

A warm welcome to

# The Parish of Christ Church, Lancaster

Sunday 6th April - *Passiontide*



Vicar: Revd Carol Backhouse 01524 942105

1 East Road, Lancaster, LA1 3EE

a vibrant, inclusive  
worshipping  
community

[www.christchurchlancaster.org.uk](http://www.christchurchlancaster.org.uk) Facebook: @ChristChurchLancaster

**Everyone is welcome to join  
us in worship this week:**

## Today - Sunday 6th April

8.30am *Holy Communion*

10.30am *All Together Eucharist*

12noon *Lent Group*

6pm *Evening Prayer*

## Tuesday

5pm *Evening Prayer (Zoom)*

## Wednesday

5.30pm *Meditation*

6pm *Evening Prayer*

## Friday

9.30am *Eucharist (Lady Chapel)*

## Sunday 13th April

8.30am *Holy Communion*

10.15 *Palm Parade - See notice*

10.30am *Palm Sunday Eucharist*

12noon *Lent Group*

6pm *Taizé Eucharist*

## Prayer for this week

Gracious Father,  
you gave up your Son  
out of love for the world:  
lead us to ponder the  
mysteries of his passion, that  
we may know eternal peace  
through the shedding of our  
Saviour's blood,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## Children's Church

welcomes primary-aged children  
during the 10.30am service during  
term time. Parents/guardians are  
welcome to join in.

## Godly Play - 18th May

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

## Messy Church - 25th May

Every 4th Sunday of the month at  
4pm in the Hall 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, Richard Jones, Rev'd Kaarina, Liz Hilton, Marlene Phillips, Jamie Haxby

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

**Those who have died recently:**

Derek Santon

***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 in Ridge Street, Albion Street, Hind Street.

For all refugees and asylum seekers, and all who work to offer support and care

For those we will invite to our Holy Week and Easter services.

***that God's loving kindness is found and shared.***

**Tuesday Evening Prayer**

At 5pm most Tuesdays, the clergy say Evening Prayer over Zoom. If you'd like to join to give thanks for the day past, readings from the Scriptures and prayer, the details are:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81366929814?pwd=jTDuV7HO8IR7I0nQ9Jrm2BrMxjlqVS.I>.

**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.

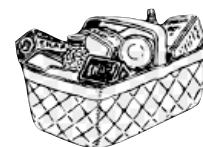
**Rev'd Kaarina's News**

We keep Kaarina in our prayers as she recovers from surgery. Please direct any enquiries or pastoral conversations to Rev'd Carol in the first instance.

**Choir Church**

Our first service in school was a great success, with 40 people attending! Our children's choir sounded fantastic. If you're able to help with the 16th May's service at 3.15pm in school, please have a word with Innes or Rev'd Carol. Thank you.

## In Other News...



### The Olive Branch Foodbank

The Olive Branch badly needs all kinds of long-life food and drink (cans of vegetables, meat, fish, pulses; packets of rice, pasta, biscuits, crisps, bars, cereals; jars of pasta sauce, jam, peanut butter; coffee, tea, hot chocolate; cartons of juice milk) and various toiletries. You can also give money for them to buy what people need: <https://www.the-olivebranch.org.uk/donate/>



### Gardening Group

Our friendly gardening group meets on the first Friday of each month (2nd May) between 12noon at 2pm to keep our church garden looking lovely. New members welcome - whether for all or part of the time. If you can, please bring gloves & secateurs.

### Book Group



The church book group meets on the first Friday of each month (2nd May) 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)

### Craft Group

.... meets in the Hall most Tuesdays at 11.30am. Everyone welcome - bring your own project, or share in one of the others on the go! No prior experience needed. Please talk to Julie Buckley if you'd like more info.

### Mothering Sunday -thank you

Thank you to everyone who helped make posies of flowers to share. Safenet Refuge have also shared a huge thank you for all the donations of toiletries to support those who arrive with nothing after feeling domestic abuse.

### Full revision of the Church Electoral Roll 2025 - deadline 20th April

Please could you return your Electoral Roll application form as soon as possible? The deadline is Easter Sunday. You can send electronically (to [lippittjane@gmail.com](mailto:lippittjane@gmail.com)), or there are spare paper forms at the back of church, with a brown envelope to leave the completed form in. It takes just two mins to complete the form! Thank you to those people who have already sent in their completed forms. *Jane Lippitt*

### Further changes to recycling at Christ Church - from the Eco-Group

On the first Sunday of the month, we collect medical blister packs and personal care items such as soft plastic tubes (e.g. for hand cream), wet wipe packaging and used make-up such as lipsticks, eyeshadow and mascara. Please look carefully at the information provided on and close to the collection boxes to ensure that you only bring in what can now be recycled. **No bottle tops or dental products, please.**

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

*At the airport I went into a room that said UK Customs. There was an orderly queue of people putting on kettles, dunking biscuits in tea, eating bacon, egg, and fried bread, and talking about the weather.*

## Scripture Readings for our Worship today:



### Isaiah 43.16-21

Thus says the Lord,  
who makes a way in the sea,  
a path in the mighty waters,  
who brings out chariot and horse,  
army and warrior;  
they lie down, they cannot rise,  
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:  
Do not remember the former things,  
or consider the things of old.  
I am about to do a new thing;  
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?  
I will make a way in the wilderness  
and rivers in the desert.  
The wild animals will honour me,  
the jackals and the ostriches;  
for I give water in the wilderness,  
rivers in the desert,  
to give drink to my chosen people,  
the people whom I formed for myself  
so that they might declare my praise.  
*This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

### Psalm 126

*Refrain:* **The Lord has indeed done great things for us.**

1 When the Lord restored the fortunes  
of Zion, then were we like those who  
dream.  
2 Then was our mouth filled with  
laughter and our tongue with songs of joy.  
3 Then said they among the nations,  
'The Lord has done great things for them.'  
4 The Lord has indeed done great  
things for us, and therefore we rejoiced.

*Refrain:* **The Lord has indeed done great things for us.**

5 Restore again our fortunes, O Lord,  
as the river beds of the desert.  
6 Those who sow in tears  
shall reap with songs of joy.  
7 Those who go out weeping, bearing  
the seed, will come back with shouts of  
joy,  
bearing their sheaves with them.  
*Refrain:* **The Lord has indeed done great things for us.**

### Philippians 3.4b-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew

born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **John 12.1-8***

**Praise to you, O Lord**

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, 'Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?' (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, 'Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.'

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

**Prayer after Communion:**



Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen**

## Community at Christ Church:

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



Tomorrow is World Health Day. The World Health organization promotes the fact that the climate crisis is the world's greatest health crisis. Enjoying nature is great for mental health so invite a friend to join you in your local park and improve your sense of well-being.

### Monthly Lunch and Open Church - 13th April and 4th May

On the second Sunday of each month there is a free soup, bread and cheese (or vegan alternative) lunch, and we shall be keeping the church open during the afternoon. Please sign up on the list at the back of church if you're able to help by making or serving soup, buying bread and cheese, etc. (*expenses will be reimbursed*). Thank you!

### 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](mailto:cliveshaw54@gmail.com)



### 23rd Lancaster Scout Group (Christ Church) - Trustee wanted!

Our large, successful Scout Group <https://23rdlancaster.org.uk/> seeks members of our local church community to join its Trustee Board, to discuss and agree the direction of this active and outgoing group - only three Board meetings a year involved. If you are interested, please speak to Louise Tuck or email her on [louisethearcher@hotmail.com](mailto:louisethearcher@hotmail.com)

### Journeys to God - by Helen and Lorna

Please come and join Lorna and Helen on Friday 11th April at 6 pm in the Hall. They will be sharing their journey to God as part of their M:Power course. As part of the evening. There will also be a few games of bingo (with Easter-related prizes). Light refreshments available - and feel free to BYO. Tickets available from Lorna and Helen - please see them at the 10:30 am on Sunday, or ask Rev'd Carol on Sunday.

### Holy Week and Easter Services at Christ Church

#### Palm Sunday 13th April

10:15am Palm Procession from Quernmore Rd/  
Derwent Rd Jcn

10:30am Family Eucharist in church

6pm Taize Eucharist for Holy Week

#### Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

7pm Evening Service

#### Maundy Thursday 17th April

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

#### Good Friday 18th April

9:30am Stations of the Cross

10:30am Family Service

12noon Walk of Witness (from Dalton Square)

2pm Good Friday Solemn Liturgy

#### Holy Saturday 19th April

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

#### Easter Day 20th April

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



## Supporting Christ Church

### 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 information.

### 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 go to church.

### PCC

... meets on the 9th April. If there are aspects of life and worship at Christ Church which you'd like discussing, please speak to Rev'd Carol, Julie Buckley, or one of the PCC members. 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.

Costly grace is the gospel which must be sought again and again and again, the gift which must be asked for... It is costly because it costs a man his life, and it is grace because it gives a man the only true life.. *Dietrich Bonhoeffer, executed by the Nazis, 9th April 1945*

**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> 07717824574
<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, prayer and worship, please complete a contact card from the pew-end 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. *All children need to be accompanied to church by a parent/guardian, please.*

**A Pint of Theology - 8th April**

On the second Tuesday of the month, at 7:30pm, everyone is welcome in the Olive Bar at the Gregson for an hour's discussion (with or without a pint) on aspects of Christian theology and its place in our contemporary world. Please share with others who might be interested, and contact Innes if you'd like to know more.

**Fairtrade Stall and Eggs**

If you'd like to celebrate a sweeter Easter, then the Real Easter Egg are now on sale. Made with dark or milk Fairtrade chocolate, and containing a story booklet. £5 each for church funds. After the 10.30 service today, the Fairtrade Stall will be open for other food and gift items.