

Connected

Sunday 26th February 2023

First Sunday Of Lent

Journey Into Lent...

Our next Prayer Service is this Sunday 26th February at 6pm

It will have a lenten theme with a prayerful reflection on Lent followed by an introduction to the use of Ashes. There will be an opportunity to receive the mark of ashes for those that want to. Join us in Christ Church to begin your Lent journey.

Ferry



Sermon Snippets

Christ Church Psalm 91 + Matthew 4: 1-11

In 2018 the Church of England was facing 3000 child sexual abuse cases. How did things go so wrong?

Psalm 91 was selected for Safeguarding Sunday because it exemplifies how scripture can be misused in situations of abuse: by perpetrators to defend themselves and to cast doubt on their accusers which, in turn, may stir self-doubt within survivors.

The most famous misuse of Psalm 91 was by the devil in the wilderness in Matthew 4. He was sadly not the last! Throughout history, unscrupulous individuals have used their spiritual gifts and authority for self-aggrandisement, betraying relationships of trust, and causing widespread harm.

This Sunday, we will affirm our commitment to make our church as safe as possible, by recognising the need to guard against all forms of abuse, to defend the innocent, and to be faithful to our safeguarding responsibilities.



Emmanuel Isaiah 29: 13-16

Why are these verses before us today?

Israel/Judah were to be overthrown and exiled due to the disconnection between their lips and heart. They refused to heed God's Prophetic Words.

Three New Testament examples of faith and works:

Matthew 15 v 1-11

Mark 2 v 1-12

James 2 v 14-18

Are you living out your faith in the world outside?



Prayer Pointers

Monday - Dear Father, please help us, living in this country with all its benefits, to be generous to all who are less fortunate than we are. We pray that the Governments of plenty will be willing to give to all the poorer countries that are in such need.

Tuesday - Father, we pray for those who suffer today, all who endure constant pain or illness, those whose minds or bodies are broken by accident or injury, thinking of those we know in our churches, families, or among our friends. We also remember those who are grieving at this time. Hold on to all who walk through the valley of the shadow of tears. Reach out to them and give them the consolation that You alone can give. Grant them Your peace.

Wednesday - We pray for our home groups, especially the leaders, as they seek to share God's Word and for all the discussions that ensue. May the Holy Spirit guide all that is said and prayed about.

Thursday - We pray for all those out of work or having no secure place to live - that God will provide for their needs and encourage them living with difficulties every day. We also pray for all those migrating to other countries, whether for fear of their lives, persecution, or to find a better life - that God will help them find the right way forward.

Friday - We continue to pray for all suffering and grieving because of the earthquakes in southern Turkey and northern Syria and those living in Ukraine struggling each day with hardship and loss because of the war there.

Saturday - We thank you that we have the freedom to worship you without fear of reprisals. We pray for those preparing our services tomorrow and that you will be so close to all present in our churches that we will recommit ourselves to Your service and our journey of faith.

Sunday - We pray that You will give us a new joy in Your presence and that You will fill us through the power of the Holy Spirit with Your love and grace so that our lives overflow with Your glory. May the mind of Christ bring us contentment and life.

What's On This Week

Sunday 26th February

Meditation for Lent at 6pm at Christ Church

Monday 27th February

Ladies Together at 2:30pm in The Spire Centre

Tuesday 28th February

Parish Prayers at 9:30am at Emmanuel

The Beacon at 12noon at Emmanuel

Wednesday 1st March

Seedlings Toddler Group at 10:15am at Christ Church

Thursday 2nd March

Craft & Chat at 2:30pm in The Spire Centre

Welcome Group at 2:30pm at Emmanuel

Notices

Larissa Unavailable

Larissa will be working at Christ Church School all week from Monday 27th February til Friday 3rd March inclusive.

Verse For The Week

"Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, 'He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.'"

Psalm 91: 1-2



Milton Methodist Church
Milton Hill BS22 9RA
@10.30am

Emmanuel Church
Oxford St BS23 1TN
@2.30pm

All Welcome



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Coffee after the Service...

HEZY'S BAPTISM



DARREN AND I ARE SO EXCITED FOR HEZY'S BAPTISM ON SUNDAY 5TH MARCH.

WE WOULD LOVE IT IF AS MANY OF OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY COULD JOIN US TO SHARE IN THIS SPECIAL DAY WITH US AND HIM.

WE ARE HAVING A BRING AND SHARE LUNCH AFTER THE SERVICE IN THE SPIRE CENTRE TO WHICH EVERYONE IS INVITED. IF YOU CAN BRING A PLATE OF SOMETHING TO SHARE, THAT WOULD BE WONDERFUL. IT WOULD BE GREAT IF THIS COULD BE DROPPED OFF BEFORE THE SERVICE BUT, IF YOU DON'T HAVE TIME, AFTER THE SERVICE IS FINE.

LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING AS MANY OF YOU AS POSSIBLE.

Sam

MIKE THOMAS' THANKSGIVING SERVICE

*The Service of Thanksgiving for Mike Thomas will be held on:
Thursday 2nd March at 2:30pm
at Christ Church
All church family are invited.*



Bekah's Licensing.

Most of you will remember our previous curate Bekah Clark. Please remember her in your prayers as she moves on to become Vicar of two parishes in Solihull: St Marys, Hobs Moat and St Nicholas, Elmdon.

She will be licensed in the evening on Monday March 20th. If anyone is interested in going please have a word with Tom by March 10th.

Ann Raymond's Funeral

*The funeral for Ann Raymond will be held on:
Friday 3rd March at 11:30am
at Christ Church
All church family are invited.*



More coffee anyone...?

tearfund

Appeal | Emergency Appeal | Emergency Appeal



Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal



URGENT HELP NEEDED IN TURKEY & SYRIA

Both Samaritan's Purse and Tearfund are responding in the aftermath of the major earthquake in the Middle East.

Much of southern Turkey and northern Syria has been impacted and communities have been devastated by the disaster. The number of dead and wounded is still rising. Whole towns have been flattened. Tens of thousands of people whose homes have been destroyed are now at the mercy of a freezing winter.

The church is rising up to respond – you can make a difference right now. Please pray as a church and help show the love of Christ to people in desperate need.

If you would like to donate to either Samaritan's Purse or Tearfund, we now have a dedicated page on our website – click on this link:

<https://ccwsm.org.uk/turkey-syria-earthquake-appeal/>

For other ways to donate, please see the notice displayed on the flipchart at the back of church.

Contact Details

Rev. Tom Webber (Day Off - Tuesday)
t: (01934) 709343
e: vicar@ccwsm.org.uk

Rev. Larissa Trust (Day Off - Tuesday)
t: 07379 754372
e: curate@ccwsm.org.uk

Church Office (09:30-12:30 Mon-Fri)
t: (01934) 641016
e: office@ccwsm.org.uk
w: www.ccwsm.org.uk

Safeguarding Sunday

This coming Sunday 26th February, Christ Church will be marking Safeguarding Sunday.

As a church we'll have the opportunity to express our commitment to our safeguarding responsibilities, to affirm that our safeguarding practices are grounded in the Bible, that we wish to acknowledge the safeguarding mistakes and injustices made throughout the Church of England (and other denominations), and that we will do our utmost to make our two churches as safe as possible as part of the living out of God's justice.

We will be giving thanks for Anne's dedication to this challenging work of mission, done on behalf of all of us.

We hope this is something that you will find positive. This is a new thing for Christ Church and we would be grateful for your feedback.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Larissa or Tom.



'Threads through Creation' is a spectacular sequence of twelve huge textile panels. It's an exuberant retelling of the creation story in the book of Genesis. Viewers are treated to a wonderful variety of colours, shapes, patterns – and of course lots of creatures!

The exhibition is one of the largest textile projects by a single artist, ever. It has taken Jacqui nearly three years.

www.creation-threads.co.uk

7th January to 19th March – BATH ABBEY
18th October to late November – WELLS CATHEDRAL

Watch the Morning Service

at www.ccwsm.org.uk

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