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Sunday 27th February 2022 (Sunday next before Lent)

- 8.00am Holy Communion at Christ Church**
9.30am Holy Communion at St John's
11.00am Baptism of Albie White at Christ Church

Services & Meetings this week

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------|---|
| Tue 1 st | 2.15pm | Mothers' Union (Christ Church small hall) |
| Wed 2 nd | 7.00pm | Ash Wednesday Communion & imposition of ashes (St John's) |
| Thu 3 rd | 2.00pm | St John's Finance & Standing Committee (Vicarage) |

Sunday 6th March 2022 (First Sunday of Lent)

- 8.00am Holy Communion at Christ Church**
9.00am Breakfast Church at St John's (in the church hall)
11.00am Holy Communion at Christ Church

TED HARFIELD

It is with great sadness that we report that Ted Harfield, a long-standing member of St John's, died unexpectedly on Monday. Please do remember Sarah and their son Tim in your prayers.

COVID REGULATIONS

This week many of the regulations relating to Covid were revoked. However, the government is still advising 'safer behaviours'.

Revd Andy asks that we follow these guidelines for services in both of our churches:

- Consider wearing a face covering for the sake of others
- Do not attend if you feel unwell or test positive for Covid-19
- Respect those who wish to maintain social distancing (and do not assume that others are comfortable with close contact)

There are a range of different views on these issues in our congregations. Please respect those whose views differ from your own.

BREAKFAST CHURCH

Next week's service at St John's will begin with breakfast at 9.00am. The service will begin at 9.30 and the speaker will be Elizabeth Mitchell (a member of Christ Church), speaking on behalf of Tearfund, our Mission of the Month for March. Simon Mitchell will be speaking on behalf of Tearfund at the 11.00 Service at Christ Church.

UKRAINE

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York have invited us to make this Sunday a day for prayer for Ukraine, Russia and for peace. They have also supported the call from Pope Francis for a global day of prayer and fasting for peace on Ash Wednesday.

LENT COURSE: LENTWISE – Spiritual essentials for real life

This year we will be running a shared Lent Course open to all members of both of our churches (and others). We start with an **Ash Wednesday service** at St John's at 7.00pm on **2nd March** followed by 5 weekly sessions in Christ Church Hall. These sessions will be on **Tuesdays** at 2.00pm, repeated each week at 7.00pm.

You will get more out of the sessions if you have a copy of the book. Please sign up on the list at the back of either church to give us an idea who may attend, and to order a book (suggested donation £5). However, you may prefer to download the Kindle edition (*search for Lentwise Paula Gooder*).

If you have already ordered a book, please do pick it up from the back of church on Sunday.

LENT LUNCHESES

The Mothers' Union will be hosting two Lent Lunches this year, on **Saturdays 19th March and 2nd April** from 12.00 till 1.00pm in Christ Church Hall. All are welcome. Additionally Sheila Gill will be hosting Lent Lunches in her home on **Saturdays 12th March, 26th March and 9th April** at 12.30pm. Places at these are limited and will need to be booked with Sheila in person or by phone on 07511 032140. The lunches will raise funds for Tear Fund and MU family holidays.

WEBMASTER

Could you be our next webmaster? Would you like to learn a new skill? Matt Doe has done a wonderful job in this capacity for the last eight years at Christ Church and, more recently, at St John's, but it is now time for someone else to take over. Full training and ongoing support will be provided by the diocese. Websites are updated using a really user-friendly interface, so basic IT skills only are needed. Speak to Matt or Revd Andy if you would like to know more.

| CONTACTS | | |
|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Vicar | Revd Andy Wilson (day off Monday) vicar@christchurchportsdown.org purbrookvicar@gmail.com | |
| Curate | Revd Matt Grove (day off Saturday) matt.grove@christchurchportsdown.org | |
| Churchwarden CCP | Stephen Anderson stephen.anderson@christchurchportsdown.org | |
| Churchwarden CCP | Karina Golledge thegolledges@btinternet.com | |
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| Website | Matt Doe webmaster@christchurchportsdown.org | |

Sunday 27 February 2022

Sunday next before Lent

Collect

Almighty Father,
whose Son was revealed in majesty
before he suffered death upon the cross:
give us grace to perceive his glory,
that we may be strengthened to suffer with him
and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Exodus 34.29–35

²⁹ Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. ³⁰ When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹ But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. ³² Afterwards all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. ³³ When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; ³⁴ but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, ³⁵ the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 99

- 1 The Lord is king: let the peoples tremble;
he is enthroned above the cherubim: let the earth shake.
- 2 The Lord is great in Zion and high above all peoples.
- 3 Let them praise your name, which is great and awesome;
the Lord our God is holy.
- 4 Mighty king, who loves justice, you have established equity;
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.
- 5 Exalt the Lord our God; bow down before his footstool, for he is holy.
- 6 Moses and Aaron among his priests
and Samuel among those who call upon his name;
they called upon the Lord and he answered them.
- 7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud;
they kept his testimonies and the law that he gave them.
- 8 You answered them, O Lord our God;
you were a God who forgave them
and pardoned them for their offences.
- 9 Exalt the Lord our God
and worship him upon his holy hill,
for the Lord our God is holy.

2 Corinthians 3.12–4.2

¹² Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, ¹³ not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. ¹⁴ But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. ¹⁵ Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; ¹⁶ but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed.

¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

¹⁸ And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

⁴¹ Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ² We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practise cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Luke 9.28–36

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁸ Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹ And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³⁰ Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. ³¹ They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³² Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. ³³ Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah'—not knowing what he said. ³⁴ While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. ³⁵ Then from the cloud came a voice that said, 'This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!' ³⁶ When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Post Communion

Holy God,

we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ:

may we who are partakers at his table

reflect his life in word and deed,

that all the world may know his power to change and save.

This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.