

A warm welcome to

The Parish of Christ Church, Lancaster

Sunday 22nd June *First Sunday after Trinity*

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 22nd June

8.30am *Holy Communion*

10.30am *Parish Eucharist*

12.30pm *Christening*

4pm *Messy Church*

6pm *Evening Prayer*

Tuesday

No Evening Prayer

Wednesday

5.30pm *Meditation* and 6pm

Evening Prayer in the Storey Chapel

Friday

9.30am *Holy Communion*

Sunday 29th June

8.30am *Holy Communion*

10.30am *Parish Eucharist*

12.30pm *Christening*

4pm *Pimms and Hymns*

No Evening Prayer

Prayer for this week

O God, the strength of all those who put their trust in you, mercifully accept our prayers and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without you, grant us the help of your grace, that in the keeping of your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; 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 welcome to join in.

Godly Play - 20th July

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

Messy Church - today

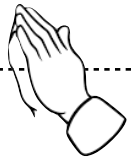
Every 4th Sunday of the month at 4pm in the Hall for KS1/2 children



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, Mary Peel, Rev'd David Heap, Nicola, Robert Patterson

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

Those who have died recently

John McCafferty

may they rest in peace and rise in glory.

Those preparing for Baptism

Teddy Freeman, Cole Thompson

may they shine as lights in the world.

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

For those who live and work in Aberdeen Road, Wyresdale Road, Kirkes Road.

For all who use our Hall

For the people we will invite to Pimms and Hymns

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 or text the Prayer Chain on 07980 351855. Please ask the person's permission if you'd like them included in the weekly notices.

Choir Church

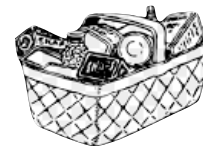
Our recent service in school was a great success, with 40 people attending! Our children's choir sounded fantastic. If you're able to help with the 4th July's service at 3.15pm in school, please have a word with Innes or Rev'd Carol. Thank you.

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 (4th July) 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 (4th July) 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.

Eco-Group Thought/Action for the Week



It's not just in winter that nature needs our help. All creation works to reproduce itself by rearing young or producing and broadcasting seed. Work towards creating a healthy organic garden in order to help wildlife prosper.

Pathfinders & Voyagers - summer holiday clubs - Innes will run activities for Pathfinders (age 4+ Tuesdays) and Voyagers (age 8+ Thursdays) each week during the summer holidays (10am to 12 noon). All youngsters welcome! See the flyers.

Pimms and Hymns - is back!

Save the date for Sunday 29th June - with a Cream Tea at 3pm, and Christ Church's favourite hymns at 4pm. There's a pink voting sheet in church - please use your two votes per person wisely!

Monthly Lunch and Open Church - 6th July

On one Sunday of each month there is a free soup, bread and cheese (or vegan alternative) lunch, and the church will be open during the afternoon. Please come along and bring someone. If you can help serve, wash-up, etc., thank you!

Scripture Readings for our Worship today:



Isaiah 65.1-9

I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask, to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, 'Here I am, here I am', to a nation that did not call on my name. I held out my hands all day long to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices; a people who provoke me to my face continually, sacrificing in gardens and offering incense on bricks; who sit inside tombs, and spend the night in secret places; who eat swine's flesh, with broth of abominable things in their vessels; who say, 'Keep to yourself, do not come near me, for I am too holy for you.' These are a smoke in my nostrils, a fire that burns all day long. See, it is written before me: I will not keep silent, but I will repay; I will indeed repay into their laps their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together, says the Lord; because they offered incense on the mountains and reviled me on the hills, I will measure into their laps full payment for their actions. Thus says the Lord: As the wine is found in the cluster, and they say, 'Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it', so I will do for my servants' sake, and not destroy them all. I will bring forth descendants from Jacob, and from Judah inheritors of my mountains; my chosen shall inherit it, and my servants shall settle there.

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

Psalm 22.19-28

Refrain: **Be not far from me, O Lord.**

19 Be not far from me, O Lord;
you are my strength; hasten to help me.

20 Deliver my soul from the sword,
my poor life from the power of the dog.

21 Save me from the lion's mouth,
from the horns of wild oxen. You have
answered me!

Refrain: **Be not far from me, O Lord.**

22 I will tell of your name to my
people; in the midst of the congregation
will I praise you.

23 Praise the Lord, you that fear him; O
seed of Jacob, glorify him;
stand in awe of him, O seed of Israel.

24 For he has not despised nor
abhorred the suffering of the poor;

neither has he hidden his face from
them; but when they cried to him he
heard them.

25 From you comes my praise in the
great congregation; I will perform my
vows in the presence of those that fear
you.

26 The poor shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek the Lord shall praise him;
their hearts shall live for ever.

Refrain: **Be not far from me, O Lord.**

27 All the ends of the earth shall
remember and turn to the Lord,
and all the families of the nations shall
bow before him.

28 For the kingdom is the Lord's
and he rules over the nations.

Refrain: **Be not far from me, O Lord.**

Galatians 3.23-29

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

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

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Luke 8.26-39***

Glory to you, O Lord

Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, 'What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me'—for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) Jesus then asked him, 'What is your name?' He said, 'Legion'; for many demons had entered him. They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss. Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned. When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, 'Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.' So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

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

Prayer after Communion:



Eternal Father, we thank you for nourishing us with these heavenly gifts: may our communion strengthen us in faith, build us up in hope, and make us grow in love; for the sake of 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 practices 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



Admissions to Communion

If your child is regularly attending Christ Church, and would like to start receiving communion (bread, and wine with parent's permission) - please let Rev'd Carol or Innes know. There will be two preparation classes on the 8th and 15th June before children are formally admitted on the 29th June, and children need to be Christened/Baptised first. This is a step before Confirmation, and is a sign of being part of the church community.

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

A little boy asked his father if he could have a bike. His father had to say no, but added, "If you pray hard, you may have a little brother to play with soon." The little boy did pray, but soon tired of it. Some months later,, his father took his son upstairs and showed him not one, but two little brothers with whom he could play. "Aren't you glad that you prayed for a little brother?" asked the father. "Yes," said the boy, doubtfully, 'but aren't you glad I stopped praying when I did?"

Thought for the Week

When I look back on all these worries, I remember the story of the old man who said on his deathbed that he had of lot of trouble in his life, most of which never happened.

Sir Winston Churchill

Christians at Pride - today

Everyone in our churches is welcome to come and join the local Christians taking part in Lancaster Pride, today, Sunday 22nd June. The Parade starts at 11am from outside The Cornerstone in Dalton Square. There will be a short act of worship at 10am in The Cornerstone, followed by coffee, and a Celebration Communion there at 4pm. If you can bake cake and bring on the day (with ingredients/ allergy information), that would be much appreciated.

John McCafferty

John's Memorial Service will be at Christ Church on Friday 11th July at 11am, followed by refreshments in the Hall. Please keep Jean and the family in your prayers

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.

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

Our PCC meets on Wednesday 2nd July. If there are items you'd like discussing as part of the church's worship and community life - Please do talk to your PCC reps about any aspect of life at Christ Church, and pray for the PCC in it's work this year. You might want to use the following prayer:

*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.***

Bible Course - 29th June

Following on from the Sponsored Scripture Read, we will be running The Bible Course, a fantastic way to learn more about the Bible's context and history, as well as how to understand God's words today. Starting on Sunday 29th June after the 10:30 service, everyone is welcome!

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.

Key contacts:

Vicar:	Rev'd Carol Backhouse 01524 942105 revcarolbackhouse@gmail.com
Curate:	Rev'd Kaarina Leong 07749 489623 curate@christchurchlancaster.org.uk
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
Church Warden:	Greg Skelland. 07944 683847 churchwarden@christchurchlancaster.org.uk
Notices:	Ms Jacqueline Stamper 01524 64083 j.stamper@btinternet.com
Parish Safeguarding Officer:	Mrs Emma Muckalt & Ms Debbie Steele 07547 717060 safeguarding@christchurchlancaster.org
Parish Secretary:	Mrs Julie Buckley 07717824574 buckleys@live.co.uk
Hall Bookings:	07980 351855 hall@christchurchlancaster.org.uk
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 - 8th July

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.