

The Spire

The Parish Magazine of
CHRIST CHURCH
Southgate

November 2020



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Welcome!

From The Reverend Dr Chrichton Limbert Vicar of Christ Church Southgate

Welcome to *The Spire* Magazine for November. We are at the time of year when we spend time remembering all those who have gone before us in different ways. This year, Sunday the 1st of November is when we remember all the Saints in the morning and all the Souls in the evening. Even though we have restrictions, we are still able to hold a Requiem at 6.30 pm – with the music of Fauré, sung by the choir – to bring to mind those we have loved and see no longer, knowing they are safe in God's loving arms. This year, the number of Souls to be remembered is much greater than normal and, as the virus appears to be returning, more are being added to their number every day. The commemoration of All Souls is particularly needed this year as so many people have had either no funeral or a very limited funeral, so this will be a good way of remembering, celebrating and commending loved ones to the care of God. This difficult year we are still having makes the funeral prayer of John Henry Newman more poignant than ever:

"May He support us all the day long,
till the shades lengthen,
and the evening comes,
and the busy world is hushed,
and the fever of life is over,
and our work is done!
Then in His mercy
may He give us a safe lodging,
and a holy rest, and peace at the last."

Please take time to give thanks in remembrance for those who are in your heart. If you don't feel comfortable to come to the evening service, there will be a short, pre-recorded service on our YouTube channel to allow you to remember your own special ones. This year has been very difficult and we must continue to trust in God's eternal love and care for us all.

The next Sunday, the 8th November, will be Remembrance Sunday. I am delighted that we will be welcoming Bishop Rob of Edmonton to

celebrate, preach and officiate. We will be marking it differently, because our usual numbers cannot fit inside the church and stay safe. After the 10 am Choral Eucharist we will go outside and mark the two-minute silence at 11 am and lay wreaths in the Weld Chapel of Remembrance. There will then be the 11.30 am Said Eucharist back in church. This gives everyone the choice of either coming to a Eucharist followed by the Silence, or coming to the Silence before staying for a Eucharist. Hopefully we will be able to accommodate everyone who wishes to attend.

experiences of this year are not anything that we could have planned for but we must continue to work together to care for each other. We will get through it. We are all having to be very flexible, but God's love still surrounds us all and the Christ Child will still be born among us again at Christmas. The way we do things may well have to be a bit different but the fundamental truths will remain. As John Betjeman put it, nothing... "Can with this single truth compare – That God was man in Palestine and lives today in Bread and Wine."

November allows us to give thanks for those who have gone before us who have shaped and moulded us as the people we are. The

Every blessing and stay safe.

Fr Chrichton

Prayer of the month

As this year progresses towards its close, in many ways it becomes more and more mysterious, more and more confusing. From day to day, the direction of travel changes. The angry people grow more angry. The lonely people grow more lonely. The sad people are surrounded by ever-increasing numbers of reasons for their sadness and depression. The world over, 'haves' and 'have nots' alike, we are prisoners of circumstance. In many ways, what is happening to the world brings to mind the plagues of Egypt... a nudge, perhaps, reminding us to set aside our wants, greed, obsessions and personal preferences, to focus on our fortune in spite of the circumstances, work to repair the misfortunes of others, and to turn to God, to freely worship and to put all our trust in Him. The one time hostage Terry Waite was clearly thinking along these lines when he gave us the following prayer (© Terry Waite):

Oh Lord:

In a world where many are lonely, We thank you for our friendships.

In a world where many are captive, We thank you for our freedom.

In a world where many are hungry, We thank you for your provision.

We pray that you will: enlarge our sympathy, Deepen our compassion, and give us grateful hearts. In Christ's name, Amen.



DAILY HOPE a free phone line offering music, prayers and reflections as well as services from the Church of England. Available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044.**



Weekly Services

Sunday 8.00 am Said Eucharist
10.00 am Choral Eucharist
11.30 am Said Eucharist

Thursday 12.30 pm Said Eucharist
All welcome

All services are held in the Nave, please enter
at the main door at the back of church

For your safety and that of those around you please wear a face
covering and sanitise your hands as you enter and exit the building

Virtual Church

Please visit <https://www.christchurch-southgate.org/virtual-church> where you will find a range of resources, including activities for children, that you may find helpful at this time.

The Virtual Church YouTube Playlist is at <https://www.youtube.com/user/ChristChurchN14/>

Our weekly pre-recorded service and other new resources are publicised via the weekly email newsletter. If you do not already receive this you can sign up at <http://eepurl.com/do5wlv>

Support

If you need, or know anyone who needs, support at this time please get in touch by emailing churchwardens@christchurch-southgate.org or via the contact details for the Churchwardens in the Parish Directory.

Making the Best of What we Have

Just when we were thinking that things were getting easier everything seems to be changing again. As I write this, we are very fortunate in that we are still allowed to worship God together as a community. We still have online services as well, and we can all phone each other if we cannot get to Church, or access the online services.

Visiting others in their own homes, however, is not permitted, and even when the regulations are lifted a bit we may still not feel like socialising, or even going out. We can only do what we feel comfortable with.

I am very concerned about the children, who are missing out on the very ordinary things their parents took for granted. Fortunately for our community the Junior Choir has been able to meet and the Cub Scouts are meeting back in the headquarters, rather than just on Zoom, but everything is different and sanitised.

My grandchildren have missed out on many friends' birthday parties because of the government regulations, so when their Grandpa had a birthday we decided to celebrate with a traditional children's party, rather than a grown up's one.

Luckily our immediate family in England is just bubble-sized, six! And in early October, we could still party indoors without a problem. We had fancy cut sandwiches served on the best china and drank out of cups with saucers, which was a real novelty for the 5 year old. We had healthy stuff as well, but the climax was the wonderful chocolate cake made by the children and their Mum. No blowing out of candles on a cake these days though!



The games were timeless: pass the parcel, a treasure hunt over the whole house, musical statues, and circle games like 'The farmer's in his Den'. A good time was had by all six of us and no one asked for the television!

Things may get worse before they get better though – who knows? However, with God's help, families, friends and of course the Church community will continue to support each other. It's up to each of us to make the best of what we have already, and if at all possible, to share what we have with others.

Hazel Miall

Thank you!

Thank you all so very much for your thoughts, love and prayers. I am so very grateful, and for all your messages too. It made a tremendous difference as I couldn't have visitors in hospital. I came out on October 12th after three long weeks. I am recovering at home now with the help of family and looking forward to the day when I can return to normal life again (whatever that now is). God bless you all.

Sandra Anderson

Remembrance Sunday 8th November

We welcome Bishop Rob of Edmonton who will celebrate, preach and officiate at all services

- | | |
|----------|---|
| 10.00 am | Choral Eucharist |
| 10.55 am | Act of Remembrance, including two minutes silence at 11 am and laying of wreaths in the Weld Chapel |
| 11.30 am | Said Eucharist |



Staying Connected

The last 8 months have been strange times for us all and we have missed the contacts that normally make up so much of our daily routine.

Some people have been juggling everything from home – working, educating children, and all the day to day things. For the older of us, some have been shielding, others in lockdown in nursing homes, and most of us have had all usual socialising activities taken away. Many of us have had more time on our hands but been less able to be with family and friends.

Our church life has also been disrupted. Some of us have been fortunate to get to services in church or watch on YouTube. But many have still not been able to do any of this. As a church family we have tried to keep in touch with everyone through copies of *The Spire* that we have been sending out each month, or by sending cards or letters, making phone calls or doorstep visits.

However, we feel we could do better. **If there is something more we can do for you – such as a regular phone call, deliver a service sheet or something else – please let Hilary Meur know.**

We will do our best. You can contact Hilary by phone or, if you prefer, through the post:

Telephone – 020 8360 2362

Postal address – 136 Green Dragon Lane, London N21 1ET

Below are a few ideas that may appeal to you and add variety into the daily routine.

Things we can do to help stay positive & maintain our mental health.

- Pray
- Phone a friend, or send a card or letter
- Get some fresh air and exercise
- Listen to some music and sing
- Gardening – even looking after an indoor pot plant or flowers counts here!
- Do some cooking, make a nourishing meal, or do some baking
- Read a book, colour or paint a picture, knit or crochet, do a jigsaw
- Keep a thank you diary at bedtime to help you sleep

Saint of the Month: Saint Hilda, Feast Day November 17th



Hilda (sometimes called Hild) was born in Northumbria in 614 and was the great niece of King Edwin of Northumbria. Together with him she was baptised at the age of 13 by St Paulinus at York. But it wasn't until she was 33 that she decided to become a nun, and then in 649 St Aidan made her the abbess of a convent in Hartlepool.

After some years she founded a double monastery in Whitby which housed both monks and nuns. Unlike many other double monasteries at the time the monks and nuns in Whitby mixed freely.

We particularly remember Hilda for her hosting of the Synod of Whitby in 664. At the time, the church was divided about how to calculate the date of Easter each year. One party held to the Celtic method and the other to the Roman method. Each party sent representatives to Whitby to the Synod. Hilda personally favoured the Celtic position but put her personal preferences aside when during the course of the synod it was clear that the Roman position was the one preferred. The church has gone on to calculate the date of Easter by this means ever since. And it still causes confusion. Hilda thought that solidarity in the church was more important than her own feelings.

Hilda is also remembered for having discovered

the talents of the herdsman, Caedmon, the first English religious poet. She encouraged his ability to turn biblical passages into song.

The original monastery in Whitby was made of wood and thatch and, of course, has long ago vanished although recent excavations



have revealed it was far more extensive than at first thought. The ruined abbey that we can now see on the cliff top at Whitby is the remains of a Benedictine Abbey that was built in the 11th century and destroyed in the Reformation.

We owe most of what we know about Hilda to the Venerable Bede. He thought highly of Hilda, writing 'She was the adviser of rulers as well as ordinary folk; she insisted on the study of Holy Scripture and of proper preparation for the priesthood; the influence of her example of peace and charity extended beyond the walls of her monastery; all who knew her called her Mother such was her wonderful godliness and grace'.

Cathy Dallman

Information mainly from *Penguin Dictionary of Saints* by Donald Attwater, and from the English Heritage Website, <https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/whitby-abbey/history-and-stories/st-hild/>

Images:

By Wilson44691 - Own work, CC0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=41543102>

Image © *English Heritage* at <https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/whitby-abbey/history-and-stories/st-hild/>

Singing on behalf of the Congregation – Music in the Era of the “New Normal”

Since the late summer, professional and amateur choirs across England have been allowed to resume singing for public worship and rehearsals. At Christ Church, this has allowed a gradual return of our Choir, who are allowed to sing under rules prescribed by the Government, the Royal School of Church Music, and the Diocese of London.



While it is wonderful that choirs in England have been allowed to sing, it has sadly been decided by the Government that congregations are not, even from behind a mask. The Choir and I therefore feel a great sense of duty towards our responsibility to be the custodians of our congregation’s sung praises to God, as well as feeling very blessed that we are allowed to sing at all in these challenging times. I am so grateful to all the congregation members who have said such kind things to me in support of our musical programme.

With this special responsibility, I have been giving careful consideration to the selection of repertoire. The principal I have followed is a simple one - to select music which is functional for liturgy. This should always be a choir director’s guiding principle and at times like this, I am strongly reminded of its importance. All of the hymns and anthems we sing are sung to support specific moments of the service. For example, at the Eucharist, the Gathering Hymn accompanies the procession at the start of the service, and the Gradual Hymn accompanies the procession of the Gospel to the centre of the Nave. Even in the era of the new normal, these moments in the liturgy still require musical accompaniment.

As is our custom, the choir still sing an Introit, Psalm, Agnus Dei and Motet. For most services, space restrictions within the Stalls mean we can have four singers, so I pick music which suits small forces. The music that we sing as a community holds an important place in our worship, offering key moments of participation in the service alongside the spoken word. While congregational singing is still not allowed, it is really important to retain lots of spoken responses within our liturgy, hence our decision to not sing the Gloria, Sanctus, Benedictus, and Gospel acclamations. There was also the question of what to do about hymns, and my solution was to resort to Gregorian Chant “Propers”, the ancient eucharist hymns of the Church. Although we could have up to five Propers, we are currently singing plainsong at the Gradual and Offertory.

The Choir is also still providing music for our Virtual Church services on YouTube. I would encourage all those who are missing hymn singing to watch these videos, as these provide you with the opportunity to sing along to many of your favourites. And the wonderful thing about our YouTube services is that they are there for posterity, allowing you the chance to revisit them as many times as you wish. Careful preparation is now being put into our music selection for the Advent and Christmas seasons. While I do not want to spoil the surprise, I can promise you there will be plenty of opportunity to hear many of your favourite carols across the whole range of our online Christmas services and to sing along at home.

Richard Brain

Social Responsibility Committee Report

At the beginning of November our 35 shoeboxes will begin their journey to **Operation Christmas Child**. Thank you to everyone who has made a contribution – lots of lovely knitting, skipping ropes, balls, crayons, and also the money for the postage.



Through September we had our market stall outside church and sold a range of goods and collected 'Jars of Hope'. Some proceeds from the stall will be sent to **Noah's Ark** who have a 'Moments that Matter' campaign on at present. Noah's Ark are striving to raise £1.2m to cover the annual cost of their nurses and carers. Every donation made by the weekend of 22nd to 23rd November will be doubled by a sponsor. If you wish to donate, you can let us have your gift (Ronald Lo will collect any cheques) or you can send a cheque payable directly to 'Noah's Ark Children's Hospice' at The Ark, Byng Road, Barnet, EN5 4NP for the attention of Megan Evans. If appropriate please include a note indicating that you are from Christ Church Southgate.

We will send £300 from the Jars to **Christian Aid**, who we didn't support earlier in the year.

We hope that from Advent Sunday, 29th November, we will have our **Gift Tree** in church. If you are able please take a label, buy the gift and return to church in a gift bag with the label attached by Sunday 13th December. These gifts will go to 'Kids Out' who we supported last year. They will be given to disadvantaged children who may have been abused, or may be living in a low-income family, or be a refugee.



Recently I was asked if I knew of a charity who give soft toys to refugee children. This was after watching families arriving on the south coast in a small boat and with very few possessions. An individual teddy could bring a lot of comfort to a child. Several years ago we knitted Teddies for Tragedies. I have now knitted a couple and I am looking for a charity, so if you would like to knit or contribute please let us know.

Thank you for the Harvest Gifts which have gone to the **Food Bank** and **Homeless Action** in Barnet. There were queues outside the food bank so there are still many local families in great need. Chrysanthemums were given to the recently bereaved and some of our older congregation.

We hope that we will still be able to find a Covid-safe way of selling Christmas cards & gifts, masks, Harvest Chutney, Piccalilli and Quince Jelly. We will give details on the notice sheet and website.

Once again thank you for your continuing support.

Jackie Anderson and Hilary Meur

'The Parable of the Old Man and the Young' by Wilfred Owen*

*So Abram rose, and clave the wood, and went,
And took the fire with him and a knife.
And as they sojourned both of them together,
Isaac the first-born spake and said, My Father,
Behold the preparations, fire and iron,
But where the lamb for this burnt-offering?
Then Abram bound the youth with belts and straps,
And builded parapets and trenches there,
And stretchèd forth the knife to slay his son.
When lo! an angel called him out of heaven,
Saying, Lay not thy hand upon the lad,
Neither do anything to him. Behold,
A ram, caught in a thicket by its horns;
Offer the Ram of Pride instead of him.
But the old man would not so, but slew his son,
And half the seed of Europe, one by one.*



Writing in July 1918, a few months before the end of the First World War and his own death in action, Owen creates an extended metaphor out of the story of Abraham's test (Genesis 22, 1–14) to express anger at the extensive loss of young soldiers' lives. Abram symbolises the rulers of Europe and Isaac represents the youth who are sacrificed for political reasons. The use of the Authorised Version diction creates the impression that Owen is simply retelling the biblical story until we reach line 7, when Abram's equipment is transmuted into tools of warfare (*belts, straps, parapets and trenches*), thus hinting at the poem's purpose. Owen then returns to the biblical text but changes the ending: the rejection of the ram supplied by God for sacrifice symbolises the

stubborn pride of the world leaders who cannot back down in the conflict; this 'old man' does not obey the angel of God, but kills his son. It seems that in his anger, Owen cannot resist adding a final line to create a climactic couplet which underlines the number of deaths. He uses the word 'seed' to refer back to God's promise to Abraham that he will have many descendants, thus pointing to the partial loss of a future generation through young men killed in the war. This slightly distorts the analogy and it is not surprising that Siegfried Sassoon, Owen's fellow soldier and poet-mentor, omitted the final line when he published the poem after Owen's death.

Pride, regarded in medieval times as one of the Seven Deadly Sins, is a destructive force in all of us: as Owen shows, it can create lethal conflicts. It can also be responsible for other misfortunes, both social and personal. There is truth in the saying 'Pride comes before a fall', as illustrated in the story of Satan's expulsion from Heaven and in much literature from Ancient Greece onwards. It is natural for human beings to feel pride in their achievements: over the centuries, Man has made remarkable progress in civilisation. However, we continue to make catastrophic mistakes. As well as wars between nations we have created many other massive world problems. Despite their advanced knowledge, scientists are perplexed by a new disease which threatens us all, regardless of wealth or status. We are clearly not invincible and this latest reminder should perhaps lead us to sacrifice our own 'Ram of Pride'.

Margaret Gourd

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Parish Life in Pictures

October 2020



Harvest Festival 2020 was socially distanced but generous of spirit, gathered round an altar of hops, wheat and barley.





The Pilgrimage from St Paul's to St Albans on Saturdays has been a delightful way of walking together in fellowship and finding unexpected local delights.

Parish Walk – September 2020

We gathered on the lawn around the memorial at the end of the driveway from the Cockfosters Road entrance to Trent Park. The sky was grey with a moderate breeze blowing. It's been a while since we saw some walkers due to the COVID-19 restrictions and we also welcomed three new faces. Having ascertained that a few others were not going to join us after all, we set off, in two socially distanced groups, through the *Go Ape* grounds on a path in the woodland area. Screams and the whizzing of zip wire rides filled the air. A couple of *Go Ape* staff pushed past us to get to their stations.



When we emerged from the woodland onto more open ground at the edge of Trent Park, the sun was trying to come out and it became warmer. Many horse riders were out on the track and we then realized that the track runs to the Trent Park Equestrian Centre. Blue skies greeted us when we turned into Merryhills Way that runs east along the Merryhills Brook. For some reason, we couldn't see the birds of prey that usually hover in the sky around here, not even the crows that are normally in the fields!



Merryhills Way ends at the back of houses on the street that leads to the Ridgeway. The Ridgeway pub was inviting but we had decided against stopping there for lunch to reduce contact with strangers as a pandemic precaution. We pushed on, past Chase Farm Hospital with its new housing development, and then past the now derelict Royal Chace Hotel – what a pity that a nice hotel and watering hole will now be history.

We went off the Ridgeway soon after the Royal Chace Hotel into a small wood and emerged onto fields along a path that is part of the London Outer Orbital Path. It started to rain just before we stopped for our picnic lunch, each group sitting on a block that looked like an access to

some underground facility. By the time we had finished lunch, it stopped raining. We carried on, gently climbing back up over the next mile and a half to the top of Trent Park, past a grazing herd of cattle and tilled fields.



Once inside Trent Park again, it was a simple matter of following familiar paths back to the car park and café next to our starting point. We had a lovely and enjoyable walk in preparation for the Vicar's pilgrimage walk from St. Paul's Cathedral to St. Albans Abbey.

Ronald Lo

Stewardship News

Since my last report in September we have continued to collect cash and contactless payments at the weekly services. However, it is still far below the level that was collected prior to March. The amount of one-off donations that were made during the past months has now also dried up almost completely.



As stated previously we are in a more fortunate position than some churches in that the majority of the members of our Stewardship Scheme pay directly into our bank account, either using the Parish Gift Scheme (PGS) or by standing order. However, we are currently not recommending the latter and, in fact – as stated many times before – we really would prefer all regular bank givers to switch over to the PGS. I would urge donors currently using standing orders to take this on board, a couple of people recently have agreed to do just that and I thank them for taking this step.

The number of parishioners that contribute regularly in cash during services has decreased over the years but I would urge those still using cash or cheques to join the majority of parishioners in our Stewardship Scheme by switching to donations via their bank account through the Parish Giving Scheme.

This has been well publicised over the years, but I appreciate that there may be those that do not understand what the scheme is about or are reluctant to change their long-standing arrangements. All the information used to be on the rack at the back of church, but on account of the Covid pandemic, this is not presently available. So if you would like to join, but are unsure of doing so or of how to go about it, please give me a call on the number in the Directory at the back of *The Spire* or send me an email and I will be very pleased to discuss it.

For those willing to join immediately this is much easier to do now that donations to the PGS can be set-up over the telephone. All that is needed is one call to their dedicated helpline number 0333 002 1271. I really urge those concerned to make this change to their donations, it makes a difference in all sorts of ways, not least in reduced bank charges, easier administration, certainty of income for budgetary purposes, and speedier repayment of gift aid.

Mick Meur, Stewardship Recorder
mikestatistics@gmail.com



PARISH GIVING SCHEME PARISH GIVING SCHEME

'Moments that Matter' – Noah's Ark under COVID-19



Making every precious moment count, throughout coronavirus and beyond.

Since the start of the pandemic Noah's Ark has been welcoming children and families to The Ark. We've been there for children in acute need, including those at the end of their lives, as well as their families who are facing the unimaginable. One mum, who recently stayed at The Ark with her two disabled children, said afterwards: "The Ark is a brilliant place for us to be able to stay - it's like having a home from home where we know almost everyone and where the girls love to be. When we really needed it, The Ark was there for us and really helped us through some tough times."



For the children we care for, life is not measured by time. It's measured by moments. Our specialist nurses and carers are dedicated to creating Moments that Matter for London's most unwell babies and children. Our upcoming '**Moments that Matter**' campaign will showcase these moments. Striving to raise £1.2m, the annual cost of our charity's nurses and carers, every donation given to the campaign on the **22-23 November** will be doubled. We hope Christ

Church Southgate can join our Noah's Ark supporters who are coming together in a unique, unforgettable way to pay for the charity's nurses and carers for an entire year. If you have any questions about the campaign do feel free to get in touch with Megan on 079479563456 or mevans@noahsarkhospice.org.uk.

*Megan Evans,
Noah's Ark Children's Hospice*

Editors' note: for further information about how to donate, see the Social Responsibility Committee's Report on page 10 in this magazine.

Report from the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

On the last Sunday of October, we held our, much delayed, Annual Parish Meetings to review the year 2019. It all felt a bit like considering ancient history! However, it was an opportunity to thank those whose term of office came to an end and to elect a new Churchwarden and elect or re-elect members of the PCC and Deanery Synod.

We thanked Cath Harvey for her devoted service as Warden, and welcomed Kate Carroll as the new Warden. Thanks were also given to Briony Hadjidaniel and Teresa Walden for their contributions to the PCC over many years – both are standing down at the end of their elected terms. We welcomed Tracy Allen, Bev Rutledge, Gina Stone and Clive Woodhouse as newly elected members to the PCC, and also Hilary Meur who was elected to continue for a further term. Finally, we reappointed Peter Holiday and Ronald Lo as our representatives to the Deanery Synod and welcomed John Macrory, newly elected to join them.

Many thanks to them all for offering to serve the Christ Church community.

Clare Boulton

News from the Committees

With the continued absence of physical meetings of committees, what we can report here is largely an overview of the actual work of those committees as reported to the PCC. A Zoom meeting of the **PCC** on 13th October highlighted these recent committee activities. **Plant & Fabric** has been very active over the past weeks, overseeing repair of the tiled floor on the way into church, repairs and refurbishment of Oakfield Road and so forth.

Work in the domains of **Outreach** and **Pastoral** also continues as individuals set about moving forward the more focused areas of activity identified by Fr Chrichton after the previous meeting of the PCC in September (supporting people – groups and individuals, developing the garden space, helping to maintain War Graves in the cemetery, etc.).

Parish Centre Management continues to ensure the upkeep and smooth running of the halls as reported in October. **Social Responsibility** is reported elsewhere in full.

Patricia Ashby

HELP NEEDED PLEASE

My son Peter and his wife Janet are planning to return to this country in December for a year-long Home Assignment. They will need a car as they plan to move around the country visiting their supporters.

So, if you or anyone you know is planning to change your car in the next few months please let me know.

Cathy Dallman: tel 0208 886 5918, email cgd@cix.co.uk

Note from the Editors

Just one more magazine before the end of 2020! And that will be the Christmas double edition that takes us through into 2021. Following our invitation to prospective contributors in the October edition, one or two people have been in touch and we are very grateful – thank you. But we still need more. *The Spire* at the moment is written by a handful of regular contributors – some nine or ten individuals... about 4% of the Electoral Roll membership. It would be really nice to hear from at least a few of the other 200 or so recipients and readers.

While we cannot guarantee to print everything we are sent, please keep in mind that we do need copy – we would rather have too much and need to devise a waiting list for inclusion than to be stretching things out and/or printing things that may not suit a particular month or time of year. Lots of interesting and different short pieces! That's what we need.

We would also be grateful if you could submit completed and finalised pieces by the advertised deadline, **to the Parish Office**. November has been pretty scary in terms of trying to keep track of contributions – both editors have received umpteen messages addressed to them personally, both before and after the deadline. This definitely makes the job of putting the magazine together much harder than it needs to be. We will lose things! We are human!

Thank you.

Clare & Patricia



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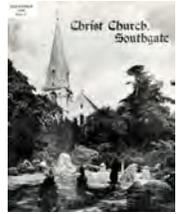
Clare Boulton

Spire Style Guide

- 9 pt Calibri Font
- No complex formatting (i.e. don't insert pictures into your text, etc.)
- Use only a single word space only after a full-stop
- Ideally not more than 400 words, unless this has been invited, or discussed in advance
- Photos should be sent as .jpeg files
- Respect Copyright – always cite sources if you have quoted text or reproduced images from elsewhere (internet, books, etc.)
- Any questions, please email the editors:
churchwardens@christchurch-southgate.org
p.d.s.ashby@gmail.com

Apposite Aphorisms from the Archives!

When Clare and I were trawling the 1970 *Christ Church Southgate Parish Magazine* for the Parish Centre feature that we included last month, we notice various little interesting details – not sufficient in themselves to merit re-printing, but parallels to our lives today. In his ‘Vicar’s Letter’, Murray Macleod describes a visit from the Bishop, makes mention of various worshippers driving to Christ Church from some distance, describes the welcoming of newcomers by the laity, and refers to our patronage of St Paul’s New Southgate. Somehow, the constant that all this implies is very reassuring.



Interestingly, the ‘Vicar’s Notes’ also contained a report of a branch breaking off “one of your lovely old trees” in the churchyard which damaged a stone cross, and an astonishing piece contributed by Mrs Macleod about an American abortion service, bringing women to London for safe and legal interventions. Nothing changes.

We also spotted a couple of carefully typed aphorisms, contributed by parishioners, and which really could have been written with lockdown in mind! We thought they were worth re-printing here:

Membership of the Body is a stumbling-block to many: if only we could choose our brothers! But Christ loves the dull, the unresponsive, the eccentric, the domineering, the awkward, the incompetent, the irritating and the neurotic, as he loves us.

(Anon)

Most people think that work is what we ought to be doing: prayer helps it. Actually, prayer is what we ought to be doing: work tests it.

(William Temple)

Patricia Ashby & Clare Boulton

A sadness of broccoli

Cut at the peak of its beauty in the morning light with love and with care not too much just a little for Granny to take home, a really tender stem.

I looked at it when I got home, it was so lovely so fresh and I thought shall I cook it tonight and then no

It needs a grander meal

to do it justice perhaps tomorrow

of course they say tomorrow never comes but it does and with tomorrow comes the sadness overnight the smell of melting broccoli looking in the bag it’s dried up it’s covered in a sort of fluffy blanket there is a caterpillar or two it was cut with such love and I’ve wasted it now what can I do.

Put it in the garden for the robin and weep .

The robin will like the caterpillar.

By Iona Penn, July 2020



PARISH DIRECTORY**Parish Office**

*Open on Wednesdays and Fridays 10 a.m.—1 p.m. and 2.30—5 p.m.
Please phone beforehand if you have any special requests or needs.
N.B. Notices for the Sunday pew sheets should reach the Office no later than
10 a.m. on a Friday. If possible, please e-mail them.*

Mail 1 The Green, London N14 7EG
Phone 8886 0384
Email office@christchurch-southgate.org
Website www.christchurch-southgate.org

Clergy

Vicar The Reverend Dr Chrichton Limbert
Address 1 The Green, Southgate, London, N14 7EG
Phone 8882 0917
Email frch138@btinternet.com

Assistant Priest The Reverend Hazel Miall
Address 85 Conway Road, Southgate, London, N14 7BD
Phone 07980 740587
Email hazelhmiall@btinternet.com

Lay Readers

Cathy Dallman, 4 Greenacre Walk, Southgate, N14 7DB 8886 5918
Jackie Anderson 8245 0305
Sandra Anderson 07947 027265

Churchwardens

Clare Boulton, 321 Gladbeck Way, Enfield, EN2 7HR 8367 5961
Catherine Harvey, 1 Ruby Road, Walthamstow, E17 4RE 07872 493556

PCC

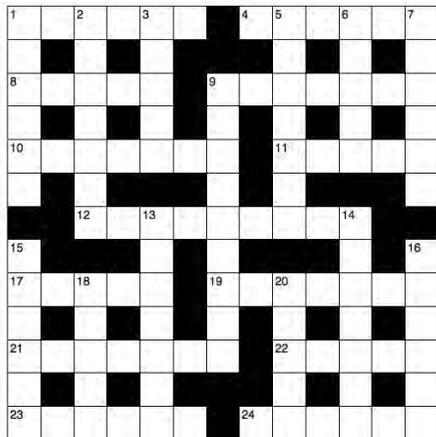
Secretary John Macrory 8440 3258
john@macroryward.co.uk
Treasurer Clare Boulton (as above)
Stewardship Michael Meur, 136 Green Dragon Lane, N21 1ET 8360 2362

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Director of Music Richard Brain 07979 850546
music@christchurch-southgate.org
*Assistant Director
of Music* David Hinit, 19 Mercia Rd, Baldock, Herts, SG7 6RZ 07734 209662
Treasurer Ian Winton, 7 Foxgrove, N14 7EA 8882 3680

Sacristan	Peter Holiday, 61 Arnos Grove, Southgate, N14 7AG	8886 4126
Sidesmen	Judith Lo	8882 3335
Sub-committee Chairs/contacts		
<i>Outreach</i>	Fr Chrichton Limbert (as above)	
<i>Plant and Fabric</i>	Catherine Harvey (as above)	
<i>Social Responsibility</i>	Jackie Anderson (as above)	
<i>Resources</i>	Ronald Lo	8882 3335
<i>Pastoral</i>	Cathy Dallman (as above)	
Electoral Roll Officer	Patricia Ashby	8886 2528
Parish Magazine "The Spire"		
<i>Editorial Team</i>	Copy to be sent to the Parish Office (see above)	
<i>Treasurer</i>	Hilary Meur, 136 Green Dragon Lane, N21 1ET	8360 2362
Flower Arrangers	Contact the Parish Office (see above)	
Parish Centre/Church Halls		
<i>Chairman</i>	Philip Miall, 85 Conway Road, N14 7BD	8882 6738
<i>Secretary</i>	Clare Boulton (see above)	
<i>Lettings</i>	christchurchparishcentre@gmail.com	
<i>Treasurer</i>	Michael Meur (as above)	
Christ Church Association Bar		
<i>Contact</i>	Clive Woodhouse, 41b Osborne Road, N13 5BT	8882 0014
Friday Coffee Morning	<i>Every Friday morning 10.30 a.m. – 12.15 p.m. in Church</i>	
<i>Contact</i>	Hilary Meur (as above)	
Lunch Fellowship	<i>Usually on 2nd Wednesday in the month at noon in Church</i>	
<i>Contact</i>	Cathy Dallman (as above)	
Waterfall Group	<i>1st Tuesday 8.30 p.m. – informal women's meeting</i>	
	Frances Wyatt	8361 5379
	Glenys Rodway, 14 Dawlish Avenue, N13 4HP	8882 5970
Scout Group	The Reverend Hazel Miall, <i>Cubs</i>	07980 740 587
	Stephen Smith, <i>Group Scout Leader</i>	8882 0991
Bellringers	<i>Practice held Wednesdays 7.30 p.m.</i>	
<i>Captain</i>	Martin Sutcliffe, 46 Brookdale, N11 1BN	8368 1974
Bridge Club	<i>Thursdays 7.30 p.m. – 10 p.m.</i>	
<i>Secretary</i>	Jean Jobson, 26 New River Crescent, N13 5RF	8882 5619
Young Fogeys	<i>For the active and retired, though you need not be either!</i>	
<i>Contact</i>	Jean Thomas, 1 Bramford Court, N14 6DH	8882 8133

NOVEMBER CROSSWORD



Across

- 1 'The Lord Jesus... took bread, and when He had given — , he broke it' (1 Corinthians 11:24) (6)
- 4 'He has taken me to the banquet hall, and His — over me is love' (Song of Songs 2:4) (6)
- 8 Surrey town that hosts the National Christian Resources Exhibition (5)
- 9 Also known as Abednego (Daniel 1:7) (7)
- 10 Liken (Isaiah 40:18) (7)
- 11 A son of Etam, descendant of Judah (1 Chronicles 4:3) (5)
- 12 A part of the temple where the blood of a young bull was to be smeared (Ezekiel 45:19) (9)
- 17 'They make many promises, take false — and make agreements' (Hosea 10:4) (5)
- 19 Roman province to which Paul returned after evangelizing it on his first missionary journey (Acts 16:6) (7)
- 21 Material used to make baby Moses' basket (Exodus 2:3) (7)
- 22 'And feeble as — , in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail' (5)
- 23 'The watchman opens the gate for him, and the sheep — to his voice' (John 10:3) (6)
- 24 Stalk carrying the sponge of wine vinegar given to Christ on the cross (John 19:29) (6)

Down

- 1 Elijah dug one round the altar he built on Mount Carmel and filled it with water (1 Kings 18:32) (6)
- 2 'I am not — of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes' (Romans 1:16) (7)
- 3 Buddhist term relating to belief in reincarnation (5)
- 5 Damascus disciple who, at God's command, restored the sight of the blinded Saul of Tarsus (Acts 9:12) (7)
- 6 and 16 Horses: their sound (Jeremiah 50:11) (5) and their gait (Joel 2:4) (6)
- 7 A three (anag.) (6)
- 9 Athenian council addressed memorably by Paul (Acts 17:22) (9)
- 13 Abide by (Galatians 3:5) (7)
- 14 Persian princes (Daniel 3:2) (7)
- 15 Force (Galatians 6:12) (6)
- 16 See 6 Down (6)
- 18 Paste (anag.) (5)
- 20 How the cedars of Lebanon are described (Isaiah 2:13) (5)

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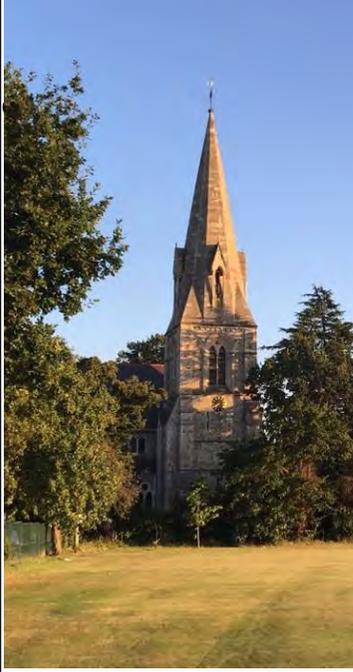


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Christ Church Southgate is an Eco-Church, we have recently achieved the Silver Award.

We are committed to caring for God's earth in the different areas of our life and work and are actively working to reduce our environmental impact

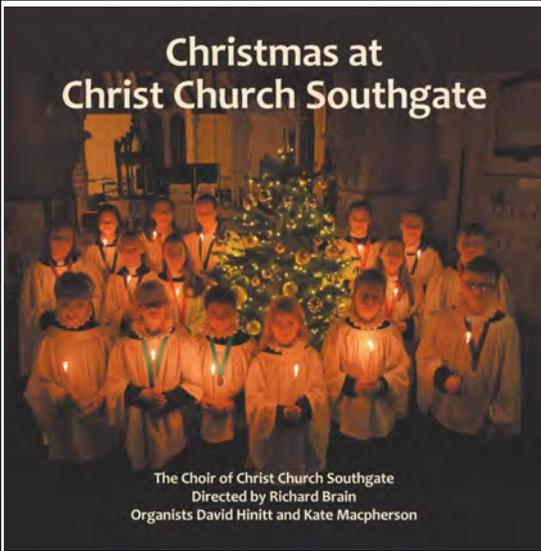


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Christmas at Christ Church Southgate

Christmas at Christ Church Southgate

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Once in Royal David's City | H J Gauntlett, A H Mann, arr. David Willcocks |
| 2. The Angel Gabriel | Basque traditional, arr. Edgar Pettman |
| 3. Kings of Orient | John Henry Hopkins Jr |
| 4. God rest you Merry Gentlemen | English traditional, arr. David Willcocks |
| 5. Gaudete | Anon |
| 6. Away in a Manger | W J Kirkpatrick, arr. David Willcocks |
| 7. O Little Town of Bethlehem | Forest Green, arr. Ralph Vaughan-Williams |
| 8. Jesus Child | John Rutter, arr. Kenneth Pont |
| 9. I Saw Three Ships | English traditional, arr. Richard Lloyd |
| 10. Shepherd's Pipe Carol | John Rutter |
| 11. The Little Road to Bethlehem | Michael Head |
| 12. Ding Dong! Merrily on High | Charles Wood |
| 13. O Holy Night | Adolphe Adam, arr. John Rutter |
| 14. Sans Day Carol | Cornish traditional, arr. John Rutter |
| 15. O Come all ye Faithful | J F Wade, arr. David Willcocks |
| 16. In the Bleak Midwinter | Harold Darke |
| 17. O Magnum Mysterium | Morten Lauridsen |
| 18. Sussex Carol | English traditional, arr. David Willcocks |
| 19. Hark! The Herald Angels Sing | Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, arr. David Willcock |



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 Organists David Hinitt and Kate Macpherson

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