

'Not the Parish Magazine' but something a little different! Issue 45



Across Holy Trinity, South Chatham
we want everyone to be safe

St. Alban's
Church,
Blue Bell Hill.

St. David's
Church,
Lordswood.

St. William's
Church,
Walderslade.



In church over the coming Sundays:

Sunday, 16th January (2nd Sunday of Epiphany)

10.00am Morning Worship at St. Alban's, Blue Bell Hill

Sunday, 23rd January (3rd Sunday of Epiphany)

10.00am Morning Worship at St. David's, Lordswood

**Sunday, 30th January (Candlemas: Presentation of
Christ in the Temple)**

10.00am Morning Worship at St. William's, Walderslade



In our prayers



We remember:

- so many places across the world where lives are overshadowed by war, disasters, injustice and poverty.
- all who are persecuted for their faith, especially Christians in the Middle East.
- those tasked with guiding us safely through these times.
- our brothers and sisters in Christ in local churches and fellowships.
- families considering and preparing for baptisms.
- all involved in education: our local pre-schools, schools and colleges – their staff, pupils and students
- those whose working patterns have been changed by the pandemic.
- all working in essential services.
- those who have been unable to be with loved ones over Christmas and New Year.
- those who are in pain or who are anxious.
- those who are troubled but feel unable to seek help.
- those who have lost loved ones, especially the families of Anne Shopland, Phil Poole and John Warner recently departed.



Trinity Prayers

Our monthly hour of prayer - 7.30pm, on the first Thursday of the month: **Thursdays 3rd February**. Location to be confirmed.



Bible Focus and Prayers



Here are the Sunday readings and collects for the coming weeks.

2nd Sunday of Epiphany – 16th January

Isaiah 62:1-5, Psalm 36:5-10, 1 Corinthians 12:1-11, John 2:1-11

Eternal Lord, our beginning and our end: bring us with the whole creation to your glory, hidden through past ages and made known in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

3rd Sunday of Epiphany – 23rd January

Nehemiah 8:1-3.5-6,8-10, Psalm 19, 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a, Luke 4:14-21

God of all mercy, your Son proclaimed good news to the poor, release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed: anoint us with your Holy Spirit and set all your people free to praise you in Christ our Lord. Amen

Candlemas (Presentation of Christ in the Temple) – 30th January

Malachi 3:1-5, Psalm 24, Hebrews 2:14-end, Luke 2:22-40

Lord Jesus Christ, light of the nations and glory of Israel: make your home among us, and present us pure and holy to your heavenly Father, your God, and our God. Amen

Some materials in this booklet are drawn from Common Worship: Additional Collects, which is copyright © The Archbishops' Council of the Church of England 2004.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2022 18th-25th January

‘The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in 2022 has been prepared by the churches of the Middle East, the history of which was, and still is, characterised by conflict and strife, tainted with blood and darkened by injustice and oppression. The Christians of the Middle East offer these resources (see the enclosed pamphlet) conscious that the world shares many of the travails and much of the difficulties that it experiences, and yearns for a light to lead the way to the Saviour who is the light that overcomes darkness.



Original photo of Nablus (CC BY-NC-SA 2.0): Dr. Michael Loadenthal

The story of the Magi visiting the Holy Family in Bethlehem is one very familiar to us. The Magi have sometimes been seen as a symbol of the world’s diversity – different religions and cultures – that comes to pay homage to the Christ-child. The story might therefore represent the unity of all created that God desires.

Serving the Gospel today requires a commitment to the human being, especially the poorest, the weakest and those marginalised. It requires from the churches transparency and accountability in dealing with the world, and with each other. This means churches need to cooperate to provide relief to the afflicted, to welcome the displaced, to relieve the burdened, and to build a just and honest society. This is a call for churches to work together so that young people can build a good future according to God's heart, a future in which all human beings can experience life, peace, justice, and love.'

From www.ctbi.org

In the enclosed booklet you will find readings, prayers and reflection for these coming days as well as 'Go and do' suggestions provided by Christian Aid in conjunction with 'Churches Together in Britain & Ireland', 'Embrace the Middle East' and other agencies working in the land of the Holy One.

Whether you follow the booklet over the coming week or perhaps at another time I hope you will find challenge and inspiration for your own journey of faith.



churches
together

IN BRITAIN AND IRELAND

Thank you!

Once again; *many, many thanks* to those members of our congregations who have been financially supporting the work of the parish and giving regularly despite our reduced range of services and activities.

As previously mentioned our buildings continue to require maintenance and repair and rental income has been significantly reduced since March 2020. Regular committed giving is an essential part of our Christian stewardship and thanks to the government's Gift Aid scheme we can make the most of your generosity.

Thanks also to our treasurer, Brian Daniels and Gift Aid secretary, Pauline Bowdery, for all the work they do behind the scenes to maximise your giving and keep our finances on an even keel.

Don't forget that if you can't get to church you can give by direct debit or bank transfer rather than the traditional envelopes – if you want more information just ask. The Gift Aid scheme means that 'covenants' are no longer required, you may cancel your Gift Aid declaration at any time but you do not need to remember to renew it.



Thank you



We didn't have a Christingle Service this year but many thanks to those who made donations towards the work of The Children's Society at our Christmas Services and Carol singing. Over £270 was raised.



Planning ahead, supporting each other: what next?

It would be really helpful to know whether there are other ways that we can safely keep in touch with everyone although when using the buildings we do need to be aware of the organisations and groups already meeting and the cleaning protocols that need to be in place (not to mention setting up spaces, getting chairs/tables out and away, etc!) Keeping in touch is a two-way process, if you haven't heard from us then feel free to call or email.

Our Trinity Prayers was back on Zoom last week and the forthcoming CEC meeting will also be held that way. It is really difficult to make firm plans. As you may know United Players are postponing '**Babes In The Wood**', this year's pantomime, that was due for later this month - as soon as new dates are confirmed we shall let you know.

Elaine



With the current uncertainties about gathering together we shall continue to live stream a half hour service at 11.00am every Thursday morning on  YouTube



The link to the service is posted on our **Facebook** page (**Holy Trinity South Chatham**) at the beginning of the week and also included in the weekly email sent out every Saturday – if you don't currently receive the email and would like to do so please let David or Elaine know and you will be added to the list.



Don't hesitate to pick up the phone and call us:

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or visit the parish website **www.southchatham.org**

and our facebook page **Holy Trinity South Chatham** 

The Parish of Holy Trinity, South Chatham is a partnership between the Church of England and the Methodist Church, serving the communities of Blue Bell Hill, Lordswood and Walderslade.

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