

A warm welcome to

# The Parish of Christ Church, Lancaster

Sunday 24th November - *Feast of Christ the King*

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 - 24th November

8.30am *Holy Communion*

10.30am *Patronal Eucharist with  
Confirmations led by the Bishop of  
Lancaster, Jill Duff*

6pm *Evening Prayer*

### Tuesday

5pm *Evening Prayer Via Zoom (see notice)*

### Wednesday

5.30pm *Meditation and 6pm Evening  
Prayer*

### Friday

9.30am *Holy Communion*

### Sunday 1st December

8.30am *Holy Communion*

10.30am *Parish Eucharist  
with Children's Church*

4pm *Advent Evensong*

## Prayer for this week

God the Father,  
help us to hear the call of  
Christ the King  
and to follow in his service,  
whose kingdom has no end;  
for he reigns with you and  
the Holy Spirit,  
one God, one glory.

**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 - 19 January

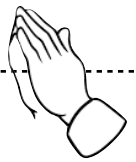
Every 3rd Sunday of the month at  
4pm in Church for KS1/2 children.  
(*Christingle Service in December.*)



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, Rev'd Kaarina, the Green family.

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

**Those who have died recently:**

Andrew Sproxton, May Bailey, Margaret Broad, Keith Bridson, Hannah, Lucy Moore

***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 Mill Street, Borrowdale Road.

For local care homes including Moorside Hall and Dolphinlee House

For the preparations for the Choir Church project in school.

For the people we will invite to our Christmas Tree Festival

***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=jTDuW7HO8lR7l0nQ9Jrm2BrMxjJqVS.l>. (Please note the new link.)

**Meeting Up.**

The clergy are available for pastoral support and spiritual direction, so please don't hesitate to be 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.

**Rev'd Kaarina's News**

Rev'd Kaarina has had surgery recently, and we keep her in our prayers as she recovers. It is likely to be after Christmas before she returns to ministry at Christ Church, so please direct any enquiries or pastoral conversations to Rev'd Carol in the first instance.

**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](mailto:hall@christchurchlancaster.org.uk) 07980 351855 for more info.

**Christ Church Choir**

... always welcomes new singers! Please contact Clive on [cliveshaw54@gmail.com](mailto:cliveshaw54@gmail.com)

## In Other News...

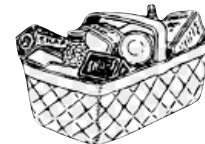
### Book Group



The church book group meets next on the 3rd January 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](mailto:joycelynch1946@gmail.com)

### The Olive Branch Foodbank- Christmas Appeal

The Olive Branch have made a Christmas Appeal - for mince pies, Christmas cakes, boxes of biscuits, crisps, nuts, coffee, Christmas puddings and other seasonal foods to make up the Christmas parcels. 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



Start your Christmas shopping in a Fairtrade way by supporting the stall in church next Sunday. It's a chance to buy some Christmas cards, delicious chocolate and gifts whilst ensuring that the farmers and workers who have produced the goods are treated fairly in every way.

### 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.**

### Craft Group

.... meets in the Hall on the second Tuesday of each month (and sometimes others) at 11.30am. Everyone welcome - bring your own project, or share in one of the others on the go! No prior experience needed.

### Craft Sale!

On Saturday 14th December between 9.30am and 1pm in the Hall - drop in for festive crafts and other beautiful home made items, as well as craft making equipment. If you're a crafter who'd like a stall at the event, please contact Julie Buckley.

### Christmas Tree Festival

On the 6-8th December, we'll be hosting our fourth Christmas Tree Festival - please would you help?

- Cakes, mince pies and seasonal baking needed for the 6-8th December
- Monday 2nd 5pm Tree installation and furniture moving
- 3rd - 8th Welcoming and stewarding
- Musicians offering live music.
- Please sign up on the sheet at the back and chat to Julie Buckley/Rev'd Carol



### First Aid Training

There are five spaces left on a certified First Aid at Work course on the 11th January, 9.30-3.30pm in the church hall. Please speak to Rev'd Carol if you're interested.

## Scripture Readings for our Worship today:



### **Daniel 7.9-10,13,14**

As I watched,  
thrones were set in place,  
and an Ancient One took his throne;  
his clothing was white as snow,  
and the hair of his head like pure wool;  
his throne was fiery flames,  
and its wheels were burning fire.  
A stream of fire issued  
and flowed out from his presence.  
A thousand thousand served him,  
and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.  
The court sat in judgement, and the books were opened.  
As I watched in the night visions,  
I saw one like a human being  
coming with the clouds of heaven.  
And he came to the Ancient One  
and was presented before him.  
To him was given dominion  
and glory and kingship,  
that all peoples, nations, and languages  
should serve him.  
His dominion is an everlasting dominion  
that shall not pass away,  
and his kingship is one  
that shall never be destroyed.

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

### **Revelation 1.4b-8**

John to the seven churches that are in Asia:  
Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to  
come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from  
Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the  
ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

‘I am the Alpha and the Omega’, says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

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

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **John**  
**(18.33-37)***

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, ‘Look, Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, ‘Are you the King of the Jews?’ Jesus answered, ‘Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?’ Pilate replied, ‘I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?’ Jesus answered, ‘My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.’ Pilate asked him, ‘So you are a king?’ Jesus answered, ‘You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.’

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

**Prayer after Communion:**

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



## Community at Christ Church:

### Allergies at Christ Church

If you help with refreshments and serving food at Christ Church, please consider doing the Food Safety and Allergy training available here: <https://allergytraining.food.gov.uk/> It's free, and simply requires you to register through the website. Thank you!

### INEQE Audit of Safeguarding in the Diocese of Blackburn

As some of you may be aware, the Church of England are working with a safeguarding organisation called INEQE to roll out a series of audits of safeguarding in each diocese. These have been scheduled to give an independent assessment of the progress of dioceses on implementing much needed changes after the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) and Past Case Reviews (PCR2).

The audit is due to take place in February 2025 and will entail a full scrutiny of work including Bishop's House, the Diocesan Board of Finance and Education and parish work. You're asked to complete a survey produced by INEQE to help gather a picture of what we are doing well and where we might need to develop practice.

<https://ineqe.com/churchofengland/blackburn/>

### Christ Church Preserves!

There's a wide range of delicious jams and chutneys available for sale at the back of church, some recipes including churchyard apples! Please do support the church by buying a jar or two!

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

Q. What size was the timber they used for Noah's Ark?    A. Two-by-two.

### Advent At Christ Church

#### A season of watching and waiting for Christ, the Light of the World.

Sunday 1st December 4pm - Choral Evensong for Advent

Friday 6th 12noon- 6pm    )

Saturday 7th 10am-4pm    ) Christ Church Christmas Tree Festival

Sunday 8th 12noon-4pm    )

Sunday 8th December 4pm    Darkness to Light Service, candlelit among the trees.

Tuesday 10th December 7pm    Memorial Service to remember loved ones at Christmas

Sunday 15th December 4pm    Christingle Service for all the family

Sunday 22nd December 4pm    Christmas Carol Service.

Join us for the *Advent Study Group* in the Hall every Sunday after the 10.30am Eucharist from Sunday 1st December, looking at John Bell's book, *Life in the Comma*

Please pick up a leaflet or borrow a book from church for some food for thought and prayer during the Advent season



## 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](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.

### EasyFundraising

Did you know you can support Christ Church when you shop online? Register using <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/>, and the brand's commission will be donated to the church.

### PCC

... met on the 11th November. We discussed Safeguarding at Christ Church - both what is practically in place to keep people safe, and also the culture of our community.

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

Confirmation, like every sacrament, is not the work of men but of God, who cares for our lives in such a manner as to mould us in the image of his Son, to make us capable of loving like him.

*Pope Francis*

**Advent Calendars** - Fairtrade Divine Chocolate calendars are now available - please sign up on the list at the back if you'd like to buy one or more for £6 each.

### Concert for Gaza - 29th November

At 6pm on Friday 29th November, local musicians will be hosting a short concert in Christ Church to raise funds for a well in Gaza. Please do support them if you can. (See flyer.)

**Key contacts:**

<b>Vicar:</b> .....	Rev'd Carol Backhouse 01524 942105 <a href="mailto:revcarolbackhouse@gmail.com">revcarolbackhouse@gmail.com</a>
<b>Curate:</b> .....	Rev'd Kaarina Leong (On Leave)
<b>Children's Ministry Leader</b> .....	Innes Heron-Stamp 07853791776 <a href="mailto:children@christchurchlancaster.org.uk">children@christchurchlancaster.org.uk</a>
<b>Priest with PTO and Choir Contact:</b> .....	Rev'd Clive Shaw <a href="mailto:cliveshaw54@gmail.com">cliveshaw54@gmail.com</a>
<b>Lay Reader:</b> .....	Dr Pat Allen 01524 39552 <a href="mailto:reader@christchurchlancaster.org.uk">reader@christchurchlancaster.org.uk</a>
<b>Notices:</b> .....	Ms Jacqueline Stamper 01524 64083 <a href="mailto:churchwarden@christchurchlancaster.org.uk">churchwarden@christchurchlancaster.org.uk</a>
<b>Parish Safeguarding Officer:</b> .....	Mrs Emma Muckalt & Ms Debbie Steele <a href="mailto:safeguarding@christchurchlancaster.org">safeguarding@christchurchlancaster.org</a> 07547 717060
<b>Parish Secretary:</b> .....	Mrs Julie Buckley <a href="mailto:buckleys@live.co.uk">buckleys@live.co.uk</a> 01524 37229
<b>Hall Bookings:</b> .....	<a href="mailto:hall@christchurchlancaster.org.uk">hall@christchurchlancaster.org.uk</a> 07980 351855
<b>Christ Church School</b> .....	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](mailto: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. If you can offer one Sunday morning each a month (or more if possible) please have a word with Innes. An Enhanced DBS check will be arranged.

**Save the Date: Christmas Carols with Lancaster Churches Together**

Please join the singers near Primark in Marketgate on Saturday 14 December from 10.30 – 12noon.. Non-singers also needed to help with the collecting buckets to raise funds for Lancaster Homeless Action (LDHAS). Also to help with carols at Lancaster Royal Infirmary (RLI) Monday 16 Dec from 7.00 – 9.00pm, Wednesday 18 Dec from 10.30 - 12 noon, and Friday 29 Dec from 10.30 = 12 noon For the RLI please email [arton.medd@btinternet.com](mailto:arton.medd@btinternet.com)

**Christ Church Primary School at 150!**

On the 25th January 2025, our school will celebrate its 150th anniversary! 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!