

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 23 rd November		SPIRIT FILLED WORSHIP: Confession and repentance John 16: 7-15
	8.45am	Traditional service with hymns
	Coffee	
	10.15am	Worship service with CCKids & CCYouth
		Coffee
	11.45am	Third Service
	3pm	Alpha
Monday	9 am 9.15am 1pm	Foyer open Morning Bible Study Bereavement Support group
Tue	9.00am 9.30am 11am-4pm 7pm	Foyer open Carousel baby and toddler group PARISH CONVERSATION with Archdeacon Greg who will meet PCC and ministry leads who are available Tuesday Youth Group
Wed	9am 9.15am	Foyer open Morning Bible Study

Thu	9am	Foyer open
Fri	9am	Foyer open
Sat		
Sunday 30 th November	Advent 1	SPIRIT FILLED WORSHIP: Hearing from God 1 Corinthians 14:22-28
	8.45am	Traditional service with hymns
	Coffee	
	10.15am	Worship service with CCKids & CCYouth
		Coffee
	11.45am	Third Service
	3pm	Alpha
		Gospel Service

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

PARISH CONVERSATION

On **25th November** Archdeacon Greg and a Diocesan representative will be visiting Christ Church as part of the Senior Leadership's intent to have a conversation with all 300+ parishes in Southwark Diocese. They will be meeting team leaders, staff and PCC members. If there is **anything** you would like to feed back, ask or request of our Diocesan leaders (Bishops and Archdeacons and Deans) please e-mail me vicar@christchurchpurley.org.uk and I will make sure that these are fed back either via Greg or directly to the Bishops.



Find the link on our website.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Bereavement Support Group –
Monday 24th November**

Gospel Service – Sunday 30th November

**Midweek Fellowship – Wednesday 3rd December
(prebooked only)**



LOOKING FORWARD TO DECEMBER AT CHRIST CHURCH

- 1-5 Dec **Christmas Unwrapped** for schools
- 7 Dec 10.15am Worship for everyone **Christingle**
service (8.45 am 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 Christmas Lunch
- 18 Dec Holiday at Home Christmas party
- 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

Christmas Unwrapped needs YOU!



Sunday 30th November
Please can you help set up the church for Christmas Unwrapped (for schools) at 12.30pm for 30 minutes

Can't manage to help on the Sunday?

Jude would also love to have some people with a Christ Church DBS help to run the event (1-5 December)

– speak to Jude or email Jean to volunteer.

office@christchurchpurley.org.uk



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 link



Safeguarding Update

We now have the new DBS system in place with Thirtyone:Eight. If you have received a new DBS form to complete Jean will be in the office / Foyer on **Sunday 23rd November from 10am -11.30am.**

Bring your ID in and get it checked for your new DBS.

Questions about safeguarding training or the DBS process? – speak to Jean this Sunday from 10-11.30am.





What is ThirtyOne:Eight?

It is a Christian organisation, "who are inspired to 'speak out on behalf of the voiceless, and for the rights of all who are vulnerable' as we believe God told us to. This is the foundational pillar of all our work."

Our vision:

Our vision is a world where every child and adult can feel, and be, safe.

Our mission:

To equip

We will **equip** society with the knowledge and skills to create safer environments for children and adults at risk.

To empower

We will **empower** society to respond appropriately to those who are vulnerable or have experienced abuse.

To encourage

We will **encourage** society to stand against oppression and exploitation by informing legislation and striving to raise the standards in safeguarding practice.

Why are they called ThirtyOne:Eight?

Thirtyone:eight' - is **taken from Proverbs 31:8 "Speak out on behalf of the voiceless, and for the rights of vulnerable people."**



Doug's
Blog

WORSHIP THE KING!

What follows is the text of the sermon delivered to the Midweek Holy Communion on 19th November 2025.

I'm afraid I may have a slightly croaky voice this afternoon. I watched the Scotland World Cup game last night and we qualified outright for the World Cup next year.

I may have shouted at the TV a bit – well a lot!

It was an amazing game. In fact someone wrote into the Guardian commenting on that papers review of the game with these words:

"An overhead kick, a gorgeous curler, lobbing the keeper from halfway? It's alright Scotland – you qualified for the world cup with your points total, no need to pretend to be Brazil to get there"

If we had drawn or lost we would not have been out, but would have had to win two more play-off games to qualify. But if we won we would go straight into the competition – the first time qualifying since 1998 – that's 27 years!

I am therefore feeling the joy of qualification!

And that's what I would like to think about from today's readings.

Firstly, the Gospel reading (Luke 19:11-28) is the story of Jesus telling the parable of the ten minas. Jesus is near Jerusalem and speculation is rife about the coming of the Kingdom of heaven. He told of a man who was going away to be made king. He gives his servants a sum of money and tells them to "put it to work" until his return.

Some of his subjects said they didn't want him to be king but they did not stop him being crowned. When he comes back we hear of three servants. The first doubled the value of the money and is given control of 10 cities, the second increased the value by 50% and he was given control of 5 cities. The third however did nothing with the money and handed back what he was given. In doing so he said how much he did not trust the new king. The response from the king was to call him wicked and ask why didn't he at least earn interest on the money? He takes his money and gives it to one who has ten already. When people complain he says this:

'I tell you that to everyone who has, more will be given, but as for the one who has nothing, even what they have will be taken away.²⁷ But those enemies of mine who did not want me to be king over them—bring them here and kill them in front of me.'

²⁸ *After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. (Luke 19:26-28)*

This is a stark warning. Those who reject the king will be shut out and destroyed.

Who is the king? – Jesus of course.

What is the kingdom? – the Kingdom of God

Accept him as king and you have the joy of qualifying for the Kingdom to come. Reject him as king and you are excluded. There is no middle ground. No play off second chances.

This story is just before the Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem and the Palm Sunday story unfolds as Jesus enters as king – but on a donkey in his humility.

Let's be clear what the kingdom looks like – a place of mercy, of compassion, of grace, of love, of peace. No more sorrow or tears or pain or death. A place where there is no "othering". A place where crowns are laid down (hold onto that thought).

The recent "Unite the kingdom" march led by Tommy Robinson hit the headlines for many reasons. But one of them was that some carried crosses and some placards saying "Jesus is king". I watched videos of the message from Elon Musk and from Robinson himself, who has reportedly recently come to a faith in Jesus. Neither gave the impression of being rooted in kingdom values – much more a revolution against "flesh and blood" rather than battling the "against the powers of this dark

world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms” (see Ephesians 6:12). The language was of a very earthly fight against people they do not agree with or trust not a spiritual one.

This is not the kingdom of God language where the king rides in on a donkey, is silent before his accusers and dies on a cross to defeat evil and death.

Our second reading was from Revelation 4 and provides ample imagery of the Kingdom of Heaven. John stands by a door into heaven and he is invited by a voice like a trumpet to see what is to come.

² At once I was in the Spirit, and there before me was a throne in heaven with someone sitting on it.

And who sits on a throne? A king, of course.

After a colourful description of him we then find

"twenty-four elders. They were dressed in white and had crowns of gold on their heads."

They are obviously important with crowns of gold and white robes of purity. And they are seated around the king.

The throne emanates lightening and thunder and is surrounded by fire – all emblems of power. And in front is a crystal sea – that is the water that separates God the king from his people. For the end has not yet come where there is no more sea and the people will be with their God and God will be with his people. That comes in Chapter 21...

Then, around the throne, we see the four Gospels represented, four evangelists in eternal heavenly praise:

"Day and night they never stop saying:

"Holy, holy, holy

is the Lord God Almighty, ^[b]

who was, and is, and is to come."

At which the twenty-four elders fall down, worship him and **lay their crowns before the throne** and say:

*¹¹ "You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honour and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they were created
and have their being."*

They may be important and pure but even they lay down their crowns before the King of kings, Lord of lords.

This Sunday is "Stir up Sunday" which is traditionally when the Christmas puddings and cake mixtures would be prepared and wishes made. It is the Sunday before

Advent begins. The name comes from the Collect for that Sunday in the Book of Common Prayer that begins "*Stir up in us we beseech thee...*"

More recently it is also known as Christ the King Sunday.

King of a Kingdome which is a place of mercy, of compassion, of grace, of love, of peace. No more sorrow or tears or pain or death.

Let us stir up our Spirit Filled Worship of him for:

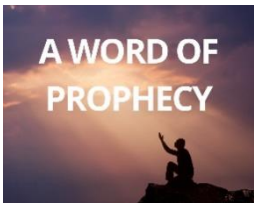
- His power
- His love
- His mercy
- Our own sake – that we might have eternal joy of qualification!

Amen.

Every blessing

Doug

vicar@christchurchpurley.org.uk



A picture of a picture of a flag fluttering in a strong breeze.

God maybe saying "The flag is a sign of the cross - a rallying point for those who are in My service. You are all in my service and there's a war on. The cross speaks of suffering but also a victorious love. If you feel down and some of you are then come to the cross and meditate on what

I have done for you by My Son's suffering. Let it teach you about Me, My love, My purpose and My overall control. Then you will regain your poise and purpose for living. My Son does wonderful things. The breeze is My Spirit blowing within you and through you so allow Him to work within you all.

A problem with both feet.

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 COURSES – News

The latest cohort of the Pastoral Training course has come to the end of the internal sessions (with 4 sessions from external speakers planned for the new year).

It has been a joy to join with members of All Saints Sanderstead in this course.

Next courses:

Witness course – how to capture and tell your story of faith

Prayer Ministry

How to hear God's voice

Please contact Doug vicar@christchurchpurley.org.uk to express your interest in any (or all!) of these short courses.



**16 Days of Activism campaign which runs
from 25th November to 10th December**

Friday 28th November 10.30am:

Please join Mothers' Union members at a service to mark **16 Days of
Activism Against Gender-based Violence** in the church.

Everyone is welcome.





Did last Sunday's service prompt you or someone you know to consider entering God's family of believers through baptism?

Wonderful News!

Complete this form and we will get in touch to discuss the next steps. Find out more information about Baptism on our website



Baptism

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.

First Aid at Christ Church Purley



First aid boxes can be found – in the Foyer kitchen and each large room / kitchen.

Please complete accident form – use the QR code below for **ALL** accidents or alternatively there are accident books where paper copies can be completed – find these by the first aid boxes.

Please let Jean know if a paper form has been completed as we need to keep these securely in the office to comply with data protection.

If you spot items are depleted in any of the boxes please let Jean know in the office
ASAP

Online Accident form



Online Incident form



Incident reporting form

RUSH Christmas Celebration

SOUPS, ROLLS AND DESSERTS

Saturday 29th November

12.30 for 1pm

Whyteleafe Free Church Hall (157a Godstone Road, CR3 0EH)

Audrey Thomas will provide a musical interlude

Good Company, Sale and Raffle

Suggested Donation £12

We are hoping to be able to provide the widows and needy in Rush Kakamega with their Christmas gifts of tea, flour, oil, sugar, salt etc

Please let me know if you would like me to keep you a seat. Warm wishes Joan Hadlow

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





Boosting Life Skills

Providing knowledge & tips to boost life skills by unlocking potential in Wellbeing, Health and Interpersonal Skills... and so have a 'Positive Life'



Positive Life Courses

course #6 in the series* of Positive Life Courses



How to get a good night's sleep every night

"Boosting the Benefits of Sleep" course

- Tackling insomnia & sleep-related problems
- Good sleep 'hygiene' & sleep strategies
- The impact of not getting enough sleep

Based on the books *Why We Sleep* by Matthew Walker and *Sleep - Harness the power of sleep for optimal health & wellbeing* by Petra Hawker

Duration: 2 sessions of 2 hours

When: Wednesday 3rd & 10th December 10-12noon

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 *Positive Life* series search: *PositiveLifeCourses*

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.

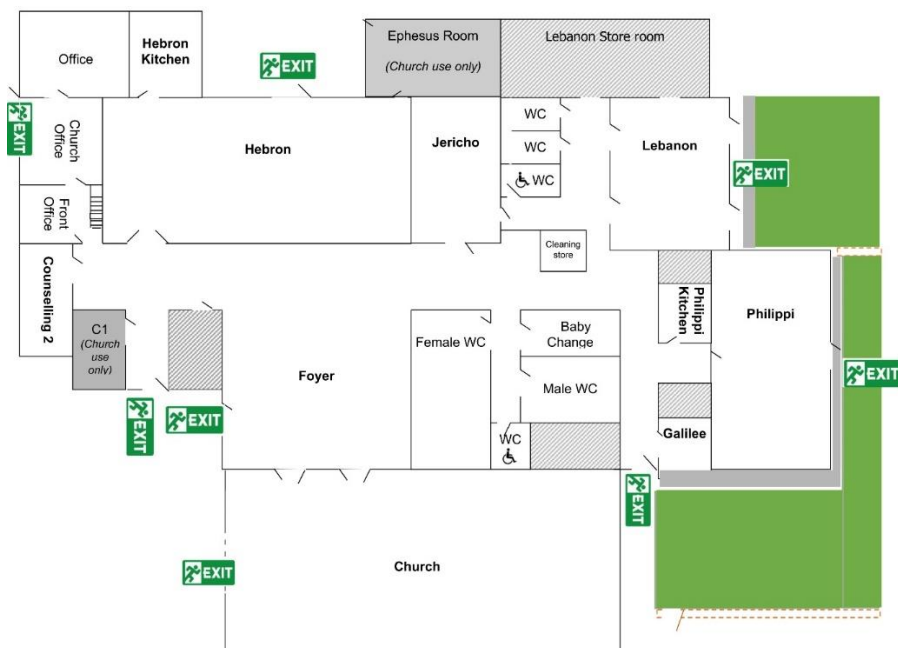


FIRE EVACUATION

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



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



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.

CHRIST CHURCH PURLEY

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

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

