

A warm welcome to

The Parish of Christ Church, Lancaster

Sunday 27th October - St Simon and St Jude

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 - Sunday 27th October

8.30am Holy Communion

10.30am Parish Eucharist

6pm Evening Prayer

With thanks to Rev'd Keith, Rev'd John and Pat
for covering our services today.

Tuesday

5pm Evening Prayer Via Zoom (see notice)

Wednesday

5.30pm Meditation and 6pm Evening Prayer

Friday

9.30am Holy Communion

Saturday

5pm Confirmation Group

Sunday 3rd November

8.30am Holy Communion

10.30am All Saints' Festal Eucharist

6pm Taizé Eucharist for All Souls

Prayer for this week

Almighty God,
who built your Church upon the
foundation of the apostles and
prophets, with Jesus Christ himself as
the chief cornerstone: so join us
together in unity of spirit by their
doctrine, that we may be made a holy
temple acceptable to you; through
Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

Children's Church

welcomes primary-aged children
during the 10.30am service during
term time. Parents/guardians are
also welcome to join in. Please
see back-page notice.

Godly Play - 17th November

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, Thomas Platt, Yan Connell, David Foster, Lucas Calvert, Ron Holmes, Ann Boss, Geoffrey Heywood, Christine McCrann, Steve Wilkinson, Richard Jones, Ella.

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

Those recently married:

Georgia Walker and Matthew Atkinson

that God will bless them in their new life together.

Those who have died recently:

Diana Doren-Dean, Mike Seed, Betty Jones, Jane Cross, Andrew Sproxton, May Bailey, Margaret Broad

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 Bath Street, St Peter's Road.

For the work of the Gregson Centre, and for all who meet there.

For those preparing for Confirmation.

that God's loving kindness is found and shared.

Tuesday Evening Prayer

At 5pm each Tuesday, Rev'd Carol and Rev'd Kaarina say Evening Prayer over Zoom. If you'd like to join them to give thanks for the day past, readings from the Scriptures and prayer, the details are: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81366929814?pwd=jTDuVW7HO8IR7I0nQ9Jrm2BrMxjlqVS.I>.

(Please note the new link.)

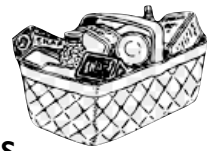
Taizé Eucharist - 3rd November

On the first Sunday of every month at 6pm, there is a beautiful service of prayer, music and stillness in the style of the Taizé Community. If you'd like to join the music group (singing or instrumental), the rehearsal starts at 4.30pm. Do see Julian if you'd be interested.

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/>

Eco-Group Thought/Action for the Week

 Hedgehogs feed mainly on 'creepy crawlies'. A log pile, compost heap or piles of autumn leaves provides shelter and natural food sources for them. If you see them out in the day and are concerned, contact <https://hedgehogrescueblackpool.co.uk/hedgehog-care/>

Recycling at Christ Church - from the Eco Group

On the first Sunday of the month, we collect 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. **No bottle tops please.**

Confirmations

Would you like to take a next step in faith? Would you like to start receiving communion? On the 24th November, Bishop Jill will be with us for a Confirmation Service at 10.30am. If you'd like to be Confirmed (and/or Baptised) as part of this special occasion, or are curious, please have a chat with Rev'd Kaarina (or email Rev'd Carol to arrange a convenient time to talk to her). Confirmation Group runs on Saturdays 5pm - 6pm, in church, for 6 weeks. Suitable for adults of any age, and for children in Year 6 and above.



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

Mum: 'What are that lion and that witch doing in your wardrobe?'

Son: 'It's Narnia business!'

Craft Group

.... meets on the second Tuesday of each month (and sometimes others!) 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 next date is 29th October.)

Sponsored silence, 24th November

Susan Brooks and Helen Simpson will undertake a sponsored silence in aid of church funds on Sunday 24th November. Please sign up on the sponsorship sheet at the back of church. (Those who know the participants will understand the challenge!)

Scripture Readings for our Worship today:



Isaiah 28.14-16

Therefore hear the word of the Lord, you scoffers
who rule this people in Jerusalem.

Because you have said, 'We have made a covenant with death,
and with Sheol we have an agreement;

when the overwhelming scourge passes through
it will not come to us;

for we have made lies our refuge,
and in falsehood we have taken shelter';

therefore thus says the Lord God,

See, I am laying in Zion a foundation stone,
a tested stone,

a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation:

'One who trusts will not panic.'

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

Psalm 119.89-96

Refrain: **Teach me, O Lord,
the way of your statutes**

89 O Lord, your word is
everlasting;

it ever stands firm in the heavens.

90 Your faithfulness also remains
from one generation to another;
you have established the earth and it
abides.

91 So also your judgements stand
firm this day,

for all things are your servants.

92 If your law had not been my
delight,

I should have perished in my trouble.

Refrain: **Teach me, O Lord,
the way of your statutes**

93 I will never forget your
commandments,
for by them you have given me life.

94 I am yours, O save me!

For I have sought your
commandments.

95 The wicked have waited for me
to destroy me,
but I will meditate on your
testimonies.

96 I have seen an end of all
perfection,
but your commandment knows no
bounds.

Refrain: **Teach me, O Lord, the
way of your statutes.**

Ephesians 2.19-end

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God.

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

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **John 15.17-end***
Glory to you, O Lord.

‘I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another. ‘If the world hates you, be aware that it hated me before it hated you. If you belonged to the world, the world would love you as its own. Because you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world—therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you, “Servants are not greater than their master.” If they persecuted me, they will persecute you; if they kept my word, they will keep yours also. But they will do all these things to you on account of my name, because they do not know him who sent me. If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have sin; but now they have no excuse for their sin. Whoever hates me hates my Father also. If I had not done among them the works that no one else did, they would not have sin. But now they have seen and hated both me and my Father. It was to fulfil the word that is written in their law, “They hated me without a cause.”

‘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.’

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

Prayer after Communion:

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in 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



Book Group

The church book group next meets on the 1st November and then on the first Friday of each month at 4 pm in the church hall. Anyone who enjoys reading and discussion 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



Christmas Tree Festival

On the 6th-8th December, we'll be hosting our fourth Christmas Tree Festival - raising funds for Lancaster Homeless Action and Church, and showing off the work of lots of local groups. If you're part of a local business which might like to sponsor a tree - please collect an invitation from the back of church - we'd love to hear from you! We'll also be inviting local community groups to decorate a tree - if this might be you, please contact Julie Buckley.



All Souls

As November begins, the Church especially remembers the people who have been saints (those who signpost God's love in the world), and remembers those who have died and now know the fullness of God's love. As part of the 6pm Taizé Eucharist on the 3rd November, we remember by name those we have loved - please print their name on the list at the back of church.

Christ Church Trees

This coming week (from 28th October), extensive work will be happening in the churchyard. This includes removing saplings which have become diseased, pruning back trees which are now too big for our small site, and removing shrubs which are starting to cause damage to retaining walls. TPO and faculty permission has been sought for this work - and in the longer term, we plan to replant with smaller, native species which will be easier to manage! If you'd like to make a donation towards the cost of this work, please speak to Rev'd Carol

Christ Church Tower

Work will also happen this week to clean out and pigeon-proof the south tower. This will make access to the roof safer when other repairs are needed!

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

If you're able to support Christ Church via a direct debit donation, you can do this via the Parish Giving Scheme. Every penny goes to our church, and it's easy to 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 9th October. We discussed lighting in the Hall and Sanctuary, plus our environmental health rating, as well as reviewing the Harvest Home weekend and how Christ Church shares in the life of our diocese.

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.



Sponsor a Hymn

If you'd like to suggest and sponsor a hymn to be sung within the 10.30am Eucharist, please fill in one of the blue forms from the noticeboard.

Thought for the Week

Every time we decide to be grateful it will be easier to see new things to be grateful for. Gratitude begets gratitude, just as love begets love. *Henri Nouwen*

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

Thank you from Rev'd Kaarina - and Refuge

..... for your very generous sponsorship of her September walking challenge, which raised £406.25 for this excellent charity supporting those affected by domestic abuse.

Key contacts:

Vicar:	Rev'd Carol Backhouse 01524 942105 revcarolbackhouse@gmail.com
Curate:	Rev'd Kaarina Leong 07749 489623 curate@christchurchlancaster.org.uk
Priest with PTO and Choir Contact:	Rev'd Clive Shaw cliveshaw54@gmail.com
Lay Reader:	Dr Pat Allen 01524 39552 reader@christchurchlancaster.org.uk
Notices:	Ms Jacqueline Stamper 01524 64083 churchwarden@christchurchlancaster.org.uk
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'd like to keep in touch with Christ Church news, events, services and prayer requests, please complete one of the contact cards in the pews and return to Rev'd Carol

Promoting a Safer Church

If you believe that someone is at risk of immediate harm please call emergency services on 999. Any safeguarding concerns in a parish should be brought to the attention of your Parish Safeguarding Officers, Debbie Steele and Emma Muckalt, who can be contacted as above. Concerns can also be raised directly with our Diocesan Team, Tel: 01254 503088 or email safeguarding@blackburn.anglican.org

Children's Church

... is an important part of our church life, and one of the ways children learn more about Christian faith. We're looking for helpers for Children's Church for the new term. If you can offer one Sunday morning each a month (or more if possible) please have a word with Rev'd Carol. An Enhanced DBS check will be arranged.

Godly Play! 4pm on the third Sunday of each month (17th November)

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). Everyone welcome!

Christ Church Primary School at 150!

On the 25th January 2025, our school will celebrate its 150th anniversary! Originally founded by Rev'd Philip Bartlett on Moor Lane, it moved to its Derwent Road site in the early 1990s. If you have photos or other memorabilia which you'd like to share for their history project, please drop this into the school office (labelled, so they can return it to you!).

There'll be a special service for the school on the 19th January, and then our 10.30am service on the 26th January will have an open invitation to past pupils and staff to celebrate this fantastic milestone!