

Connected

Sunday 25th April 2021

4th Sunday of Easter

Sermon Snippets

John 21: 15-19

Memories of past events can either hold us down and stop us from moving forward, or we can face them, ask for forgiveness where necessary, learn from them, and move on.

After Jesus had come back to life, he had a conversation with Peter, following a miraculous catch of fish, which would have brought back several memories. Sitting by a fire, Jesus asks Peter three times, "Do you love me?" Peter would remember another miraculous catch of fish where he felt his sinfulness in the presence of Jesus and he would feel that again. Peter would remember warming himself by another fire as he is asked a different question three times, "Aren't you a friend of Jesus?" On that occasion he had denied even knowing Jesus. Now, Jesus gives him the opportunity to turn that denial into a declaration of love - "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you."

At the first miraculous catch of fish, Jesus had given Peter a job - "fishing for men". He had welcomed Peter into the kingdom of God and invited him to join in his mission - bringing other people into that kingdom. Now Jesus talks about Peter becoming a shepherd - feeding and taking care of the sheep - caring for those who follow Jesus.

We've all done things of which we are ashamed. Jesus offers healing and forgiveness, and invites us to join him again in God's mission. Hear Jesus say, "Do you love me? Then, come, follow me."

Wednesday Communion Services

at Emmanuel Church

The Wednesday Holy Communion services, which will follow the 1662 Book of Common Prayer, will be restarting at Emmanuel.

The first service will actually be on Ascension Day, May 13th, which is a Thursday. This is an important day in the church calendar and it will be great to be able to mark it with a service. This will begin at 10.30am.

After that the services will be at 10.30am on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month.

All are welcome to join us for these very special times of worship together.

Verse For The Week

"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." At once they left their nets and followed him.

(Matthew 4: 19, 20)

Watch this Sunday's Service

at www.ccwsm.org.uk

Go to the 'Church Life' menu and click on the 'Sunday Services' page.

Prayer Pointers

Monday

Let's start the week by praying for Tom and Chris and their family. Also for Larissa as she finishes her studies before joining us as curate later this year. Please pray for the responsibility on the shoulders of Archbishops Justin and Steven and Bishop Emma who will soon begin a new role liaising their two ministries.

Tuesday

Please pray for Barbara Rowe's family and all who have lost loved ones. Pray too for all who are unwell in body, mind or spirit.

Wednesday

Give some time to hold up the Potters and the Morrisseys as they continue to face changes either with Covid or returning to the UK. *Update* - the Morrisseys will be returning to the UK this weekend. Please do remember them in your prayers.

Thursday

Remember India and Brazil in your prayers as they struggle with Covid infection rates.

Friday

Ask God to continue helping our local hospital, GP surgeries, vaccination centres, dentists and pharmacies. Not only are they still battling Covid but they are also trying to catch up with cancellations and trying to plan for the future healthcare needs of our area. And don't forget to pray for the Hospice which will have lost income during lockdown.

Saturday

Pray for anyone who is thinking about taking up roles on our PCCs this year and for the Annual Church Meetings, with all the preparation involved. (*See Notices*)

Mission Partner News

If you would like a copy of the latest newsletter from the Morrisseys, which contains detailed prayer requests for their return to the UK, please get in touch with Phil in the Church Office.

Private Prayer

Christ Church will be open for private prayer from 09.00 to 12.00 on Wednesdays and Thursdays only throughout April and May, except the 5th & 6th May.

Notices

Annual Church Meetings

The Annual Church Meetings have been postponed from their usual dates in late April because of lock-down restrictions. The new dates for our Annual meetings are as follows:

- Christ Church - Monday 24 May at 7.30pm
- Emmanuel - Sunday 06 June after the service

If you would like to be on the Electoral Roll of either church, please do get in touch with Phil in the Church Office, or speak to Tom or one of the Church Wardens. See last week's *Connected* to find out more about being on the Electoral Roll. The deadline for Electoral Roll applications at Christ Church is Friday 30th April.

Do you enjoy researching?

Phil is looking for a willing volunteer to help with a series of pieces for *Connected*. If you like doing internet research and have a bit of spare time, could you please get in touch with Phil in the Church Office. Thank-you.

Annual Leave

Tom will be taking some leave from Monday 26th to Thursday 29th April inclusive.

Office Closed

The Church Office will be closed for the week commencing 03 May, although Jane has very kindly offered to periodically check any urgent phone or email messages.

Bible Notes

"Inspiring Women" and "Every day with Jesus" Bible Notes for May and June have arrived and will be available at Christ Church from Sunday April 25th. Notes for anyone unable to collect them will be delivered as soon as possible. These notes are now free and anyone who paid a year's subscription will find a refund included with their notes.

Church Services in April and May

Services for the rest of April and May will continue to be held at 10.30 in our two churches. Each service at Christ Church will be live-streamed and can be viewed on the [Christ Church website](#).

The Children's Society Annual Box Opening

The
Children's
Society

Sunday 2nd May at Emmanuel

Please bring your box to Emmanuel Church on Sunday 2nd May and give it to me or a Church Warden, please do not leave it on a table unattended. If you would like me to collect your box just let me know; I will return the boxes to you in church when the money has been counted.

I know that a few people are happy to give a donation so please let me have your donation as near to the 2nd May as possible.

Many thanks to everyone who supports the Children's Society.

Carl Evans - Honorary Secretary

Good Homes Wanted

We are moving house and hoping to go to a retirement flat on the sea front. Consequently we have quite a bit of 'stuff' to get rid of. Here's a list of the sorts of things we are having to let go of:

- All the garden tools.
- DIY tools to include electrical planer, Stanley hand planer, electrical power saw, tiling kit, painting & decorating items, step ladders, assorted spanners, chisels, saws etc.
- Plastic plant pots of assorted sizes.
- Large dining table & 6 chairs.
- Denon compact sound system, cd player with two speakers.
- Assorted books.



Donations please with a percentage going to Christ Church. Please contact Tony on (01934) 622793.

Many thanks.

Tony & Shirley

Being on the PCC



The Parochial Church Councils of our two churches meet with the Clergy to consult on matters of general concern and importance to the life of the parish. The PCC helps to promote the whole mission of the church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. Each group meets six times per year, plus any ad-hoc meetings which might be called to respond to something urgent.

What is it like to be on the PCC? People currently serving on the Councils speak of the joys of seeing positive results from sometimes difficult decisions coming to fruition. One person at Christ Church talked about the funding for the Spire repair and the related decisions being quite difficult, but added that through prayer and thoughtful discussion, the right direction was found.

It's not without its challenges, the main one currently being the fact that meetings are held online, thereby missing out on the sense of fellowship that meeting together brings.

A list of those serving on the PCC of each church will be on display in that church. Please do pray for folk serving the church in this way, thanking God for all the effort that goes in to even the everyday running of the church, and praying for ongoing endurance for those involved in order to continue with these tasks.

Contact Details

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