

£1.50

# The Spire



June and July 2023

The Parish Magazine of  
CHRIST CHURCH  
Southgate



[www.facebook.com/christchurchsouthgate](https://www.facebook.com/christchurchsouthgate)



[www.twitter.com/ChristChurchN14](https://www.twitter.com/ChristChurchN14)



## Planning some Building Work? Received a Party Wall Notice? Need Advice?

Call Forrester&Co. — we're Expert Party Wall Surveyors offering free initial consultations and quotations 'without obligation'. Call or email us today or visit our website at [www.forresterandco.com](http://www.forresterandco.com) for more information.

**Bruce Forrester** BSc (Hons), MRICS, C.Build E, FCABE, MCIArb, FFPWS, FISVA  
020 8367 7755 | 07957 541311 | [office@forresterandco.com](mailto:office@forresterandco.com)



**Forrester&Co.**



MACRORY WARD SOLICITORS have as of 1 October 2022 merged with

## AxiomDWFM Solicitors

Macrory Ward have been assisting Christ Church members in legal matters since 1984, particularly in wills, property, tax planning, powers of attorney and probate matters.

Home visits to the housebound and elderly.

Please contact Martina Ward, Margaret Iwasyszyn or John Macrory

*telephone:* (020) 8440 3258

*Email:*

[m.ward@axiomdwfm.com](mailto:m.ward@axiomdwfm.com)

*or*

[m.iwasyszyn@axiomdwfm.com](mailto:m.iwasyszyn@axiomdwfm.com)

**27 Station Road, New Barnet EN5 1PH**



# Welcome!

## From The Reverend Dr Chrichton Limbert Vicar of Christ Church Southgate

Welcome to the latest edition of Spire magazine, which has all the pictures of a very special weekend of celebration we had for the Coronation. The services were splendid, the majestic music was great (as featured on German and French Television), the weather for the lunch was perfect (thanks to the King for drawing the raffle), and my predecessor Dr David Hoyle did a marvelous job controlling everything from the front as Dean of Westminster. All in all, a genuinely once-in-a-lifetime event for most of us.

Our Curate, Fr Paul Ellerby, is being ordained as priest on Saturday 24th July in St Pancras church (opposite Euston Station) at 3pm. I really cannot believe it is already a year since he joined us as Deacon last July. As St Pancras is such a large church there are no tickets needed, so please come along to support Fr Paul as he takes his next big step in his ministry. At the end of that service Bishop Rob will be laying down his crozier as he formally leaves us as our Bishop. An occasion of celebration and farewell.

Fr Paul will be celebrating the Eucharist for the first time in Christ Church the following morning at 10am on Sunday 24th June. It will be such a memorable and joyful occasion to welcome Fr Paul into his new office. However,

it will be another occasion of celebration and farewell as our ordinand Claire Betts will be with us for the last time before she is ordained Deacon at St Paul's Cathedral on the following Saturday, the 1st July at 3pm. Unfortunately, this is ticket only – and they are very restricted – so we need to send her off with our prayers and best wishes on the 24th June.

Claire will be leaving us to be the full-time Curate at the joint parish of Bush Hill Park in Enfield with the Revd Preb Dr Amatu Christian-Iwuagwu as her training incumbent. As Claire will still be living in New Southgate, I expect we will still see her about in Christ Church now and then.

July is then a month of expeditions. I will be leading the Tuscany Trip to the Puccini Festival – see Fr Paul if interested – and then the choir is off to the residency in Truro Cathedral for a week from the 24th. It is a lovely cathedral in a lovely setting. If you are planning a holiday anywhere near, do drop in and say hello. However you are enjoying your summer, I pray you will have a wonderful time of rest and refreshment – we've certainly packed it in this year so far!

Every blessing.

Fr Chrichton

# Services at Christ Church - All Welcome!

## Weekly Services

**Sunday** 8.00 am  
10.00 am  
6.30 pm

**Said Eucharist**  
**Sung Eucharist**  
**Evensong \***



**Tuesday** 7.30 pm

**Said Eucharist**  
*Healing on First & Third week*

**Thursday** 12.30 pm

**Said Eucharist**  
*Followed by (bring your own) picnic lunch and prayer group*

**\* Choral Evensong on the following Sundays in June and July:**  
4th June, 11th June, 18th June, 25th June, 2nd July, 16th July

Morning and evening prayer in the Lady Chapel, following the Common Worship Daily Prayer liturgy and the Daily Lectionary readings:

**Morning Prayer 8.30am**  
**Evening Prayer 5.30pm**

**Wednesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday**  
**Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday**

**He who kneels before God can stand before anyone**

## Note from the Editors

It's been a busy couple of months for Christ Church activities, with Easter and the Coronation, so there's plenty of pictures in this edition to commemorate these occasions. We do hope you enjoy and thanks as always to our contributors.

A reminder that copy for the August and September edition is due by **Wednesday 19th July**. Wishing you a lovely summer!

*Freya and Imogen*



**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**



## Retreat to Iona

A few weeks ago, my husband Philip and I joined a group of fellow Christians on a retreat to Iona. I have long been fascinated by the island and its history, which can be traced back to Columba who arrived there in 563 AD with 13 followers and established a monastery.

This very small island off the west coast of Scotland has, for a long time, been on my list of places to go to. The journey is a complicated one because to get there one has to travel through the island of Mull. This involves two separate ferries. We decided to leave the planning to Mc Cabe pilgrimages, and it was an excellent decision. The only planning we needed to do was to get ourselves to Glasgow.

Once settled in our lovely hotel, we were able to join in with as many of the planned activities we wanted, but we felt under no obligation to do so, if we just wanted to spend time in quiet reflection. I was glad that we joined the two excellent guided walks round the island.

The Abbey now has a thriving community of Christians, and we were able to join them in their daily worship at the beginning and end of the day. I couldn't help thinking how difficult it must be to have strangers joining an established community every day. I learnt a lot about Christian hospitality from the community who were based there.



We were also invited to a service of Holy Communion at the Scottish Episcopal chapel of the 'Bishops House' which we could see from our hotel window. This was originally a Victorian establishment and is now a diocesan retreat centre. The hospitality there was exemplary. The young woman I sat next to quietly helped me through the service book. She wasn't to know I was already familiar with it. Being interested in ecclesiastical embroidery I asked about theirs and was shown their beautiful Altar Frontal made by local people.

One of the highlights of the week was the trip to Fingal's caves, created 59 million years ago by volcanic activity. The day was pleasant one and the boat trip to the island of Staffa was over calm water. The climb from the boat to the caves was quite arduous but the experience when we got there was second to none. The atmosphere was astounding with the wild birds were all around us. We were all able to feel God's presence in God's natural Cathedral.



*Hazel Miall*

## The Greatest Story Ever Told

But how could you live and have no story to tell?" asks Dostoyevsky to which we can respond with a simple answer: "We do have a story. We are part of the greatest story ever told".

Before the Big Bang 13.8 billion years ago, before the creation of the celestial world, the Being that existed, was uncreated. Scripture tells us that this uncreated Being (ο Ων as is labelled on Greek icons), is the timeless relationship between the persons of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. God is a communion being.

Scripture also tells us that our world was created for a purpose (a logos) and that the logos is to enable human beings to be partakers in God's uncreated energies. This is referred to as theosis (from the Greek word for God Theos) otherwise referred to as deification.

Our purpose appears to be to turn from created beings, to real beings like God. To do this, we need to become communion beings, sharing our existence with humanity and God. Our tendency to treat others as 'other', therefore, is anathema to our path of salvation.

The story becomes even more interesting when I ask why do I need to become a partaker in the divine and how can this possibly happen?

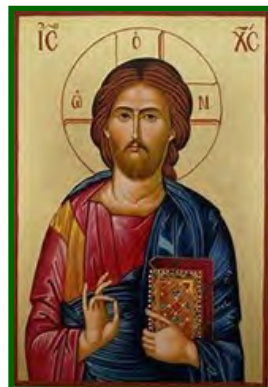
My understanding of the 'why' is that if we believe in the immortality of the soul, we also need to accept that creation has made us captive to our humanity. Not even suicide gives us an escape route. In view of this, whether our creation is a gift, or a curse is questionable. Immortality could soon become a curse unless the purpose for our creation is to give us the possibility of escape into a different type of existence: the possibility of being as communion in the fullness of love and absolute freedom

assured by the infinity of God. Theosis promises us the beatific vision: to see God as He is. To be able to do this, we have to be released from this existence.

As to 'how', we have been given the Church. The Church is a body more perfect than the world. The Church is founded on the work of Christ and the work of the Holy Spirit, the two persons of the Trinity sent into the world so that we may attain union with God. Christ is the head of the Church, and the Church is his body (Eph 1:22). The Holy Spirit quickens the Church and fills her with divinity (Eph 1:23). The Godhead dwells within her as it dwelt in the deified humanity of Christ.

The entry and departure of Christ in the history of the world are the Incarnation and Ascension, and the entry of the Holy Spirit in the history of the Church is Pentecost, which will end with the second coming. Pentecost is not a continuation of the incarnation but the result of the incarnation. By the death on the cross, the Church has been redeemed, washed and purified by the blood of Christ so that it is fit to receive the Holy Spirit, appearing as tongues of fire at Pentecost, just as it appeared as a dove during the baptism and chrismation of Jesus.

Salvation, therefore, is only possible through the Church. It is by becoming one body with the rest of humanity, past, present and future, that we can access the bridge created for us by Christ and the Holy Spirit to unite us with God. It is a body made up of individuals who are not lost in and subdued by the body, but remain individuals each receiving the Holy



Spirit as a tongue of fire, uniting us into one body headed by the Son.

Much has been made of the story of Jesus's birth, death and resurrection. Little is said of the sequel: the story of the Church - our story; the story of creation of saints, so that we can become a communion of saints: people who are not just good but holy and the only way to holiness is Christ who is "the way and the truth and the life" (John 14:6).

*George Kounis*



## What we Sing in Church

### 'Come Holy Ghost' New English Hymnal No.138

This is a very ancient hymn known by its Latin title as 'Veni Creator Spiritus', and as well as being sung at Pentecost, it is also sung at Confirmations, Ordinations and the Consecration of Bishops. It was sung, of course, very recently at King Charles' Coronation. The version we sing is a translation of the Latin by John Cosin, who was the Bishop of Durham in the 17th Century after the Restoration of the Monarchy in 1660.

The hymn is thought to have been written by Rabanus Maurus in the 9th Century, who was a Frankish Benedictine monk who was Archbishop of Mainz in Germany and a theologian. It seems to have been used widely in the church ever since. I expect we will sing it at Pentecost.

The hymn starts with an invocation to the

Holy Spirit to be with us all or with those about to be Confirmed, Ordained or Consecrated. The second line 'lighten with celestial fire' refers to the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the Disciples at Pentecost in the form of tongues of fire. The verse goes on to ask the Holy Spirit for his sevenfold gifts.

This originates from Chapter 11 of the book of Isaiah which is a prophesy of the coming of the Messiah 'A shoot will come out of the stump of Jesse'. Isaiah lists six gifts of the Spirit to which the church added a seventh. The enumeration of the gifts was probably by St. Thomas Aquinas. The gifts mentioned by Isaiah are Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel (Right judgement), Fortitude, Knowledge and Fear of the Lord. To these the church added Piety. These are certainly gifts for which we need to pray.

The second verse asks the Holy Spirit to give us his 'comfort, life and fire of love'. This refers to the Spirit sometimes being called the 'Comforter'. The name for the Spirit 'the Paraclete' can be translated as 'Comforter' as well as 'Advocate'. The prayer for life and fire of love links with him being known as the Lord of Life and Love. And we also ask for his vision to restore our 'blinded sight'.

The third verse of the hymn asks for the protection of the Holy Spirit from the sins which will always attack us - 'our soiled face' and also from external foes.

The hymn ends in a doxology with emphasis on the unity of the Trinity and praying that we may know that in our hearts.

It's interesting to note that, although this hymn is well over a thousand years old and has been used throughout that time, it is so relevant to our present needs.

*Cathy Dallman*

**A devout cowboy lost his Bible while he was mending fences out on the range. Three weeks later a cow walked up to him, carrying the Bible in its mouth. The cowboy couldn't believe his eyes. He took the book out of the cow's mouth and exclaimed, "It's a miracle!"**

**"Well, hardly that," said the cow. "Your name was written inside the cover."**

## God - the Three in One

This month we celebrate Trinity Sunday. The doctrine of the Trinity is one of the most important of the Christian faith, for it goes to the very heart of what God is like. The Bible is quite clear: there is one God, but He is revealed in three 'persons' – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Have you ever wondered at what point in the Bible God is revealed as being more than one person? Well, you don't have to read very far: only to Genesis 1:26, where God (Elohim – a plural noun) says: Let US make man in OUR image. (Gen. 1:26)

The Bible reveals a pattern: God the Father lives in heaven and has never been seen. God the Son became the incarnate Jesus Christ, who made known to us the Father, and God the Holy Spirit, who is unseen, has been sent to live within and to equip His people, the Church.

The Trinity is basic to our salvation – for these three persons in the one Godhead have combined to save us from our sins: it is the WILL of the Father, the saving WORK of the Son, and the indwelling WITNESS of the Holy Spirit. (John 14:16, 23-26). *From Parish Pump*



## Blessed Love: Our Unity with the Wonderful Jesus Christ!

I was looking out of the window today at the gentle rain and felt that the Lord was asking me to write about him. I hoped he would help me because at the time I wasn't sure what to write. I keep a prayer journal to write in about once a week; this I love – to express to him how wonderful I find his beauty in every way. His Sovereignty – him as king and yet a dear friend and brother too. The servant King of course!

Over Easter, I was filled with gratitude for his saving us all on the terrible cross. I was able to attend all the services at Easter. I thank God for all who worship and serve at our beautiful Christ Church – our heavenly choir for one! I really felt the closeness and love of Christ this Easter and I hope you did too. Easter Saturday was perhaps the most wonderful and meaningful service of all the lovely services! Father Chrichton says it is his favourite of the year – I told him it was

mine too!

By the way, I managed to do some witness to Jesus and the true meaning of Easter on the Green and in the coffee shop. Walk of witness still carries on!

Surely the most important factor of our Christian life is our Faith. When I came to faith – 'born again' in 1984 – this was the most special landmark in my life. I was baptised in Christ Church in 1991 and in 2009 in the Holy Land: I had a re-dedication of baptism in the River Jordan!

Many events and people have coloured my oneness and life with our dear Jesus Christ. Dear friends, like my oldest and best friend Betty and Kevin my ex-husband, helped me greatly in coming to belief and understanding of basic Christian faith. Dear Chris Foster, who baptised me, Jackie who shares her Christian work, life and friendship with me and many others past and present.

I try to obey the Lord because I love him. I pray for a lot of people and the animal kingdom, which I believe to be important. For the poor, the homeless, against sex



trafficking, slavery, and climate change to relate some of the causes close to my heart. This all keeps my link to my adored Jesus. I love to do Bible study every day.

Lots of love to you all at Christ Church, from your Christian sister!

*Lynda Corcoran*

PS As I looked at the clock, I saw it was 12 o'clock when all round the world the Peace Prayer is said every day! Peace to you all

## St. Alban: Feast Day 22nd June

St. Alban, and his cathedral, will be familiar to most of us (especially the choir!) but it's always worth commemorating our earliest martyr, who is also the patron saint of converts, refugees and torture victims. The story of St. Alban reflects his courage, faith, and willingness to sacrifice his life for his beliefs.

St. Alban lived during the 3rd century in the Roman city of Verulamium, present-day St. Albans. According to accounts, he was a pagan who encountered a Christian priest fleeing from persecution. Impressed by the priest's devotion, Alban offered him refuge in his home. During their time together, Alban became intrigued by the Christian faith and soon converted to Christianity himself.

News of Alban's conversion reached the Roman authorities, who were actively persecuting Christians at the time. In order to protect the priest, Alban exchanged clothes with him, allowing the priest to escape. When the Roman soldiers arrived at

Alban's home, they mistook him for the priest and arrested him instead.

Alban was brought before the Roman magistrate and was given an opportunity to renounce his newfound faith and embrace Roman paganism. However, he boldly refused to deny his Christian beliefs, declaring his allegiance to Christ. The magistrate, outraged by his defiance, sentenced Alban to death.

Legend has it that as Alban was led to his execution, he miraculously caused a river to part, allowing him to pass through safely. On the way to the execution site, he encountered a spring of water, which miraculously appeared to quench his thirst. These miracles further strengthened Alban's resolve and became part of the enduring legend surrounding him.

Upon reaching the execution site, Alban was beheaded, making him the first Christian martyr in Britain. His martyrdom took place during the reign of Emperor Diocletian, a period marked by intense persecution of Christians. His death is believed to have occurred around the year 304 AD.

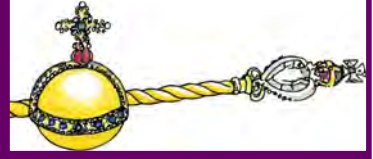
St. Alban's legacy has had a profound impact on the development of Christianity in Britain. His courage and steadfastness in the face of persecution have inspired countless individuals throughout the centuries. St. Alban is also credited with playing a role in the conversion of others, as his martyrdom had a profound effect on witnesses who were moved by his faith and sacrifice. Today, St. Alban's Cathedral stands as a testament to his memory and devotion.

St. Alban's story resonates with us as it speaks to the universal values of faith, courage, and sacrifice. The story of St. Alban continues to inspire and remind us of the importance of religious freedom and the power of conviction.





# The Coronation of King Charles III



## A Prayer for the new King

Everlasting God, we pray for our new King. Bless his reign and the life of our nation. Help us to work together so that truth and justice, harmony and fairness flourish among us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**The Coronation Service is, at its heart and in its structure, a celebration of Holy Communion.** These are some of the reasons why it is so appropriate for the Coronation to take place in a service of Holy Communion. In taking part, we pray for the King that he might, following the example of Jesus and his disciples through the ages, live a life of self-giving service, ever devoted to those whom he is to serve.

Holy Communion is not just a recollection of what has been, it also looks to what is to come. As Christians share in Holy Communion, they witness a glimpse of God's future, which is often alluded to in Scripture in the language of a banquet or great feast which God has prepared for all people.

But Christians are also, crucially, called to build the kingdom of God on earth: to break bread with the hungry, to lift up the fainthearted, and to bring God's love and hope to the world in self-giving service. In sharing in Holy Communion the King promises to do his part to love and serve God and his people. Those who pray can join their own with his and promise to do the same.



## Memories of the Coronation

The coronation of King Charles III was a special day for everyone. But it was a particularly proud moment for Joella and I to see our son who has been serving in the Royal Marines for almost three and a half years now, taking part in the coronation.

There were two contingents of Royal Marines at the coronation: one group were marching, and the other group were street liners positioned at the corner of Whitehall and Trafalgar Square. Our son, Lance Corporal Stephen Chessum, was one of the street liners. He will shortly receive the coronation medal, and as a street liner – he has been given a bottle of port made specially to commemorate the coronation of King Charles III. One of only 21 bottles.

God Save the King!

*Chris Chessum*

# Christ Church celebrates at our Coronation Picnic

## 7th May



## Music for the Summer Term

This Summer, we have a full programme of musical events keeping us busy. Fresh from the celebrations of the Coronation and Ascensiontide, the Choir (at the time of writing) is now preparing repertoire for the Sundays after Trinity, where the lectionary focuses on Jesus' ministry and teachings.

On Trinity Sunday (4 June), the Choir will sing the wonderfully jubilant *Messe Solennelle in C sharp minor* by the French composer Louis Vierne (1870-1937) who was organist of Notre-Dame in Paris from 1900 until his death. At Evensong, the Choir will also perform the dramatic anthem *I Saw the Lord* by the late Victorian composer Sir John Stainer (1840-1901) was Organist of St Paul's Cathedral. Stainer is most well known for his Passiontide cantata *The Crucifixion*.

On Sunday 11 June we shall marking the RSCM Sunday when Church Choir's across the country will celebrate musicmaking in Church. Liturgically this day is the Feast of St Barnabas the Apostle. Suitably large-scale music will be heard at both services, but the grandest music of the day can be heard at Evensong. The Choir will be singing Herbert Howells' Gloucester Evening Service and Sir Edward Elgar's *The Spirit of the Lord* which sets text from Isaiah 61. This anthem is taking from his larger oratorio *The Apostles*.

A popular and well-loved Parish fixture is of course the Choir's informal Summer Concert which will be on Sunday 9 July at 4pm. Our highly talented members of the Choir will present both solo and ensemble performances, including some barbershop, madrigals and partsongs, as well as some more contemporary music. There should a lively mixed of vocal and instrumental music and is surely an event not to be missed.

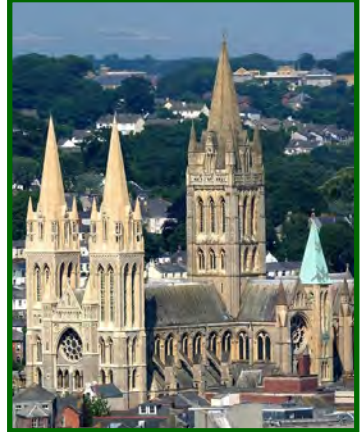
To round off the term, the Choir will be embarking on a week-long residency at Truro Cathedral from Wednesday 26 – Sunday 30

July. The Choir will be singing every day under the direction of myself, while Kate will be playing the Cathedral Organ.

When the Choir is off duty, we shall be staying at a local boarding school and taking the opportunity to enjoy the amazing county of Cornwall. Daily excursions are planned to Land's End, St Michael's Mount, Falmouth, and St Agnes, giving us the opportunity to explore both the north and south Cornish coast. I dare say we shall have our fair share of the famous cream teas and pasties as well as the enjoy the wonderful seafood for which the county is so well know.

A visit to the Go-Karts will be on the agenda as well as enjoying the beautiful beaches, and coastal walks.

*Richard Brain*  
Director of Music



## Choir Services at Truro Cathedral

**Wednesday 26th July: Choral Evensong, 5:30pm**

**Thursday 27th July: Choral Evensong, 5:30pm**

**Friday 28th July: Choral Evensong, 5:30pm**

**Saturday 29th July: Choral Evensong, 5:30pm**

**Sunday 30th July: Sung Eucharist, 10 am;**

**Choral Evensong, 4pm**



# CHRIST CHURCH — Southgate —

## OUR CHOIR IS RECRUITING

Opportunities for adult and young singers to join the north London Choir of Christ Church Southgate N14



- Two Adult Soprano Choral Scholarships for 2023-24 (£1200 p.a.)
- Spaces for Primary and Secondary School aged children to join the Chorister Choir
- Adult voluntary Sopranos and other voice parts
- Regular visits to UK Cathedrals
- Ambitious and exciting “cathedral style” repertoire
- Weekly Choral Evensong, regular concerts & other performances
- Sing in a fun and supportive environment
- Vibrant social scene!



For more details email: [music@christchurch-southgate.org](mailto:music@christchurch-southgate.org)  
Christ Church Southgate, The Green, London, N14 7EG – Registered Charity (1131606)



# Parish Life in Pictures

## April and May 2023

Palm Sunday - 2nd April



Maundy Thursday  
Easter  
Garden  
Making -  
6th April



Maundy Thursday Eucharist and Watch



Good Friday Liturgy - 7th April



Vicar and Curate at Chrism Mass, St Paul's Cathedral - 6th April

Holy Saturday - 8th April



Easter Day



Visit by Friends of William Morris Gallery - 10th May

Hazel Miall receiving Silver Wolf Award at Windsor Castle - 23rd April





**Choir being filmed rehearsing "Sing for the King" Anthem**

**German TV (ZDF) - 20th April**



**French TV (BFM TV) - 23rd April**

**Installing castle for Coronation Service - 5th May**



**Coronation Celebration Service - 7th May**



## Children's Corner

### What is Trinity Sunday?

Trinity Sunday this year is on 4th June and is a special day when we celebrate and try to understand the idea of the Holy Trinity. The Holy Trinity is the belief that there is one God, but He exists in three persons: God the Father, God the Son (Jesus), and God the Holy Spirit.



The Trinity is like an egg. Just as ONE egg has THREE different parts – the shell, the white, the yoke – ONE God has THREE different Persons – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

God the Father is the creator and the one who made everything. He is a loving parent who takes care of us and watches over us.

God the Son, Jesus, came to Earth a long time ago to teach us about love, kindness, and forgiveness. Jesus is also called the Saviour because He sacrificed Himself for us and showed us how much God loves us.

The Holy Spirit is a helper or a guide that God sends to be with us. The Holy Spirit helps us understand right from wrong and gives us strength and comfort when we need it. It's like having a special friend with us all the time.

Even though it might be a bit hard to fully understand how God can be three persons at once, Trinity Sunday is a time for us to think about and appreciate this amazing idea. It reminds us that God is always with us, no matter what, and that He loves us very much.

**On the church noticeboard: Contact lens found in church. See vicar. If you can.**

**A day without sunshine is like, well, night.**

**I am in shape. Round is a shape.**

### Find the mouse!

Did you spot Walker on his way to visit the Floating Church on page 5 of our last edition?

This month, Walker is handing out ice-llories for summer - see if you can find him!



*Weeks after the Pet's Service, nobody had claimed the monkey*

## Was it 'No Mow May' for you?

May is a month when there is very little pollen available for all pollinators including our bees. There's a lull between the first spring flowers and the summer blooms.

So this year, a nationwide campaign was launched called No Mow May. By May, and depending on the temperature, our lawns are starting to grow and look untidy. We are naturally driven to get the lawnmower out in an attempt restore neatness but in doing so we are depriving our bees, butterflies, moths and beetles of ten times more pollen than would otherwise be available. When grassland and lawns are left undisturbed so many more plants and wildflowers get the chance to thrive boosting the biodiversity.

By the time you read this, May will be almost over so if you did take part, please let us know how you got on. If you didn't take part maybe this is a consideration for the future. It certainly will be for me. This seems like a great and simple way to contribute to caring for creation.

Living God our Creator,  
you call us to be good stewards of our beautiful world;  
Empower us, through your spirit to love and nurture all that has been entrusted to us, and in doing so, enable us to protect all species.  
Through, Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.  
Amen.

*Sandra Anderson*

## The Bible in 50 words

God made

Adam bit

Noah arked

Abraham split

Joseph ruled

Jacob fooled

Bush talked

Moses balked

Pharaoh plagued

People walked

Sea divided

Tablets guided

Promise landed

Saul freaked

David peaked

Prophets warned

Jesus born

God walked

Love talked

Anger crucified

Hope died

Love rose

Spirit flamed

Word spread

God remained.

- anon



## Christchurch Association News

The Christchurch Association (CCA) provides a social centre for the parish and runs the “Top Step Bar”, serving soft and alcoholic drinks upstairs in Church House. We are now able to take contactless payments as well as accepting cash.



The CCA Top Step bar opens early **at 6 pm** normally on the first Friday of each month, with complimentary **cheese and snacks** available through the evening. The next such occasions are **Fridays 2nd June** and **7th July**.

In April we enjoyed an informative Top Step Talk given by the Hatters ESU Explorer Scouts about their forthcoming expedition to the Himalayas. The CCA donated £150 to assist with their fundraising for their trip, and we are making similar donations to the Christ Church Choir Fund and Organ Fund.

**Friday Foodie** evenings continue with an **Indian Snacks Night** on **16th June**. There is no need to book in advance, and there is a nominal charge to cover the cost of food which will be served around 9:15 pm.

The Top Step Bar is open on a regular basis as follows (except during August and either side of Christmas Day):

- ◆ **Sundays** from 7:30 to 10:30 pm
- ◆ **Wednesdays and Fridays** from 8 to 11 pm
- ◆ Early opening at **6 pm** on the first Friday of every month.

*The CCA is a Registered Club with membership open to anyone who worships at Christ Church, lives in the parish or uses the church halls. Membership costs just £2 per year and new members are always welcome. Please contact Clive for more information or if you would like to become a member.*

*Clive Woodhouse*  
(Chairman, Christchurch Association)

**The hurrier I go, the behinder I get! - Lewis Carroll**

## News from the Committees



The **Parochial Church Council** (the **PCC**) met on 25th April, so much of this news may already be common knowledge.

In the run up to the coronation, the most notable **Outreach** activity at Christ Church was, perhaps, the choir’s international media debut in Germany and France! (They were filmed rehearsing the new coronation anthem composed by Joanna Forbes L’Estrange.) On a more local level, activities included the Walker School service and another round of ABRSM music exams. However, in his report to the PCC, Fr Chrichton also mentioned our social media presence over the Easter period – and I quote – “... which courtesy of a C of E retweet gave us about 30,000 views across different platforms”.

The **Finance & Standing** report showed little overall change since the previous meeting (a small surplus in day-to-day expenditure and a modest overall deficit). The treasurer also noted, however, that bills for the chancel floor are now starting to come (professional fees, etc.) and that this explains the deficit.

Good news was received from **Plant & Fabric!** The chancel floor work is now out to tender. The intention is still to begin work this summer and complete before Christmas. Discussion also took place regarding disabled toilet provision at Christ Church. This has been on the “to do” list now for many years. It was agreed that given the upcoming expenditure on repairing and making safe the chancel floor, steps would be taken to make the most of the toilet provisions that already exist; Christ Church is not at present in a position to undertake additional costly building work. It was also confirmed that the process of installing a

plaque to identify the Queen’s acer is under way.

**Social Responsibility** this time reported excellent sales of Easter cards and gifts from the stall and a very successful Easter egg collection for the Ark – the committee’s activities are as always described in full elsewhere in this magazine.

**Eco & Care Creation** reported the great success of the Maundy Thursday children’s garden activity – the results were visible for all to see on the window sills over Easter. A wonderful time seems to have been had by all concerned. We also heard about the latest rockery project and that the new bees were arriving imminently. As ever, more gardeners and more ideas are needed – Sandra Anderson was very keen to encourage volunteers.

**Parish Centre Management** reported a programme of safety upgrades now under way at the Parish Centre, following points raised in the Fire Risk Assessment conducted last February by Chubb.

*Patricia Ashby*

## The Electoral Roll



Thank you to everyone who has recently participated in the annual review of the Christ Church Southgate Electoral Roll.

The good news is that with the addition of a number of new names, our Electoral Roll has crept up by a total of six, from 227 last year for 233 now! Given the number of people who have left Southgate during the year and have asked to be removed from the roll, this is very good news indeed – the picture initially was looking rather bleak. So first and foremost, welcome and a very big thank you



to all those who have completed application forms during the year and during the recent review period.

During the review this year, I've also received a few questions about the Electoral Roll and the purpose it serves, including the following:

**Q Will it cost me anything?**

**A No. Not a penny.** And it no longer costs Christ Church anything either! A lot of people remember the days when the more people a church had on the Roll, the more it ended up paying to the Diocese. But that no longer happens. (The money churches pay to their respective dioceses is calculated quite differently these days.)

**Q What's the point of the Electoral Roll?**

**A This is the big question,** because I know that on one level it can appear to have very little point at all. First and foremost, however, it identifies everyone who is able stand for office and/or to vote in elections at the Annual General Parochial Meeting – we may need to vote for Church Wardens, PCC members, representatives at the Diocesan Synod, etc. But it can also help in other ways: it helps in our parish to have some clear idea of how many regular worshippers come through the door – for example, Fr Chrichton would be able to refer to this number if he needed to ask the Diocese for extra help with the workload, or knowing the number might help in arguments when applying for grants or funding for projects, etc.; it helps our Diocese to see how numbers are holding up in the churches for which they have responsibility – essential when matters of

closing or grouping churches arise; and it helps the Church more widely to know just how many practicing Christians there are in the UK (the Office for National Statistics recorded just over 42% of the population in the 2021 census).

**Q If I hand over my details, who gets to see them? I don't want them spreading around.**

**A Your application form is strictly confidential.** The hard copy is kept securely by the Electoral Roll Officer and shredded if you ask to be removed from the roll or at the end of the six-year period of the roll. The electronic copy is password protected and is available only to the Electoral Roll Officer, the Vicar, the Church Wardens, and the Stewardship Officer. Your personal details are really as safe as we can make them.

So, being on the roll is not essential, but it is helpful. You can complete an application form (available online and as hard copy at the back of church) at any time. If you have not already completed a form and would still like to do so, you can email it to me as an attachment, leave it with one of the Church Wardens or a member of the clergy, or put it in an envelope addressed to me in the mail rack at the back of church. You can do this at any time.

We try to be a friendly, welcoming, caring, and inclusive church; and speaking as the Electoral Roll Officer, I would personally love to feel that every member of the congregation feels that they really do belong here. If you have any questions, do please ask me.

*Patricia Ashby*

**Job cursed the day he was born. Most babies can't even speak till they are at least 18 months old.**

## SRC Report

Good sales of cards and gifts for Mothering Sunday and Easter enabled us to send £500 to the **Bishop's Lent Appeal**. We donated about 50 Easter eggs to **The Ark**, and we continue to give donations of food, toiletries, supplies for young babies and items for packed lunches regularly. Bags of non-perishable foods and other goods continue to be delivered to the **Food Bank**.

Proceeds from coffee and the sales table until the end of June will go to **Kith & Kids**. When we refresh the book stall with new supplies, we take our surplus ones to their shop in Enfield. From July we will raise funds for **Noah's Ark**. We have supported them in the past but not for some time. We hope this will be a popular choice.

The Sunday coffee rota for the second half of the year will be drawn up soon. If you would like to take a turn, then please let me know. Someone will show you what to do.

We held a Coronation raffle, after the wonderful Sunday service, which was drawn by the King!! at the picnic lunch. All three prizes were claimed on the day, and we raised £170. As a result, we will send £200 to the **Explorer Scouts** for their summer expedition to the Himalayas. A large group of them are going, taking prescription glasses to help people with sight problems.

**Christian Aid** week was in the middle of May. Donations were collected in the usual envelopes in cash or by cheque. Donations direct to Christian Aid at [caweek.org](http://caweek.org) - this is the best way to add gift aid.

Thank you to all the generous people who regularly give us the things we ask for. Each contribution gives other members and visitors their chance to help boost our fundraising efforts. For example, recently I was brought 8 pounds of blackberries. With the jars I have been given and a donation for sugar I was able to make blackberry jelly. These jars sell for £1.50 which is all profit. Hand-made cards are another money spinner.



Do you have a similar idea; do you make something that others would buy that we could offer for sale? I would be glad to talk to you about it.

*Hilary Meur*  
Tel.02083602362  
Email [ccsoces@gmail.com](mailto:ccsoces@gmail.com)

## Time and Talent Request

We have a particular need for two specific skills at the moment. The first one is for someone who can design and produce print ready posters for our liturgical seasons and occasional events. Secondly, we need someone with web server experience to do very occasional website maintenance tasks.



It either if these could be you, please speak to Fr Chrichton or our wardens Kate or Clare. Many thanks.

## Stewardship

*Mick Meur,  
Stewardship Recorder*



In the months since I wrote my last article, I am sorry to report that for various reasons we have recently lost some of the longest standing members of our Stewardship Scheme. So, I am starting this report with a plea for anyone that attends Christ Church not in stewardship to consider making their contribution regularly to Christ Church by signing up for our preferred donation method, the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS), details of how you can do this are in the HOW YOU CAN HELP box at the end of this article.

If you need any further information as to how the PGS works and to help you make your decision I am always happy to explain this in detail and discuss the options available, my contact details are set out below.

Membership of the PGS costs you nothing, and also there is no cost to us. The other excellent part of the scheme is an additional feature whereby your donation can be automatically increased annually in line with inflation. This is something we recommend as this helps to offset the ever-increasing costs we face. At present just over half of our donors have agreed for this, it is a flexible arrangement that can be taken-up or cancelled at any time to suit your circumstances.

Donations via the contactless machine or online via our website also continue to increase and the blue Gift Aid envelopes from the pews are also being used more often. However, as stated before all these other methods have a cost to us. Either by a charge made by the provider of online giving or in the case of cash and cheques by our bank. Cash attracts a charge of £1.50 per £100 and each cheque we pay in costs us £1.50, irrespective of the amount.

My telephone contact details are in the Directory at the back of The Spire, and my email address is: [mikestatistics@gmail.com](mailto:mikestatistics@gmail.com)

### HOW YOU CAN HELP!

Please consider joining the Parish Giving Scheme now, this can be set-up easily over the telephone. All you needed to do is make one call to their dedicated helpline number 0333 002 1271.

When calling please quote our parish code 230623352  
or online using the following link:

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/southgate-christ-church-london/>

Or scan the QR code  
on your smartphone or tablet



**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

*Curate* The Reverend Paul Ellerby  
*Address & Phone* via the office  
*Email* p.ellerby822@btinternet.com

**Lay Readers**

Cathy Dallman, 4 Greenacre Walk, Southgate, N14 7DB 8886 5918  
 Jackie Anderson 8245 0305  
 Sandra Anderson 07947 027265  
 Amy Li via the office

**Churchwardens**

Clare Boulton, 321 Gladbeck Way, Enfield, EN2 7HR 8367 5961  
 Kate Carroll, katecarroll1@aol.com 07974 437966

**PCC**

*Secretary* Caroline Robertson 8886 0384  
 office@christchurch-southgate.org  
*Treasurer* Clare Boulton (as above)  
*Stewardship* Michael Meur, 136 Green Dragon Lane, N21 1ET 8360 2362

**Music Department**

*Director of Music* Richard Brain 07979 850546  
 music@christchurch-southgate.org  
*Organist* Kate Macpherson  
*Associate Organist* David Hinit  
*Treasurer* Ian Winton, 7 Foxgrove, N14 7EA 8882 3680



**Sacristan** Vacancy

**Sidesmen** Judith Lo 8882 3335

### Sub-committee Chairs/contacts

*Outreach* Fr Chrichton Limbert (as above)

*Plant and Fabric* Kate Carroll (as above)

*Social Responsibility* Vacancy

**Electoral Roll Officer** Patricia Ashby 8886 2528

### Parish Safeguarding Officer

Jackie Anderson (as above)

### Parish Magazine “The Spire”

*Editorial Team* Freya Carroll and Imogen Cooper  
Copy to be sent to christchurchspire@gmail.com

*Treasurer* Hilary Meur, 136 Green Dragon Lane, N21 1ET 8360 2362

**Flower Arrangers** Contact the Parish Office (see above)

### Parish Centre/Church Halls

*Chairman* Philip Miall, 85 Conway Road, N14 7BD 8882 6738

*Secretary* Clare Boulton (see above)

*Lettings* christchurchparishcentre@gmail.com

*Treasurer* Michael Meur (as above)

### Christ Church Association Bar

*Contact* Clive Woodhouse, 41b Osborne Road, N13 5BT 8882 0014

### Friday Coffee Morning

*Contact* Every Friday morning 10.00 a.m. – 12.00 p.m. in Church  
Hilary Meur (as above)

**Scout Group** The Reverend Hazel Miall, *Cubs* 07980 740 587  
Stephen Smith, *Group Scout Leader* 8882 0991

**Bellringers** *Practice held Wednesdays 7.30 p.m.*

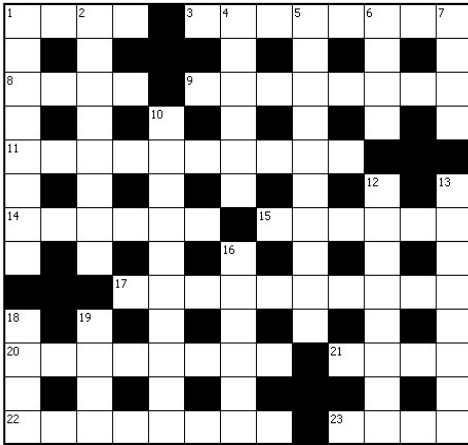
*Captain* Martin Sutcliffe, 46 Brookdale, N11 1BN 8368 1974

**Young Fogeys** *For the active and retired, though you need not be either!*

*Contact* Jean Thomas, 1 Bramford Court, N14 6DH 8882 8133

**Bible Study Group** Jackie Anderson (as above)  
Sue Grey 8361 8499

# JUNE CROSSWORD



**Across**

- 1 See 23 Across
- 3 Where the thief on the cross was told he would be, with Jesus (Luke 23:43) (8)
- 8 Invalid (4)
- 9 Blasphemed (Ezekiel 36:20) (8)
- 11 Adhering to the letter of the law rather than its spirit (Philippians 3:6) (10)
- 14 Shut (Ecclesiastes 12:4) (6)
- 15 'This is how it will be with anyone who — up things for himself but is not rich towards God' (Luke 12:21) (6)
- 17 Mary on Isis (anag.) (10)
- 20 Agreement (Hebrews 9:15) (8)
- 21 Native of, say, Bangkok (4)
- 22 Deaf fort (anag.) (5-3)
- 23 and 1 Across  
 'The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of — to work it and take — of it' (Genesis 2:15) (4,4)

**Down**

- 1 Struggle between opposing forces (Habakkuk 1:3) (8)
- 2 James defined this as 'looking after orphans and widows in their distress and keeping oneself from being polluted by the world' (James 1:27) (8)
- 4 'The one I kiss is the man; — him' (Matthew 26:48) (6)
- 5 'Be joyful in hope, patient in —, faithful in prayer' (Romans 12:12) (10)
- 6 St Columba's burial place (4)
- 7 Swirling current of water (4)
- 10 Loyalty (Isaiah 19:18) (10)
- 12 'God was pleased through the foolishness of what was —, to save those who believe' (1 Corinthians 1:21) (8)
- 13 Camp where the angel of the Lord slew 185,000 men one night (2 Kings 19:35) (8)
- 16 'There is still — — Jonathan; he is crippled in both feet' (2 Samuel 9:3) (1,3,2)
- 18 David Livingstone was one (4)
- 19 Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority (1,1,1,1)

**APRIL SOLUTION**



## The following notices have appeared in church bulletins or newsletters:

- ◆ We will remember those killed and injured in conflicts during our morning service
- ◆ The sermon this morning: 'Jesus walks on water'. The sermon this evening: 'Searching for Jesus'
- ◆ Don't let worry kill you off – let the Church help
- ◆ Miss CM sang 'I will not pass this way again', giving obvious pleasure to the congregation
- ◆ For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs
- ◆ The Rector will preach his farewell message, after which the choir will sing 'Break Forth Into Joy'
- ◆ Next Friday the church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment, and gracious hostility. Do come along!
- ◆ At the evening service, the sermon topic will be 'What is Hell?' – come early and listen to our choir practice.
- ◆ Low Self-Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday 7pm – please use the back door.
- ◆ The youth group will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the church hall this Friday at 7pm. The congregation is warmly invited to attend this tragedy.



WILLIAMSON  
DACE | BROWN

www.wdbproperty.co.uk 020 8886 4407

Independent property consultants since 1962. we have been looking after client's property for over fifty years.

### We can provide clients with advice on the following:

Commercial Property	Residential Property
Professional Services	Building Insurance
Property Management	Dilapidations & Maintenance



## Advertise here!

Do you have a business or service you would like to advertise in the Spire?

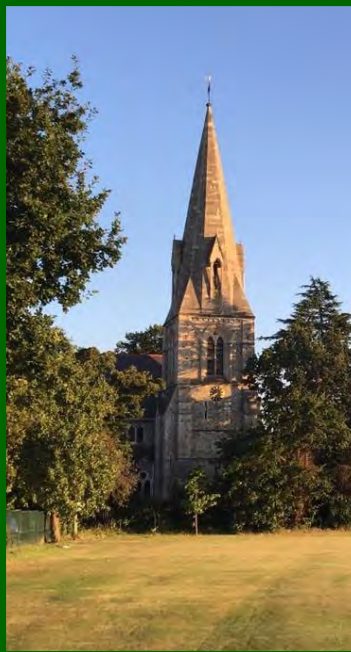
Reach your local community and contribute to the work of Christ Church

For details and rates contact  
Hilary Meur

Tel: 020 8360 2362

Email: [ccsoces@gmail.com](mailto:ccsoces@gmail.com)

**Christ Church Southgate**  
**The Church on the Green N14**  
**Where everyone is welcome**



**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**

**“We believe in inclusive Church – church which does not discriminate, on any level, on grounds of economic power, gender, mental health, physical ability, race or sexuality. We believe in Church which welcomes and serves all people in the name of Jesus Christ; which is scripturally faithful; which seeks to proclaim the Gospel afresh for each generation; and which, in the power of the Holy Spirit, allows all people to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Jesus Christ.”**



**The Heavenly Architect**

**Choral Classics from the Choir of Christ Church Southgate**  
**Directed by Richard Brain**  
**Organist David Hinitt**

**CHRIST CHURCH**  
**Southgate**

**CHOIR CD**

**‘The Heavenly Architect’**  
**Choral Classics from the Choir of Christ Church, Southgate.**

**Music includes Parry I Was Glad,**  
**Mendelssohn Hear My Prayer,**  
**Wesley Blessed Be The God and Father**  
**and many more!**

Christ Church Southgate is a Registered Charity (1131606)  
We rely on your generous donations to finance our ministry