

NEWS & CHAT 14 APRIL 2022

The online service is live-streamed every week from Christ Church, on the Christ Church Facebook page.

Though no longer legally required by the government, masks must be worn for singing and are strongly recommended to be worn throughout Sunday Worship.

Due to cases nationally being at their highest level in all of the pandemic, and the immunity provided by vaccines now waning in most people, though we cannot legally oblige you, please think of others who may be more vulnerable and wear a mask during public worship. THANK YOU

To continue to keep Covid-19 safe, please remember to:

- Wear a mask at all times (unless you have an exemption) **required when singing.**
- Sanitise hands when entering the building
- Keep at least 1m from people you are not in a 'bubble' or live with, including at groups meeting at church.

During services and other events, we will endeavour to keep the Church as warm as possible whilst maintaining good ventilation, so please dress accordingly.

EASTER SUNDAY 17 April, 10.30am at The Bridgwater Drive Church, Communion, John Amos



TIPS & IDEAS

With local elections coming soon at the beginning of May, this week's 'challenge' from #64MillionArtists links to government policies, but you could simply do the first part if you prefer. Easter, a time of renewal, is a good time to reflect on past achievements and challenges and look to the future:

"Select three key life experiences. Find or draw an object or 'artefact' that reminds you of each experience or that you associate with them in some way. Maybe it was a transition like leaving school or moving home, a challenge you faced, or an opportunity or achievement.

Think about how government policy has affected these experiences. How has it steered your choices?



Lifted you up or let you down? Supported you, or changed your behaviour?
Create labels for your objects that reflect or visualise how these policies have affected the key experiences, and how they made you feel."

How does the resurrection affect your life and experiences?

RESOURCES

New reflections for April from St Paul's Cathedral, by Ayla Lepine *The Arnolfini Portrait*
<https://mailchi.mp/9dc2516cd6eb/coming-up-from-st-pauls-cathedral-8251282?e=e30a1f608a>

NEWS FROM THE BRIDGWATER DRIVE CHURCH (from Margaret)

Last Tuesday Naomi, Patrick and I had a really good chat over a cup of coffee. It was a lovely morning so we sat just inside the front door (a Covid safe place). Our discussion was interrupted every time a dog went past as Dexter felt he needed to wish them, 'Good Morning'. At least all the dog walkers on that morning could see, not only that the church was open, but that we are a 'dog-friendly' church.

It was a pity more people were unable to come but we enjoyed spending half an hour together. We tried to answer some of the questions arising from the Lent Course some people from Rayleigh have been following this year. The most thought provoking was the one Naomi mentioned in her sermon last Sunday:- *Should we follow the example of Muslims who, when they go to worship, must take the seat next to the last*

Christ Church, Rayleigh (CC) and the Bridgwater Drive Church (BDC)

person who went into the worship area before them, starting to fill up from the front? The aim is, obviously, to show that no one deserves a better place than anyone else and that all are to be welcomed and included equally. This is in contrast to the idea that some people (hopefully in the past) may have had that a certain chair in church was 'their seat', the place where they always sit, even to the extent where, a long time ago, a member of our congregation asked a visitor (my sister-in-law on her first and only visit to The BDC) to move! We could see why the idea of 'filling up from the front' might sound good but decided it might just encourage people to arrive for worship later and later! Do come along on the second Tuesday next month. Maybe you could suggest a topic for discussion?

Tuesday 19th April 10.30 Talking about Books – Our starter topic is poetry – poems we like or hate or poems we learnt to recite. If you can, please bring along a poem to share. As you see below, Laurie has written a new poem for Good Friday. This is so different from his previous poems – the pattern of the lines really suits the subject – it's very special – Thank you, Laurie. What a gift you have!

A Poem for Good Friday

Was it me that heard the cock crow thrice?
Or me who didn't know the price
That He would gladly pay
for me?

Was it me who swiftly washed his hands
And gave in to the crowd's demands
Then set the thief, Barabas, free?
Was it me?

And tell me, was I one of those
Tossing dice for Jesus' clothes
Whilst for us He died of love -
For me?

And did He look down from the cross
And not count me as a loss
But, in His grace, did everything
For me?

Laurie Greenwood April 2022

This week, Good Friday, there is a special service in **Chalkwell Park** (near the Cricket Pavilion) at 11.00 a.m. organised by The Chalkwell Group of Churches. If the weather is bad the service will be in St. Michael's Church (Leigh Road). Also, a special event for Good Friday is being held in Kings Road URC from 12.00 noon – 4.00 pm 'The Stations of the Cross' – a time of quiet, a time for reflection, with pictures to focus on the events of that day. (Light refreshments available)

Saturday 7th May 11.00 – 2.00 May Fair – please let Val or Margaret know if you are able to help.

Jars for Change We are continuing to ask you to bring any change you have, to fill the big jars (we now have two jars) at church. This is our **Lent Collection** for **Water Aid**.

PRAYER CORNER

I invite all of you to set aside time daily to pray for our churches and members but also for the whole nation and world. We pray especially for the people of Ukraine.



Christ Church, Rayleigh (CC) and the Bridgwater Drive Church (BDC)

This week's prayer theme (prepared by Gwyneth). **Party Time.** Easter Sunday, the most important day in the history of our world, Jesus is alive!! If it isn't the most important day to you, that's very sad because you may be missing the whole point of life itself. Hallelujah, Christ is Risen 😊

Particular prayer requests this week:

The BDC

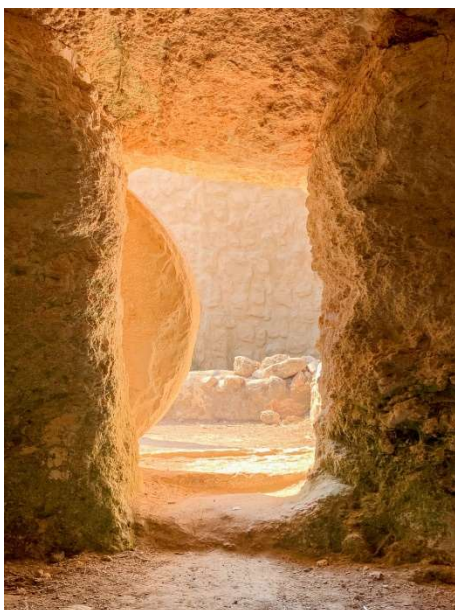
Barbara: Barbara's friend, Pat: Cherry: Barry: Colin: Clive: Celia: Sandra: Tony: Gerry: Phil: Yvonne: Marlene's daughter, Christine: Tom Hunter-Crump: Margaret's friends, Jean and Peggy: Sally-Ann (Laurie's friend's daughter): Patrick's neighbour, Sylvie: Laurie's daughter and husband and their children in Norway: Darren's son, Reuben, and all his family.

Christ Church

Mark E & family: Frank B: Eve J: Della: Bill, Beth and Elizabet B: Audrey: Peter C:

Budiriro - We continue to pray for the Minister, Revd. Biggie Mususa and the congregation. We pray for the work of **Street Pastors** and those who support it.

HAPPY EASTER! He is RISEN, Hallelujah!



Minister: Revd. Naomi Young-Rodas 07555 705530

minister@christchurchrayleigh.org.uk

Church Secretary Cherry Winder 07377 067908

thebdcsecretary@gmail.com

Web site bridgwaterdriveurc.org.uk