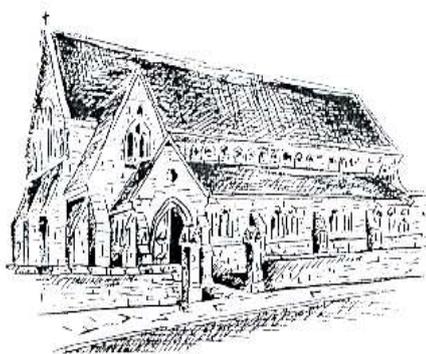


Christ Church, Gosport

All-Age Communion for Advent

Sunday 17th December 2017

Welcome to Christ Church!



www.christchurchgosport.co.uk

Main Service on Sunday: **9.30am Parish Communion**

.....Except on every third Sunday (LIKE TODAY!):

10.00am All-Age Communion

Quiet Communion: 8.00am on Sundays; and 10.00am on Wednesdays
(Healing prayer is offered at services on 1st Sundays and 1st Wednesdays)

***Information about services and events coming up,
can be found at the back of this booklet!***

Vicar

The Revd Andy Davis, 9 Britannia Way, Gosport, PO12 4FZ.

023 9258 0173 / 07709 919602 email: fr.andydavis@gmail.com

Please feel free to contact Andy for any information about this church, or if you would like to talk about anything. He is not around for one day a week – usually Monday.

Deanery Priest (Part-time) The Revd Pete Lambert

07926 382725 revdpjl@btinternet.com

Churchwardens Eric Baker: 023 9235 2436 Adrian Groves: 023 92 586168

(Deputy Warden as needed: Bob Harrop)

If you have ever received Communion in ANY Christian church, you are welcome to do so here. If you have never received Communion before, but have been baptised/ christened, than you can also receive Communion – this includes children, if those responsible for them are happy for them to. (Ask the priest if you have any questions). If you are not receiving Communion, but would like a blessing, please hold this service booklet in your hands.

Welcome

Celebrations

“Shaker Song”

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord,
he is trampling out the vintage
where the grapes of wrath are stored.

he has loosed the fateful lightning
of his terrible swift sword.

His truth is marching on.

Glory, Glory halleluia ! Glory, Glory halleluia !

Glory, Glory halleluia ! His truth is marching on.

I have seen him in the watchfires of a hundred circling camps.
They have gilded him an altar in the evening dews and damps.
I can read his righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps.
His day is marching on.

He has sounded forth the trumpet
that shall never sound retreat.

He is sifting out the hearts of men
before his judgement seat.

O, be swift my soul to answer him, be jubilant my feet !

Our God is marching on.

The Lighting of the Third Advent Candle

The Third Advent Candle is pink, to remind us that joyful hope is part of the spirit of Advent!

God our Father,
you gave to Zechariah and Elisabeth in their old age
a son called John.

He grew up strong in spirit,
prepared the people for the coming of the Lord,
and baptized them in the Jordan to wash away their sins.
Help us, who have been baptized into Christ,
to be ready to welcome him into our hearts,
and to grow strong in faith by the power of the Spirit.

We ask this through Jesus Christ,
the light who is coming into the world.

Amen.

**Lord Jesus, light of the world,
John told the people to prepare,
for you were very near.**

**As Christmas grows closer day by day,
help us to be ready to welcome you now.**

Amen.

Gospel Reading

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark
Glory be to you, O Lord *(Mark 1)*

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,
'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,

who will prepare your way;
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
“Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight”

Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Talk

Let us declare our faith in the resurrection
of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures;
he was buried; he was raised to life
on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures;
afterwards he appeared to his followers,
and to all the apostles:
this we have received, and this we believe. Amen**

Simple Prayers

Hymn (during which the collection is taken
and the Altar prepared)

O come, O come, Emmanuel!

Redeem thy captive Israel,
that into exile drear is gone,
far from the face of God's dear Son.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, thou dayspring bright!

Pour on our souls thy healing light;
dispel the long night's lingering gloom,
and pierce the shadows of the tomb.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...

O come, thou Lord of David's key!

The royal door fling wide and free;
safeguard for us the heavenward road,
and bar the way to death's abode.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...

O come, O come, Adonai,

who in thy glorious majesty
from that high mountain clothed with awe,
gavest thy folk the elder law.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...

The bread and wine being presented today has been sponsored by
Pat Hewitt in loving memory of **her mother, Nancy Salter;**
Joyce and Rob for **peace to everyone;**
The Revd Alan Ball in loving memory of **Joan.**

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

Question *All* **Why is it right to give thanks and praise?**

Answer Listen, and we will hear.

Lord of all life, you created the universe, where all living things reflect your glory. You give us this great and beautiful earth, to discover and to cherish. You give us friends and families busy streets for young and old, the life of an earthly city fulfilled in your city to come. You give us your love, even when things go wrong. Jesus knew hurt and pain. Through him you wipe away our tears, and fill us with your peace. You give us happy times and things to celebrate. In these we taste your kingdom, a feast for all your children. You made us all, each wonderfully different, to join with the angels and sing your praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

We thank you, loving Father, because, when we turned away, you sent Jesus, your Son. He gave his life for us on the cross and shows us the way to live. Send your Holy Spirit that these gifts of bread and wine may be for us Christ's body and his blood.

Question *All* **Why do we share this bread and wine?**

Answer Listen, and we will hear.

On the night before he died, when darkness had fallen, Jesus took bread. He gave thanks, broke it, and shared it with his disciples, saying:

'This is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me.'

After they had eaten, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and shared it with his disciples, saying:

'This is my blood, poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins.'

So Father, with this bread and this cup we celebrate his love, his death, his risen life. As you feed us with these gifts, send your Holy Spirit, and change us more and more to be like Jesus our Saviour.

Question *All* **Why do we share this bread and wine?**

Answer Listen, and we will hear.

Help us, Father, to love one another, as we look forward to that day when suffering is ended, and all creation is gathered in your loving arms. And now with all your saints we give you glory, through Jesus Christ, in the strength of the Spirit, today and for ever. **Amen.**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

ur Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against

us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

Giving of Communion

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, his blood which he shed for you, and his Blessing which is his holy gift. Eat, drink and rejoice in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

(We share Communion)

If you have ever received Communion in ANY Christian church, you are welcome to do so here. If you have never received Communion before, but have been baptised/ christened, than you can also receive Communion – this includes children, if those responsible for them are happy for them to. (Ask the priest if you have any questions). If you are not receiving Communion, but would like a blessing, please hold this service booklet in your hands.

Prayer after Communion

Lord we have broken your bread and received your life. By the power of your Spirit keep us always in your love Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Notices

Hymn

God is working his purpose out
as year succeeds to year,
God is working his purpose out
and the time is drawing near;
nearer and nearer draws the time,
the time that shall surely be,
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea.

From utmost east to utmost west
where'er man's foot hath trod,
by the mouth of many messengers
goes forth the voice of God,
'Give ear to me, ye continents,
ye isles, give ear to me,
that the earth may be filled with the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea.'

All we can do is nothing worth
unless God blesses the deed;
vainly we hope for the harvest-tide
till God gives life to the seed;
yet nearer and nearer draws the time,
the time that shall surely be,
when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God
as the waters cover the sea.

Blessing

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you
And also with you.

The Next All-Age Communion is: **Sunday 21st January at 10.00am**

*Do stay on after the main service for **refreshments and chat – at the back of the church every Sunday** and do join in the **CAKE RAFFLE**: We use this to raise money for charitable causes, and for specific church initiatives!*

*If you would like something to go into the notices, please speak to...or email.....or telephone The Vicar, Andy **by 12noon on Thursday**. Contact details are on the front cover!*

TODAY

Christ Church, 8.00am Holy Communion

Christ Church, 10.00am All-Age Communion

Holy Trinity, 11.00am Parish Mass

Holy Trinity, 6.00pm Mayor's Carols

THIS WEEK

Monday December 18:

Holy Trinity, 1.00pm to 1.30pm Organ Recital: Nigel Morris

Christ Church, 6.00pm Choir Practice

Tuesday December 19: Holy Trinity, 9.30am Mass
Holy Trinity, 1.30pm Haselworth School Christingle Service
Christ Church, 2.00pm Mother's Union

Wednesday December 20: Christ Church, 10.00am Holy Communion
Christ Church, 11.00am Holy Communion at Hazeldene Nursing Home
Holy Trinity, 1.30pm Church Cleaning
Holy Trinity, 6.30pm Mass

Thursday December 21: Christ Church, 1.30pm, Newtown School Christmas Service

Friday December 22: Holy Trinity, 1.30pm Church Cleaning
Holy Trinity, 5.00pm Mass

NEXT SUNDAY: December 24th

[Morning: 4th Sunday of Advent]

Christ Church, 8.00am Holy Communion

Christ Church, 9.30am Parish Communion

.....with commemoration of Fred's 100th Birthday – see notices!

Holy Trinity, 11.00am Parish Mass

[Evening: Christmas Eve]

6.30pm Christ Church "Candlelight" Service

11.30pm Midnight Mass at Christ Church

11.30pm Midnight Mass at Holy Trinity

Christmas Day, December 25

8.00am Holy Communion at Christ Church

10.00am Mass at Holy Trinity

11.00am Informal Carol Service at Christ Church

Calendar

Sunday December 31: Christ Church, 8.00am Holy Communion
Christ Church, 9.30am Poetry, Carols and Simple Communion
Holy Trinity, 11.00am Parish Mass

Tuesday January 2: Holy Trinity, 9.30am Mass

Wednesday January 3:

Christ Church, 10.00am Holy Communion **(with Healing Prayer)**

Holy Trinity, 1.30pm Church Cleaning

Holy Trinity, 6.30pm Mass

Friday January 5: Holy Trinity, 1.30pm Church Cleaning

Holy Trinity, 5.00pm Mass

Saturday January 6: Payment date for Lewis and Downie (HT)

Christ Church, 12.30pm Baptism (Fryer)

Sunday January 7: EPIPHANY

Christ Church, 8.00am Holy Communion **(with Healing Prayer)**

Christ Church, 9.30am Parish Communion **(with Healing Prayer)**

Holy Trinity, 11.00am Parish Mass

Holy Trinity, 3.30pm, Tea-Time Concert

Holy Trinity, 6.00pm Vespers and Benediction

Monday January 8: Christ Church, 6.00pm Choir Practice

Tuesday January 9: Holy Trinity, 9.30am Mass

Wednesday January 10: Christ Church, 10.00am Holy Communion

Holy Trinity, 1.30pm Church Cleaning

Holy Trinity, 6.30pm Mass

Thursday January 11: Christ Church, 7.00pm, Ladies' Group

Friday January 12: Holy Trinity, 1.30pm Church Cleaning

Holy Trinity, 5.00pm Mass

Saturday January 13: Christ Church, 10.00am Church Cleaning

Sunday January 14: Christ Church, 8.00am Holy Communion

Christ Church, 9.30am Parish Communion [with Commissioning of our new M.U. Branch]

Holy Trinity, 11.00am Parish Mass

Holy Trinity, 6.00pm Vespers and Benediction

Monday January 15: Holy Trinity, 1.00pm to 1.30pm Organ Recital

Christ Church, 6.00pm Choir Practice

Tuesday January 16: Holy Trinity, 9.30am Mass

7.00pm Mother's Union

Wednesday January 17: Christ Church, 10.00am Holy Communion

Holy Trinity, 1.30pm Church Cleaning

Holy Trinity, 6.30pm Mass

Friday January 19: Holy Trinity, 1.30pm Church Cleaning

Holy Trinity, 5.00pm Mass

Saturday January 20: Holy Trinity, 10.30am to 3.30pm Franciscan Formation Day

Sunday January 21: Christ Church, 8.00am Holy Communion

Christ Church, 10.00am All-Age Communion

Holy Trinity, 11.00am Parish Mass

Holy Trinity, 6.00pm Vespers and Benediction

Christ Church, 6.30pm "Churches Together" Service for "The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity"

Monday January 22: Christ Church, 6.00pm Choir Practice

Tuesday January 23: Holy Trinity, 9.30am Mass

Wednesday January 24: Christ Church, 10.00am Holy Communion

Holy Trinity, 1.30pm Church Cleaning

Holy Trinity, 6.30pm Mass

Holy Trinity, 7.00pm P.C.C.

Friday January 26: Holy Trinity, 1.30pm Church Cleaning

Holy Trinity, 5.00pm Mass

Saturday January 27: Holy Trinity, 3.00pm Wedding (Lewis and Downie)

Holy Trinity, evening, Capper Room booked by Douglas

Sunday January 28: CANDLEMAS

Christ Church, 8.00am Holy Communion **(1662)**

9.30 am Christ Church and Holy Trinity JOINT Service at Christ Church.

(no 11.00am at Holy Trinity)

Holy Trinity, 6.00pm Vespers and Benediction

Monday January 29: Christ Church, 6.00pm Choir Practice

Tuesday January 30: Holy Trinity, 9.30am Mass

Christ Church Centre, 11.30 to 2.30 "Last Tuesday Lunch Club"

Christ Church, 7.30pm P.C.C.

Wednesday January 31: Christ Church, 10.00am Holy Communion

Holy Trinity, 1.30pm Church Cleaning

Holy Trinity, 6.30pm Mass

Friday February 2: Holy Trinity, 1.30pm Church Cleaning

Holy Trinity, 5.00pm Mass

Sunday February 4: Christ Church, 8.00am Holy Communion **(with Healing Prayer)**

Christ Church, 9.30am Parish Communion **(with Healing Prayer)**

Holy Trinity, 11.00am Parish Mass

Holy Trinity, 3.30pm, Tea-Time Concert

Holy Trinity, 6.00pm Vespers and Benediction

Monday February 5: Christ Church, 6.00pm Choir Practice

Tuesday February 6: Holy Trinity, 9.30am Mass

Wednesday February 7: Christ Church, 10.00am Holy Communion **(with Healing Prayer)**

Holy Trinity, 1.30pm Church Cleaning

Holy Trinity, 6.30pm Mass

Thursday February 8: Christ Church, 7.00pm, Ladies' Group

Friday February 9: Holy Trinity, 1.30pm Church Cleaning

Holy Trinity, 5.00pm Mass

Saturday February 10: Christ Church, 10.00am Church Cleaning

Sunday February 11: Christ Church, 8.00am Holy Communion

Christ Church, 9.30am Parish Communion

Holy Trinity, 11.00am Parish Mass

Holy Trinity, 6.00pm Vespers and Benediction

Monday February 12: Christ Church, 6.00pm Choir Practice

Shrove Tuesday February 13: Holy Trinity, 9.30am Mass

Holy Trinity, 6.00pm Pancake Party

Christ Church, 7.00pm Pancake Party

Wednesday February 14: Ash Wednesday

Christ Church, 10.00am Holy Communion **(with Ashing)**

Holy Trinity, 1.30pm Church Cleaning

6.30pm Holy Trinity **(with Ashing)**

8.00pm Christ Church **(with Ashing)**

Friday February 16: Holy Trinity, 1.30pm Church Cleaning

Holy Trinity, 5.00pm Mass

Saturday February 17: Holy Trinity, Franciscans Day

There is an online Calendar (which you could save as a bookmark or favourite). Just go to our church's website!

Nativity Play: If you know any children who might like a part in the nativity play at the Candlelight Service on Christmas Eve at 6.30pm, please let the Vicar know!or just stay on after the service today, for a rehearsal!

NEXT SUNDAY!! Fred Mayhead – 100 years young! As many of you already know, Christmas Eve is our dear Fred's 100th Birthday. Please join us after the 9.30 service NEXT SUNDAY to celebrate with cake and a glass of bubbly. Fred will celebrate with his family and friends at Homefort House on the 17th December. Fred does not want any presents, but has asked that if you wish to donate to the Church Floor Fund he will be very grateful.

Please place any donations in an envelope with "FRED" on the front and your name on the reverse and give to Kathy Ford who will collate and give the total to Andy to present. Thank you!

Christmas Fair: We had a fantastic Joint Christmas Fair, with many people from both churches working together, and lots of visitors to the event. We raised a magnificent £3,000.00! Well done everyone! The organising committee (four people from each church) decided that for the first two fairs (the summer one and this Christmas one) we would give two-thirds of the takings to the host church and one third to the other (believing that the host church would have to do the most work initially, and that cooperation would grow through further fairs). But both churches have straight away worked really well together. So, from summer 2018 it will be a 50/50 split!

We stuck to the original decision (because it had been publicised) but the Vicar and churchwardens decided – after both Fairs - that the non-hosting church should receive more than a third. For the Christmas Fair, Christ Church has received £1,700.00 and Holy Trinity £1,300.00! Over all, the takings were just short of £6,000.00 for the first two fairs, and each church has received just short of £3,000.00 each!

We would value any feed-back on the Christmas Fair, and those on email will have received an email about all this already which mentions some of the issues already flagged up. If you are not on email, do give any feedback to the Vicar – verbally or on paper!

Many thanks again.....and let's build for the future, on the success of the first two!

Christmas Gifts, through Social Services: Thanks again for your wonderful generosity! We raised a total of £616.00 from our two churches, which bought nineteen special presents for children, and eight gift bags for families. Thank you so much.....

Christingle: £256.00 was raised for the Children's Society – many thanks to all who contributed!

Carol Fest: Church displays inspired by Christmas Carols! On show for the third time next Saturday, 16th December from 10.00am to 2.30pm.

Mags Mayhead welcomes you to come and enjoy a cosy Christmas Coffee

Morning/Bring and Buy: on Saturday December 16th between 10am and 12pm at 36 Grove Avenue. This is the 23rd year, last year raised £450, thank you so much. More importantly it signals the beginning of Christmas for many with the decorated tree and log fire. All monies raised are divided between Harbour Cancer Centre and Bowel Cancer Uk. Do come and share a lovely, friendly atmosphere.

Prayer List: Praying for people by name during our services is important and special. But to save the list getting longer and longer, please let us know if a name can be removed.....

Churches Together Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity:

Our parishes are honoured to be hosting this service for the other churches in Gosport and Lee, and it is hoped that people from both our congregations will come along and support it: Sunday 21st January 2018, 6.30pm at Christ Church.

"Heart for the Homeless": We have been kindly donated about 30 rucksacks, full of gloves, socks, hats etc. But we are short of small pots of Vaseline, or lipsyl; small pots of Vick (sore throats colds etc.); torches; thermal underwear; more warm jackets for ladies; warm sleeping bags.....

We at Heart for the Homeless really appreciate your kind and generous donation that enables us to offer this service to all our guests. **"Heart for the Homeless"** is a "Churches Together in Gosport" (CTiG) project, which is actively supported by members of Christ Church and Holy Trinity. There is a free lunch in Christ Church Centre: 1.00pm to 3.00pm every 4th Sunday. Please spread the word about the lunch....

Ben's Milk Bottle Top Collection: "As many of you know our fantastic son Ben has Autism. We're involved with a local charity called Marvels and Meltdowns, who support families who have children with Autism and/or ADHD. We're collecting milk bottle tops to raise money and we need your help. If you could collect your bottle tops, there's a box at the back of the church. Thanks so much." (Sam Beggs).

Collections at 10.00am Communion on Wednesdays: There will now be a collection plate put out at this service each week, so people have the opportunity to give if they wish (including for visitors, or those who don't go on Sundays).

The New Christ Church and Holy Trinity Mothers' Union: We are restarting a branch of the Mother's Union, an organisation that does extraordinary Christian work across the world. You don't have to be a mother; you don't even have to be female (the Vicar is a member!). The meeting dates for the coming year are all on Tuesdays, alternating between 7.00pm and 2.00pm: **December 19:** 2.00pm; **January 16:** 7.00pm; **February 20:** 2.00pm; **March 20:** 7.00pm; **April 17:** 2.00pm; **May 15:** 7.00pm; **June 19:** 2.00pm; **July 17:** 7.00pm; **August 21:** 2.00pm; **September 18:** 7.00pm; **October 16:** 2.00pm; **November 20:** 7.00pm; **December 18:** 2.00pm.

Sponsoring the bread and wine on a Sunday: If a particular Sunday in the year falls on or near a significant date (perhaps the anniversary of a loved one's death; a birthday, an anniversary, etc) you can fill in the details on the list in church, and please put £5.00 into the collection. Your name(s), and the dedication (s) will appear in the service booklet for that week. **SEE LIST AT THE BACK OF CHURCH....**

Church Up-Keep and Cleaning: If you are willing to do gardening, tidying, cleaning, minor odd jobs, repairs etc, Adrian Groves would be pleased to hear from you: **akgroves@btinternet.com** or **023 92 586168**. In particular, please help keep our church looking clean on the **second** Saturday of the month. We start at 10am. **Even if you can only spare half an hour, every little helps.**

Donations to Food Banks: Thanks to Adrian Groves there is a large plastic box at the back of church for donations of non-perishable foods, also toiletries and cosmetics for local food banks, which are overwhelmed by demand at present.

Used Ink Cartridges: Do put your used printer ink cartridges in the box at the back of church.....they do raise some money for our church!

Support for Sea-farers: Would you be willing to knit some balaclavas, gloves, mitts for sea-farers? See Kath Ford (our organist) for details, and for a pattern.

Our Memorial Book: There is a fee of £10.00 per name, to add a departed loved one to the book....to cover the inscribing and a donation to church funds. **Forms are available in church.**