

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 Christ Church News:

Sunday 28 th September		Encouragements Rom 16:17-27
	8.45am	Traditional (Holy Communion with hymns)
	9.30-10.15am	Coffee
	10.15am	Worship service, CCKids and CCYouth
		Coffee
	11.30am	Admission to Communion preparation class for Children and Youth
	11.45am	Third service
	3pm	Welcome Tea incorporating Welcome tea for the Alpha course

	6.30pm	Gospel service
Monday	9 am 9.15am	Foyer opens Morning Bible Study
Tue	9.00am 9.30am 12noon 7pm	Foyer open Carousel baby and toddler group Firelighters prayer gathering Tuesday Youth Group
Wed	9am 9.15am 2.30pm	School service Foyer open Morning Bible Study Midweek Fellowship
Thu	9am	Foyer open
Fri	9am 12.30pm	Foyer open Thanksgiving service for Ann Gowlland
Sat		Street Evangelism
Sunday 5 th October		
	8.45am	Traditional (Holy Communion with hymns)
	9.30-10.15am	Coffee
	10.15am	Worship for everyone - Harvest
		Coffee
	12noon	Admission to Communion preparation class for Children and Youth
	11.45am	Third service
	3pm	Alpha course



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 **RIDDLEDOWN ROAD** and all who dwell, work or travel there.



YouTube live link for 10.15am and 11.45am services find the link on our website



Gospel service

Sunday 28th September at 6.30pm



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Welcome tea for Newcomers and Alpha – Sunday 28th September

Gospel Service – Sunday 28th September

Bereavement Support Group – Monday 29th September

Midweek Fellowship - Wednesday 1st October

Harvest Worship for Everyone (café style) - Sunday 5th October

Midweek Communion – Wednesday 15th October

Midweek Lunch – Wednesday 15th October

Muddy Church – Sunday 26th October

Bereavement Support Group – Monday 27th October

Wow party – Friday 31st October

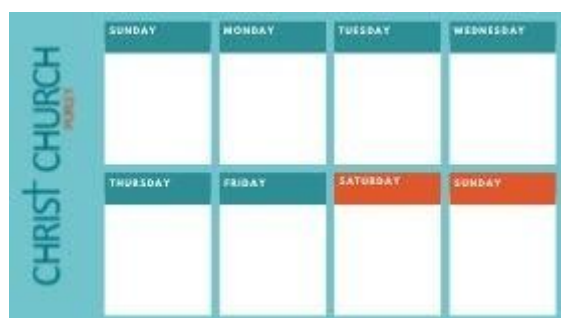
Veteran Car (unofficial) pit stop – Sunday 2nd November

Baptism service – Sunday 2nd November

Living with loss service – Sunday 2nd November

Confirmation service – Sunday 9th November 6pm at St John's Old Coulsdon

Click image for our online calendar



Celebrate Harvest and all of God's incredible provision at **Worship for Everyone Sunday 5th October**

Please bring canned groceries as a way of thanking God for His provision and a way of blessing others.

For our Harvest Festival we are collecting cans:

**Canned soup (not packets),
Canned food: vegetables, meat &
fish, Canned fruit & Canned milk.**



These will be

donated to Nightwatch who act as first line of contact for homeless people and sign-post them to other agencies and the Croydon Refuge Day Centre who provide support for Refugees and Asylum Seekers in the Croydon area.



Email Filtering

Are you missing out of Christ Church emails?
Are the emails ending up in SPAM or JUNK folders?

If you are using any email or spam filtering,
please add our email address
christpurley@mq.churchsuite.com

to your address book and list of 'friends' or
approved senders.



DATES FOR 2025 (CCP events)

4TH October Service at Cathedral

12th October Gospel choir led service

15th October *Grace will lead me home*

18th October Croydon Area Service

19th October Food celebration

25th October Mental health in black community

27th October Sam Sharpe lecture

Black History Month



"Who do you say that I am?"

Matthew 16:15



A celebration of identity and belonging

Join this year's diocesan *Black History Month* Thanksgiving Service for an exciting day of fellowship, learning and celebration.

Saturday 4 October 2025, 10.30am–1.30pm
Southwark Cathedral, SE1 9DA



Scan code to
register for a
free ticket.

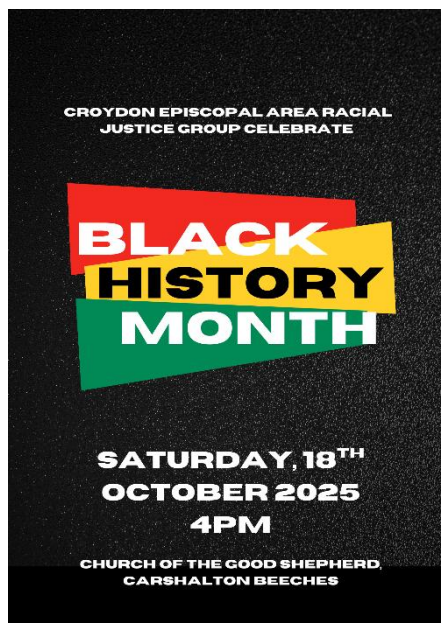


The Diocese of
Southwark

SOUTHWARK
♦ CATHEDRAL ♦

**Join us for this year's
Black History Month service of Thanksgiving at Southwark Cathedral**

Drawing inspiration from Jesus' words in Matthew's Gospel, this year's theme is "Who do you say that I am?", exploring how cultural and social heritage interacts with our God-given identities. The service will be followed by a workshop led by the Area Racial Justice Group Chairs, which will give us all an opportunity to look back and reflect on contributions of the black community to society and the church, whilst looking forward with active hope, and more specifically share what we are actively doing across Southwark in the space of anti-racism. All are welcome at Southwark Cathedral on Saturday 4 October, 10:30am - 1:30pm. Register for a free ticket [here](#).



The Croydon Episcopal Area Black History Month celebration takes place on **18th October** at the **Church of the Good Shepherd, Carshalton Beeches**, at 4pm.

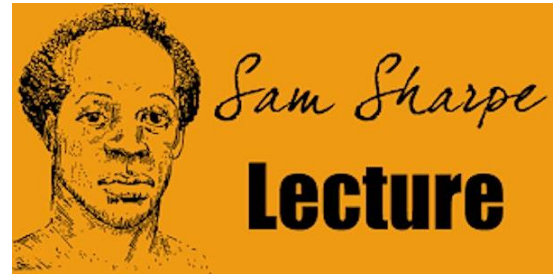
Refreshments will be available after the service

25th October (Saturday): St Stephen's Church, Norbury—an event organised by their BHM working group, featuring a panel of mental health professionals talking about mental health in the black community. St Stephen's Church, Warwick Road, Thornton Heath CR7 7NH – Evening event



- **Concert at Croydon Minster:** [Grace Will Lead Me Home Tickets, Wed, Oct 15, 2025 at 7:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

- **The Sam Sharpe Lecture 2025** (delivered by Dr Selina Stone)
: [The Annual Sam Sharpe Lecture – 2025 Tickets, Mon 27 Oct 2025 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)



The Diocese of Southwark website will be updated with other events, so do keep an eye out. [Home - The Diocese of Southwark](#)

	Baptism	Admission to communion	Confirmation
28 th September	3pm Welcome tea	12noon Prep class 1 (JB)	
5 th October	3pm Alpha 1 – Jesus?	12noon Prep class 2 (JB)	
12 th October	3pm Alpha 2 – die?		
19 th October	3pm Alpha 3 – faith?		
26 th October			1pm Prep class
2 nd November	11am Baptism including by full immersion	First Communion	1pm Prep class
9 th November			1pm Prep class (provisional - practice with actual service booklet) Evening confirmation service

IT is our joy and privilege to offer the following over the coming the weeks the following:

BAPTISM – is the sacramental pouring of water as a sign of God's grace and welcome into God's church and family of God; available for any age

ADMISSION TO COMMUNION – available to children or adults who feel ready to take communion as part of their Christian life and worship but not yet ready for confirmation (see below); an intention to be confirmed in the future is assumed

CONFIRMATION – a service led by a Bishop allowing the baptised to make a statement of their faith and be confirmed in full membership of the Church of England; available to those who are ready but generally teenage plus..

Notes: Baptism can be on 2nd November (for either route) OR if going forward for confirmation can be baptised by the Bishop in that service on 9th November. If admitted to communion and requiring baptism a **separate preparation session** to be arranged with Rev Doug (30-60 minutes) before 2nd November and after 5th October (prep classes for admission to communion).

[Click image to register your interest and to find out more:](#)



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

NEW SERMON MINI-SERIES : *How much more?*

After Romans (yes there is life after Romans!) we will be following a short series on ***How much more?*** . Drawn from Jesus' promise in Luke 7:11 "*how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!*", we will be exploring what it truly means to worship "*in Spirit and in truth*" (John 4:24), and what the more of God might look like. And specifically how we ask for more!

Starts 26th October.



ALPHA COURSE 2025

The next Alpha course starts coinciding with the Welcome Tea on **Sunday 28th September at 3pm.**



Who is Alpha for?

Alpha is for anyone who's curious. The talks are designed to encourage conversation and explore Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment. No question is out of bounds and you are free to discuss as much or as little as you wish. Alpha has been running all over the world for the last couple of decades in churches, pubs, prisons & homes where nearly 30 million people have taken part and loved the experience.

How does it work?

Sunday Afternoon Alpha starting 28 September 2025 with a welcome tea.

This course starts at 3pm. Each session includes a short video and a discussion in a small group where you can share your thoughts and listen to others.

Venue: Philippi Room at Christ Church Purley

Sign up online with this link to find out more.

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



YOUTH ASSISTANT ROLES

Due to the incredible growth in numbers attending the Tuesday night Youth Group we urgently need more adult supervision.

Could you be a **YOUTH ASSISTANT** to be a presence alongside the youth team who will lead sessions?

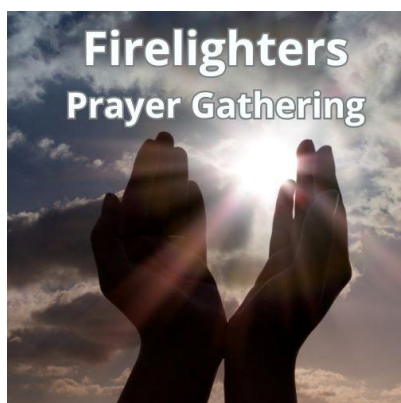
Tuesday nights 6.45-9pm.

The more we have the fewer each person needs to commit to, just sayin'....

It's a joy (see blog for more details).

Contact office@christchurchpurley.org.uk to express an interest.

Speak to Charlotte, Jude or Doug for more details



FIRELIGHTERS PRAYER MEETING

An opportunity to listen to God
and also to intercede into our troubled world
– for the world, our nation and our community.

Next meeting: Tuesday 30th September 12 noon.

All welcome.



Monday 29th September 1pm Bereavement Support Group

We meet as a small informal group for a chat on the last Monday of every month in the Philippi Room at Christ Church Purley from 1.00pm - 2.00pm. We will be providing light refreshments. This is an informal and friendly place and if you have experienced a bereavement you would be very welcome. Please pre-book your space. The group is hosted by Pauline. If you would like a chat or any more information, please contact us via the office

at Christ Church. Please share this with anyone for whom this may be of interest.

Book your space on the [Christ Church](#) website
or call, WhatsApp, text 07395 133640 to help with catering.



LOST AND FOUND

Jesus told many parables about things being lost – sheep, coin, son (Luke 15).

So here is my own modern version, the parable of the lost keys!

There was a man who was going on a journey. He had booked his car in for a simple service of filter and fluid changes and was assured that it would be ready for his journey. During the day the garage called to say that once on the ramp it was found that the brakes were no longer legal and would need to be replaced. The garage assured that it would be ready in time. He authorised the work.

The man walked home. Later his daughter offered a lift to the garage. They were running late.

The man waited for the car to be ready. The parts hadn't yet arrived and so it looked like it was going to delay his journey. He raised his concern with the garage. The garage raised their concerns with the parts delivery firm. It was getting more fraught until the parts arrived after about 40 minutes. They were fitted swiftly, the

man paid, and expressed thanks that the garage had done what they could (including offering a discount for the inconvenience).

The man set off to his destination, concentrating on getting there as soon as possible.

On his return the man found that he could not feel his bunch of keys – work and home- in his pocket. He would normally check, it was a big bunch of keys, but he had only just discovered that they were missing. A lot had been going on.

The man could not get hold of any of the people who held spare keys to his house. When he returned home, the pets inside the house were quite distressed. He phoned an emergency locksmith to help him get into the house. When the locksmith arrived he wanted 6 times the amount quoted when the man had asked him to come.

Fortunately one of the key holders was able to come with a spare key and the man got in to his house, calmed the pets and went to bed confused as to where his keys were.

He felt really disturbed not having the keys that he carried with him everywhere, everyday. He himself felt lost without them. He felt disturbed by being taken advantage of in his desperation. He felt disturbed that he had disturbed others late at night.

He wondered "why has this happened to me, today?"

He slept fitfully, with this sense of disturbance.

Waking the next morning he set about trying to find the keys. He tried all the places he had visited – the garage and where he had journeyed. None had the keys.

He still felt lost.

Until his daughter rang saying "Dad , I've got your keys in my car!"

He was so relieved. A sense of peace and a lightness of spirit took over the heavy burden, disturbance and darkness that he had felt the night before.

The keys that were lost were found!

What might this parable tell us about the life of faith?

Firstly, daily diligence. Each day is an opportunity to give due attention to the gracious gift of faith we have. Check out our pockets full of faith, so to speak. Be aware of their existence and that they are safely carried with us.

Secondly, be wary of distraction. Jesus' parable of the weeds mentions thorns of life that choke. The man was distracted by his delayed journey, by being let down by the delivery firm, by his deadline. He had already lost the keys and did not notice. That meant that by the time he had discovered their loss he could not specify where they had been lost.

Thirdly, be wary of alternatives to faith that offer to solve our problems. They come at a hidden cost. They don't tell you the cost before enticing you in then you are faced with an unacceptable cost. Things of the world are short term solutions to an eternal problem and will cost the earth!

Fourthly, sometimes we are called to come alongside those who have lost the key or never had it, and guide them to it (ie to come alongside those of faltering faith or those who do not yet know Jesus as Lord).

Finally, be aware of the sense of loss of that which is meant to be with you and part of you. Being in his presence, guided by his word, knowing his Spirit and eyes on Jesus opens doors, keep you safe and secure and is a comforting presence – just like that bunch of keys.

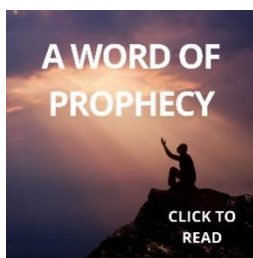
Oh, and the man prayed – “Lord show me my keys” – and they did turn up, eventually.

Stay in touch with Jesus. Avoid loss of faith. Be diligent. Don't trust the worldly solutions.

May the keys be with you.

And also with you.

Doug



A picture of a person looking over a farm gate at the fields beyond. They had a longing in their heart for fruitful fruitfulness.

God may be saying “I long for you all to be fruitful in Me. Commit your days to Me and I will direct them. The small things matter much more than you think. Use your time that I have given you wisely. Read My

Word more and let it sink with your spirits. Fruitfulness comes from this. Speak to Me often about your longings - I love to hear My children speak to Me - it thrills Me. Don't stop with a longing – commit it to me and together We will see change.”

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....

REVIEW OF GIVING



Why give?

Giving is a response to God's overflowing generosity to us. **All that we have comes from Him** and we give back to Him the **first fruits** of what we have.

We should give:

JOYFULLY: *God loves a joyful giver (2 Cor 9:7)*

THANKFULLY: *All things come from you and of your own do we give you (1 Chron 29:14)*

SACRIFICALLY: *Bring to the priest a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest (Leviticus 23)*

REGULARLY: *On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up (1 Cor 16:2)*

Giving is a spiritual discipline that is good for our souls and part of growth as a disciple of Christ.

To set up regular giving to Christ Church or to revise the amounts that you give please see here

https://www.christchurchpurley.org.uk/Groups/357718/Christ_Church_Purley/Giving_and_Serving/Giving/Giving.aspx

Family News

Ann Gowlland - a service of thanksgiving will be held at Christ Church on Friday 3rd October at 12.30pm

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.



STREET EVANGELISM

Street Evangelism 1st Saturday of the month 12:30pm - 2:30 pm

- Meet in Purley Baptist Church car park.

Go out on twos (or threes) and strike up conversations with people you meet.

Speak of Jesus if the opportunity arises – but only after a conversation about them and if the Holy Spirit leads you to do so.

***"A stranger is just a friend you haven't met yet"**
(Irish proverb)*

NEXT OUTING: Saturday 4th October

Continuing News



**Thinking about reading the bible more?
Need a daily routine to help you read the bible?**

Need a daily bible reading plan?

Alpha has 3 bible reading Apps available:

**Classic
Youth
and Express**

[**https://bible.alpha.org/en/**](https://bible.alpha.org/en/)

"Join Nicky and Pippa Gumbel as we read the Bible each day. It's a practice that we have been doing for over 30 years and we hope it will benefit your life as much as it has ours."



Release International:

Dear Friends, Thank you so much for the generous gift of £1,250 from your church. We are really grateful for the faithful support of your church family



Join us for an afternoon of light popular songs,
with Tea & Cake, in aid of our Southern Oaks
Supported Living House in Purley

DATE & TIME:

Friday 17th October 2025
2.30-4.30pm

VENUE:

Christ Church Purley, CR8 2BN

To book, please email trevor55jones@gmail.com

Admission by Programme: £5.00

Payment at the door. Cash only please.

Southern Oaks
Southern Oaks Nonsuch, Old Schools Lane, Ewell, Epsom, Surrey KT171FLI
020 8394 0050 enquiries@southern-oaks.org
Registered Charity No. 247308



Operation Christmas Child

[Find out more about the shoe boxes by watching the video on our website](#)



Shoe Boxes 2025

Thank you so much Christ Church for the 101 boxes which you donated last year.

This year, because of

- the difficulty of accessing and wrapping empty shoe boxes
- the cost of preparing a good box.

we will again be offering:

Go-pack boxes complete with all the essentials for £5 each for cash,
(£5.20 for card payments or £6 for card payments and a bouncy ball).

There will also be the chance to buy a reconditioned soft toy for £1 and bulk-bought items at cost price.

They will be available from the Foyer on Sunday mornings during September and early October, **starting on September 14th**.

There will be plenty of space in the box to add additional things ('Wow' items, toys and 'Fillers') of your own choice to fill and complete the boxes.

[How to pay for your shoebox transport](#)

Please complete your box by **November 2**.

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.