie

Queries: melanie@zarttell.uk

Christmas church flowers

The flower arranging team would like donations of foliage next **Saturday, 16th December**. Please bring to church from **9.45am**. We would also welcome volunteers to help with arrangements as we have fewer helpers than previously.

No experience needed!

Winter Ice!

The facilities team has come into possession of a large quantity of Rock Salt, suitable for de-icing driveways, paths, car parks etc. Buying in bulk has significantly lowered the cost. We are offering 25kg bags for a minimum donation of £12 each to anyone who wants it, just contact Mike or Jim.

A £12 donation will mean the church coffers will get a few quid, and you still get a bargain! email: facilities@ccorpington.org, or see you around!

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

If you would like any more information, please get in touch with Liesel 07511 876928 Liesel@ccorpington.org



Café Mosaic Christmas Buffet

Come and join us on
Friday 15th December
for our Christmas Buffet
starting at 12pm for £23 per person

Help yourself to our

Home-made Chunky Winter Vegetable Soup
Or Our **Brussels Pate and Toast**

For our Main Course Buffet, we will have,

**Roast Turkey, Stuffing, Roast Potatoes,
Pigs in Blankets, Honey Glazed Parsnips,
Buttered Carrots, Brussel Sprouts, Garden peas
and Yorkshire Pudding**

For Dessert help yourself to either

**Christmas Pudding served with Brandy Sauce or
Fresh Dairy Cream** or our **Homemade Sherry Trifle.**

Vegetarian Options are available, tea, coffee and after
dinner mints will be served.

Please feel free to bring your own wine.

All our staff would like to wish you a very happy and safe
Christmas and we will be returning on

Friday 2nd February 2024



OUR MOST NEEDED ITEMS ARE:

- **fruit juice**
- **desserts/puddings/jelly/angel delight**
- **cold tinned meats**
- **Also in gluten-free and reduced-sugar products if possible**
 - **razors**
 - **washing-up liquid**
 - **toilet rolls**
 - **men and 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**



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.

December dates: **11th & 12th.**

what's on at Christ Church Orpington

Sunday 10th December

9.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Morning Worship

6.30pm Evening Worship

Sunday 17th December

9.00am Holy Communion

10.30am All Age Crib Service

6.30pm Carols by Candlelight

Christmas Eve, Sunday 24th December

10.30am Morning Worship

11.15pm Holy Communion

Christmas Day, Monday 25th December

10.30am All Age Service

Sunday 31st December

10.30am Holy Communion

"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

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

***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