

A warm welcome to

# The Parish of Christ Church, Lancaster

Sunday 20th April - *Easter Sunday*

Vicar: Revd Carol Backhouse 01524 942105

1 East Road, Lancaster, LA1 3EE

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



a vibrant, inclusive  
worshipping  
community

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

### Today - 20th April

8.30am *Holy Communion*

10.30am *Festal Eucharist with  
Baptism*

No evening service.

### Tuesday

No Evening Prayer

### Wednesday

5.30pm *Meditation* and 6pm  
*Evening Prayer* in the Storey Chapel

### Friday

9.30am *Holy Communion*

### Sunday 27th April

8.30am *Holy Communion*

10.30am *Parish Eucharist*

12.30pm *Baptism*

6pm *Evening Prayer*

## Prayer for this week

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
from whose wounded side flowed  
life for the world:

raise your people from sin and death  
and build them as living stones into  
the spiritual temple of your Church;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our  
Lord, who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, world without end.

**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

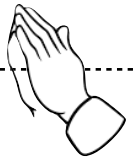
Every 4th Sunday of the month at  
4pm in the Hall for KS1/2 children



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, David Whitehouse

***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 Denis Street, De Vitre Street

For travellers on the M6, especially in haulage and public transport

***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=jTDuVW7HO8IR7I0nQ9Jrm2BrMxjlqVS.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](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**

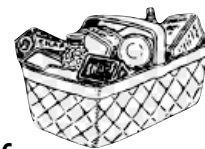
We keep Kaarina in our prayers as she recovers from surgery. Please direct any enquiries or pastoral conversations to Rev'd Carol in the first instance.

### **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](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.

### Electoral Roll 2025 - deadline today - 20th April!

The Electoral Roll will close tomorrow, Easter Day. Many thanks to those who have returned their forms. There is still time to return the electronic form attached or sign the form at the back of church. Thank you. *Jane Lippitt ER Officer* [lippittjane@gmail.com](mailto:lippittjane@gmail.com)

### Eco-Group Thought for the Week



Spending time appreciating God's creation can be an act of worship whether by listening to bird song, admiring the beauty of butterflies or noticing the delicacy of insects' wings. Try to immerse yourself in nature every day even for just a few minutes and give thanks to God.

### Nearly New Sale - Saturday 10th May 10am-2pm - in the Hall

Come and find a bargain in our sale of pre-loved clothes and other items, be a sustainable shopper and raise funds for church at the same time. Free entry. Please bring a bag with you. Refreshments provided. *Need a clear out?* Bring your clean and good quality clothes and other items to the hall on Friday 9th May 10am-4pm. If possible, clothes on hangers and shoes tied together please. Further details from Julie Buckley or Jane Lippitt

### Recycling of blister packs, wet-wipe packs, etc. - first Sunday of the month



## **Acts 10.34-43**

Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

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

## **1 Corinthians 15.1-11**

Now I should remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to someone untimely born, he appeared

also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace towards me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

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

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Luke 24.1-12.***  
**Glory to you, O Lord**

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, ‘Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.’ Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

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

### **Prayer after Communion:**

Author of life divine, in the resurrection of your Son, you set before us the mystery of his triumph over sin and death; may all who are washed in the waters of baptism rise to newness of life and find the promised presence of your abundant grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



## Community at Christ Church:

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

On one 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!

### Money for Madagascar - match funding for 22-29 April donations!

MfM is raising funds for the Resilient Forests and Livelihoods Programme. The Big Give Green Match Fund will double donations made between 12 pm 22nd and 12 pm 29th April. Please help Malagasy people lift themselves from poverty and hunger <https://moneyformadagascar.org/green-give-forests-farms-and-lemurs/>

### Christ Church Choir

... welcomes new singers. We sing at some 10:30 am and other services, and practise on Thursdays at 7pm. Contact Clive to find out more. [cliveshaw54@gmail.com](mailto:cliveshaw54@gmail.com)

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

Q. *How does an Easter chick dress for Easter Sunday?* A. *Im-peck-ably.*

### Annual Meeting and Elections

On Sunday 11th May, after the 10.30 Eucharist, we will hold our church Annual Meeting, giving thanks for all that happened within our community during 2024. We will also elect our Churchwardens and church council (PCC) members who will serve the community in the year ahead. Please save the date and come along!

Please prayerfully consider whether you can offer your time and skills to help the church in the year ahead, and have a chat with Rev'd Carol or one of the current PCC members about what's involved. Nomination forms for PCC members and Churchwardens are available at the back of church.

Please also collect copies of the annual accounts and annual report.

### Thank you!

To everyone who has helped make our Holy Week and Easter services such special occasions - whether preparing the sanctuary ready for worship, rehearsing our choir and musicians, photocopying orders of service, preaching and praying, leading children's work, welcoming guests; donating flowers, candles etc, and many other roles too!





## 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](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

... 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.

Jesus's resurrection is the beginning of God's new project not to snatch people away from earth to heaven but to colonize earth with the life of heaven. That, after all, is what the Lord's Prayer is about.

*Bishop NT (Tom) Wright*

**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 - 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.

**Thank you - for supporting Gazan children!**

Many thanks to all who generously supported Bruce Carter on his recent Hike for Hope, including through Lancaster. Bruce has raised more than his £25,000 target to support the rehabilitation of injured and traumatised children in the Gaza Strip.