

CHRIST CHURCH

PURLEY

News

MAKING PASSIONATE DISCIPLES FOR CHRIST

"God is in the salvation business, and so are we" (APCM May 2025)

*¹⁴ For we are all **partners with Christ** if we hold firmly to the end the confidence we had at the beginning. (Hebrews 3:14)*

Welcome to this week's edition of Christ Church News.

Sunday 29 th June		Romans: Judgement Romans 14:13-23
	8.45am	Traditional (Holy Communion with hymns)
	9.30-10.15am	Coffee
	10.15am	Worship service with CCKids and CCYouth
		Coffee
	11.45am	Third service
	6.30pm	NEW Monthly Sunday Evening Gospel service
Monday	9am	Foyer open
	9.15am	Morning Bible study
	1pm	Bereavement Support Group

Tue	9am 9.15am 9.30am 7pm	Foyer open Morning Bible study Carousel Baby and Toddler group Youth
Wed	9am 9.15am	Foyer open Morning Bible study
Thu	9am 7.30pm	Foyer open Firelighters prayer gathering
Fri	9am	Foyer open
Sat		Street Evangelism – see later in News for information
Sunday 6 th July		
	8.45am	Traditional (Holy Communion with hymns)
	9.30-10.15am	Coffee
	10.15am	Worship for everyone
		Coffee
	11.45am	Third service



YouTube live link for 10.15am and 11.45am services

https://www.youtube.com/live/Xe_vDdLCzeQ

This link will only work on this Sunday for the 10.15am Worship service and will return after a gap for the 11.45am service.

Or find the link on our website.

After Sunday the services can be found on the website at

[Christ Church Purley : Online Services](#)



NEW: GOSPEL SERVICE

**Monthly
Sunday Evening Gospel
service** starts on

Sunday 29th June at 6.30pm

(on the last Sunday of the month)

Come along and worship, pray and listen to God.



SATURDAY 28th June 11am Southwark Cathedral

(Soon to become) Rev James Griffin will be ordained Deacon at Southwark Cathedral on Saturday 28th June at 11 am.

Unfortunately this is a ticket only service (ie please don't turn up!) but please do pray for James and his family and the members and staff of Cheam Team Ministry as James begins this next step on his journey into ordained ministry.

You can watch online using this link

<https://www.youtube.com/live/CUDz8v5PeiE?si=KxiYJCRosAzw3DQN>

James will be on silent retreat in the three days before the ordination.

James was with us for 3 years as a placement student as he studied at St Augustines as an ordinand.

#SERVE: FOCUS



FOYER TEAM

Servers and listeners needed to maintain our fantastic term time café.

Contact Lynn to find out more about serving.

Contact Doug to find out more about being a listener.

[You can sign up online to find out more](https://christpurley.churchsuite.com/-/forms/srnr9ll8)
<https://christpurley.churchsuite.com/-/forms/srnr9ll8>





DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **Monday 30th June Bereavement Support group**
- **Firelighters prayer meetings - Thursday 3rd July 7.30pm**
 - **Street Evangelism - Saturday 5th July 12.30-2.30pm**
 - **Worship for Everyone - Sunday 6th July**
- **Firelighters prayer meetings - Friday 11th July 12 noon**
- Mothers Union Strawberry tea – Sunday 13th July 3pm**
- Fun for all – Rush event – Saturday 19th July from 3 - 5pm**
- **Sunday 20th July – Mission Partner Sunday**
- **Firelighters prayer meetings - Tuesday 22nd July 7.30pm**



MONDAY 30th JUNE 1PM BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

We meet as a small informal group for a chat on the last Monday of every month in the Philippi Room at Christ Church Purley from 1.00pm - 2.00pm. We will be providing light refreshments. This is an informal and friendly place and if you have experienced a bereavement you would be very welcome. Please pre-book your space. The group is hosted by Pauline. If you would like a chat or any more information, please contact us via the office at Christ Church. Please share this with anyone for whom this may be of interest.

Book your space on the [Christ Church website](#) or call, WhatsApp, text 07395 133640 to help with catering.



**Mothers Union Strawberry tea
Sunday 13th July 3pm**

Please join us for strawberries, tea and cakes.

There will be fun activities for all the family and
an opportunity to find out more about who we are and the work we do!

*Doug's
Blog*

The following was previously published as one of a series of reflections on the Living in Love and Faith course that we undertook here at Christ Church in 2021 as part of the Church of England listening and learning process called Living in Love and Faith.

Diocesan Synod's are currently discussing the current status of Bishops' proposals and these will be debated again probably in General Synod in February 2026. The proposals include the introduction of stand alone services for using the Prayer of Love and Faith and enabling clergy to enter same sex civil marriages as well as some form of pastoral arrangements including oversight by Bishops (Alternative Episcopal Oversight) by those churches and clergy who in conscience do not agree with these proposed changes. Meanwhile, the lead Bishop on this process has recently resigned and no replacement has yet been appointed.

2. What if? – reflections on Living in Love and Faith: Engaging well

I'M RIGHT! YOUR WRONG! END OF!

"Heretic!"

"Homophobe!"

What ifneither of these assertions were right?

It's a simplification, but not a wholly inaccurate one, to signify the current debate on the issues at hand in Living in Love and Faith (LLF).

To disagree with current church teaching is to eschew all that is ancient, true and orthodox. To be a heretic.

To disagree with those who seek change is because you are unloving and hate people not like you. To be a homophobe.

And these disagreements push people so far apart that the only way they can engage is to throw brickbats and insults at one another from afar.

To counter this reality (or danger of it emerging) the LLF team (including our own Archdeacon Rosemary) devised *Pastoral Principles* to help participants in LLF to engage gracefully. In fact, the first session in the LLF course proper (the one designed by the LLF team, not ours) devoted itself to exploring how to engage well, how to listen etc That is one-fifth of the course!

We used that section as the first session of our course and it was time well spent. It culminated in some house rules which included all giving permission to say to someone else that they had stepped over the line of grace into gracelessness. The agreed response was an apology (and forgiveness) and to proceed on the graceful path.

We may not always have managed it but great efforts were made to stick to this intention.

Each session we opened with the same prayer:

We pray Come Holy Spirit. Grant us the openness to hear your voice. The wisdom to discern through your voice, your command and your heart. The

humility to receive, to be challenged and to see things afresh as you lead us. In the name of your Son, our savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

We went on to consider those pastoral principles.

Firstly, **Acknowledging prejudice** by making ourselves aware of the pre-judgements we had made of people, arguments, issues. We all pre-judge others by what they say, how they look, what they do, roles they inhabit etc. By knowing our start point we can be challenged and listen afresh. We might not change our minds about the substance of the discussion but we will have had the chance to “test the spirits” and listen to what is actually said.

One key thing that came up on the course was “trigger words”. There are certain words that trigger a response in us that means we stop listening. Knowing your trigger words allows you to be aware and to actually listen to what is being said rather than our automatic assumption of what is said.

This was born out in questions that were raised during the course about the videos we used. Every time what was heard was not what was said but the response was triggered by the context of what was said. This happened on multiple occasions to several people. Objection was taken to what was heard not what was actually said.

Secondly, **Speak into silence** by speaking about things never spoken of before. Finding the language to not be embarrassed in front of colleagues and friends. Say the unspoken, even where it remains unspoken through fear.

Thirdly, **Address ignorance**, not just about the issues but about the people we are engaging with, what they actually believe and why?

Fourthly, **Cast out fear** by being open about those fears and awareness of the fears others have. Being aware of fear allows us to calm those fears and speak in a way so as not to stoke them.

Fifthly, **Admit Hypocrisy** where the church or we say one thing and do another. There are plenty of examples. We are called not to defend hypocrisy but to acknowledge it and attempt to move away from it. Past hypocrisy does not necessarily make a current truth however. Having got things wrong in the past does not change God’s view of our world. Truth requires us to address the hypocrisy by living out the truth more faithfully and consistently in the future.

Finally, **Pay attention to power** which is not the same as position or authority. Some have power by their stature or the loudness of their voice or their intellect or their manner. It can also be judged by how others react to us. The aim is not to over-power but to engage.

These are helpful principles for **all of life**, not least church life. They enable grace to flourish, honesty to grow and openness to be the norm.

I commend these to you.

BUT for them to work there needs to be **accountability**. We all need to be able to say “that breached the principles” **AND** we all need to have the humility to accept that we have overstepped the mark, seek forgiveness, repent and proceed back on the pastoral path.

Two final thoughts.

What are the issues? How do we know?

The issues addressed by LLF are:

- What is a Christian Marriage and what is it for?
- What is sex for and what is a Christian understanding of sex and relationships?
- What does it mean to be human?*

(Firstly a note on the last one. LLF refers to “identity” which I have avoided using because it is a term that has certain connotations in everyday modern language that can be unhelpful; the issues of identity and where we seek it are addressed in later sessions. I tended to use the phrase “what does it mean to be human?”)

How we know the answer to these questions is to search for God’s mind on these things.

And, how do we search God’s mind?

Scripture.

Evangelical is a tainted word these days, especially in a US context. It derives from the Greek word for “Good News” and refers to a belief that faith centres on Jesus and that the most reliable source we have of the revelation of Jesus is Holy Scripture. How do we discern what scripture means? By diligent study, accountable discussion and the prophetic understanding that comes through the work of the Holy Spirit.

What we often find in this debate is extra-biblical argument that does not point us towards the will and ways of God. Often secular arguments are offered for change. Some arguments in support of current teaching, especially around the role of women and for marriage, can be seen as too literal and verse specific.

In essence two key questions need to be answered – what is God’s design for marriage and what is sin?

These questions boil down to another – how important is scripture to our understanding of God’s will and ways?

So, if you have read this far and wondered what all the fuss is about, then that is why it is so important a set of questions to answer.

The Church of England traditionally stands on a three legged stool – scripture, tradition and reason. Many would see a change to the teaching of the church on

marriage not so much about the ethics of sexuality and marriage and more about the importance of scripture to the overall doctrine and teaching of the church.

In short, if we can't believe scripture on this, what else is in question?

Last week I welcomed you on the journey.

It is a bumpy road.

Hold onto the pastoral principles, they are an anchor as the waves roar around (sorry about the mixed metaphor!)

John Crysostem (344-407) wrote *"It is from scripture that we will know whether we ought to learn anything or stay uninformed of it. And from Scripture we can refute what is false, from Scripture we can be set right and brought to a right attitude, from Scripture we can be strengthened and soothed; and if we lack anything from Scripture we can have it added to us"*

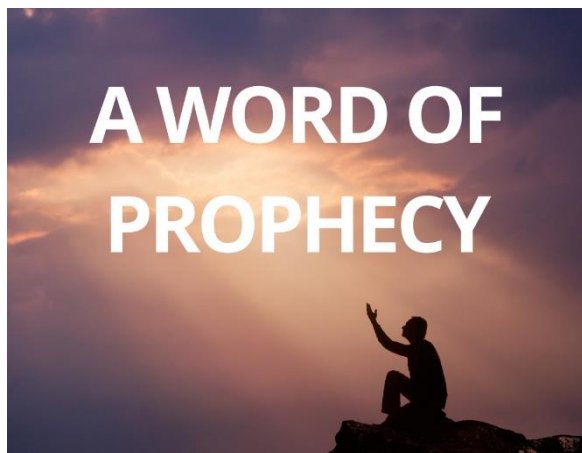
From a commentary on 2 Tim 3:16-17:

"¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the servant of God^[a] may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."

Wishing you righteousness and thorough equipping

Every blessing

Doug



**WOULD THAT ALL WERE
PROPHETS...Moses (Numbers
11:29):**

The one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort.' 1 Corinthians 14:1&3.

**Got a picture or verse for Christ
Church? Offer it to the service
leader....**

Family News

Please note that if you want to share family news, change of circumstances etc, good news or sad, please contact office@christchurchpurley.org.uk and we will try to include it under this section – Christ Church Family News.



ROAD OF THE WEEK

We are inviting you to pray for our parish road by road throughout the year.

This week we are praying in particular for **PAMPISFORD ROAD** and all who dwell, work or travel there.



Come and join the team for a day of donkey rides, ice creams, face painting and fun!

If you can help set-up/pack down, steward, supervise a stall, help with crafts or help with refreshments, please sign up with the link below!

<https://christpurley.churchsuite.com/-/forms/ie3yilb2>

Holiday at Home 2025
Sign up online or ask Alison Frost for a form.

<https://christpurley.churchsuite.com/events/vtjixlbn>



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Vision: **"Together, inspiring excellence"**

Mission: **"Nurturing lifelong learners with God's guidance"**

Values: **"Love, Courage, Honesty, Faith and Forgiveness"**

Christ Church C of E Primary School
Montpelier Road
Purley
CR8 2QE

Finance Officer/Administrator

Required for September 2025

Closing date 12 noon on Monday 7th July 2025

We are looking for a pro-active, adaptable, computer literate Finance Officer/Administrator to work as part of a team in our school office. The role will involve both finance (0.6) and administrative duties (0.4). The abilities to multi-task and remain calm under pressure are essential.

This will be paid at Scale point 8-10 (FTE £29,763 - £30,630).

The hours will be 8:00am to 4:00pm, Monday to Friday. 36 hours per week, term-time plus 5 days.

If you are interested in applying for this post and would like further information please see the school website: www.christchurch.croydon.sch.uk

Christ Church C of E Primary School is committed to safeguarding our children. We follow Safer Recruitment practices which include, but are not limited to, applying for DBS checks on all newly appointed staff.

We welcome applicants from ethnically diverse communities.

SYNERGY NETWORK PRESENTS

A "STANDING TOGETHER" SATURDAY





Come along and mark the start of our
"Standing Together Against Youth Violence" weekend
with a day of prayer and activities

ST MARK'S CHURCH, KENNINGTON
SATURDAY, JULY 19
10.30AM – 5.30PM

For more information contact: coordinator@wearesynergy.org.uk

SYNERGY NETWORK
CHURCHES & COMMUNITIES TAKING A STAND

A showing of Romeo + Juliet + EVA plus a Q&A session after!

Stalls and free activities

Come along and mark the start of our 'Standing Together against Youth Violence' weekend with this day filled with workshops, prayer, testimonies and activities that will equip and support everyone who has a heart to see a positive change for all young people.

There will also be opportunities to network with like minded individuals and organisations, who are making a difference in the lives of our young people now and how we can all work together to put a stop to the negative impact of serious youth violence.

So please register, tell all your friends, families and any interested parties/organisations about this day and let's stand together to stop this ongoing problem!

[Register here](#)

SUNDAY TOILET FACILITIES:

The toilets on the **back corridor are for unaccompanied children** and youth only at all times (on Sundays).

The main block of toilets is for **adults only or parents who need to accompany their child**.

There will be signs on the toilet to remind everyone.



SUMMER SERIES: SOMETHING FISHY....

From 27th July to 24th August we will be having our annual summer all-age series and this year the theme is *Something Fishy*

Fish are a recurrent theme in the bible – as food, in parables, as a living for the disciples!

Fish is also a symbol of Christian faith from the very early days of the church – but there are also hidden meanings in the Greek word for fish – "ICHTHUS"

Note that during this time there will be no CCK and CCY.

END OF SUMMER: SOMETHING SPECIAL....

31st August is the last Sunday of the summer holidays and we are planning a special service :

Location: Christ Church School hall

Churches: Christ Church, Grace Vineyard and others

Theme: Teach the little children

A celebration of Christ Church School and Purley Nursery and an opportunity for us to pray for, bless and support the communities of these two schools – inviting staff and Governors and others to join us in worship and prayer in preparation for the new academic year ahead.

CHRISTIAN INITIATION

Are you interested in:

- Publicly Affirming your faith
- Being Baptised,
- Starting to receive Holy Communion as a young person
- Being Confirmed



Baptism



Confirmation

Please speak to Doug, Jude or Charlotte if this is something you are considering or complete the relevant online form via the website links.



"Who is this Jesus?"

If someone walked into Christ Church and asked this question what would you say?

Want to know more, to advance the kingdom?

Speak to Doug, he would love to hear from you.





EVANGELISM TASK FORCE

**Inspired by Holy Week?
Fired up to share the Gospel?**

Let Doug know.

We would love to have new people join the next meeting to plan the next steps in the Evangelism strategy.

Interested? – contact Doug for details.

STREET EVANGELISM

**Street Evangelism 5th July 12:30pm- 2:30 pm
(1st Saturday of the month)**

- Meet in Purley Baptist Church car park.

**Go out on twos (or threes) and
strike up conversations with people you meet.**

Speak of Jesus if the opportunity arises – but only after a conversation about them and if the Holy Spirit leads you to do so.

FUN FOR ALL

BEETLE DRIVE, ENTERTAINMENT, TEA and CAKE

SATURDAY 19TH JULY

At Christ Church, Purley

3-5pm

£5 individual ticket
£12 family ticket

Tickets available Sunday mornings

FUNDRAISING for BISHOP LUCY, RUSH, KENYA

REACHING the UNREACHED through SELF HELP



**"A stranger is just a friend you haven't met yet"
(Irish proverb)**

BISHOP LUCY and RUSH

19th July from 3 - 5pm at Christ Church, Purley.
Come and enjoy an afternoon of games, music,
tea and cakes with Bishop Lucy and Andrew.

Fundraising for Bishop Lucy, Rush, Kenya



Saturday 5th July at Christ Central Church in Penge are hosting an Operation Christmas Child information morning to enable people to learn about the ministry. This will include hearing from Anne (from Christ Central) who has recently returned from Romania where she witnessed first-hand Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts being received by children.

To better understand how many are planning to come, registration is requested via the following link by scanning the QR on the attached image

CASH ONLY PLEASE



SouthernOaks
Living happy in later life

We invite you to our annual

GARDEN PARTY

At 2 Purley Knoll, Purley CR8 3AE
on Saturday 19th July 2025
2.00pm - 4.30pm

Admission is FREE ✦ Phone: 020 8660 5194

Come and enjoy Tea and Cake (£5)
Cards, cakes and preserves for sale
Raffle
(Cakes for stall much appreciated)

Registered Office: Southern Oaks Nonsuch, Old Schools Lane, Ewell, Surrey KT17 1FL
 Tel: 020 8394 0050 Web: <https://southern-oaks.org>
 Registered Charity No: 247308 Company Limited by Guarantee No: 734705 Housing H1185

Safeguarding Principles

The parish of Christ Church Purley takes the safeguarding and care of children and vulnerable adults very seriously.

SAFEGUARDING AT CHRIST CHURCH

A reminder of the Safeguarding Principles we introduced in 2023:

SAFEGUARDING PRINCIPLES



Safeguarding principles

Everyone protects boundaries and vulnerabilities by reporting.

- 1. EVERYONE:** Everyone is the eyes, ears and heart of a safe **church**
- 2. PROTECTS:** *Safe Church* intends to protect the vulnerable and the innocent and put off the perpetrator
- 3. BOUNDARIES:** Safe Boundaries are key - if in any doubt, ask first
- 4. VULNERABILITIES:** Power imbalance is always part of abuse - that's why we particularly safeguard children and vulnerable people
- 5. REPORTING:** Report don't solve or investigate



Christ Church Privacy notice