

A warm welcome to

The Parish of Christ Church, Lancaster

Sunday 13th April - *Palm Sunday and Holy Week*



a vibrant, inclusive
worshipping
community

Vicar: Revd Carol Backhouse 01524 942105

1 East Road, Lancaster, LA1 3EE

www.christchurchlancaster.org.uk Facebook: @ChristChurchLancaster

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

Today - Sunday 13th April

8.30am *Holy Communion*

10.15am *Palm Parade - See notice*

10.30am *Palm Sunday Eucharist*

6pm *Taizé Eucharist*

**Monday, Tuesday and
Wednesday**

7pm *Evening Prayer*

Thursday

7.30pm *Maundy Thursday Eucharist*

Friday

9.30am *Stations of the Cross*

10.30am *Family Service*

2pm *Last Hour at the Cross*

Sunday 20th April

8.30am *Holy Communion*

10.30am *Festal Eucharist*

No evening service.

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**

Easter Communions

If you know someone who is unable to come to church but would like to receive communion this Easter, please have a word with Rev'd Carol

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.

Those preparing for Baptism

Charlotte Rushworth, Bella Yates, Maeve Shellnack

may they shine as lights in the world.

Those preparing for Marriage

Jodie Townley and Simon Wearing

may God bless them in their new life together.

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

For those who live and work in Factory Hill, Troutbeck Road, Wolseley Street.

For the work of the police and criminal justice system

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=jTDuVW7HO8IR7I0nQ9Jrm2BrMxjJqVS.I>

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 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

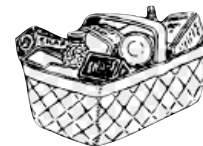
We keep Kaarina in our prayers as she recovers from surgery. Please direct any enquiries or pastoral conversations to Rev'd Carol in the first instance.

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.



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

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.

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), 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*

Eco-Group Thought/Action for the Wee

As Christians, we're thankful that our ultimate hope does not sit in the hands of politicians and policymakers, but in the God who created all things. May God show us the ways to fulfil our responsibilities to care for his creation in every way we can.



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.**

Scripture Readings for our Worship today:



*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Luke***
19.28-40

Glory to you, O Lord.

After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, "Why are you untying it?" just say this: "The Lord needs it." ' So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, 'Why are you untying the colt?' They said, 'The Lord needs it.' Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, 'Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!'

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, order your disciples to stop.' He answered, 'I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.'

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

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.***

The Passion Gospel for the 10.30am Eucharist is printed in today's order of service.

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:

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



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

Q. *What kind of tree fits in your hand?* A. *A palm tree.*

Maundy Thursday Vigil

After our 7.30pm Eucharist on the 17th April, there will be a time of silent prayer, as we remember how Jesus left the Last Supper to pray in the Garden of Gethsemane. There, he was betrayed by his friend Judas and arrested. Please sign up for one of the 30 minute slots between 9pm and midnight as we keep watch and pray.

Good Friday Walk of Witness & Easter Day Sunrise Service

All are welcome to join colleagues from Lancaster Churches Together in the Walk of Witness starting in Dalton Square at 12 noon on Good Friday and ending at Market Square, and also at 6:30 am on Easter Day for a joyful Sunrise Service in Dalton Square. Perhaps you'd like to participate in this powerful Christian witness?

Bach St John's Passion - Manchester Cathedral 7 pm Good Friday

Manchester Baroque will perform Bach's masterpiece on period instruments, with Manchester Cathedral Choir, on Good Friday evening Tickets from £10 - see <https://www.manchesterbaroque.co.uk/whats-on/stjohnpassion>

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

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.

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 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 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

... met on the 9th April. We discussed our financial deficit, and plans for children's ministry. 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.

Mother Teresa, asked on a US chat show whether the cash element of her Nobel Peace Prize would go to her head, replied: "Do you think, ..., for one moment, that that little donkey thought the crowd was giving him the praise and glory instead of Jesus?"

Key contacts:

Vicar:	Rev'd Carol Backhouse 01524 942105 revcarolbackhouse@gmail.com
Curate:	Rev'd Kaarina Leong (On Leave)
Children's Ministry Leader:	Innes Heron-Stamp 07853791776 children@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 07717824574
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, 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

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 - 13th May

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.