

Sunday 11th December 3rd Sunday of Advent

9.00am Holy Communion

10.30am Morning Worship

Welcome, Notices

Wedding Banns

Opening Prayer, Confession

Worship

Lo he comes with clouds descending
Light of the world
Prepare him room

Bible Reading

Matthew 11 v 2-11

Sermon

Intercessions

Worship)

Amazing grace (my chains are gone)
Hope is here

Final Prayer & Blessing

6.30pm Go Deeper



For online zoom coffee after morning church **today**
(Sunday 11th December)

join **Heather Kroiter** from 11.45am:



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

Meeting ID: 846 1097 4627

Passcode: R4V5My

Community Club, Tuesday 13th December

Community Club Christmas Party

guests are asked to arrive for 12 o'clock.



Family News 10th December 2022

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?
- Have you formulated your New Year resolution yet?

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

There are also advantages in doing so. One is the fact that you can hire the church hall for that upcoming family celebration at a reduced rate.

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 myself.

Roger Wilkinson

church prayer calendar



We are making up the church prayer calendar for 2023, if you are not already included in the calendar and would like to be, please add your names to the sign-up sheet on the welcome desk at the back of the

church or contact the office on

ccorpington@talktalk.net / 01689 871601.

A copy of the current prayer calendar for 2022 is with the sign-up sheet if you would like to check if you are already included.

Thank you

Family News: notices for the next issue by

12noon Friday 16th December please

email: vandjmapp@gmail.com

WANTED

OUR MOST NEEDED ITEMS ARE:

Juice
Cranberry Sauce
Toilet Rolls
Cooking Sauces
Custard
Evaporated Milk

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**



Mince Pies & Cake request for Carols by Candlelight Service

Dear Christ Church,

We have our Carols by candlelight
service next **Sunday, 18th December**.

At this service we will be serving mince pies and cakes,
therefore we would be very grateful for any cake
donations!

If you would like to make a donation of mince pies/cakes,
please bring them on Sunday 18th December at the
morning service ready for the Carols by Candlelight
service in the evening.

Thank you in advance, Anna

Photo by Edward Howell on Unsplash

Services at Christ Church Orpington

Sunday 11th December

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

Sunday 18th December

9.00am Holy Communion
10.30am Crib Service - All Age
6.30pm Carols by Candlelight

Saturday 24th December

11.15pm Christmas Eve Mass

Sunday 25th December

10.30am Christmas Day - All Age

Christmas church flowers

The flower arranging team
would like donations of foliage
on Saturday 17th December

Please bring to church from **9.30am**. We
would also welcome volunteers to help with
arrangements as we have fewer helpers
than previously.

No experience needed!

Photo by Davies Designs Studio on Unsplash

Christmas tree decorations

Gail will be selling her mosaic Christmas tree
decorations after the morning service in aid of
Alzheimer's Research. £16 per set –
please come and have a browse.

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 December:
12th and 13th December.

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

"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

Cafe Mosaic Christmas Buffet



On **Friday 16th December**, Cafe Mosaic will be holding a Christmas Buffet for only £20 per person

Help yourself to Homemade Carrot & Coriander Soup with Fresh Rolls & Butter or our Brussels Pate and Toast for starters

For the Christmas meal enjoy Roast Turkey, Stuffing with Pigs-in-Blankets, Roast Potatoes, Honey-glazed Parsnips, Brussel Sprouts, Carrots, Garden Peas, Yorkshire Pudding, Gravy and Cranberry Sauce

For Dessert enjoy our Christmas Puddings with Fresh Dairy Cream or Brandy Sauce or why not try our Homemade Sherry Trifles

All followed by After Dinner Mints and unlimited Tea and Coffee

Vegetarian Options Available

Please see our friendly staff to book your space. Only £5 deposit required and pay the rest on the day

If you need assistance on the day our staff will be there to assist you.

Come have
Christmas lunch with us!
At the Vicarage...
...after the Christmas
Morning service



11.45am – 3pm

Roast Gammon & Turkey
Christmas pudding &
cream to follow

Please RSVP to
Sharon or Andi



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

It's beginning to look a lot like Noël

Hello friends and supporters, we hope you are well. Do feel free to drop us a line with how you are doing, it's nice to hear news from 'back home'. We've recently celebrated a couple of birthdays - Ben has turned 3 and I am also a year older ;).



Bowling scores at the recent youth social - thank God for a blossoming youthwork partnership.

Encouraging developments in youth ministry

We've had a couple of youth socials since our last newsletter, including a lovely time going bowling a couple of weeks ago with the youth from two other churches (a baptist and a foursquare gospel church). A young man from our church also came along as a leader. One of the other church's youth leaders made a wonderful application from the story of Elijah and the prophets of Baal in 1 Kings 19: much like Elijah felt alone as a follower of God, the young people may feel alone as Christians in their school environments, yet just as God showed Elijah that he was not alone, they can look around and see that they are not the only Christians their age. The young people were encouraged and so was I!

On a somewhat related theme, a group of youth leaders from the Perspectives denomination (which we're serving in) is trying to launch a youth weekend away on the first May bank holiday weekend. I'm part of the planning team and currently scouting venues.

<<say it louder, with more feeling!>> preaching and teaching update

Jack is continuing to preach once a month and also speak at the men's breakfast once a month. His last sermon was on 1 Samuel 26 and David's obedience and faith in the sovereignty of God. One of the other people on the preaching team at church has been helping Jack work on his expressiveness, for which he got positive feedback last time.

I helped teach on the book of Romans during a Saturday morning Bible study recently. I enjoyed stretching my theology brain and teaching muscles again. There will be more of these.

Jack is exploring the possibility of further theological study. He is hoping to study for a Master's at Crosslands Training in the UK (distance learning). All going well, we will soon be looking to raise financial support for this course - do get in touch if that's something you are interested in.

It seems that there is a need for pastors in French churches. For example, in our denomination, there are 80 churches but only 40 pastors. That means that often a pastor is responsible for more than one church, which are not necessarily close geographically. Doing some more training in theology would be a means to helping Jack be better prepared for the possibility of us both taking on the role of <<couple pastorale>> in a different church.



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

Songwriting and worship music update

This Sunday we got to sing one of the Christmas songs written by a member of the congregation as part of the sung worship 'response' time after the sermon. I was encouraged by how well it seemed to connect with the congregation. There is very little original French worship music for Christmas, so it's been a joy working with this lady on some of her pieces. Hopefully we will be incorporating another of her songs into the songs sung during advent.

We're gearing up to a Christmas service on the 18th, in which the church choir will be singing for the first time, and hopefully lots of new people will come along.



The jumble sale at the community centre - Jack's first one in charge will be the 10th of December.

Looking outwards

Jack and I are still involved in the *Maison de la Solidarité* (community centre). It's a chance to serve the local community in North Tours and get to know different people. I've stepped back in to teach an English class there as the regular English teacher has been off sick. The volunteers and others there sometimes ask about what we're doing in France, and so there can be opportunities to talk about church and faith. Jack has recently taken on the role of organising the donations to the charity shop and the jumble sales, which largely involves managing volunteers and occasionally driving a rather ancient van. He said to me recently that he feels that a large part of the role is <<being the person other people complain to so that everyone else can get on with the job>>! I think it can be fun at times too...

As for organising an outward looking mid-week group in the Church building, I feel as if I've hit a metaphorical brick wall, which is perhaps God's way of saying 'no' or 'not yet'. There is however a group that has recently been started by church members - the HTB marriage course, which has about 13 couples mostly not from our church coming.

I enjoyed participating in a couple of prayer meetings with the *chemin neuf* communion, which is an ecumenical group (mostly made up of charismatic catholics). I was touched by their prayer for church unity:

Seigneur Jésus,

qui a prié pour que tous soient un,

nous te prions pour l'unité des chrétiens,

telle que tu la veux, par les moyens que tu veux.

Que ton Esprit nous donne d'éprouver la souffrance de la séparation,

de voir notre péché, et d'espérer au-delà de toute espérance.

Please pray:

- Praise God for a couple of people joining the worship team and for the Christmas songwriting.
- Praise God for Jack's progress in speaking and preaching in French.
- Praise God for the last couple of youth socials, including the one with the other churches, and for the way in which God has answered prayers in this area.
- God's provision for Jack's theology study.
- For our walks with Jesus, and for us to be attentive to what God is doing at the moment where we are.
- Christmas service on the 18th December. For God to speak through Jack as he preaches and for me as I plan the order of service. Pray also for it to be a joyful occasion, for people to come who don't normally do so, and for people to come to know Jesus.
- New Christians and seekers in church, for the Holy Spirit to be at work in their hearts, for people in the church preparing for baptism.
- The next Romans Bible study on the 10th December, where Sarah will be teaching half the morning.
- In our relationships with people outside church, with friends, at the café des langues and the Maison de la Solidarité. For Jack running the Braderie (jumble sale) on 10th December.
- Wisdom for me and others planning events for the youth including hopefully a worship evening led by the youth next term and a youth weekend away in May.
- Family life as we navigate being a team in our church work and parenting a little boy who is full of character, and who keeps getting ear infections.

Volunteers for Christmas Hampers

I'm writing from Bromley Borough Foodbank to see if Christ Church Orpington would be up for helping Foodbank on **Saturday 17th December**.

There are 50 Christmas hampers which need distributing from All Saints Church to people in the nearby community. It will be from 10am-12pm and we were wondering if you would be able to gather some volunteers who drive to help us deliver them to our clients.

We would be most grateful for your support and if you could get back in touch as soon as you can that would be great!

Kind regards

Abigail Steven, Seasonal Coordinator

If anyone would like to volunteer, please can you email Anna on ccorpington@talktalk.net
