

Christ Church News (31)
by and for the Christ Church Family
4th October 2020



Musings from the Manse

Dear Friends,

They say that communication is a wonderful thing – when it works – and, nowadays, we have so many ways to get information out to people. Sadly, the opportunities to meet up for a coffee, (or tea), and a good chin-wag are few and far between these days – and we don't always feel comfortable in constantly ringing someone up to check this detail or ask that question.

So, when it comes to getting information out to everyone about church matters, we tend to use email or a text message or this... our Newsletter. Apart from a message from me, and a thought or meditation for the day, it is a source of valuable knowledge – providing it is sent to Mary Quiney to include. The one drawback in all of this is that, however the information comes to you, it very much relies on you folks checking your emails, or your phone, or reading the Newsletter on a more regular basis so that you don't miss out on something vital. If you are already doing this – great!! It is a sign of the times that now, more than ever, we rely on technology in this way, and not everyone is comfortable with using it or even has the right equipment to receive online communication. If this is the case with you, please speak to an Elder, your Pastoral Visitor, Mary Quiney or myself and we can make sure you are *'in the know'* when you *'need to know'*. Thankyou.

Yours in Christ,
Helen <><

Word for Today Matthew 21: 33-46

Reflection – Meditation of one of the elders

Now wait a minute, this has gone far enough, too far by half! That Jesus fellow - the one stirring up the crowds - he really does believe he's the Son of God! Preposterous, I agree, but I've heard it from his own mouth, wrapped up in some stupid story he told, and, yet again, he's made **us** the villains of the piece, despite us having done more than anyone to keep the flag of faith flying high.

All right, so we've made compromises – we've had to, to stay in with Rome – but the benefits have outweighed the cost: a new temple, for a start. Yet now he's stealing the glory even there - making himself out to be the chief cornerstone, as though all our efforts count for nothing.

He's not just rude, insulting; he's guilty of blasphemy, plain and simple, and must pay the price.

True, it will lend authenticity to that parable of his – I'd avoid that if I could – but he's forgotten one thing, for does he seriously imagine that, when God sends his Son, he'll let anyone touch a hair of his head - let alone kill him in cold blood?

That's the flaw, isn't it! And mark my words, we'll get Jesus one way or another.

Not yet perhaps - not while the crowds still follow - but give it time and we'll have him.

Then we'll see who he really is, won't we, for as they say, **'truth will out'**.

'Meet and Greet' meetings

Rev'd Helen is available on Tuesdays and Fridays at 1:30 pm until the end of November.

To meet Rev'd Helen please contact:

Gilly Hansford: mobile 07470 709489 email gillyhansford@hotmail.co.uk

Rev'd Helen: email revhelen@yahoo.co.uk

or your Pastoral Visitor to arrange a convenient date.

Prayer

Sovereign God, it's folly to some, a stumbling block to others,
but for us the message of Christ crucified is the good news
of your love, power, wisdom and grace.

Help us to discern in the cross
not defeat but victory,
not hatred but love,
not darkness but light,
not an end but new beginnings,
for us and for all.

Teach us that, supremely, in the sacrifice of your Son,
his living and dying among us,
we see your hand at work and your purpose fulfilled,
the culmination of your redeeming love,
and in that faith may we live and move and have our being.

Amen

(taken from 'A most amazing man' by Nick Fawcett)

Articles for the Church Magazine

As you all know, the Summer and Autumn editions of the Christ Church Magazine were suspended this year; usually the main content comprises information about forthcoming services and various events scheduled to take place in the church and the local area, along with articles about events and services that have taken place. None of these were happening during 'lockdown' and the Newsletter has kept you all abreast of anything that was scheduled to take place.

However, we have now decided that **we will produce a Christmas Magazine – with a difference.** Instead of writing about what has happened at church **we are inviting you to send articles** in about anything in your life that you would like to share on the theme:

'Life during Lockdown'

either about something that has already happened, how you felt,
or something that you are hopeful/concerned will happen in the future – particularly at Christmas.
These 'articles' can be in prose or poetry form – or a picture (photograph or drawing/painting).

Remember that the magazine goes to all those on the membership/adherents list and eventually will be on the church website. In view of this – **if you wish to remain anonymous please indicate this** when you send your contribution. We are not expecting everyone to send something – otherwise the magazine will be 60 pages or more!! However, if we get many more articles than can be used this time, we will save them for the next edition.

Please send your contribution **by 8th November** to the usual email address:
chichristchurch@googlemail.com (remember the 'chi')

Mary Quiney

The Harvest Service – next Sunday, 11th October – will be All Age Worship.

The collection will be divided between two charities – **'Stonepillow'** and **'Heart'**
(for more details see Helen's Musings in last week's Newsletter, 27th September)

You can donate in 3 ways:

1. Cash or cheque* at the service – put in the plate in the church lounge
2. Cheque* – made payable to 'Christ Church Chichester' with **'Harvest'** written on the back and either delivered or posted to Christ Church, Old Market Ave, Chichester, PO19 1SW
3. Bank transfer - CAF Bank Account 0003 3603 Sort Code 40-52-40 (with **'Harvest'** as the reference)

REMINDER – places for the Harvest, All Age Worship service, 10:30 am 11th October
booking closes 6 pm today (4th October)
email chichristchurch@googlemail.com (preferred) or phone **01243 531594**