



CHRIST CHURCH
MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND



PARISH MAGAZINE NOVEMBER 2019

Scan the smart code to go to our website



50p

Deadline for the magazine is middle of the month prior to publication. Next magazine **Sunday 17 NOVEMBER 2019**
 Copy: email to:-
 ccgravesend.mag10@yahoo.co.uk

Hand to a Church Warden or Mike Cubitt

**Christ Church Hall is available for hire
 Contact Maxine Springett, contact numbers are 01474 746428 or 07511962277.
 Well equipped, very suitable for meetings and children's parties**

Front cover: Front Autumn colours as the leaves turn on the trees

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Who's Who at Christ Church

www.christchurchgravesend.org.uk

Vicar	Rev. Sally Womersley	352643
Associate Priest	Jacqueline Littlewood	560106
Assistant Curate	Karen Nelson	362654
Pastoral Assistant	Jasmine Humphries	249106
Pastoral Assistant	Colin Parsonson	359713
Church Warden	Jan Osborne	740763
Church Warden	Lucy Hornby	07545444760
PCC Secretary	John Hougham	352138
PCC Treasurer	Steve Humphries	249106
Reader	Rosemary Austin	358702
Reader	Sheila Brown	356339
Reader	John Hougham	352138
Reader	Martin Sewell	745443
Webmaster	Tim McArthur	
Magazine editor	Mike Cubitt	07840343831

Volunteering 2

Last month we talked about taking the first step!

As you take the initiative to begin a real, two-way relationship with the church and know those who are working with you by volunteering, you gain experience, knowledge, and understanding. You learn how to work with others in the church and how the church operates behind the scenes. You see the gaps where help is necessary and can alleviate the burden many faithful volunteers have been carrying as they held on until someone like you came along to help. If you complete your volunteering with excellence, God will cause you to be blessed and give you a greater measure of authority. This is especially important for those who feel called to ministry.

Knowing those that work along side you, having a solid, grounded, two-way relationship with the church, and growing in authority are just three of the reasons you should volunteer in your church.

If you haven't already, take the first step and contact your wardens to see what it is that you can do in your church.



CHIROPODIST

Shelley Lane
MSSCh MBCIA

HCPC REGISTERED
Your local qualified Chiroprapist

Home visits
Telephone 01474 745898

WORKING PARTY

'In order to save on expensive cleaning and maintenance, we hold a monthly working party on a Saturday morning starting at 09.30.

Together we clean and tidy the church, do a bit of necessary DIY or gardening, have a coffee and often some home-made goodies – and finish by about 11.30.

We are enormously grateful to the few loyal helpers who turn up month after month – but we desperately need a few more.

Please consider putting the dates into your diary and coming along. All are welcome – if you can do basic DIY please let us know in advance so that the churchwardens can plan jobs in advance.

Working party is normally on the second Saturday of each month...

NOTE the next ones will be on Saturday 16 NOVEMBER at 9.30.

See you there, JAN

Inter Faith
Week
2019



16 November 2019 11am to 1pm

Faith Walk

To promote inter faith understanding and cooperation in our Borough, you are welcome to join us on Saturday 16 November as we walk through Gravesend Town Centre visiting and meeting places of significance to our faith communities.

This year's walk will also include litter picking as we walk.

We will be starting at 11am from:

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

1-3 Pelham Road, Gravesend, DA11 0HN

Tivoli House - Windmill Gardens
and will end at approximately 1pm at:

Guru Nanak Darbar Gurdwara

Saddington Street Gravesend DA12 1AG

Places can be booked on Eventbrite.

Follow the link via www.northkentinterfaith.co.uk

Any questions please contact:

Kirsty Gaunt, Community Involvement Officer

kirsty.gaunt@gravesham.gov.uk

Telephone: 01474 33 75 91



Gravesham
Borough Council

Cilka's Journey

by Heather Morris

One of my Granddaughter's gave me this book, a dramatised account based on the life of a Jewish survivor of Auschwitz and later the Gulags in Siberia. First published in October 2019, it is a sobering, uplifting, hateful, hopeful tale of the battle to survive and remain human. This sounds like a depressing book but on the contrary it is so well written that it is almost impossible to put it down and I had to get to the end. I thoroughly recommend it to you all; so thank you Abbie for the challenge, you knew so well that I would appreciate it.

ISBN Hard back 978-1-78576-904-7

Publisher Zaffre

Fitness League

Movement for Life In Christ
Church Hall

Every Tuesday From 2-3.15 pm

Light remedial exercises Fully qualified
teacher

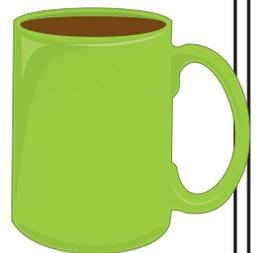
Ladies why not join us!

For more information please

Phone 01634 255759

COFFEE ROTA 2019

3 Nov	Annie - Jill - Jerry Higgins
10 Nov	Sue Wilkins - Kay - Jill
17 Nov	Annie - Jill - Sally Higgins
24 Nov	Annie - Jill - Jenny
1 Dec	Annie - Jill - Vena



**Come in and enjoy a
cup of tea or coffee
after the 10.00 o'clock
Sunday service**



FIRST STEPS
9TH OCTOBER 2019
HARVEST

Our naughty little sheep was really pleased to see the sunshine when he got up this morning. He's looking forward to our First Steps service this afternoon and he does like it to be sunny, if possible! He also knows that this could be Audrey Hedgehog's last service for a few months because soon she will be going to sleep before the winter comes. She will miss Christmas and everything! It seems a shame but that's what hedgehogs do. There is still cloudy sunshine for our walk up to church in the afternoon with our naughty little sheep's friends. In we go and as usual they find somewhere comfortable to sit while I begin to get things ready for our service. Anne is already in because she was verger at a funeral earlier. She's multi-talented! Jan comes in close behind to lend a hand, too. Linda is away on holiday, so not with us today. Soon everything is ready and we open the big church doors. First in is Granddad Stephen and granddaughter Aurelia, (my goodness that's a fancy name!) It is their first visit and we it's lovely to welcome them. Soon Mum Emma arrives with Abigail and Rupert along with Auntie Lisa. Then last but not least, Mum Rebecca rushes in with little Tommy. A small but select group and we are very pleased to see them all.

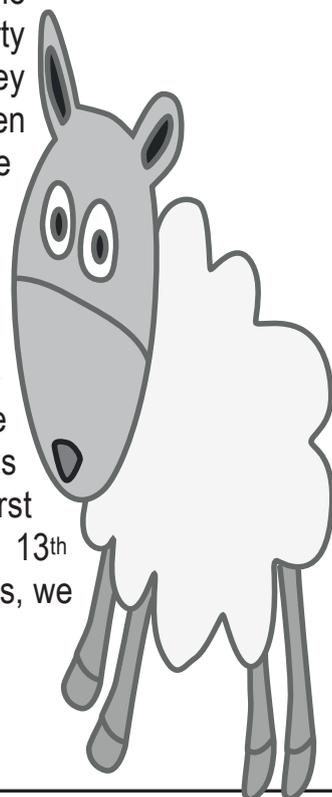
When everyone is sitting comfortably with their jingle bells ready, we begin our little service. Today we are thinking about the Harvest and how lucky we are to have all the good gifts that God gives to us each day. Our song, "I like eating" reminds us of all kinds of yummy food, like chips and baked beans and strawberry ice cream; of all the fun that we can have together, and all the people that we meet and those whom we love and who love us. There is some great jingling to help us along. Next we sing about sharing all the good things that we have. It helps

us to appreciate all that we have and it reminds us to be kind and generous. Our naughty little sheep and all his friends heartily agree with that. They say that they, too, try very hard to be kind and generous. Good for them!

Audrey Hedgehog is sitting with our naughty little sheep, the glittery dragon and our little statue of Jesus and the children, on our little altar. We are going to miss her when she's hibernating. "Have a rest" is a song about a sleepy hedgehog, and about us needing a rest at night time, too, curling into a snuggly ball to go to sleep. We thank God for all the good things that He gives to us, for the food that we eat, our homes and our loved ones; the beauty of the world around us as the seasons go by. We tie up all our prayers in the words that Jesus taught us, "The Lord's Prayer." The children have been so good and we have had some great jingling of bells. Abigail and Aurelia carefully blow out the candles on our little altar and our service is over. It is time to go into the Hall for our refreshments and playtime.

As usual our naughty little sheep and his friends rush out to be at the front of the queue for a drink and some biscuits. There are Party Rings! No wonder they are in such a rush. Then they find a comfortable spot to sit and watch the Mums, Granddad (brave man!) and the children as they all have a good time together. We do hope that they will all join us again for our next First Steps service on 13th November. Lucky for us, we hope!

God Bless
Rosemary Austin





SHOE BOX APPEAL 2019

It's that time again another piece for the magazine."3 Steps to Heaven" with basics in a BLYTHSWOOD shoe box.

Basics perhaps does not seem very heavenly but to the recipient of a Blythswood shoebox they appear that way. Once again Christ Church is appealing for shoe boxes filled with items to make a hard life just a little easier for children and adults in eastern Europe. How can you help just follow

the 3 Steps.

Step 1 Pick up a leaflet from the back of the church- (organisations will receive some)

Step 2 Find and decorate an average size shoe box (there will be a few in church)

Step 3 Fill the box with appropriate items and return to church by WEDNESDAY 13 NOVEMBER (for delivery in time to Christmas)

Will you take those 3 steps to make someone's life a little more heavenly this Christmastide.

Happy walking and thank you. Veronica



WHAT IS COUNSELLING?

Counselling is a process that gives you the opportunity to explore feelings, thoughts and experiences that are causing distress or that you are finding difficult to understand or make sense of. Counselling can also give you the space to develop new, healthier ways of coping with some of the tough times that life brings along.

I CAN HELP YOU WITH:

Depression, Anxiety, Relationships, Low Self Esteem, Bereavement, Anger Issues, Dealing with Change, Work Related Issues and Spirituality

I am a member of the British Association of Counsellors and Psychotherapists and the Association of Christian Counsellors.

I offer flexible appointments, home visits within the Gravesend area and concessionary rates



HOW I APPROACH COUNSELLING

I am an Integrative Counsellor which means that I use a variety of counselling approaches dependant on your needs and what you want to achieve in the counselling process, Throughout the process you decide what you want to talk about and the pace you want to go. I will listen to you and help you express and understand your emotions. Sometimes I use writing, drawing and toys to help you express difficult emotions

Please call Tracy on 07784 318104 or email info@tj-counselling.com
 Central Avenue, Gravesend Kent DA12 5AW
www.tj-counselling.com.



Fundraising fashion show

On Monday 7th October, 3rd Milton (st faiths) brownies held a fundraising fashion show to raise money for their unit. The brownies designed and made their own outfits, parents, came to watch the show.

HIGHAM CHORAL GROUP

The Higham Choral Group is a mixed choir performing a wide range of choral music, sacred and secular, old and new, classic and pop, appealing to all tastes. We rehearse weekly and present concerts in spring, summer, at Christmas and whenever other opportunities arise. Most years we spend the early May bank holiday 'on tour', performing in another part of the country and having a lot of fun. We do, however, need some new voices. We are particularly short of tenors but would welcome new sopranos, altos and basses as well. There are no auditions – you know if you can sing! If you are interested in joining us, please phone 01634 718285 or email kateiw@tiscali.co.uk

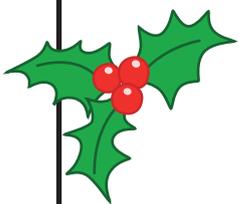


URGENT REMINDER

The very last day that we can accept filled shoe boxes is

**WEDNESDAY
13 NOVEMBER**

They are being delivered for preparation for transporting abroad on the following day



Donations for Christ Church

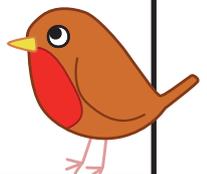
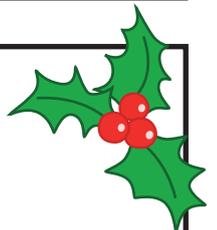
Christmas Bazaar

Saturday 9th November 2019 at 10.30 a.m..

Please put in the boxes at the back of church:

November 3 Bottles, Jewellery and toiletries

November 9 Cakes and preserves



Halloween

C	H	I	L	D	R	E	N	M	E	C	E	C	S
G	F	A	L	L	Y	P	P	A	H	I	T	D	S
S	H	R	H	F	U	N	N	Y	M	O	O	R	B
L	O	O	C	O	N	S	M	N	P	H	I	B	S
L	S	S	S	O	S	I	S	H	B	S	C	A	N
A	N	I	P	T	S	R	K	D	E	M	B	T	R
B	I	H	H	I	E	T	S	P	B	O	O	S	O
E	L	O	I	T	D	L	U	K	M	N	P	G	C
Y	B	P	S	G	R	E	H	M	C	U	H	R	Y
E	B	N	D	L	H	A	R	A	E	I	P	I	D
I	O	O	B	C	I	V	E	S	F	S	R	N	N
M	G	U	T	R	B	E	U	I	U	P	S	T	A
W	I	T	C	H	E	S	S	O	E	S	I	B	C
T	H	G	I	N	D	I	M	E	E	R	O	I	A

BROOM
 COSTUMES
 EYEBALLS
 BATS
 MONSTERS
 FALL
 LEAVES
 GOBBLINS
 CHILDREN
 BOO
 MIDNIGHT
 CANDY CORN
 GHOST
 PUMPKIN
 SPIDERS
 HAPPY
 TRICKS
 FUNNY
 WITCHES

Play this puzzle online at : <http://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/830/>

Pre-Prep Places Available 2019/20

St Joseph's Convent Preparatory School

An independent school for boys and girls aged 3 to 11



"Fully committed to the pursuit of excellence in a nurturing, safe and happy environment where children are encouraged to achieve their personal optimum in all areas."

Head Teacher

Contact us to find out more

46 Old Road East, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 1NR

T: 01474 533012 E: secretary@sjcps.org

www.sjcps.org www.facebook.com/sjcps

GRAVESHAM FOOD BANK

Below is a list of items required at the moment

**Milk (UHT) - Custard - Toothpaste -
Hot chocolate - Shampoo - Sweets/treats
Breakfast cereal (not porridge) - Marmite -
Fruit juice/squash - Toilet roll -
Sponge pudding - Deodorant -
Tinned Potatoes - Laundry Liquids/tablets**



**This list is only a few of the items that
can help those less fortunate than
ourselves,
any tinned or non-perishable
items are most welcome**



Wombwell Hall

Wombwell Hall is a friendly care home nestled in a peaceful area of Northfleet offering nursing care for elderly ladies and gentleman.

At HC-One kindness is at the heart of everything we do and our care and services are tailored to individual preferences.

We're pioneering a simple approach to care, where kindness is our guiding ethos.

To find more information on the care we can offer you or your loved one, please visit our website, or contact our Home Manager, Catherine Veerigadu.



Offering:

- Nursing care
- Little break – Short term care
- Home from home – Long term care
- Comfortable day rooms
- Landscaped gardens
- Regular outings
- 9.3 carehome.co.uk user rating

W hc-one.co.uk

T 0333 321 4757

E careline@hc-one.co.uk

A Wombwell Gardens, Northfleet, Gravesend, Kent, DA11 8BL





semiuavers

Christmas Concert 2019



Let the festivities begin! Come and hear the children singing Christmas Carols and Songs and start to get in the mood for Christmas



Tuesday 10 December 2019 at 6.30pm



Christ Church, Old Road East, Gravesend,
DA12 1NR



Tickets available from
Gill Campbell or on the
door £4 adults and
children are free



Also singing under the Christmas Tree
Trafalgar Square, London
Saturday 21 December 2pm to 3pm



Fun Evening at Kay's Garden

3rd Milton (St. Faith's) Guides and Brownies and 11th Milton (Christ Church) Brownies had a lovely evening together at Kay's Garden, Meopham. The sun was shining as we arrived but by the time we left it was very dark -adding to the excitement- and the glow stick lanterns the girls made proved useful. Beaver organised some wonderful activities including attempting to make a grass whistle, listening for different sounds, toasting marshmallows over a campfire to make s'mores and imagining the sounds of the sea. As a result the girls were awarded their Pawprint Go Wild with Weird Noises badges. The evening ended with everyone gathering together to sing songs round the campfire. They all thanked Beaver and agreed they'd had great fun.



Sermon:

Sunday 6 October 2019

Luke 17 5-10

Our reading this morning from Luke's gospel starts with the disciples asking Jesus to increase their faith and Jesus reminding them that if they have even a tiny amount of faith they can achieve extraordinary things.

Perhaps to us this seems rather a mixed metaphor, but Luke quotes Jesus as saying, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and planted in the sea", and it would obey you." The important thing is that Jesus is saying you don't need a lifetime of faith, you don't need a degree in theology, you don't need enormous faith...just a tiny step of faith (a mustard seed is the tiniest of seeds of course) so just a tiny step of faith will take you a long way.

I don't know about you, but I find that very re-assuring! So often we doubt whether we can make a difference, we doubt our trust in God, we don't feel good enough to advise, to help, to do something which requires a step of trust, which isn't guaranteed, which requires an act of faith. Jesus is saying, "Go for it", "Have a go", "trust you can do it, make it happen and you will".

It's very easy to say to someone else, or to ourselves, "Have faith!" but it's quite another thing to really believe it and to do it!

Thinking about this passage reminded me of the 16 year old Swedish climate activist, Greta Thurnberg who has been leading calls for action on climate change and who has been in our media a lot lately.

She made an impassioned speech in front of world leaders at the 2019 United Nations action summit in New York in which she accused them,

'You have stolen my dreams and my childhood with your empty words,' she accused them of ignoring the science behind the climate crisis, saying: 'We are in the beginning of a mass extinction and all you can talk about is money and fairy tales of eternal economic growth - how dare you!'

No one could fail to be moved by her passion and her commitment!

Back in 2018 she said, "Every Friday, I miss classes to sit outside my country's parliament. I will continue to do so until leaders come into line with the Paris agreement"

And more recently she told the world's schoolchildren, "[I'm striking from school to protest inaction on climate change – you should too](#)"

Greta has Aspergers and says this means I am sometimes a bit different, but it doesn't give her the excuse to say I

can't do that; it doesn't make her think I'm only 16 years old, no-one will take any notice of me.

No, she has faith that she has seen a need she needs to speak out on and already you can see she has made a difference. And thank goodness she has because quite frankly, we adults haven't done much! We haven't heeded the warnings, we haven't had faith we can act now and make a difference. Let's face it, it won't be us that has to cope with our apathy and lack of action, it will be the Greta's of this world, our children and our grandchildren. Thank goodness she believes she can get something done!

So I believe that we should be re-assured by Jesus' words that even if our faith is small, new, hesitant, unrefined, we can still achieve extraordinary things.

The second part of this reading is perhaps more challenging. It talks of faithful service but set in the context of a society which is used to the idea of slaves. It seems to us perhaps quite unfair that we should come in from work and expect someone else, a slave, to serve our meal (especially when he too has been working) and that we shouldn't say, "come and eat with us"...is that not what Jesus' new commandment is all about? Loving the marginalised, mixing with all sorts of people, not being snobby about who does what?

But I think here, in the context of life at the time Jesus was living and teaching, he was perhaps saying, just as you expect your slave to fulfil his task, so you too should fulfil your tasks.

This also set me thinking about present day life. It is all too easy to think of slavery as something that happened centuries ago and nothing to do with modern life, but the Diocese of Rochester (and they are not alone in this) has been looking at present day slavery for several years now and it is sober reading!

They wrote at the outset, "More than 200 years after the abolition of the slave trade there are still an estimated 40.3 million men, women and children trapped in modern slavery, and up to 136,000 potential victims in the UK alone.

The Diocese of Rochester is working in partnership with The Clewer Initiative and the Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority who are resourcing them to raise awareness to help end modern slavery: they believe that the tools to end modern slavery already exist within the local community and that the Church, which is present in all communities and at the heart of many, has a primary responsibility in leading these efforts. They are helping Rochester to develop strategies to detect modern slavery in our communities and help provide victim support and care.

In the Diocese of Rochester this looks like creating a team of anti-slavery advocates who are delivering training and awareness raising events. The Diocese is also working closely with local police and other organisations to do

Continued from previous page

everything they can to support the fight against modern slavery in the local area. The Clewer Initiative are honoured to be partnering the Diocese of Rochester and such a committed team of staff and volunteers, working hard to bring an end to modern slavery in the diocese.

The fight against modern slavery can only be won if we band together, and there are ways everyone can get involved

Do you use hand car washes? You may not know that they are a big risk sector for modern slavery. The Clewer Initiative have created an app with law enforcement called Safe Car Wash which you can use next time you go to a hand car wash. Download Safe Car Wash from your app store, and when you're at the car wash, open the app and answer a few simple questions. You may be prompted to call the Modern Slavery Help line to report what you have seen.

Jesus came saying that he proclaimed freedom for captives. Freedom is something that we take for granted, but it is the gift of God, it is the purpose of God. Those who purposefully constrain, confine and traffick and enslave people will face the judgement of God for their terrible sins. I quote here,

"Yet even more serious is when we choose not to see: when as it were we put on our own blindfolds and don't see those around us who are held in slavery, oppressed, trafficked, in other peoples' power.

The Clewer Initiative is funded by the Clewer Sisters, an Anglican order now based in Cuddesdon, Oxfordshire. The order was founded in the 19th century to help vulnerable, mainly young women who found themselves homeless and drawn into the sex trade.

There are also now pockets of slavery in nail bars; immigrants working in the fields and shamefully housed in crowded, filthy caravans and others imprisoned in houses to cook and clean and rarely allowed out.

Bishop Simon Burton-Jones, Bishop of Tonbridge, has encouraged Christians to 'pick up the baton in our generation' from the likes of William Wilberforce - a key figure in the abolition of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade. Speaking at a recent Modern Slavery awareness event in Gillingham, Bishop Simon said how shocked figures like Wilberforce and John Wesley would be, 'to know how deep, cruel and pervasive today's slave trade is, in an era that prides itself on its sense of fairness and justice.'

So where does all this leave us?

Exciting Youth Choir in Gravesend

If you are aged between 7 and 17 and enjoy singing then come along!

- Join a friendly group of singers
- Learn great music of different styles and
- Perform at concerts and services

For further information visit
www.christchurchgravesend.org.uk

- Or call 01474 534517

Join the



Youth choir in Gravesend

We meet weekly for Rehearsals

at Christ Church

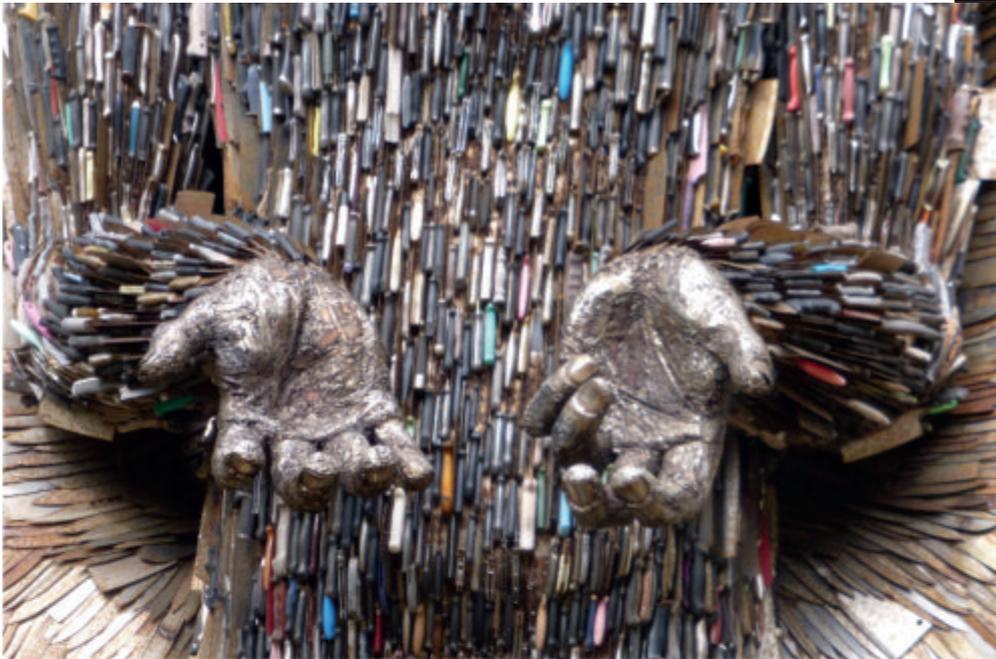
Tuesday evenings

6.15 pm to 7.30 pm

The Knife Angel at Rochester

The knife Angel has been created as a National monument against violence and aggression at the British Ironworks Centre in Oswestry and is a memorial to those whose lives have been affected by knife crime. It is a 27ft high sculpture, which Alfie has designed and created single-handedly using over 100,000 knives surrendered and collected in nationwide amnesties in 2015/2016. The angel began its tour around the UK in 2018 when it was housed outside of Liverpool Cathedral for December and January in order to raise awareness of the impact of knife crime on society, the victims and their families and friends.

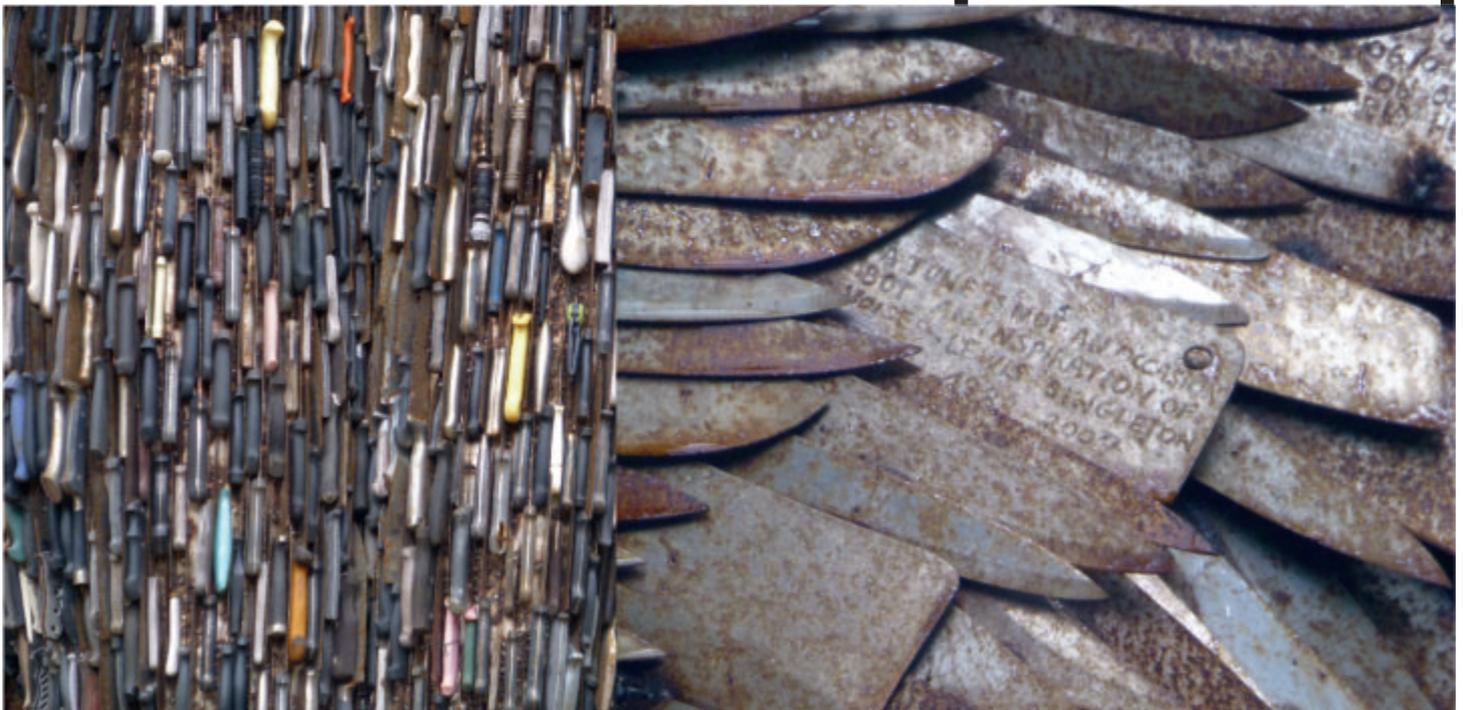




As part of the tour, a conference on knife crime was held at the Historic Dockyard Chatham.

At the conference, participants called on the government to ban the sale of pointed domestic knives.

A special service was also held at Rochester Cathedral on Saturday, September 21.



We need **VOLUNTEERS**

for the ADSS café at Safeharbour in Coldharbour Road.

The café is open during the week between 10am and 2pm for the public and is also used by our day centre. The days we need volunteers for are

Monday, Tuesday and Friday

Anyone interested should contact **Katie Antill** on **01474 533990** or speak to

Alzheimer's & Dementia
SUPPORT SERVICES

ANGELA KIRBY
for further information.

Alzheimer's & Dementia
SUPPORT SERVICES

Do you run a local business?

Have you thought of advertising in this monthly magazine?

If you would like details of costs and how you could contribute to Christ Church through advertising please contact **07840343831** or email ccgravesend.mag10@yahoo.co.uk

Colin's coming of age!

Colin Parsonson celebrating his 70th birthday



First Steps

First Steps

First Steps

FIRST STEPS

Is a service especially designed for families with pre-school children, although all children in the family are welcome to come.

We meet in the church at 1.45pm on the second Wednesday in each month for a short service and then to enjoy a chat over a cup of tea.

We are finished in plenty of time for parents to meet their other children from school.

Why not come along with your children, you will be very welcome.

Next date is Wednesday 13 NOVEMBER 2019.



MUSTARD SEED

**Third Thursday of the month
In**

Christ Church hall 2.30 – 4.00

We invite you to come and join us for tea, biscuits, cake and conversation with occasional speakers and quizzes.

Come and find out who we are and meet new people. All ages welcome

Contact: Colin Parsonson: 01474 359713

Pam Kilby: 01474 332693



Christ Church 200 Club

The 200 Club is a means of raising money for the Christ Church General Fund, which supports the Ministry and Mission of the church and Good Causes as agreed by the PCC, whilst at the same time giving members the opportunity of a small 'flutter' and the chance to win some money.

Membership costs £30 per year. Fifty percent of all monthly donations are given over to the Christ Church General Fund with the remainder being returned to the membership in prize money. The draw is made on the fourth Sunday of every month in the hall after the morning service.

Payment can be made by an annual sum of £30, a quarterly payment of £7.50 or a monthly payment of £2.50, the latter two by bankers order. Cheques should be made payable to Christ Church PCC No 3 account.

Join by contacting John Thrush, in church, and completing an application form. If you are not sure who John is, ask one of the sides people and they will point you in the right direction.

Winning chances are only limited by the amount of numbers you purchase, the more you have the better your chance of winning.

Worthwhile it certainly is, since its inception the 200 Club has donated over £40,000 to Christ Church to support its Ministry and Good Causes.

Contact JOHN THRUSH 200 Club Secretary

Mothers' UNION

CHRIST CHURCH MOTHERS UNION

At our meeting on Tuesday 12th
November ~ 7.30 pm in the
Church Hall ~ we will be making
Christmas Crafts

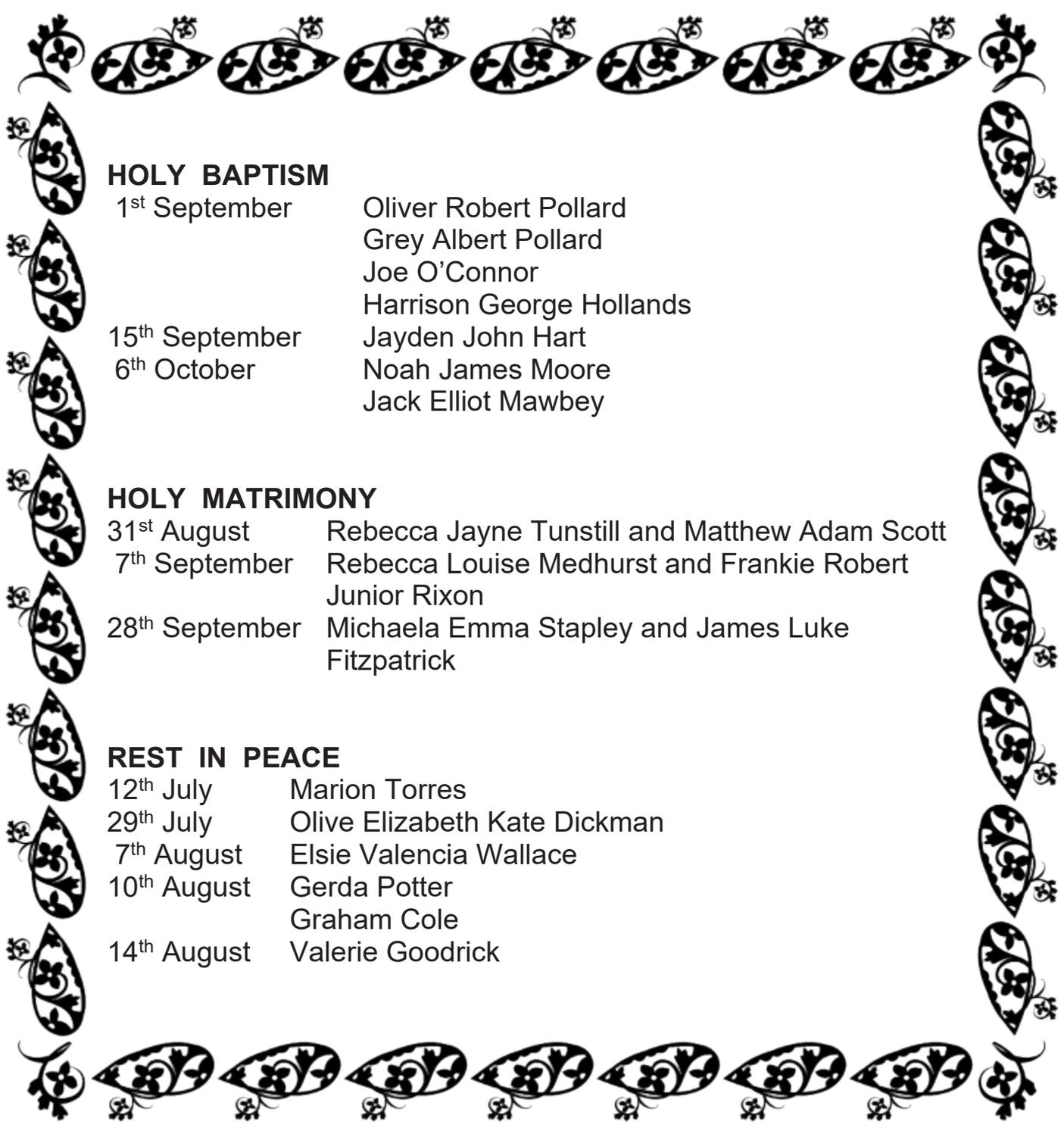


ALL WELCOME

£6

**Your Parish
Magazine for
2020**

If you usually pay for your Christ Church Parish Magazine on an annual basis, then there can be no better time to make your contribution than when you collect your January copy. At just 50p per issue this represents very good value for you to keep up to date with what is coming forward, or what has happened in the few weeks that have just gone by. With the running of your church it is another way in which you can help



HOLY BAPTISM

1st September

Oliver Robert Pollard
Grey Albert Pollard
Joe O'Connor
Harrison George Hollands

15th September

6th October

Jayden John Hart
Noah James Moore
Jack Elliot Mawbey

HOLY MATRIMONY

31st August

Rebecca Jayne Tunstill and Matthew Adam Scott

7th September

Rebecca Louise Medhurst and Frankie Robert
Junior Rixon

28th September

Michaela Emma Stapley and James Luke
Fitzpatrick

REST IN PEACE

12th July

Marion Torres

29th July

Olive Elizabeth Kate Dickman

7th August

Elsie Valencia Wallace

10th August

Gerda Potter
Graham Cole

14th August

Valerie Goodrick

BIBLE NOTES

As well as the "New Daylight" booklet of Bible notes prepared by the Bible Reading Fellowship, there is also a booklet entitled "Bible reflections for older people". This also comes out every four months and is priced at £4.60 for New Daylight and £5.05 for "Bible Reflections for older people"

This booklet is written by older people for older people, the reflections are designed to bring hope, assurance and sustenance, reminding the reader of the presence and love of God. Each issue contains 40 Bible reflections and prayer suggestions to use and revisit as often as needed.

If you would be interested in seeing a copy of this booklet please have a word with Julie Hill.



Tilly hits the right notes

Matilda Osborne achieved a RSCM commended pass in Voice For Life Silver Award in January 2019 and on 5th October members of Christ Church Choir and congregation attended the RSCM Rochester Choral Evensong in the Cathedral. During the service Tilly was presented with a certificate to go with the RSCM medal that she was awarded with at the beginning of the year



Dates for your diary

Saturday 2 November ALL SOULS DAY 10.00 Sung Requiem

Saturday 9 November Christmas Bazaar 10.30 Christ Church

Saturday 16 November Music at Community prayer Centre

Monday 25 November White Ribbon Day (Domestic Violence)

Saturday 30 November St Andrew's Day 11.00 Service at Bawley Bay



TWO PAGES

of floral arrangements and the tireless work put in by the loyal volunteers at Christ Church. A huge thank you to them all!





HARVEST LUNCH





 **LEST WE FORGET** 

Services of remembrance

Friday 8 November
13.00 Denton War Memorial

Sunday 10 November
11.00 War Memorial Windmill Gardens
12.30 Merchant Seamen's Memorial Bawley Bay

Monday 11 November
11.00 Community Square Gravesend Town Centre

What happens at Christ Church?

Sunday Services

08.00 am Holy Communion (said)
10.00 am Communion with crèche & God's Gang
On the 2nd Sunday All-Age service
Evening Service - see inside magazine for details.

Weekday Services

Monday morning prayer 08:00
Holy Communion (said)
Saturday 08:00
Wednesday 10:00
and evening prayer 17.15

**For further information
Contact
The Church Wardens**

Registered Charity no. 1130741

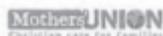
Office hours

Friday 18:30 until 19:30

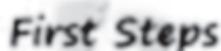
Regular activities and youth organisations

There are a wide variety of clubs for you:-

Daily	Christ Church Pre-school (2½ upwards)
Monday	Music Group; Brownies
Tuesday	Mothers Union (2 nd Tuesday In church hall) Cubs and Semiquavers
Wednesday	Guides
Wednesday	First Steps (under 5's and carers) 2nd Wednesday 1.45pm
Thursday	Ifield Ladies (every third Wednesday)
Thursday	Beavers/Brownies; Choir Practice: 2.30 p.m. Mustard Seed (every third)
Friday	Rainbow Unit; Scouts; Parent and Toddler
Saturday	Working Party (9.30 a.m. every second)

 Mothers UNION
Christian Care for Families



 First Steps



Ghosts over North –West Kent: talk on local ghost stories & supper

On: Monday 25th November 2019

Speaker: Christoph Bull

At: Reliance Fish Restaurant, Queen Street, Gravesend

Begins: 6pm for supper, talk to follow

Cost: £15 includes the talk and fish and chip supper.

Booking essential: Reliance Restaurant 01474 533593

Hear some local ghost stories that form part of local history and folklore.

Myths & Legends of Gravesham and Dartford (illustrated talk)

On: Friday 13th December 2019

Speaker: Christoph Bull

At: Mick Jagger Centre, Shepherds Lane, Dartford (Boys Grammar School)

Begins 7.30pm

Cost: Free to members of Dartford Historical & Antiquarian Society, £3 for visitors.

Dartford Historical & Antiquarian Society invite you join them for this seasonal talk about odd stories, folklore and customs covering both Dartford and Gravesham. No need to book, just turn up.

Alzheimer's & Dementia

S U P P O R T S E R V I C E S

We are the local specialist dementia service for Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley. We empower people affected by dementia to carry on their chosen lifestyle. We equip people with the knowledge and practical support to live well with dementia. If you are affected by dementia, we are here for you. The services you can choose from are:

One to one information and guidance to support you with living with dementia

Peer Support Groups

Memory Cafes

Singing Groups

Advocacy

Carers Peer Support Group

Carers Learning Groups

The Beacon Day Support

Support at Home

Support at Home Care Service

To find out how we can help you, contact us on

01474 533990

info@alz-dem.org

Safeharbour Memory Wellbeing Centre, Coldharbour Road, Northfleet, Kent

DA11 8AE

If you are interested in volunteering with us we would love to hear from you, please contact us to find out more.

A Son for Elizabeth

In the days when King Herod ruled the land of Judea, there was a priest called Zechariah whose wife was Elizabeth. They both tried to live faithfully by the laws of the Jewish religion, but they had a great sadness in their life. They had reached old age without having any children. Still, they always tried to make the most of any happy occasion that came along.



One of these occasions was when Zechariah was chosen to be the priest allowed to enter the sacred holy place in the great temple in Jerusalem and burn incense to the Lord. It was a great honour.

The day of the festival arrived and Zechariah dressed in his splendid ceremonial robes, his hands trembling. He could hear his fellow priests singing outside the temple, leading the crowd of worshippers in prayer.

Eventually, Zechariah stood before the incense alter in the holy place itself; Suddenly Zechariah had the strangest feeling. He was not alone. Someone else was there too joining him in prayer. Zechariah looked up and fell to the floor with fear. An angel was standing next to the alter! “Don’t be afraid, Zechariah,” the angel said. “I have come to tell you that your prayers have been answered. You and your wife are going to have a son, whom you must call John. He will bring great happiness not only to you but also to many other people. The Lord will love him dearly and will send His Holy Spirit to fill your son’s heart even before he has been born. Through John, many souls will turn to God. He will prepare the people for the Lord’s coming.”



Zechariah was totally stunned. “But.. Why... How...?” “We’re too old to have children. How can this be true?” I am Gabriel, “the angel shouted. I have been sent by the Lord to bring you this good news, but because you don’t believe what I say, you will be struck dumb until these things come to pass.” Then he vanished.

Outside the temple, the crowd were waiting for Zechariah to finish burning the sacred incense and come out of the temple. And at last he appeared, but even though he tried he could not speak, everyone was puzzled. Elizabeth seeing this pushed her way through the crowd and quietly led him away from all the fuss.

Not long afterwards, Elizabeth discovered she was expecting a baby. She knew she would be the talk of the town if people discovered that such an old woman was having a baby. So she tried to keep in the house, out of sight, where she kept her joyous secret to herself. The couple wouldn’t let anything spoil their happiness.



CALENDAR NOVEMBER 2019

Sunday 		3 08.00 Holy Communion 10.00 Holy Communion	10 08.00 Holy Communion 10.00 Holy Communion	17 08.00 Holy Communion 10.00 Holy Communion	24 08.00 Holy Communion 10.00 Holy Communion
Monday 		4 08.00 Morning Prayer BROWNIES	11 08.00 Morning Prayer BROWNIES	18 08.00 Morning Prayer BROWNIES	25 08.00 Morning Prayer BROWNIES
Tuesday 		5 18.30 Semiquavers	12 18.15 Semiquavers MOTHERS UNION 19.30	19 18.15 Semiquavers	26 18.15 Semiquavers
Wednesday 		6 10.00 Holy Communion 17.15 Evening Prayer 13.45 First Steps	13 10.00 Holy Communion 17.15 Evening Prayer	20 10.00 Holy Communion 17.15 Evening Prayer	27 10.00 Holy Communion 17.15 Evening Prayer
Thursday 		7 Choir Practice BROWNIES	14 Choir Practice 14.30 Mustard seed BROWNIES	21 Choir Practice BROWNIES	28 Choir Practice BROWNIES
Friday 	1 13.15 Parent and Toddlers 18.30 Office hours RAINBOW	8 13.15 Parent and Toddlers 18.30 Office hours RAINBOW	15 13.15 Parent and Toddlers 18.30 Office hours RAINBOW	22 13.15 Parent and Toddlers 18.30 Office hours RAINBOW	29 13.15 Parent and Toddlers 18.30 Office hours RAINBOW
Saturday 	2 08.00 Holy Communion	9 08.00 Holy Communion CHRISTMAS BAZAAR 10.30	16 08.00 Holy Communion 09.30 Work party	23 08.00 Holy Communion	30 08.00 Holy Communion ST ANDREWS DAY

Christ Church Echo Square

Christmas Bazaar



Entry £1
Children Free

Saturday 9th November 2019
at 10.30 am

🎁 RAFFLES 🎁 REFRESHMENTS 🎁 STALLS 🎁
🎁 VISIT FROM FATHER CHRISTMAS 🎁

Charity No: 1130741