

A warm welcome to

# The Parish of Christ Church, Lancaster

Sunday 12th November 2023 *Remembrance Sunday*

Vicar: Revd Carol Backhouse 01524 942105  
1 East Road, Lancaster, LA1 3EE

www.christchurchlancaster.org.uk Facebook: @ChristChurchLancaster



a vibrant, inclusive  
worshipping  
community

**Everyone is welcome to join in  
prayer and worship this week:**

**Today - 12th November -  
Remembrance**

8:30am *Holy Communion*  
10:30am *All Together Eucharist*  
6pm *Ignatian Evening Prayer*

**Tuesday**

4pm *Prayer4 (see notice)*

**Wednesday**

5.30pm *Meditation and Evening Prayer*  
(Storey Chapel)

**Friday**

9.30am *Holy Communion* (Lady Chapel)

**Next Sunday - 19th November**

8:30am *Holy Communion*  
10:30am *Parish Eucharist*  
12.30pm *Christening*  
4pm *Messy Church*  
6pm *Celtic Evening Prayer*

**Prayer for the Week:**

God, our refuge and  
strength, bring near the  
day when wars shall cease  
and poverty and pain shall  
end, that earth may know  
the peace of heaven  
through Jesus Christ our  
Lord. **Amen.**

**Children's Church**

Every Sunday of term time during  
the 10.30 service for KS1/2 children

**Messy Church**

Stories, crafts and a meal to share -  
meets in the Hall on Sunday 19th  
November from 4pm. Especially  
suitable for primary age children and  
their families.

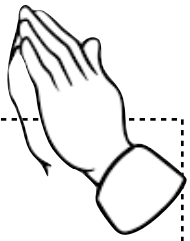
Contact: Mrs Julie Tinnion 07749  
489623 for more information



Please ask the Stewards for directions and assistance.

Please send items for inclusion in this newsletter to Jacqueline Stamper by Thursday lunchtime. Many thanks.

**Please remember in your prayers:**



**Those who are sick:**

Youngblood McCray, Ernie Wilson, Stephen Gardner, Thomas Platt, Yan Connell, David Foster, Susanna Michaelis, Juliann Dougherty, Lucas Calvert

**Those who have died recently:** Ivy Crawford, Doreen Naish

**Those preparing for baptism** - Emilina Forster

**Those preparing for Confirmation:** Lili, Asa, May and Bill.

**Parish Cycle of Prayer:**

For those who live and work on Melbourne Road, Woodville Street

For the staff and residents at Sir Walter Lyon House.

For the our Confirmation candidates and for the appointment of a Children's Ministry Leader

**Zoom Prayer:**

Tuesday 14th November is the next meeting of Prayer4 - 30 minutes of prayer, at 4pm every fortnight. There'll be a short Bible reading, some music, some stillness, and space to pray for the people and places on your heart - all from the comfort of your own sofa. Zoom details: [https://us06web.zoom.us/j/8069459310?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/8069459310?pwd=cVJlZDlnNXF2dDVFVThVa0Z0VWVE5dz09)

[pwd=cVJlZDlnNXF2dDVFVThVa0Z0VWVE5dz09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/8069459310?pwd=cVJlZDlnNXF2dDVFVThVa0Z0VWVE5dz09). Meeting ID: 806 945 9310  
Passcode 942105

**Services in Advent**

Advent begins on the 3rd December, and throughout this month there will be no 6pm service. Instead, you're warmly invited to come along at 4pm to the following special services: 3rd December, Advent Service; 10th December, Christingle; 17th December, Carol Service; and 24th December, Crib Service.

**Thought for the Week**

The whole point of the kingdom of God is Jesus has come to bear witness to the true truth, which is nonviolent. When God wants to take charge of the world, he doesn't send in the tanks. He sends in the poor and the meek. *NT Wright*

**Meeting up**

The clergy are available for pastoral support and spiritual direction, so please don't hesitate to be in in contact. If you or someone you know is going through a difficult time or is seriously ill, please let us know as soon as possible, to arrange prayers, home communion, a hospital visit, or anointing of the sick. If you would like us to pray for you, or for someone you know, for any reason, please email your request to [prayer@christchurchlancaster.org.uk](mailto:prayer@christchurchlancaster.org.uk) or text the Prayer Chain on 07980 351855. Please ask the person's permission if you'd like them included in the weekly notices.

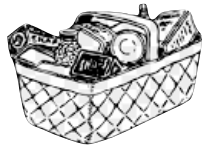
## In Other News...

### Save the Date - Advent Course, starting 28th November

All are welcome to join our Advent Study Course, *Preparing the Way*, each Tuesday from 28th November during Advent (except for 12th December, when we meet on Monday 11th). Do come along to the Storey Chapel at 7:30 pm for about an hour. The sessions are related but also work on their own, so you don't have to commit to every session.

### The Olive Branch Foodbank

... is making it's Christmas Appeal for the following items - biscuit boxes, mince pies, yule logs, Christmas puddings and cakes, crisps, chocolates and coffee. All other items, including toiletries, are also gratefully received! Or you can give money for them to buy what is needed: <https://www.the-olivebranch.org.uk/donate/>



### Eco-Group Thought/Action for the Week



Although it may seem a strange time of year to think about nest boxes, if you put them up now there is a better chance of them being used next Spring. They can also be used for roosting during winter.

### Donations for Refugees and Asylum Seekers

Donations of washing powder, laundry liquid, men's toiletries, men's hats and gloves needed. Please leave donations in the box at the back of church for RAIS.

### Recycling at Christ Church

The next collection of crisp packets, used toothbrushes, plastic bottle tops, toothpaste tubes, and blister packets of tablets will be on 3rd December, and the first Sunday of each month.

### Giggle (or Groan) of the week - suggestions welcome

*I needed a password eight characters long - so I chose Snow White and the seven dwarfs.*

### Other Diary Dates...why not invite a friend?

12th November 10.30am	Remembrance Sunday Parade Service
17th November 6.30pm	Quiz Night
26th November 10.30am	Confirmation Service on the Feast of Christ the King
1-3rd December	Christmas Tree Festival
3rd December 4pm	Advent Service
10th December 4pm	Christingle Service
18th December 4pm	Christmas Carol Service
24th December 4pm	Crib Service
24th December 11.30pm	Midnight Mass

## Scripture Readings for our Worship today:



### Amos 5.18–24

Alas for you who desire the day of the Lord!

Why do you want the day of the Lord?

It is darkness, not light;

as if someone fled from a lion,

and was met by a bear;

or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall,

and was bitten by a snake.

Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light,

and gloom with no brightness in it?

I hate, I despise your festivals,

and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

Even though you offer me your burnt-offerings and grain-offerings,

I will not accept them;

and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals

I will not look upon.

Take away from me the noise of your songs;

I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

But let justice roll down like waters,

and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

*This is the word of the Lord.* **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 70

*Refrain:* **Come to me quickly, O God.**

1 O God, make speed to save me;

O Lord, make haste to help me.

2 Let those who seek my life

be put to shame and confusion;

let them be turned back and disgraced  
who wish me evil.

3 Let those who mock and deride me  
turn back because of their shame.

*Refrain:* **Come to me quickly, O God.**

4 But let all who seek you rejoice  
and be glad in you; let those who love  
your salvation say always, 'Great is the  
Lord!'

5 As for me, I am poor and needy;  
come to me quickly, O God.

6 You are my help and my  
deliverer; O Lord, do not delay.

*Refrain:* **Come to me quickly, O God.**

### I Thessalonians 4.13–18

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have

no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

*This is the word of the Lord.* **Thanks be to God.**

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 25.1-13*

### **Glory to you, O Lord**

'Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves." And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

*This is the Gospel of the Lord* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Prayer after Communion:**

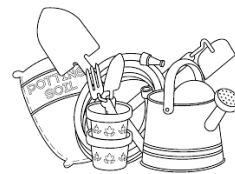


God of peace, whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom and restored the broken to wholeness of life: look with compassion on the anguish of the world, and by your healing power make whole both people and nations; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

## **Community at Christ Church:**

### **Gardening**

Thank you to our team of gardeners who have transformed the church garden this year - enjoy a well-earned winter break!



### **Save the date!**

Our Christmas Tree Festival will be on the 1st-3rd December. If you can spare an hour to help set up the Festival, to welcome guests or to help with refreshments, please sign up on the list at the back of church. We also need donations of homemade cakes! Please take an invite from the table near the church door.

### **Serving Team**

We're looking for new members for our serving team for the 10.30am Eucharist, who help carry the cross, lights and Bible, as well as helping the service go smoothly. This can be on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis. Suitable for ages 9+, training will be given.

### **Children's Church, Messy Church - could you help?**

Might you be able to help out occasionally with some of our children's activities? Rev'd Carol and Julie Tinnion can tell you more about what would be involved.

### **Toy Service**

A Christ Church tradition - every year, we collect new and good-condition-second-hand toys (no soft toys please) to share with local families through the Ryleands Sure Start Centre. This will be during the 10.30am service on Sunday 17th December.

### **Craft Group**

Members of the craft group are currently repairing the gold-work embroidery on the red altar frontal. This has proved to be a mammoth task as some of the original work is Victorian - so thank you for all your hard work so far! We've been assisted by Sara Dennis from the Repair Shop - but in the mean time, the high altar will look a little plainer than usual!

### **Podcasts for Children - Follow the Son**

*From the Diocese of Blackburn:* Starting new habits can be hard sometimes, especially when you're an adult. Spending time with God can feel like a chore, even though we know it isn't. Children pick up things very easily, that's why we've created this podcast - to help children get into the practice of starting and ending their day with God. Available here: <https://www.bdeducation.org.uk/podcasts/follow-the-son/>



## Supporting Christ Church

### Supporting Christ Church - One-off Gifts

If you would like to make a one-off donation to the church as an offering, to pay a fee, or as a gift to regular funds, you can give through our 'Give a little' page: <https://givealittle.co/campaigns/f63a0655-b270-4d05-bf35-3994747785d0> This will also give you the option to Gift Aid your donation (if you pay tax in the UK), enabling the church to get an extra 25p back from the taxman for every £1 you give.



### Supporting Christ Church - Regularly

Christ Church is now taking part in the Parish Giving Scheme, which enables you to give regularly by Direct Debit, and to easily review how much you give depending on circumstances. Online at [www.parishgiving.org.uk](http://www.parishgiving.org.uk) Or by telephone 0333 002 1271 Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm. For any of these methods our PGS code 030603240 ensures that your gift goes to our church.

### PCC

.... meets on the 13th November. We will be thinking about refugee accommodation, repairs to the North Porch, and the church finances. Please let Rev'd Carol or Julie Buckley have your ideas and suggestions for discussion. Please keep your PCC in your prayers, and share this prayer for our church:

*Lord God, Together with you by our side, we can bring growth to our Church. Send your Holy Spirit to give us good planning, wise actions, joy in worship and our welcome, the right words when we speak to others. Help our Church grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you, and in service to our local community, through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

### Christ Church Choir

..... sings at the 10.30 service about once a month, plus other special occasions, and practises in church on Thursdays at 7 pm for an hour. New members always welcome; if you're not sure, come along and give it a try for a few weeks!

Have a word with Clive or contact him via [cliveshaw54@gmail.com](mailto:cliveshaw54@gmail.com)



### Mingle on Mondays - 20th November 2023 - 25th March 2024

This space for warmth, welcome, food and fellowship will start up again next month, open from 11:30 am - 2 pm each Monday (apart from Christmas and New Year's Day). If you're able to help set up and host, even occasionally, or if you can make soup or cake, or shop for bread and other supplies and bring them along on a Sunday, please sign up on the rota at the back of church. Please claim expenses - no-one should be out of pocket. Please pray for all who will come and all who will host. Thank you!

**Key contacts:**

**Vicar:** Rev'd Carol Backhouse..... 01524 942105 [revcarolbackhouse@gmail.com](mailto:revcarolbackhouse@gmail.com)  
**Churchwardens:** .....Mr Peter Bohdan 07974924968  
Ms Jacqueline Stamper 01524 64083  
[churchwarden@christchurchlancaster.org.uk](mailto:churchwarden@christchurchlancaster.org.uk)  
**Priest with PTO and Choir Contact:** .....Rev'd Clive Shaw  
[cliveshaw54@gmail.com](mailto:cliveshaw54@gmail.com)  
**Lay Reader:**.....Dr Pat Allen  
[reader@christchurchlancaster.org.uk](mailto:reader@christchurchlancaster.org.uk) 01524 39552  
**Parish Safeguarding Officer:** .....TBC  
[safeguarding@christchurchlancaster.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@christchurchlancaster.org.uk) 07547 717060  
**Children's Church Leader**.....Mrs Julie Tinnion  
[children@christchurchlancaster.org.uk](mailto:children@christchurchlancaster.org.uk) 07749 489623  
**Parish Secretary:** .....Mrs Julie Buckley  
[buckleys@live.co.uk](mailto:buckleys@live.co.uk) 01524 37229  
**Hall Bookings:**.....[hall@christchurchlancaster.org.uk](mailto:hall@christchurchlancaster.org.uk) 07980 351855  
**Christ Church School** .....Miss Emma Simpson 01524 60955

If you would like to receive the notices by email, please contact Jacqueline Stamper.

**Refreshments today!**

All are welcome for hot and cold drinks and biscuits after the 10:30 am Sunday service.

**Emergency Short Term Refugee Accommodation**

RAIS Lancaster is asking people in local churches to help find short-term accommodation to prevent new refugees suddenly becoming street homeless. (Help with additional costs is available). Please see the attached leaflet with further information, sign up to join the Zoom meeting to find out what's involved, or ask Pat if you have any questions.

**Quiz Night!**

A fun evening for all the family - this Friday 17th November, starting at 6.30pm. Bring a team, or join a group on the night. Tickets in advance or on the door £10/family or £4/Individual Snacks provided. Bring your own drinks. Raffle tickets for sale too!

**The Real Advent Calendar**

The only Advent calendar to contain delicious Fairtrade chocolate and a beautifully illustrated booklet of the Christmas story! Please order on the form at the back of church. £5 each - please place cash in a yellow envelope and mark it 'Advent Calendar'

**Thank you!**

... to everyone who came to help with the cleaning/DIY morning yesterday. Your hard work was much appreciated.