

CHRIST CHURCH PURLEY

News

MAKING PASSIONATE DISCIPLES FOR CHRIST

"God is in the salvation business, and so are we" (APCM May 2025)

¹⁴ *For we are all **partners with Christ** if we hold firmly to the end the confidence we had at the beginning. (Hebrews 3:14)*

Welcome to this week's edition of Christ Church News

Sunday 1 st June		
	8.45am	Traditional (Holy Communion with hymns) 2 Chronicles 14:1-15
	9.30-10.15am	Coffee
	10.15am	Worship for Everyone: Pentecost
		Coffee
	11.45am	Third service
Monday	9am	Foyer open
	9.15am	Morning Bible study
Tue	9am	Foyer open
	9.15am	Morning Bible study
	9.30am	Carousel Baby and Toddler group
	7pm	Youth
Wed	9am	Foyer open
	9.15am	Morning Bible study
	2.30pm	Midweek Fellowship
		Pastoral training taster session

Thu	9am	Foyer open
Fri	9am 9.30am 12noon	Foyer open Mother's Union craft & chat table Firelighters prayer gathering
Sunday 8 th June		Romans: Love Romans 12:9-21
	8.45am	Traditional (Holy Communion with hymns)
	9.30-10.15am	Coffee
	10.15am	Worship service with Communion
		Coffee
	11.45am	Third service

You can join the Christ Church Sunday Morning service online



This link will only work on this Sunday for the 10.15am Worship service and will return after a gap for the 11.45am service.

Find the link on our worship tab.



Baptism



Confirmation

Are you interested in considering?

- Publicly Affirming your faith
- Being Baptised,
- Starting to receive Holy Communion as a young person
- Being Confirmed

Please speak to Doug, Jude or Charlotte if this is something you are considering or complete the relevant online form via the website links.



ROAD OF THE WEEK

We are inviting you to pray for our parish road by road throughout the year. This week we are praying in particular for **Lexington Court** and all who dwell, work or travel there.



"Who is this Jesus?"

If someone walked into Christ Church and asked this question what would you say?

Want to know more, to advance the kingdom?

Speak to Doug, he would love to hear from you.



EVANGELISM TASK FORCE

**Inspired by Holy Week?
Fired up to share the Gospel?**

Let Doug know.

We would love to have new people join the next meeting to plan the next steps in the Evangelism strategy.

PS Purley Baptist Church have invited us to join them in a monthly outreach into the streets of Purley having conversations with those we meet.

NEXT OUTING: SATURDAY 31st MAY – 12.30pm at Purley Baptist Church

Interested? – contact Doug for details.



**Sign up online to find out more
with this QR code or link**

<https://christpurley.churchsuite.com/-/forms/srnr9ll8>



OPPORTUNITIES to #SERVE

YOUTH TEAM

We have a large number of young people coming on Tuesday nights many of whom who are seeking faith.

Discussions run more meaningfully the more adults there are to enable them because the groups are smaller.

Come and facilitate a discussion – not a teacher but a catalyst for Holy fire!

Contact Charlotte to find out more.

FOYER TEAM

Servers and listeners needed to maintain our fantastic term time café.

Contact Lynn to find out more about serving.

Contact Doug to find out more about being a listener.

LEADING SERVICES

The 10.15am service should be a lay led service!

This involves:

Welcome prayer

Notices (from script)

Confession

Introduce other members (eg preacher, intercessor, reader)

Closing blessing

All in your own inimitable and prayerful style!

Contact Doug if you think you might be able to do this occasionally.

Wednesday 4th June (evening option – PASTORAL TRAINING TASTER SESSION – the first of the next cohort of pastoral training along with other local churches – if you might be interested speak to Doug or Jenny Hird



SUNDAY TOILET FACILITIES:

The toilets on the **back corridor are for unaccompanied children** and youth only at all times (on Sundays).

The main block of toilets is for **adults only or parents who need to accompany their child.**

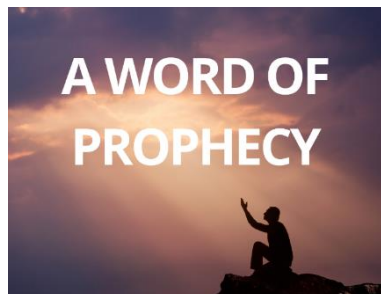
There will be signs on the toilet to remind everyone.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **Sunday 1st June Worship for Everyone**
- **Monday 2nd June – Foyer reopens at 9am**
- **Wednesday 4th June – Midweek Fellowship**
- **Wednesday 4th June (evening) – Pastoral training starts (fortnightly)**
 - **Wednesday 18th June – Midweek Communion**
 - **Monday 30th June Bereavement Support group**
 - **Sunday 6th July – Worship for Everyone**
 - **Sunday 20th July – Mission Partner Sunday**

The Mothers Union craft and chat table will now only take place on the 2nd and 4th week of the month during term time in the foyer cafe and will operate from 10.00-11.30am. All are welcome to come along, and feel free to bring along your current craft project or find another one to try!



A picture of a hen sitting on some eggs.

God may be saying 'I am that hen; the eggs are my possibilities for sharing the Gospel and you are all My messengers. The eggs will hatch and provide other means to share the Gospel. Eventually these chicks will become hens and so the process of sharing the Truth of My Son will expand and expand. I long for you all to be excited about the prospects of My Good News being shared with the communities with whom I have given you contacts. So be full of joy - and if life is hard at the moment ask for My grace to rejoice in how others sharing and being encouraged by that'

WOULD THAT ALL WERE PROPHETS...Moses (Numbers 11:29):

The one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort.'
1 Corinthians 14:1&3.

Got a picture or verse for Christ Church? Offer it to the service leader....



LOSING MY RELIGION...

Do you ever get an ear worm?

A song that sticks in your mind and you can't help hearing it or humming it occasionally. Or in my case finding the chords* and playing it on the guitar!

For me recently it was *Losing my religion* by R.E.M. It's from their *Out of Time* album from 1991. I was teaching regularly in Scotland at the time and so I listened to it on plane journeys on my personal tape player (remember them?) and it became well known to me. It was the most successful track from the album and possibly from the R.E.M catalogue.

It worried me a little that this should start rattling around my mind (and you, dear reader might by now be similarly concerned!) So, I started to look at the lyrics to make sense of whether this was just one of those things or if there was a message in this new obsession.

It goes like this:

*Oh life is bigger
It's bigger than you*

*And you are not me
The lengths that I will go to
The distance in your eyes
Oh no I've said too much
I set it up*

Obviously, this is about someone struggling with the big questions of life, probably a person of faith, but struggling to make sense of the life that is "bigger". And feeling that any "God" might be distant. Then guilt sets in about even voicing these heretical thoughts.

*That's me in the corner
That's me in the spot-light
Losing my religion
Trying to keep up with you
And I don't know if I can do it
Oh no I've said too much
I haven't said enough*

This person feels exposed, "in a spotlight", and whatever faith they have, their "religion", is slowly ebbing away. The demands are too much, "trying to keep up", and still the guilt at having these ideas haunts this person.

*I thought that I heard you laughing
I thought that I heard you sing
I think I thought I saw you try*

He is grasping for a positive sign but can see none.

*Every whisper, of every waking hour
I'm choosing my confessions
Trying to keep an eye on you
Like a hurt, lost and blinded fool, fool
Oh no I've said too much
I set it up*

Even confession is beyond him and he feels foolish even believing in the first place.

*Consider this
Consider this the hint of the century
Consider this the slip
That brought me to my knees, failed
What if all these fantasies come
Flailing around
Now I've said too much....*

And now he fears that it was all made up and he is lost his belief completely.

*....But that was just a dream
Try, cry, fly, try
That was just a dream
Just a dream
Just a dream, dream*

The song closes with a conclusion – it was all a dream and not real. Job done. It's over.

A quick diversion before we go any further.

Communication has many stages and any one of them can become faulty leading to miscommunication.

SENDER

A thought

A medium for transferring the thought (eg written, spoken, a picture)

Conversion of the thought into the medium **(coding)**

Transfer of the thought via the medium

RECEIPIENT

Receipt of the medium (eg hear, see)

Translate the message from the medium

Receive the thought and process its meaning **(decoding)**

Any one of these stages can become faulty and lead to miscommunication. Faulty coding by the sender or faulty decoding by the recipient can lead to the original thought not being what is received by the recipient. Different understandings, "noise" that distorts the message, poor coding in the first place. All can mean that good communication breaks down.

That's why feedback is so important.

(eg when you said that what I heard was.....)

Back to R.E.M.....

Everything I wrote above is nonsense based on a false premise!

The song has, contrary to 34 years of presumptions on my part, nothing to do with religion or spirituality or faith. To "lose one's religion" is a southern American idiom that means to "lose one's temper through frustration". The song is actually about someone at a party working through an unrequited and yet obsessive love for another person. The lyric "in the spotlight" was originally meant to be "in the kitchen", referring to a young man who found it difficult to express his own longings for someone who would not reciprocate the same feelings.

My decoding was faulty because what was coded by Michael Stipe and others 30+ years ago meant something completely different to them than to me!

Much of the life of a pastor is communication.

I write (like here). I speak. I have body language (that bit we often cannot help). I probably send out unconscious messages as well (we all do!)

Please may I encourage you to do feedback.

If something jars with you, with what I have said or written, or if it is what someone else has communicated, seek clarification. Do not presume that something out of character is a change of position or a slight.

Check it out.

We all need to check our own presumptions and prejudices when interpreting the messages, we receive from others a well.

We also need to be careful with the coding we do when transmitting messages.

We, all of us, **WILL** get it wrong sometimes.

Be patient, be forgiving, be clear.

It's the enemy's playground.

"Did God really say?" (Gen 3:1) => WHAT(!) did "they" say....?

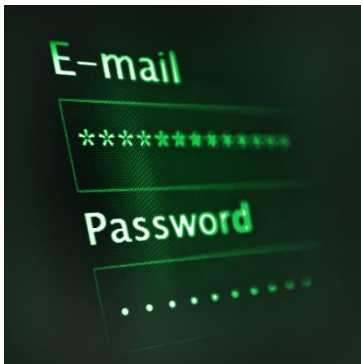
Every blessing

Doug

vicar@christchurchpurley.org.uk

* *Am, Em, Dm, G* if you are interested!

Keeping safe online



A friend of mine was recently hacked and an email was sent to me and many of her contacts. The first email seemed quite normal but the next asked for a voucher to be purchased for her. So, I contacted my friend by another way and she confirmed it was not her. If this happens to you take time to think before you respond – is this a normal request for this person? Please do speak to the person or use some other way of contacting them rather than through the same method as the suspicious message arrived.

JL

Some helpful advice on internet password safety from Hubb.church who host our website which I thought was worth sharing with everyone.

"Regularly resetting passwords

We strongly advise everyone to update their passwords regularly, not just their Hubb passwords, but all their passwords for their online services.

Even if you haven't been hacked, companies you use might have been. If your password is leaked and you don't change it, hackers can log into your account or try that password on other websites.

By changing your passwords on sites you use, you protect yourself.



Action: Why not update your most-used passwords and set a reminder every 3 months to update some others

Having more secure passwords

We are sure you will have strong passwords, but this is a good time to remind you to keep them strong. Weak passwords are easier to guess.

Tip - If your favourite password is 'cambridge' **Don't** just capitalise the first letter, then use the number 1 at the end of a password and then add an exclamation mark.

This is no way to outfox hackers.

I'm not saying this is the most secure, but you could try something like this for your Facebook login - **camBridgeFB7"** and for Amazon - **camBridgeAM7"**. You can see I have placed the letters from the service in the password. Again, I'm not saying this is the most secure, but I hope you can see it's helpful to have different passwords for different services that cannot be easily guessed.

Changing the capitalised letter and the number every six or twelve months would be an excellent discipline. I know it takes time, but it's time well spent in today's world.

Multi-Factor Authentication



We strongly recommend exploring and enabling our multi-factor authentication feature for enhanced security when logging in to the web office.

Users frequently reuse passwords, which means that if one site is compromised and passwords are stolen, the hacker has access to numerous other sites where the same password was used.

Multi-factor authentication significantly reduces the risks associated with this because, when logging in, we check something you know (a password) and something you have (a device).

A hacker may have your password, but they cannot log in without being able to enter the 6-digit code generated by your smartphone or another device."

If you have any questions or concerns please speak to a family member, trusted friend or Doug or Jean.

Family News

Please note that if you want to share family news, change of circumstances etc, good news or sad, please contact office@christchurchpurley.org.uk and we will try to include it under this section – Christ Church Family News.

Continuing News



Midweek Fellowship

We have a large, lively and friendly group of seniors meeting on the first Wednesday of each month at 2.30pm.

Wednesday June 4th: Croydon Animal Samaritans by Rachel Parsons

Have you completed online safeguarding training?

If the answer is Yes

Please can you make sure that you link your safeguarding training record so that we can see when you are due for renewals.



You can do this by following the instructions below:

- Log into the Training Portal at <https://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org/>
- Click on your name in the top right-hand corner
- Choose *edit profile*
- Scroll down to the bottom of your profile and paste the e-mail address - safeguarding@christchurchpurley.org.uk - into the *Local reporting...* field.

(Please note, that in order to work, a single, correct e-mail address needs to be entered - please double check that you haven't accidentally copied a space before or after the address.)

- Click the *Update my profile* button

Alternatively you can ask the team at CofE Safeguarding - e-Learning Support to do this for you by sending an email into them directly
their email address is: elarning@mail.safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org

Or you can ask Jean or Charlotte for help in doing this.

Thank you to the 45 people who have already linked their account to safeguarding@christchurchpurley.org.uk



Save The Date: BISHOP LUCY and RUSH

19th July 2025 from 3 - 5 pm at Christ Church, Purley. Come and enjoy an afternoon of games, music, tea and cakes with Bishop Lucy and Andrew. Fundraising for Bishop Lucy, Rush, Kenya

Firelighters prayer meetings (meet, and wait on the Lord)

Friday 6th June 12 noon

Monday 9th June 12 noon

Tuesday 17th June 7.30pm

Wednesday 25th June 12 noon

Thursday 3rd July 7.30pm

Friday 11th July 12 noon

Monday 14th July 12 noon

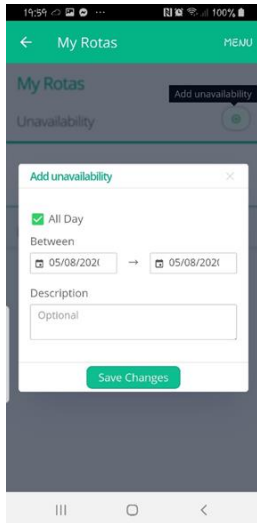
Tuesday 22nd July 7.30pm



Are you on a Church Rota?



In ChurchSuite the My Rotas section helpfully shows you when you are Next Serving and it is also the place for you to add your unavailability.

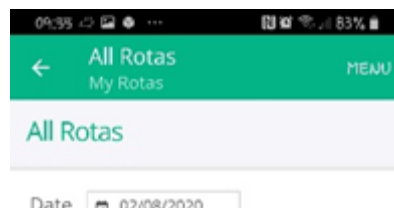
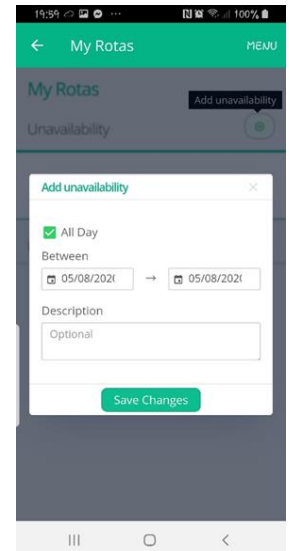


Rota members can add unavailability for themselves and also for any linked family members.

It is really helpful if you can add your unavailability as soon as you know it so that I can avoid adding you to the rota for that date.

This will only show up for me when I add future dates to the rota and not if unavailability is added after the rota is created.

You will also be able to see the All Rotas page; which shows all rotas for a given date.



If a person's name appears in **red and crossed out it means they are not available on that particular date.**

If this is you please can you arrange a swap and make the change on ChurchSuite or let me know.

[Click here to let me know if you have any other questions](#)

Safeguarding Principles

The parish of Christ Church Purley takes the safeguarding and care of children and vulnerable adults very seriously.

SAFEGUARDING AT CHRIST CHURCH

A reminder of the Safeguarding Principles we introduced in 2023:

SAFEGUARDING PRINCIPLES



Safeguarding principles

Everyone protects boundaries and vulnerabilities by reporting.

- 1. EVERYONE:** Everyone is the eyes, ears and heart of a safe **church**
- 2. PROTECTS:** *Safe Church* intends to protect the vulnerable and the innocent and put off the perpetrator
- 3. BOUNDARIES:** Safe Boundaries are key - if in any doubt, ask first
- 4. VULNERABILITIES:** Power imbalance is always part of abuse - that's why we particularly safeguard children and vulnerable people
- 5. REPORTING:** Report don't solve or investigate



Christ Church Privacy notice