

A warm welcome to

The Parish of Christ Church, Lancaster

Sunday 19th May - Feast of Pentecost

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 us in
worship this week:**

Today - 19th May - Pentecost

8.30am *Holy Communion*

10.30am *Festal Eucharist*

4pm *Godly Play*

6pm *Evening Prayer*

Wednesday

5.30pm *Meditation and 6 pm Evening
Prayer*

Friday

9.30am *Holy Communion (Lady Chapel)*

Sunday 26th May - Trinity

8.30am *Holy Communion*

10.30am *Festal Eucharist*

12.30 and 1.30pm *Baptisms*

6pm *Evening Prayer*

Prayer for this week

Holy Spirit, sent by the
Father, ignite in us your holy
fire; strengthen your
children with the gift of
faith, revive your Church
with the breath of love,
and renew the face of the
earth, through Jesus Christ
our Lord. **Amen**

Children's Church

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

Godly Play - 19th May

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



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, Lucas Calvert, Ron Holmes, Ann Boss, Geoffrey Heywood, Mary Tredennick, Sheila Parsons.

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

Those preparing for Baptism:

Luca Hargrove, Ava Burns

as they begin the journey of Christian faith

Those preparing for marriage:

Keely Jolliffe and Richard Geddes

that God will bless them in their new life together.

Those who have died recently:

Joyce, Juliann Dougherty

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 Moor Lane, East Road

For our Eco Group, Craft Group and Book Group

For our September mission weekend and the people we invite to share our church community.

that God's loving kindness is found and shared.

Zoom Prayer:

Tuesday 28th May 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: Meeting ID: 806 945 9310 Passcode 942105

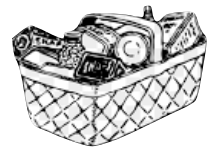
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/8069459310?pwd=cVJlZDlnNXF2dDVFwThVa0Z0VWE5dz09>

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 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...



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/>

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.

Eco-Group Thought/Action for the Week

Did you know that World Bee Day is celebrated on 20th May each year during the month when there is the greatest need for pollination? Bees are increasingly endangered and rely on human intervention and support. Learn more about them and help by planting bee friendly shrubs or flowers in your garden.



Recycling at Christ Church - from the Eco Group

On the first Sunday of the month, we 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.

Lunch and Bug Hunt

Join volunteers from North Lancs Wildlife Group on Sunday 9th June for a bug hunt in our garden. Please bring some food for to share for a picnic lunch (suggestions on the sign-up list at the back of church), and the fun begins at 1pm. Part of the Churches Count on Nature project and the Big Green Week!

From Trash To Treasure

Join the Eco-Group for a fascinating and practical talk on Composting on the 4th June at 7.30pm in Christ Church. Compost reduces waste going to landfill, and benefits plants, people and the soil on which we depend!

Fairtrade Church

We are now a Fairtrade Church - as a sign of our care for creation, and our support for better working practices for farmers. If you buy items for church events, please check for the Fairtrade logo first.



Acts of the Apostles (2.1-13)

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs – in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.' All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?'

But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.'

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

Romans 8.22-27

We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

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

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to: **John 15.26-27; 16.4b-15**

Glory to you, O Lord.

‘When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning. But I have said these things to you so that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you about them.

‘I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, “Where are you going?” But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgement: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgement, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

‘I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

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

Prayer after Communion:

Faithful God, who fulfilled the promises of Easter

by sending us your Holy Spirit and opening to every race and nation the way of life eternal: open our lips by your Spirit, that every tongue may tell of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



Community at Christ Church:

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



Craft Group

.... meets on the second Tuesday (and sometimes others!) 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 11th June.

Book Group

The church book group meets on the first Friday of each month at 4 pm in the church hall. Books are provided. The date of the next meeting is 7th June. 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

Pilgrim - A course for the Christian journey

On Tuesdays 7.15pm in the Vicarage, everyone welcome as we continue Pilgrim - A Course for the Christian Journey. Please ask Rev'd Carol if you'd like more info. This coming week there will be no meeting - the next one is on 28th May.

Date for your diary - 29th June!

We are blessed that Kaarina will be ordained Deacon on 29th June in Blackburn Cathedral at 10.30am. Rev'd Kaarina will then join Christ Church as Curate for the next few years to train further in ministry. If you would like to support her at her ordination, there are lifts available to the Cathedral, as well as in the Sunday service.

Corpus Christi

On Thursday 30th May, the church keeps the feast of Corpus Christi, giving thanks for the gift of Christ present with us in the Eucharist. There will be a Eucharist at 12noon, and a service of Benediction at 6.30pm. Benediction is a beautiful service of prayer, stillness and blessing - all are welcome.

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

A boy was watching his father, a priest, write a sermon. "How do you know what to say?" asked the little boy. "Why, God tells me," said his father. "So why do you keep crossing things out, Dad?"

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

The new PCC, elected at the APCM, met on 15th May. We discussed: the function and focus of the PCC, looking out, up, around, forward and inside; our parish's aims; members' duties as charity trustees for compliance, prudence and care for finance, people, buildings and fabric; how to get the best out of PCC (starting to form working groups to carry out specific functions in the absence of a churchwarden w.e.f. August. We also nominated the Standing Committee to meet between PCCs and take any urgent decisions.

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.***

Thought for the Week

Pentecost is the end of the great cycle of events that began with Advent; but it is the beginning of the new world, the world of God's kingdom, of his combined heaven-and-earth reality, the world in which, by praise and prayer and prophecy, we are called to live without embarrassment and to love without measure. *Bishop NT (Tom) Wright.*

Readers and intercessors

If you would be interested in joining the team of people who read and/or pray at the 10:30 am services., please sign up on the list at the back of church, or contact Pat.

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: Mrs Emma Muckalt & Ms Debbie Steele
safeguarding@christchurchlancaster.org 07547 717060

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

Hall Bookings:..... 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.

Gardening

If you can spare some time to help weed and tidy the church garden, our gardening group meet next on Friday 7th June between 12 and 2pm (and the first Friday of every month). 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 shares 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 19th May, at 4pm. Everyone welcome!

Christian Aid Week

This year's appeal focuses on Burundi - supporting farmers to develop their practice in the face of extreme practice. To support their work, please pray, write to your MP or support here: <https://give.christianaid.org.uk/donate/CAM-006503>

Date for your diary - 19th July!

The Bishop of Burnley Designate, the Rev'd Dr Joe Kennedy, will be consecrated at 11 am on 19th July in York Minster. If you would like a lift, please contact Jacqueline.

Anny Lee's Memorial Service

Will be at Patty's Barn, Cockerham on Thursday 30th May, lunch at 1pm, sharing of memories from 2pm and scattering of Anny's ashes at Cockersands Abbey. Dresscode - cheerful. Please let Bridget know you're coming - 07932 562234.