



1 March 2020

EVENTS AT A GLANCE

Mon 2nd Mar: Meeting God in the Silence, 9 am, 7 pm, Hall, CCNR
Mon 2nd Mar: Prayer Meeting for new estate, 8 pm, Lounge, CCNR
Tue 3rd Mar: Coffee Break, 10.15 am, 62 Selwood Road
Wed 4 Mar: Link, 10 am, Hall, CCNR
Thu 5 Mar: Singing Circle, 10.30 am, LFCC

TERM CARD

Please take a new Term Card with you today, with details of all that's happening over the next three months. And please offer them to friends and neighbours.

PASSOVER (SEDER) MEAL 9 APRIL

We're going to be holding **Passover (Seder) Meals** on Maundy Thursday evening this year, **9 April**. We're going to provide guidelines for any Life Group/ Small Group who would like to host one; and we're also going to host a large Seder in the church. So (i) please put the date in your diary (ii) if you are in a small group think about whether you might like to host a Passover meal (iii) consider whether you might want to help on one of the teams in the church: contacts are: catering team - Janice Gordon; set up/ set down team - Rob Beale; shaping the "service" - Keith or Kath

LENT BOOK

Our Lent teaching series "The Pace of Grace" is based on the latest book from John Mark Comer, *The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry*. It's well worth buying and reading!

FOLLOWING THROUGH THE TEACHING ON SILENCE AND SOLITUDE

There's some helpful resources, and a video, to help you grow in this Practice of Jesus this week – see <https://johnmarkcomer.com/blog/unhurry>

You can listen to today's teaching from the church websites: <https://cca.uk.net/talks/> or <http://www.longfurlongchurch.org.uk/media/>

READVERTISING CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR/VICAR'S PA/BOOKKEEPER POST(S)

Is God calling you to take on this exciting opportunity to play a core role in enabling the mission and ministry God is doing through Christ Church. The job description is on the website, <https://cca.uk.net/vacancies/>. Closing date for applications 30 March.

LEADERSHIP TEAM FEEDBACK

At our last meeting, we discussed developments in safeguarding procedures, reviewed First Aid coverage, and majored on making the annual report more readable and useful ("more of a review than a report"). With tweaking the leadership team, we also considered how best to make sure that we are supporting other teams across all areas of

church life. Among the ongoing matters, we noted that there has been little take-up of experimentally having cushions available. If you want to try one, please do. If there's no response, we'll discard the plan. As always, if you have any concerns or joys, please feed them back to the team: Kath, Phil, Dave, Del, Anne, Jane, Diana and Nic.

LONG FURLONG QUIET DAY **28 March 10am-4pm** at Aston Tirrold Centre for Reflection - *Experiencing God's Rest*.

Revd Geoff Maughan will be leading our reflections, time to pray, relax, listen & rest. Bring a packed lunch, drinks & biscuits provided, cost £5 per person - lifts available if needed. Fill in form on welcome table, or email kath@cca.uk.net

FIRST AID TRAINING We are hoping to run a First Aid course at Christ Church soon. If you are interested in attending this training and would be willing to be one of Long Furlong's named First Aiders for Sundays please contact Phil & Kath - kath@cca.uk.net

PRIME TIME SUMMER EVENT RETURNS!

Thursday 13 to Sunday 16 August. Further information to follow.

PRIME TIME 2020 PRAYER FORCE

We have been asked by John Earwicker to organise prayer for Prime Time this year. We hope many people will be willing to join us to pray for its success and we propose an initial time together - Thursday next 5 March, 7.30pm at 23 Charney Avenue Peachcroft OX14 2NZ when we will discuss arrangements. For those who cannot commit themselves to meetings, but are willing to pray at home, we will send out a weekly email of prayer needs. Please let us know if you can come, or if you are willing to join the Prayer Force but can't make the meeting: michael-gwenda@uwclub.net. 01235 529084. We look forward to welcoming you aboard the Prayer Force.

AT OUR THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP SERVICE this week on March 5 we shall be welcoming Mark Gyde as our speaker In our series "Towards Easter". He will be speaking from John 14:1-6 & 15-17 Jesus words of "Comfort and Hope" to His disciples.

STEP INTO SOME FUN MISSION TO FAMILIES

Face painting. Crafts. Laughter. Chatting. Churches united in mission. Inviting families to church-run children/ family groups. What a great opportunity on our doorstep! Fun in the Park is a free event organized by Abingdon Town Council aimed at families, on Saturday 6 June in the Abbey Grounds, 10:30-3:30pm. The Church in Abingdon have hosted a stall there in recent years to make the most of the opportunity. We've always relied on a small team, but with Ed Evans no longer with us, and Sarah Fry having finished her term as Community Worker at Christ Church, we need to build a new team if we are to be present this year. There's plenty of scope for using your gifts, even for just an hour: we need set up/ set down teams; face painters; crafty people; chatty people. We need to make a decision by 12 March. So please speak to Keith or Kath if you can be involved.

THE ANNUAL LECTURE IN SCIENCE AND CHRISTIANITY AT ABINGDON SCHOOL

On Thursday 12 March from 4-5pm, Dr John Lennox, Professor of Mathematics Emeritus at Oxford University, will speak on 'Can science explain everything?', which is also the title of his recent book. All welcome. Visitors need to report to the School Reception on Park Road, OX14 1DE. There is visitor parking right opposite.

MEETING GOD IN THE SILENCE Monday 2 March from 9am and 7pm. 'Inhabit the moment.' Please note, both meetings will be in the Church.

FESTIVAL OF PRAYER

BRF/Diocese of Oxford Festival of Prayer is to be held again at Ripon College, Cuddesdon on Saturday 11 July. It offers different approaches to Christian prayer and spirituality in a day-long conference. Details of speakers and workshops are given at <https://www.brfonline.org.uk/products/the-festival-of-prayer-2020>, where you can join in addition up to three different workshops or have one-to-one sessions with a spiritual director and time and space for personal reflection. The cost for the day is £30.00, including coffee and tea, but we will need to bring our own lunch. We get a free place for every five booked – thus reducing the price from £30 to £24. If you would like to join in our group booking, please let me know (andrew.d.turner@btinternet.com) together with which 3 workshops you would like to attend.

Andrew Turner

WEDNESDAY 8AM PRAYER MEETINGS

All welcome to join us in the Prayer Room in the Barns.

PRAYER MINISTRY TRAINING: Would you like to be better equipped to pray for others? In March we are offering a prayer ministry training course, to train and equip anyone in the church who would like to learn and grow in this area. All are welcome. The course will run on 3 Monday evenings: 2, 9 and 16 March. We'll enjoy some teaching, refreshments and practice together in a safe and supportive context. For more information please chat to Alex Horlock or John Owen or, to book, please sign up via ChurchSuite or email office@cca.uk.net. Thank you.

FROM THE CHRIST CHURCH SAFEGUARDING TEAM

There have been some BBC documentaries recently about child abuse in the church in the UK that, although difficult to watch due to the content, are helpful in understanding the issues around the need for safeguarding training in the church. Access through the BBC iPlayer, BBC Panorama "Scandal in the Church of England" April 2019 - available for another 2 months, about issues at Lincoln Cathedral. If after watching you have any questions please get in touch with a member of the Safeguarding Team or Clergy.

LF COFFEE AND WELCOME TEAM NEED YOU

It's crunch time – no biscuits!! Regrettably, without new recruits to the team (despite members doing extra shifts), it may not always be possible to give that special Long Furlong welcome when you arrive, and provide refreshments after the service every Sunday. It is the desire of our friendly and supportive team to ensure that we continue to do this and, with your help, we can. To find out more have a chat with Marian, or any member of the team, or email Marian on mimi.dreier@gmail.com.

INTENTIONAL DISCIPLESHIP CONVERSATIONS

You're welcome to join the NCR and LF Life Group Leaders at their next meeting on **Tuesday 10 March**, when we're exploring looking at how to have intentional discipleship conversations. David Heywood from the diocese will be talking about Personal Discipleship Plans, and Andrew Turner is going to introduce a simple model from Jorden Seng (from New Wine). **In the Barn, 7:45pm.**

Keith Dunnett

CIA LENT LECTURES 2020

The Spiritual Adventure of Henri Matisse, Vence's Chapel of the Rosary

2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 March, 8pm with Charles Miller at St Helen's Church, South Aisle. The theme will be: Henri Matisse (1869-1954) described the Chapel of the Rosary in Vence on France's Côte d'Azur, consecrated for worship in June 1951, as 'the crowning achievement of my life's work'. Why did Matisse say that? We will consider how the Chapel of the Rosary synthesises the vision of one of the 20th century's artistic pioneers. All welcome.

CORONAVIRUS GUIDANCE FROM THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

We wish to follow best-hygiene practices and we advise those with coughs and sneezes to refrain from handshaking during The Peace and to receive Communion in one kind only. At present, there is no Government advice that suggests the use of the Common Cup should be suspended. Everyone can help to reduce the spread of viruses in the following ways:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitiser that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available. This is particularly important after taking public transport.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- If you feel unwell, stay at home, do not attend work or school.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in a bin
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces in the home and work environment.

2020 CHURCH WALK DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - Tuesday 24 March shorter local walk; Thursday 23 April; Wed 13 May; Thurs 18 June; Fri 17 July; Fri 7 Aug short walk; Tues 25 Aug; Thurs 10 Sept; Wed 14 Oct; Fri 6 Nov. These walks will be between 3-4 miles in length. The leader will advertise where they are going two weeks ahead. All are welcome and there is a pub lunch after. Leave Christ Church at 10 am and return is usually about 2.30pm. Any queries ask Maggie Snowball 527673.

CLOSURE OF NORTHCOURT ROAD FROM 2 MARCH

Northcourt Road between the junctions of Shelley Close and the Oxford Road will be closed from Monday 2 March for gas main replacement works which are anticipated to be completed on 20 March. To reach the NCR car park you will need to drive along Northcourt Road from the junction with Wootton Road by the college.

LIVE LENT BOOKLETS

We should have more booklets available on Sunday. For each day through Lent, there is a picture, a reading, a reflection, a prayer, and an action. Recommended by two archbishops! Please do take one if you will use it; £1.50 donation suggested.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FRIDAY 6 MARCH

A women-led, global ecumenical movement: This year's service will be at Trinity Church, at 10.30am (with crèche) or 7.30pm. This year's service is written by the women of Zimbabwe, and all (men and women) are warmly invited. Parking restrictions have been lifted on Park Crescent for both services.

Hilary Beale 01235 525086

ASHLEIGH GIBB

Our mission partner in Thailand is struggling to renew her visa to work in the country doing a vital task in restoring dignity to women who have been trafficked. Please lift her up with your prayers, urgently. Thank you.

Mission Support Group

CHILDREN IN THE PLAYGROUND

Parents/Carers, please could you ensure that your children are supervised in the playground after the service. Unfortunately, all the play equipment behind the fence in the main school playground is now too dangerous to be used and has been condemned. So please can all children not play on it and could those adults supervising the children ensure nobody goes into the fenced area. They are your responsibility!

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Judy Wood, Caroline Craig, Louis Furlong, David Robertson, Rachel Robertson, Logan Mazie (Jane J's great nephew), Cynthia Holland, Hugh Parkman.

If you have any items for the newsletter or for prayers, please contact Anne Taylor
annejbtaylor61@gmail.com or 528505.

Notices now on the web at www.longfurlongchurch.org.uk and on ChurchSuite.

Follow us on Facebook at "Christ Church Long Furlong"

