

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 Christ Church News:

Sunday 2 nd November		Faith - Ephesians 2:1-12
		Veteran cars – unofficial pit stop
		No parking in car park until 10.30am before the service
	11am	Worship for everyone with baptism and admission to communion
	1pm	Confirmation Preparation
	3pm	Living with Loss
Monday	9 am 9.15am	Foyer open Morning Bible Study
Tue	9.00am 9.30am 7pm	Foyer open Carousel baby and toddler group Tuesday Youth Group
Wed	9am 9.15am 2.30pm	Foyer open Morning Bible Study Midweek Fellowship

Thu	9am	Foyer open
Fri	9am	Foyer open
Sat		
Sunday 9 th November		Remembrance Sunday
	8.45am	Traditional service with hymns
	Coffee	
	10.15am	Remembrance Sunday Worship for all ages
		Coffee
	11.45am	Third Service
	1 pm	Confirmation preparation and rehearsal
	6pm	Confirmation at St John's Old Coulsdon

Veteran car pit stop (Unofficial)



Sunday 2nd November there is ONE morning service at Christ Church at 11am. There will be no parking in the car park until this service, before this we will be blessing the people on the Veteran Car run with our unofficial pit stop. A chance for them to rest their cars, top up with water and have a hot drink and sandwich. Please do come and see the cars but make sure that you park in the surrounding roads – not on the Brighton Road or in our car park.

**This Sunday at Christ Church
- through baptism believers
continue their journeys in
faith**

Please be **praying** for our candidates who will :

On 2nd November – be **baptised** and some be admitted to Holy Communion and taking their **first communion**

On 9th November – three other candidates who will be **confirmed** by Bishop Richard at St John's Coulsdon



Living with Loss service

**a service for anyone
who has lost a loved one.**

Sunday 3pm

This is a service for anyone who has lost a loved one. Bereavement does not have a shelf-life, and the comfort for those who mourn has no sell by date. All who feel the sadness of loss or who just want to remember a loved one within and before the love of Jesus are welcome. A time to reflect, to mark a life by lighting a candle and to hear the Gospel of peace



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 **RUSSELL HILL ROAD** and all who dwell, work or travel there.



Find the link on our website

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

WOW party – Friday 31st October

Veteran Car (unofficial) pit stop – Sunday 2nd November

Baptism service – Sunday 2nd November 11am

Living with loss service – Sunday 2nd November

Foyer reopens – Monday 3rd November

Midweek Fellowship – Wednesday 5th November

Remembrance Sunday – Sunday 9th November

Confirmation service – Sunday 9th November 6pm at St John's Old Coulsdon



ARE YOU ABLE TO HELP IN ANY WAY THIS CHRISTMAS TIME AT CHRIST CHURCH?

We would really appreciate as many offers as possible to make the services and events all run smoothly and so that we can bless our many visitors.

Sign up using this QR code





Operation Christmas Child

Please bring your completed shoe boxes to church
this Sunday, 2nd November

[Find out more about the shoe boxes by
watching the video on our website](#)



Operation Christmas Child -
Shoe boxes 2025



ONE BODY, ONE SPIRIT

Some of us have, over the last few months, been learning in the Pastoral Training Course together with 12 members of another local Anglican church. This is the second time that we have run the course here at Christ Church and it has been amazing seeing people from two different churches sharing experiences in this cohort. New friendships made and a common purpose – to release gifts into our churches for caring for others.

In yesterday's session we concluded by reflecting on how good it had been to share in this way. Members of the other church expressed surprise that the course had been offered to all in the Deanery but only they had taken up the offer. *"Wax lyrical about it to others at Deanery and we might get some more on the third cohort"* was my reply!

It might be worth a little diversion here, because I may have lost you at "Deanery". The Church of England is broken down geographically like this – Diocese – which has a Diocesan Bishop (Southwark); Area – which will have a Suffragen/Area Bishop (Croydon) ; Archdeaconry – which will have an Archdeacon (Croydon – confusingly!) ; Deanery – which has an Area Dean (Croydon South) ; Parish (Purley – Christ Church)....and don't get me started on benefices, peculiars and chapels of ease!

Our Deanery includes the Church of England parishes in Purley, Kenley, Coulsdon and Sanderstead. We have close links with Emmanuel South Croydon but they are not in our Deanery and so this is an informal arrangement based on relationship. There is no legally defined link other than being in the same Area and Archdeaconry.

Ecumenical links – with churches of other denominations – are differently delineated with *Churches Together* existing separately in Purley and Kenley, Coulsdon and Sanderstead. And *Croydon Churches Forum* umbrellas the whole lot!

It means that a church leader in 2019, as I was when I came to Christ Church, could be invited to attend Diocesan meetings, Area meetings, Deanery Chapter (clergy) and Synod (all representatives), Churches together meetings (different area and agenda) and Croydon Forum breakfasts , on top of which any meetings related to other networks – for me it was New Wine.

By saying yes to all of those, already full diaries can become fuller still.

And then came Covid 19, lockdown and all that this brought with it.

Meetings then had to grab attention, feel worthwhile attending, and serve a purpose, for people to attend.

And many stopped attending, finding that they did not hold attention, did not feel worthwhile or serve a purpose.

The result is that *Churches Together*, here and in many places, effectively stopped meeting. Chapter is sparsely attended once every two months. The New Wine Network meetings that met at Christ Church for over 15 years have ceased.

And yet, in the words of St Paul:

⁴ There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. (Ephesians 4:4-6)

And in the words of Jesus as he prayed on the night before he died:

²⁰ "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, ²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— ²³ I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. (John 17:20-23)

There is much talk of Christian unity in the Church and dismay that these historic structures are not working as they once did. But there is great fruit, if only we would seek it out. Jesus once said that sometimes a plant needs to die to produce fruit through the seeds, and while he was speaking of his own death and resurrection, the analogy might apply here too.

Jesus tellingly prayed "*that they may be one as we are one*". Jesus and his Father are perfectly in step in mind and spirit. They are the sweetspot of truth and purpose. And so, that is our model.

The new fruit is, in my experience, born of bilateral arrangements between churches of like mind and purpose. Here are some examples that Christ Church has been involved with recently:

- Joint services with Grace Vineyard and Alive City Church
- Youth Worship Night with Alive City and Purley Baptist Church
- Christianity Explored with Alive City Church
- Pastoral Training course with All Saints Sanderstead
- Street Evangelism with Purley Baptist Church and Grace Vineyard
- WOW Party, Carrotty Wood etc with Purley Baptist Church
- Witness course with Emmanuel Croydon

Even the New Wine Network model is changing towards Learning Communities where regional Leaders Events are taking place and structured materials provided so that churches in the local area can come together to learn and grow together. A refocused purposeful event.

Fellowship and prayer together *is* important but it seems that in the current climate of church Leadership, it is not enough to bring leaders together. But focused, purposeful, enriching and missional collegiality is bringing churches together to bear fruit.

It was announced this week that I have been appointed Area Dean for Croydon South from February 2026. That means chairing the Deanery Synod, convening the Chapter meetings of clergy, and having certain responsibilities for annual inspection of parishes and overseeing parishes in vacancy.

The question for any regular meeting in the church these days is **"what would make this meeting un-missable?"**.

I hope that we can continue to find the ways to make the meetings we do have unmissable for as many as possible in the future. The task is too important and the time too precious to do otherwise.

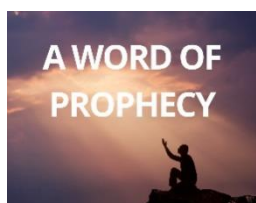
Pray for me, that by God's grace, this can become more of a reality in meetings I attend and those we arrange.

In Jesus name we pray.

Amen.

AREA DEAN FOR CROYDON SOUTH DEANERY

Rev Sue Thomas is stepping down from the role of Area Dean for Croydon South Deanery (Church of England Churches in Purley, Kenley, Coulsdon and Sanderstead) in February 2026. Bishop Christopher announced this week that Rev Doug McHardie (Christ Church Purley) has been nominated and appointed to succeed Sue in this role.



A picture of a kitchen table with the jar on it. The jar was knocked over and the liquid inside came out onto the floor it kept on coming out even when it should have been empty.

God may be saying "My resources are limitless I go on giving, go on forgiving, go on loving all I have made. You may be knocked over, but it is only to let My life come out of you to show the world whose you are and that I am still working in your midst. So rely on My resources, My power, My almightiness to see you through to victory for My glory. Then you will be made stronger and the world around you will see that I am real and alive and at work through you. Always give Me the glory that is due to Me for I am your Father who loves and cares for you all."

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

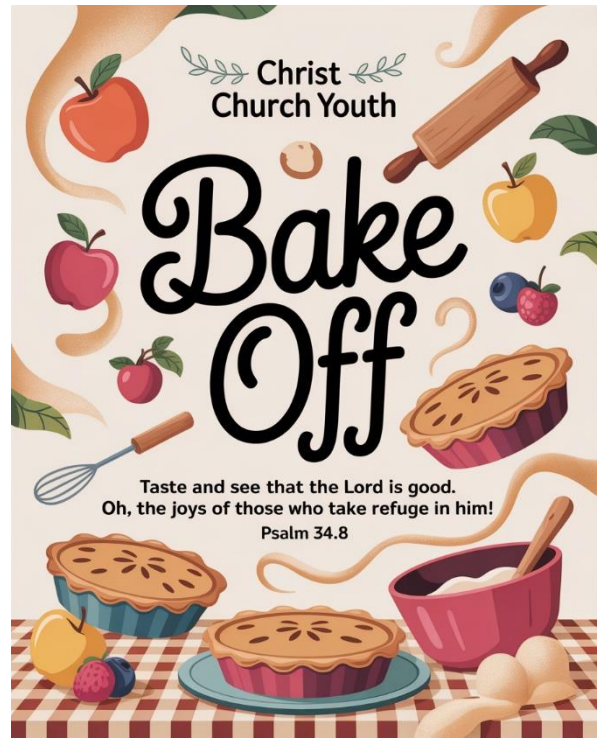
The one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort.' 1 Corinthians 14:1&3.

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



Christ Church Tuesday Youth: Last week we had a brilliant Bake Off Pie Week. We are so proud of them all as they made pastry from scratch, prepped apple and

were so engaged in decorating meaningful biblical scenes on their pies. 'Prue' and 'Paul' were blown away and loved every minute!



Harley's Christmas Fundraiser

Saturday 29 November 2025 10am-2.00pm
At Christ Church, Purley, Brighton Road CR8 2BN
In the Philippi Lounge

All money raised will go towards providing specialist physiotherapy for Harley Stenning



Tombola
Homemade Cakes
Flavoured Gins
Handmade Cards and Decorations
Bric a Brac
Refreshments
Preserves
Handmade Jewellery and Gifts

Read Harley's story at
www.gofundme.com

Scan the QR Code



LOOKING FORWARD TO DECEMBER AT CHRIST CHURCH

- 1-5 Dec Christmas Unwrapped for schools
- 7 Dec 10.15am Worship for everyone Christingle service (8.45am and 1.45am as usual)
- 13 Dec Live Nativity
- 14 Dec Sunday services at 8.45am, 10.15am and 11.45am
- 17 Dec 12noon Midweek Communion and Midweek Lunch
- 21 Dec Sunday services at 8.45am, 10.15am and 11.45am
- 21 Dec 6.30pm Carols by candlelight
- Wed 24th Crib service
Midnight Communion
- Thurs 25th 10.15am Christmas day All age communion
- 28 Dec 10.15am All age Communion service



FOOD LIST - NOVEMBER 2025



At Purley Food Hub we provide emergency food, toiletries and household essentials to local people in great hardship. Please consider donating items from this month's priority list:

- Cartons of Long Life Whole Milk
- Drinking Chocolate requiring only water
- Medium Sized (around 500g) Breakfast Cereals
- Tinned Meat Meals such as Mince, Chicken in Sauce
- Jars of Pasta Sauce
- Jars of Jam or Honey
- Desserts for Children such as Angel Delight, Jellies
- Tinned Rice Pudding
- Small Bottles of Squash
- Small Bottles of Washing Up Liquid
- Unisex Deodorant

Thank you everyone for all your continued generous support. Since 2013 you have kindly helped us to provide food for **45,000 people - equivalent to over 400,000 meals.**



PURLEY FOOD HUB
Tel: 07546 635295 | Email: purleyfoodhub@gmail.com
Website: www.purleyfoodhub.net
Charity no: 1152807 | Company no: 08557885

Churches
together
Purley & Kenley

Boosting
Life Skills



course #5 in the series*
of Positive Life Courses



How to cope with conflict & difficult people

“Handling Conflict and Difficult People” course (ref. HCDP)

This course focuses on:

- understanding the **causes of difficult behaviour**
- **developing skills to manage conflict** & challenging interactions (*both are crucial for maintaining mental health & wellbeing*).

Key topics:

- de-escalating & resolving **conflict**
- interpreting & managing **non-verbal communication** (eg body language)
- handling **anger** more effectively
- strategies for dealing with 21 types of **difficult people**
- practical tips for **restoring strained relationships**
- understanding & applying the **DISC Personality Styles** model to reduce conflict & improve communication with different personality types.

By applying the course's principles & practical tips, participants should be better equipped to handle conflict & difficult behaviours in various types of relationships.

Start: Wednesday 5th November 2025

Duration: 4 sessions of 2 hours

When: Wednesday mornings 10am-12noon

Cost: Free of charge

Where: Cube training room, Purley Baptist church,
Banstead Rd, Purley CR8 3EA

To book your place, or for more details, contact Purley Baptist Church Office
(0208 668 0422 or office@purleybaptist.org).

There are limited places; so, to avoid disappointment, book early. 😊

*For more details of other courses in the series go to www.positivelifecourses.com

CROYDON CITADEL PRESENTS

CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS

A CONCERT IN AID OF CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY

FRIDAY 5 DECEMBER 2025

7PM

PURLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

BANSTEAD ROAD PURLEY CR8 3EA

A FREE CONCERT TO GET YOU INTO THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

[HTTPS://CAPCHARITYCONCERT.EVENTBRITE.CO.UK](https://capcharityconcert.eventbrite.co.uk)

FEATURING MUSIC FROM OUR

- BAND
- CHOIR
- TIMBRELS



Celebrating Christmas - CAP Charity Concert, Friday 5th December 7pm to 9.30pm The Salvation Army Band will make a return visit to Purley Baptist Church on **Friday 5th December** to help get us into the spirit of Christmas. This time their choir will join them so it promises to be an extra special event. It's free to attend by registering at <https://capcharityconcert.eventbrite.co.uk>. Any voluntary donations will be used to support the work of Christians Against Poverty (CAP) in our local community. Nigel Davidson Christians Against Poverty

Parking at Christ Church



Parking should only be in in marked bays – on Sundays and during the week. Special attention should be paid to areas needed for access by emergency vehicles such as outside the oak doors and on the roundabout.

FIRE EVACUATION

On a Sunday morning in the event of the fire alarm going off the following procedure will take place:

- An announcement will be made in church
- Fire Marshalls will open the exit doors
- All should leave by the closest available door that can be safely accessed
- Fire Marshalls will direct everyone to leave the building and assemble at the assembly points in the car park – in the far corners at front and back
- There are four evacuation zones – church, foyer, hall and back of the building
- Go to assemble with others at your nearest assembly point and wait for further instructions
- Children will remain in the care of the Childrens' team until it is clear that parents can safely collect their children or if a false alarm/drill will be taken back into groups and adults return to church

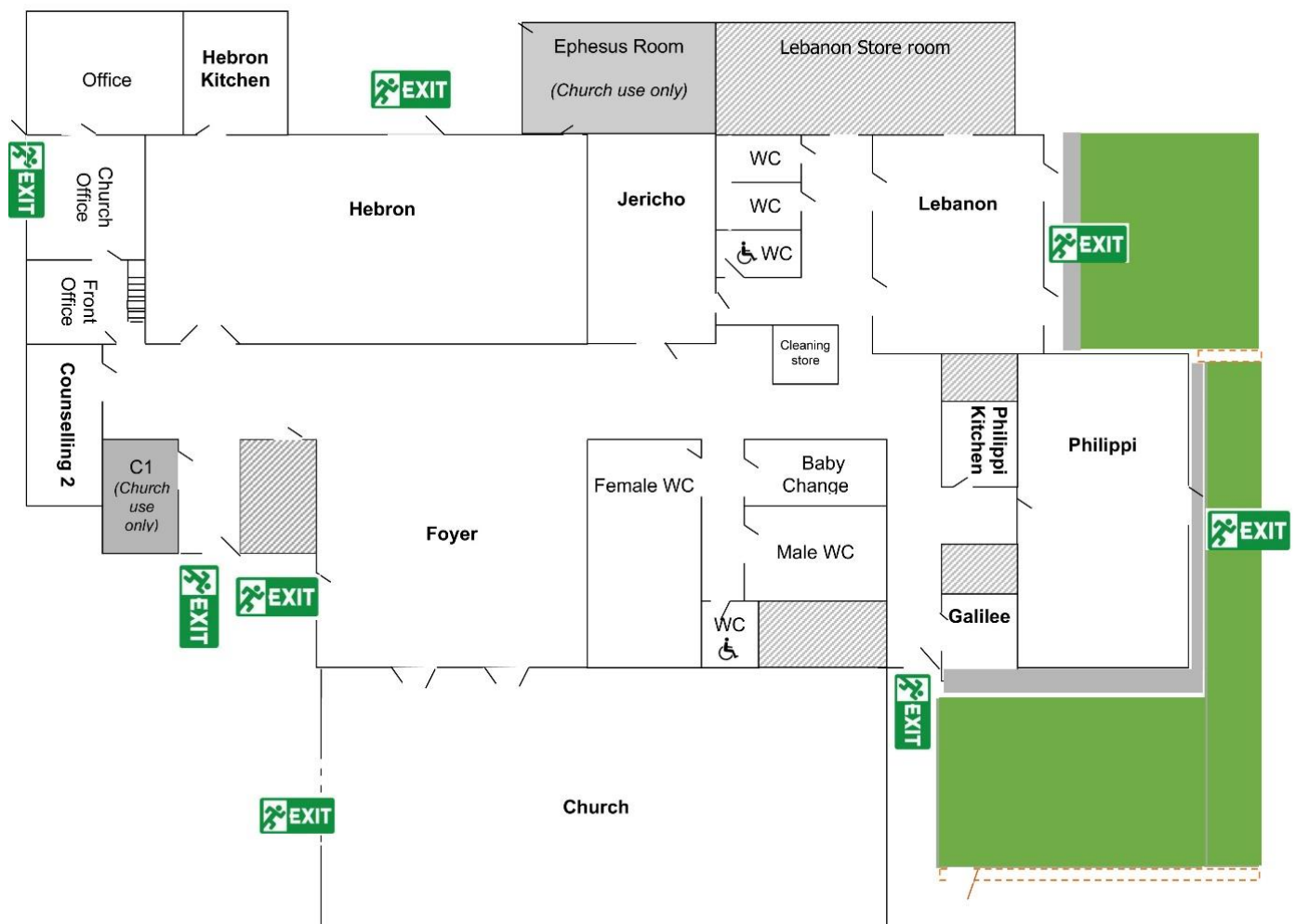
If you have any questions please contact the

office@christchurchpurley.org.uk



Emergency evacuation procedure
for services

Use the QR code to see the information given out during the service.



Can you help Henry?

Henry is needing new people to encourage him out of his hiding place and to take a gentle weekly stroll around the church.

Are you interested?

Please contact Jean in the office



After Romans (yes there is life after Romans!) we will be following a short series on ***How much more?***. Drawn from Jesus' promise in Luke 7:11 *"how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"*, we will be exploring what it truly means to worship *"in Spirit and in truth"* (John 4:24), and **what the more of God might look like**. And specifically how we ask for more!



FOOD CELEBRATION

Thank you so much to all the team who worked so hard to make last week's Food Celebration such a wonderful

time of fellowship and fabulous food!

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.



SAFEGUARDING AT CHRIST CHURCH

A reminder of the Safeguarding Principles we introduced in 2023:

SAFEGUARDING PRINCIPLES

Everyone protects boundaries and vulnerabilities by reporting.



Safeguarding principles

- 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