

A warm welcome to

The Parish of Christ Church, Lancaster

Sunday 24th March Palm Sunday - Holy Week



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:**

**Monday, Tuesday and
Wednesday**

7pm Evening Service

Maundy Thursday

*7:30pm Festival Eucharist and Watch
to remember the Last Supper*

Good Friday

9:30am Stations of the Cross

10:30am Family Service

12noon Walk of Witness

2pm Good Friday Solemn Liturgy

Holy Saturday

*7:30pm Lighting the Easter Fire with a
Vigil service to bring Christ's light of
resurrection into church.*

Easter Day 31st March

*Festival Eucharists at 8:30am and
10:30am*

Prayer for this week

True and humble king, hailed by
the crowd as Messiah: grant us
the faith to know you and love
you, that we may be found
beside you on the way of the
cross, which is the path of
glory. **Amen**

Community Fair

You make our community possible -
please might you be able to help
Christ Church by sharing your time
and skills? All sorts of roles and jobs
are up for grabs. Please take a
moment before/after the service
today to look at the display in church.

Children's Church

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

Godly Play - 21st April

Every 3rd Sunday of the month at
4pm in Church for KS1/2 children



Loop
facility



Wafers available



Breastfeeding
Welcome Here



Accessible Toilet
& Baby Changing



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, Thomas Platt, Yan Connell, David Foster, Susanna Michaelis, Juliann Dougherty, Lucas Calvert, Ron Holmes, Ella Patterson, Ann Boss, Geoffrey Heywood.

that God's healing, wholeness and peace are with them.

For those who have died recently:

Winifred Tyson

may they rest in peace and rise in glory.

In our parish, we ask God to bless and provide for:

Those who live and work on Grizedale Road, Coniston Road, Scafell Road, For the students and staff at the universities of Lancaster and Cumbria.

For the Bishop-Designate of Burnley, the Rev'd Dr Joseph Kennedy.

For our community fair, that help would be forthcoming.

that God's loving kindness is found and shared.

Zoom Prayer:

Tuesday 26th March is the next meetings 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?pwd=cVJlZDlnNXF2dDVFVThVa0Z0VWE5dz09>.

Meeting ID: 806 945 9310 Passcode 942105

Thought for the Week

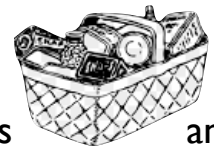
Remember finally, that the ashes that were on your forehead are created from the burnt palms of last Palm Sunday. New beginnings invariably come from old false things that are allowed to die.

Richard Rohr

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 or text the Prayer Chain on 07980 351855. Please ask the person's permission if you'd like them included in the weekly notices.

Hall for Hire - Don't forget that the Hall is available for hire, especially at weekends and during the day. £24/first hour and £12 for each subsequent hour/part-hour. Please contact Pat on hall@christchurchlancaster.org.uk 07980 351855 for more info.

In Other News...



The Olive Branch Foodbank

The foodbank continues to be in great need of tins of fish, meat, vegetables and fruit. Also biscuits, crisps, multipacks of cake, cereal, jam, pasta sauce; packs of hot chocolate, coffee, tea, sugar, cordial, longlife juice, and many types of toiletries (shampoo, shower gel, toilet rolls, etc.) 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



Woodland creation is critical if the UK is to meet net zero by 2050. However UK tree planting targets have fallen seriously behind despite the National Forest programme. Think about planting a tree or supporting tree planting charities especially those who ensure their establishment and future maintenance.

Changes to recycling at Christ Church - from the Eco Group

We can still collect plastic bottle tops/lids, plastic toothbrushes and electric brush heads, covers and flosser nozzles, also flossing sticks, interdental brushes and dental tape containers, We can still take medical blister packs, but owing to the large quantities, please take your own to Superdrug if you can. Thank you for your ongoing support with recycling on the first Sunday of each month..

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

I used to be indecisive. Now I'm not so sure. *Eric Morecambe*

Fairtrade Church

As a sign of our care for creation, and our support for better working practices for farmers, Christ Church have become a Fairtrade Church. This means that we commit to using and serving *only* Fairtrade tea, coffee, and sugar - more info here: <https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/>. If you buy items for church events, please check for the Fairtrade logo first.

Christ Church Choir

..... sings at the 10.30 service about once a month, plus other special occasions, and practises in church on Thursdays, 7-8:15 pm. 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



Christ Church Time Capsule

We've been invited by the Friends of Miss Whalley's Field to bury a time capsule in the field. Do you have photos of Christ Church, or other small items which could be included as a reflection of our community in 2024? Please speak to Rev'd Carol

Anny Lee - Memorial Service

Anny (and her husband John) were part of Christ Church for several years. Their daughter has shared an invitation to Anny's Memorial Service at Cockerham on the 30th May - more details from Rev'd Brenda Harding.

Easter Gifts

Please could you contribute to the costs of the consumables (e.g. candles, wine, etc.) we use each week in church? There's a list at the back of church for your gifts.. Thank you.

Scripture Readings for our Worship today:



Isaiah 50.4-9a

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens— wakens my ear to listen as those
who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not
rebellious, I did not turn backwards.

I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who
pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.
The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put
to shame; he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together.

Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me.

It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

All of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.

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

Philippians 2.5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he
was in the form of God,

did not regard equality with God

as something to be exploited,

but emptied himself,

taking the form of a slave,

being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

he humbled himself

and became obedient to the point of death—

even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him

and gave him the name

that is above every name,

so that at the name of Jesus

every knee should bend,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

and every tongue should confess

that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

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

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Mark 11.1-11***
Glory to you, O Lord.

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, "Why are you doing this?" just say this, "The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.'" They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, 'What are you doing, untying the colt?' They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, 'Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!'

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

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

Prayer after Communion:

Lord Jesus Christ, you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant, and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation:

give us the mind to follow you and to proclaim you as Lord and King, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**



Community at Christ Church:

Porch Repairs - Thank you

Thank you to everyone who has supported the £4.5k work to repair our church porch. The re-mortaring work was done before Christmas - and we've now had confirmation that the repairs have been inspected to a good standard. Adding lime mortar to the stonework will ensure that the porch remains watertight, and doesn't shed its outer layers of salt. There are other ongoing projects, so please consider making a donation to the Church Repair Fund if you can.

Book Group

The church book group meets on the first Friday of each month at 4 pm in the church hall. Books are provided by Lancashire Libraries, in addition to those shared by members. The date of the next meeting is 5th April. Anyone who enjoys reading and discussion books is very welcome to join us. You can just turn up on the day, speak to Joyce, or send an email to joycelynch1946@gmail.com

Craft Group

.... meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 11.30am in the Hall. Everyone welcome - bring your own project, or share in one of the others on the go! No prior experience needed. The group meets next on the 9th April.

Maundy Thursday - Invitation to our Cathedral

On the 28th March at 11am, churches and clergy from across the diocese are invited to share in a special Chrism Eucharist at Blackburn Cathedral. During the service, the Bishop blesses the oils used for baptisms, confirmations and anointing in the year ahead. If you'd like to come, Rev'd Carol has space in the car - please let her know.

Farewell to our Brownies

Sadly, the Christ Church Brownie pack has had to close this week owing to a lack of volunteers. Holly Bretnall, the Brown Owl, continues to run a pack in Bowerham and our girls will transfer there. With thanks to Holly for all her hard work in sustaining the group for so long.

Thank you

To everyone who helped at our Working Party - much cleaning, tidying and clearing was done, and we enjoyed a delicious brunch!

Palm Sunday

As we remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and how the crowds laid palm branches on the road before him, our Palm Sunday service will begin at 10.15 at the junction between Derwent Road and Quernmore Road. We'll process to church ready for 10.30, so if you're unable to join the walk, we'll meet you at church. We welcome our uniformed organisations too.

Community Fair

Our community life at Christ Church wouldn't be possible without the gifts, skills and time of so many people. We have a display of help needed at the back of church along with booklets of what's up for grabs - so please take a look and consider how you might support your church!

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 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

.... met on the 13th March. We approved the 2023 Annual Report and Accounts and discussed the recent Quinquennial Inspection, and ministry to children, youth and families. We ask you to pray this prayer 'this time tomorrow' after a Sunday service - wherever you are. (Why not put a reminder in your phone?)

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.

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.

Notice of APCM

The Annual Meeting of Parishioners and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting will happen at 12noon on Sunday 21st April, at which our Churchwardens and Parish Church Council will be elected for the next year. Please prayerfully consider who you'd like to nominate to represent your congregation - and whether you have skills and experience you can offer.

The Electoral Roll

Would you say that Christ Church is **your** church? If so, please consider adding your name to the Electoral Roll (a list of people who are part of Christ Church and who worship here regularly). This entitles you to vote in church elections, and also helps us know how many people feel at home here. Please pick up form at the back of church, or see Jane Lippitt for more info. (You don't need to complete a form if you signed up last year.)

Key contacts:

Vicar: Rev'd Carol Backhouse..... 01524 942105 revcarolbackhouse@gmail.com

Churchwarden:Ms Jacqueline Stamper
01524 64083

churchwarden@christchurchlancaster.org.uk

Priest with PTO and Choir Contact:Rev'd Clive Shaw
cliveshaw54@gmail.com

Lay Reader:.....Dr Pat Allen
reader@christchurchlancaster.org.uk 01524 39552

Parish Safeguarding Officer:Post currently vacant
safeguarding@blackburn.anglican.org 01254 503088

Parish Secretary:Mrs Julie Buckley
buckleys@live.co.uk 01524 37229

Hall Bookings:.....hall@christchurchlancaster.org.uk 07980 351855

Christ Church SchoolMiss Emma Simpson 01524 60955

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

Mingle on Mondays this Winter

This space for warmth, welcome, food and fellowship is open from 11:30 am - 2 pm this Monday (25th) and will then close for the spring and summer. Thank you to everyone who has supported the work this winter, our guests have really appreciated it. .

Gardening

If you can spare some time to help weed and tidy the church garden, our gardening group meet on the first Friday of the month, between 12 and 2pm, starting on the 5th April. Please bring gloves and secateurs if you have them - and contact Liz Mills if you'd like more details.

Godly Play! 4pm on the third Sunday of each month

Godly Play is a way of sharing Scripture stories with children, and helping them wonder about faith, using a Montessori approach, with crafts and a snack to share too. It's free, and especially suitable for primary age children (accompanied by an adult please). The next gathering is today, Sunday, 21st April, at 4pm. If you can help, or would like to come along, please pick up a flyer, and ask Rev'd Carol if you are curious.

Holy Week

As we remember Jesus' last days and His journey to the cross, there will be the following service at Christ Church: Please take a flyer to share with friends and family.

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 7pm Evening Service

Maundy Thursday 28th March 7:30pm Festival Eucharist and Watch to remember the Last Supper

Good Friday 29th March 9:30am Stations of the Cross

10:30am Family Service

2pm Good Friday Solemn Liturgy

Holy Saturday 30th March 7:30pm Lighting the Easter Fire with a Vigil service to bring Christ's light of resurrection into church.

Easter Day 31st March Festival Eucharists at 8:30am and 10:30am (With Easter eggs for everyone!)