

Good News from the Churches

Dear friends,

I hope you are keeping well.

Throughout the pandemic, I have focused on making sure everyone can worship in a safe environment; sometimes this has meant the closure of our Church buildings with worship taking place online instead. I am particularly grateful to you all for bearing with the many different changes we have had to face together. As government guidance on COVID-19 continues to change, I wanted to share an update on the safety measures I am implementing in our churches to ensure that we can continue to worship together safely.

While the easing of restrictions means that some safety measures will no longer be a legal requirement, I have listened carefully to what many of you have been telling me and I know a lot of our Church members remain cautious. In line with the government advice to act carefully, I feel it's important that we continue to keep certain measures in place within our churches so that we are looking out for our neighbours. So here's what will be happening in church with immediate effect:

- **Singing** At long last, we are able to include the singing of hymns and worship songs as part of our worship. I know many of you, like me, have been waiting a long time for this.
- Face Coverings Although the legal requirement to wear a face covering in England has now come to an end, the government expects and recommends that people continue to wear them in crowded and enclosed spaces; so please continue to wear a face covering if you can while attending worship at any of our church buildings.
- **Hygiene** As before, sanitiser will be available at the Church doorway and at various points around the church. Please do make use of this.
- Track & Trace A new system of track and trace will be implemented in the churches over the coming weeks. If you have the NHS covid app on your phone, please continue to scan in using the QR code. If you do not have the app, we will have a simple one sheet form for everyone to add their name and mobile phone number to (a landline number will do if you don't have a mobile).
- **Seating** We are no longer insisting on maintaining social distancing during the services, but if you would prefer to keep your distance from others, we will endeavour to provide a space for you that is set apart from others.
- Offering We are not yet returning to passing the collection plate, so please do
 make your offering on the way into church either in cash or by contactless card
 payment. If you would like to set up a standing order for your church giving,
 please speak to your Church treasurer. Drop me an email if you are not sure
 who this is.

- Holy Communion The common cup will remain suspended for the time being

 I for one, with case numbers as high as they are, will not be ready to drink
 from the same cup as a whole congregation (not yet anyway). I will move to a
 system of offering bread and wine simultaneously by dipping the wafer before
 presenting it to you. Other priests may vary in their approach (please be flexible
 with us).
- **The Peace** Sharing of the peace (where applicable) will continue to be done with no physical contact. Do feel free to wave and smile at people instead.
- **Tea/Coffee** Subject to sufficient volunteers, it is hoped that after-service refreshments will resume as soon as possible.
- **Online** I am very aware that some of you are vulnerable and not able to join us in person and others will be self-isolating from time to time as you are notified of potential links to infection. Although we will be ending our Zoom services, it will still be possible for you to join us live via a livestream link from our church website. Visit mountsorrelchurch.org for the latest information.

I would like to express my gratitude to you for the way we have journeyed through this pandemic. We are not out of the woods yet, but together, we can ensure that everyone stays safe until the world is safe once more. In the meantime, please do continue to pray for one another and especially our PCC members and those of us on the leadership team as we do all that we can to follow the rules and keep everyone safe.

With every blessing,

Colin Resch

The churches are remodelling their church services post pandemic, similar to the pattern of services that were in place before March2020. At Christ Church, as before the pandemic, we have a few opportunities for members to participate. If you were on the rota before March 2020, please let Peter Hodson know that you wish to continue as before; or tell Peter what you would like to change.

If you were not on the rota, but would like more information please ask.

Thank you.

Peter Hodson

Email: p.hodson4@ntlworld.com. Tel: 0116 2303828

Services at Christ Church & St. Peter's Church

Date	Time	Service	Venue
Sunday 1 August	9.30am	Matins*	St. Peter's
	11.00am	New Wine Worship	Christ Church
Sunday 8 August	9.30am	Holy Communion*	St. Peter's
	11.00am	Morning Prayer	Christ Church
	4.00pm	Senior Sunday	St. Peter's
Sunday 15 August	11.00am	Holy Communion with Prayers for Healing	Christ Church
	6.00pm	Evensong*	St. Peter's
Sunday 22 August	9.30am	Holy Communion*	St. Peter's
	11.00am	Baptism Service	Christ Church
Sunday 29 August	11.00am	Morning Prayer	Christ Church
	6.00pm	Evensong*	St Peter's
Sunday 5 September	9.30am	Matins*	St. Peter's
	11.00am	Holy Communion	Christ Church
	4.00pm	Fun@4	Christ Church

^{*} Service taken from the Book of Common Prayer

Morning Prayer at Christ Church and online, 9am

Monday * Tuesday * Wednesday
Thursday * Friday

Meeting ID: 786 8201 8817

Passcode: 032244

The times, they are a-changin'.

We have been living through some extraordinary times these last two years. Our lives have been rocked by circumstances out of our control and as life begins to take on the appearance of something resembling normality, we are aware that things will never be the same again. In the words of Bob Dylan, "The times, they are a-changin'."

Our Church services will soon begin to take on a familiar, pre-covid feel and yet there may be some subtle differences. For example:

- Limits on social distancing will be removed in our Church buildings and yet there may be some (or many) folk who are still anxious about sitting close to others they don't normally live with that's ok.
- The wearing of face coverings in Church will be recommended but no longer mandatory, and there may be some (or many) who refuse to wear one that's ok.
- After Church coffee will return, but there may be some (or many) who don't want to have close face to face conversations – that's ok.
- Communion wine will eventually be shared again, but there may be some (or many) who, when the time comes, will not be ready to drink from a common cup that's ok.

I guess what I'm trying to say is that all of us will face this new 'normal' in a different way and we must be slow to criticise and quick to love. St Paul, writing to the Romans (chapter 14), gives us this instruction: 'Let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in the way of a brother or sister'. We must do whatever it takes to build one another up in love. I am reminded of the words of Jesus who said, "..everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." (John 13.35).

As we show love to one another, we will not only build each other up in faith, but we will also be building the Kingdom of God as our shared love for one another will be seen by those outside of the Church and they will be drawn to discover the love of God for themselves. My brothers and sisters, let us love one another.

Colin

Diary Dates

Monday 2 August

1.30pm Craft Group meets at Christ Church

Tuesday 3 August

7.30pm Induction of Darren Walker as Rector of Whitwick, Thringston &

Swannington at St John the Baptist Church at Whitwick.

Friday 6 August

10.00am till 12 Noon - Coffee Morning at Christ Church

3.00pm Wedding of Kevin and Lorna at Christ Church

Saturday 7 August

1.00pm Wedding of David and Karen at St. Peter's Church

Monday 9 August

1.30pm Craft Group meets at Christ Church

Wednesday 11 August

11.30am Funeral of Mary Chamberlain at Christ Church

Friday 13 August

10.00am till 12 Noon - Coffee Morning at Christ Church

Monday 16 August

1.30pm Craft Group meets at Christ Church

Friday 20 August

10.00am till 12 Noon - Coffee Morning at Christ Church

Monday 23 August

1.30pm Craft Group meets at Christ Church

Friday 27 August

10.00am till 12 Noon - Coffee Morning at Christ Church

Saturday 28 August

6.00pm Church family BBQ at the Vicarage (see page 16)

Monday 30 August

NO Craft Group at Christ Church

Diary Dates for September

Friday 3 September

10.00am till 12 Noon - Coffee Morning at Christ Church

Monday 6 September

10.00am Sunbeams at Christ Church

1.30pm Craft Group meets at Christ Church

Tuesday 7 September

2.00pm Christ Church PCC

7.00pm St. Peter's PCC

Friday 10 September

10.00am till 12 Noon - Coffee Morning at Christ Church



New Wine Breaks Out

Once again, the New Wine Summer Conference will be held online with free access available to all. With an extended 6-day programme of teaching, worship and prayer ministry for all ages and abilities you will be sure to find something that will speak to your soul this summer.

Thursday 29 July – Tuesday 3 August 2021

There will be

- Morning & evening Arena & Impact celebrations
- Sofa sessions and Q&As
- Morning Kids sessions packed with songs, stories, gunge, fun & games
- Morning and evening Luminosity (youth) devotions & chat, challenges, workshops, celebrations & after parties
- Accessible Church enabling people with additional needs to participate as much as possible, and to grow in the gifts that God has given them
- After Hours programme The Big Quiz and more!

The main sessions will be free of charge, but with New Wine Online membership (£70 for a year's membership) you will also have access to more than 70 seminars, interviews and live conversations with keynote speakers, plus on-demand access after the event.

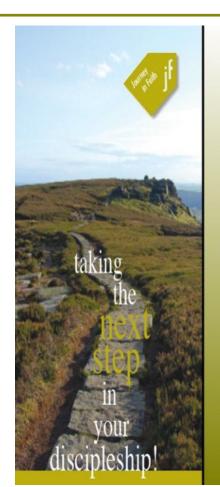
In early 2020, before the world changed, I found a leaflet in church called 'Vocations Day' Darren looked at me and told me I was going. It was one of the last church gatherings that I attended. The morning consisted of various groups explaining their missions within the diocese and moving forward with faith. I attended the discussion about 'reader training' and the information for the three term course called 'Journey in Faith'. The next step was contacting someone from the diocese. This I did and was told that I needed to do two things. The first was sign up for the JiF course and the second to sort out my own prayer life. The first was easier than the second, which is still a work in progress.

After some weeks of studying I began to have an itch that wouldn't go away. I spoke with the diocese reader manager and together we worked through the process. I filled in all the forms, received endorsement from our two PCC's, obtained references and finally had the interview.

Paul and I were on the bus from Portsmouth to Southsea when I had the 'phone call confirming that the diocese team were offering me a place on the forthcoming training. Our diocese is now training their lay ministry differently. I'm going to be part of the first group who will spend an intense 15 months studying but this will also include courses on where I can be best used within our community.

This is an exciting time if not daunting for me and also you! I appreciate all your support but also any feedback that you give me. I learn best when you all encourage me and tell me where I can improve so thank you all for setting me on this journey.

Melanie Rowley



Journey in Faith Course

What is the Journey in Faith Course?

A 3 term course that is held in small local groups. It helps to grow confidence in our faith and to explore how we can live out everyday faith.

Who can join?

It is open to anyone—there is some reading to do between sessions but you don't need to have done any studying before.

Is there a cost?

£40 per term but speak to us if this is a barrier.

How do I find out more?

More details can be found on the Diocesan website or you can contact Liz Rawlings (liz.rawlings@leicestercofe.org).

Courses

Braunstone Monday evening
Market Harborough Tuesday evening
Oadby Wednesday evening
Castle Donington Thursday evening
Loughborough Sunday afternoon

To apply email: mmbookings@leicestercofe.org stating which course you want to join.

What does a previous participant say?

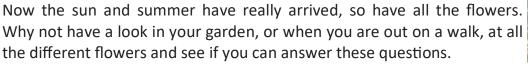
"If you want to know more about yourself and your Christian faith, then JiF is the course for you. You'll be welcomed and challenged, affirmed and changed, and you'll definitely be glad you came."

Children and

Children's Page

Blooming Flowers

Christ Church and St. Peter's Mountsorrel





How many colours can you see?
How many smell pretty and how many don't?
How many could you pick and put in a vase?
How many are wild flowers?

How many friends do you have with the name of a flower, like Rose for example.

The flowers are all different shapes, sizes, colours and all have different uses. Some are used for medicine, some for decorating homes, some help bees produce honey, others make perfume. Just like God made many flowers for many different uses, He made many kinds of people with different looks and talents too. God doesn't just like red flowers, or people with blue eyes, He loves us all. God doesn't just love the flowers that make perfume, or people who can play the piano, He loves us all. Isn't it a shame that some people don't appreciate or rejoice in our differences? Most of us will have watched the football last month and sighed 'not again'. Others though saw fit to abuse the young footballers, not because of the penalties missed but because they look different to them!! We are all valuable in God's sight, and we should remember to value one another just as He does.



Why not pick a daisy off your lawn and instead of making a daisy chain, use it to help you say a prayer. One by one pick off a petal and thank God for something that has happened in the last week or pray for help with something or for somebody else. Or just hold the daisy in your hand and say this very simple prayer. As the sun rises each day, Lord, let your light shine on me. Amen

Flower prints – two for the price of one!

Before doing this craft, please make sure you have permission to pick a few flowers.

You will need: 1 piece of white paper

1 piece of kitchen roll (white not patterned)

A few small colourful flowers – just the heads

Sellotape or masking tape.

Bread board/wooden board and a hammer

Position the flowers on to the white paper, which is sellotaped to the board. Carefully put the kitchen roll over the flowers and flatten as best you can. Sellotape the kitchen roll to the paper. Then very carefully hit the flowers with a hammer. Not too hard, and you should see some of the plant dye soak into the kitchen roll. Once you have hit all the flowers, carefully remove the kitchen roll and scrape the remains of the flowers off your white paper. You then end up with two flower patterns. One on the white paper that you could make into a birthday card and the other on the kitchen roll, which I like better, could be put in a frame or made into a picture for your wall.



Have a lovely summer holiday and hopefully we will see you all at September's Fun@4.

Linda (Children and Families Worker)

"There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

[Galatians 3:28]

lindacfw.christchurchstpeters@gmail.com

alisoncfw.christchurchstpeters@gmail.com



There is no fun@4 in August, but we will be back in September and hopefully meeting Face to Face, so do look out for notices and emails.

During the summer holidays, on a day when it's not too hot, why not try a prayer walk?

You could plan a route, give the job of deciding where to walk to the children or simply wander together allowing God to guide you. If your children need a little encouragement to go for a walk, you could make it more fun by doing a 'penny walk' — at every junction, you flip a coin to decide which way to go next!





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As you walk, look around you, are there things you see that you are thankful for? Talk about them together; why do you like them? Do they make your life easier? Do they make you feel happy or peaceful? Then say 'thank you God for...'

- If you pass a school, nursery, community centre or church, talk together habout the activities that happen in those places, ask God to bless the people who work there and the people who enjoy going to these places.
- If you pass cafés and shops, talk together about where food comes from.
 Thank God for food and for all the people involved in making sure we have food and drink to enjoy.
- If you pass a care home, talk together about who might live there, ask
 God to be with them, pray for the people who work there; pray especially
 that they have enough staff as lots of people are having to self-isolate.
- As you pass houses, wonder about who lives inside, ask God to bless their home with peace and joy.
- As you see cars and buses, ask God to protect people using the roads and honother journeys, talk together about journeys you have been on. Thank God that we can travel and see different places in his wonderful creation.

There may be lots of other things you think, talk, and pray about on your walk and don't forget you can also pray for each other; walking together can be a great time to share any worries together, we can share these with God too!

Have a great summer everyone & keep praying!

Alison White, Children & Families Worker

alisoncfw.christchurchstpeters@gmail.com

Attention Christ Church volunteers,

Over many years, Janet and Trevor Wright have tidied the Memorial stones and the garden at Christ Church and we are extremely grateful for their work.

However, they have decided that the time has come to give up. So, the church is looking for a person, or group of people, to take on responsibility for tidying the Memorial stones and the garden so that visitors are greeted with a neat and pleasant sight.

Families who put flowers on the Memorials appreciate it when the site is tidy. Maybe these families could help keep them tidy?

Also, please let me know your willingness to be on a Rota, for any of these Sunday opportunities to serve the Lord, during August, September, October. It would be useful to know any dates when you are not available especially during August.

Welcomer Greet people arriving
Sidesperson Takes up the offering

Reader Read the Bible Intercession Prayers Lead prayers

Computer Control the screen display

Sound Control the volume and switch microphones

during the service

Communion Assistant Serve the wine at Holy Communion

Healing Ministry Pray with individuals at services with a Healing

Ministry

Tea/Coffee - 1st Sunday of the month

Tea/Coffee - 2nd Sunday of the month

Tea/Coffee - 3rd Sunday of the month

Tea/Coffee - 3rd Sunday of the month

Tea/Coffee - 4th Sunday of the month

Tea/Coffee - 5th Sunday of the month

Prepare the kitchen. Serve drinks, wash-up

(When needed)

For more information or to volunteer for any of the above, please contact:

Peter Hodson

Email: p.hodson4@ntlworld.com. Tel: 0116 2303828

Thank You

Images from Darren's leaving service (11th July 2021)

Below are a selection of images taken on the day.

Photographs, courtesy of Peter Hodson.









Mission Partners

At St Peter's and Christ Church we support a number of different Christian Charities that work in this country and abroad to improve the lives of others and show them God's love and compassion.

Over the next few months I am going to share with you some of the work each of these charities have been undertaking and some ideas of how you can support them in prayer.

This month's charity is:



Compassion is a Christian Children's Charity who have a passion to act on compassion and empower every child left vulnerable by poverty. Across the world about 1 billion children are multidimensionally poor, this means that they lack the basic necessities such as nutrition & clean water. It is thought that the covid pandemic has plunged an additional 150 million children in to multidimensional poverty.

It is estimated that 356 million children are living in extreme poverty today. This poverty looks like a girl forced to marry because her family cannot support her or a boy sent to work on a rubbish heap instead of going to school.

Child poverty is not just a problem in developing countries for 1 in 7 children live in poverty in the world's richest countries. There are 4.2 million children living in poverty in the UK today.

Compassion advocate for children born into the toughest circumstances, from the womb to early adulthood, giving them the opportunities they deserve. Through the provision of pre and post-natal care, nutrition, vaccinations, support and training for moms they give children the best possible start in life.

Compassion is working in 25 developing countries providing resources, training and expertise to help the local church give the children in their communities the opportunity to escape the poverty they are born into and fulfil their potential.

Their approach to fighting poverty is highly focused and personal as since 1952 through their one—to-one sponsorship model they have been giving children the opportunity to escape the suffering and fear poverty brings.

Sponsoring a child lifts a burden from their family as their parents are released from a

financial burden as the sponsored child is guaranteed an education, nutritious meals and health check-ups. Sponsoring a child also brings change to the entire family as that child shares with its siblings and parents what it has learnt. Compassion hear regularly of sponsored children teaching the rest of their family to read and how to practice good hygiene.

Yvette, from Rwanda, was sponsored from the age of 6 through Compassions sponsorship program with her local church. Her mother says "The Compassion project came into our community at the time when I needed support the most." Yvette was enrolled into school, provided with the equipment she needed, uniforms, a mattress and a blanket.

Yvette, is now 19 and with financial support from Compassion is studying an Advanced Diploma in Information Technology at college. She is part of a team that have won a national innovation competition for designing a digital cane for the blind. She has been motivated to provide solutions to bring change to her community through the support of her mother, sponsor and Compassion project staff.

Many of the countries where they work are striving to slow the spread of covid-19 through restrictions on public gatherings and or quarantines. Compassion is empowering local churches to redeploy funds usually used for group activities to meet the urgent needs of families with children & young people registered in their programme.

Here are some prayer ideas:

- Praise God for the amazing staff and local church partners who continue to empower children and families around the world. Making sure they know how loved they are.
- Pray that sponsors will be found for all the children currently waiting for one.
- Pray for governments around the world to work on lifting all children out of poverty.
- Thank God for the difference that sponsorship has made in the lives of so many children and the contribution they are now making to their local communities.
- Pray for all children and their families that have been displaced by the pandemic, war, famine and natural disaster.

There are a number of us in the church who sponsor a child through Compassion and would be happy to talk to you about their work or you can visit their website at www.compassionuk.org to find out more about them including more prayer resources and details of other ways you can support them.

Liz Resch Mission Co-ordinator at Christ Church

CHURCH FAMILY BBQ



the Vicarage, 4 Rothley Rd, Mountsorrel, LE12 7JU

Saturday 28th August from 6pm.

Open to all members of the congregations of St Peter's, Christ Church & St Leonard's.



Please bring some food & drink to share



Now back in Church!

Coffee Morning

Every Friday in Christ Church

Pop in and make some new friends



Tea & Coffee Cakes Conversation

10am - 12noon





Meet at Christ Church

1:30 - 3:30pm at Christ Church
Every Monday
Except Bank Holidays

Call in or see Margaret Hampson for more details

New members
Are always
Welcome!

St. Peter's Church are pleased to announce:

Senior Sunday is back

Ready to welcome old friends and new

4.00pm at St. Peter's, on the second Sunday of each month

Please let Leslie or Colin know of any people over 60 who would value going to a short service followed by refreshments.

Thank you for supporting the Mountsorrel Community Food Project, we are very grateful for your donations.

Please remember to contribute food and toiletries to help those in need in our community



There is a collecting box near the main Church door.

At the moment we would really appreciate:

- Tinned fruit, small tins of ham, tinned tuna
- Tinned meat based main meals and tinned vegetables
- Bottles of squash

Thank you on behalf of the Food project team and the people we support.

Chris Budd

Just a reminder that I am still collecting used postage stamps for The Leprosy Mission. There are boxes at the back of each church for putting them in.

Thank you.

Janet Wright



Need Prayer or a Home Visit?

If you, or someone you know, is in need of prayer, then please contact our confidential Prayer Chain via Liz Resch on 0116 429 9946 or via email at lizresch64@gmail.com

If you would like a home/hospital visit for prayer and/or communion, please leave a message for Revd Colin Resch on 0116 429 9946 or send an email to revcolinresch@icloud.com

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals

For enquiries about Christenings (baptisms), weddings or funerals at either Christ Church or St Peter's Church, please contact Revd Colin Resch on 0116 429 9946 or via email at revcolinresch@icloud.com

Get the latest information via our web pages -

http://cofe.mountsorrel.org/



Christ Church/St. Peter's Church, Mountsorrel

Christ Church and St Peter's - Contact Information

Ministry Team:

Priest in Charge, Revd Colin Resch
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0116 429 9946 revcolinresch@icloud.com

Reader, Mrs Helen Hodson, 0116 2303828 Reader, Mr Edmund Stacey, 01509 214802

Children and Families' Workers:

Alison White, <u>alisoncfw.christchurchstpeters@gmail.com</u>
Linda Vesty, <u>lindacfw.christchurchstpeters@gmail.com</u>

Benefice Safeguarding Officer:

Melanie Rowley, 0116 412 5870, melanierowleypso@gmail.com

Christ Church Contacts:

Warden & PCC Secretary, Mr Peter Hodson, 0116 230 3828 Warden, Mrs Veronica Liquorish, vpl1947@virginmedia.com

St. Peter's Church Contacts:

Warden & PCC Secretary, Mr David Bird, 0116 2303095 Warden, Mr Ian Evans, 01509 890889, ian.evans1549@gmail.com

Administration:

Treasurer & Bower Room Bookings' Contact
Mrs Val Doyle, 0116 237 5623, validoyle@hotmail.com
Parish Administrator & Newsletter Editor
Mr Paul Rowley (part time) admin@mountsorrelstpeters.org

(Copy date for the next newsletter is Monday 23rd August, but if items are ready, please send earlier)