



CHRIST CHURCH  
MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND

**A  
HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR  
2019**

PARISH MAGAZINE JANUARY 2019

Scan the smart code to go to our website



50p

Deadline for the magazine is middle of the month prior to publication. Next magazine **Sunday 20 January**  
Copy: email to:-  
ccgravesend.mag10@yahoo.co.uk

**Hand to a Church Warden or Mike Cubitt**

**Christ Church Hall is available for hire**  
**Contact Maxine Springett, contact numbers are 01474 746428 or 07511962277.**  
**Well equipped, very suitable for meetings and children's parties**

Front cover: *Up and away for the new year, 2019*

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## Who's Who at Christ Church

[www.christchurchgravesend.org.uk](http://www.christchurchgravesend.org.uk)

Vicar		
Associate Priest	Jacqueline Littlewood	560106
Assistant Curate	Karen Seggie	362654
Pastoral Assistant	Jasmine Humphries	249106
Pastoral Assistant	Colin Parsonson	359713
Church Warden	Jan Osborne	740763
Church Warden	Lucy Hornby	
PCC Secretary	Peter Read	746988
PCC Treasurer	Steve Humphries	249106
Reader	Rosemary Austin	358702
Reader	Sheila Brown	356339
Reader	John Hougham	352138
Reader	Martin Sewell	745443
Webmaster	Tim McArthur	
Magazine editor	Mike Cubitt	07840343831

In November Mothers' Union had a film night to see The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society in which a writer corresponds with the members of the Society which was formed in the Second World War and tells of their lives in flashback.

On 25 November two new members, Pam Wise and Sally Higgins, were admitted by Julia Jamieson from Rochester Diocese Mothers' Union during the 10am service. They were supported by a large number of members.

Our Christmas meal was held at Bartellas and was attended by around 28 members and guests who enjoyed the choice of menu including turkey and trimmings and Christmas pudding plus a free drink and a cracker.

Our programme for next year is now available and includes a variety of talks and activities. Our

meetings are open to all so if you want to come along to something that interests you, you will be very welcome. Our January meeting will be a talk on the Christian Greenbelt Festival by Lucy Hornby.

## **COPY FOR FEBRUARY MAGAZINE**

This is your magazine, and every effort is made to include items supplied by you, our readers.

The one thing that would be most helpful, when submitting copy, is that you e-mail this rather than put a typed sheet on the hook in church.

As I am not a touch typist, it takes considerable time to re-type any copy and is open to me making errors.

Send copy to the address on page 2 by  
**SUNDAY 20 JANUARY** at the very latest, or  
speak to

**Mike Cubitt - 07840343831**

## **WORKING PARTY**

'In order to save on expensive cleaning and maintenance, we hold a monthly working party on a Saturday morning starting at 09.30.

Together we clean and tidy the church, do a bit of necessary DIY or gardening, have a coffee and often some home-made goodies – and finish by about 11.30.

We are enormously grateful to the few loyal helpers who turn up month after month – but we desperately need a few more.

Please consider putting the dates into your diary and coming along. All are welcome – if you can do basic DIY please let us know in advance so that the churchwardens can plan jobs in advance.

**Working party is almost always on the second Saturday of each month...  
NOTE the next ones will be on 12 JANUARY at 9.30.**

**See you there, JAN**

# General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

Privacy laws in the UK changed on 25th May 2018.

The new General Protection Regulation (GDPR) gives each of us more control over how our personal information is used and makes it easier for us to check and update any information held about us.

As far as our church is concerned any information we hold will, in the main, amount only to contact details such as name, postal address, phone number and e-mail address. By keeping details up to date, we can keep everyone informed of church activities and information which may be of interest or useful.

We should offer reassurance that we use and store your data safely and securely. Information is only held by church members having a legitimate need to do so, for example, but not exclusively, convenors of committees, organisers of church events such as the Mustard Seed, the administrator of the 200 club, the Church Electoral Roll Officer and those preparing duty rotas.

Where your personal information is held on private PCs, this will be password protected. Any hard copy information will be kept in secure, locked files in the Parish Office or securely at home by authorised individuals.

All such personal information will be kept for church use only and will not, in any circumstances, be passed to third parties.

Your personal information will be erased as soon as it becomes redundant, no longer relevant or out of date.

The GDPR gives you a number of legal rights to control what we do with your information. For example, you can ask us to tell you what information we have about you, correct or update information that is wrong, or ask us to stop using your information.

We are committed to ensuring that your information is secure with us, remains confidential and accurate and is used only for the purposes of ensuring better communication between the church and its members.

**If you would like further information or explanation of any of these points, please contact our Data Protection Coordinator, Martin Sewell, on [martin.sewell@me.com](mailto:martin.sewell@me.com)**

## COFFEE ROTA 2019

6 Jan Annie - Jill - Pauline Marks  
13 Jan Sue Wilkins - Kay - Angela Kirby  
20 Jan Annie - Jill - Sandy  
27 Jan Annie - Jill - Anne Thrush  
3 Feb Annie - Jill - Maxine



**Come in and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee after the 10.00 o'clock Sunday service**



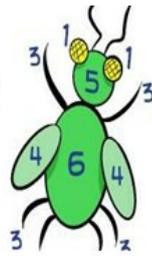


## Over 80s Christmas Tea

Mustard Seed and the over 80s joined for a Christmas Tea. About 30 people enjoyed hot savoury nibbles and sausage rolls along with mince pies and cakes served with lots of tea and coffee. Crackers were pulled and lots of chatter went on. A session of carol singing led by Gwynneth Charles followed. All participants were given a raffle ticket and lots of goodies were on offer to the lucky winners. This party was organised by Mustard Seed, our tea and chat afternoon which takes place on the third Thursday of every month, this is open to anybody who would like to spend a hour or so talking to others and all are welcome.



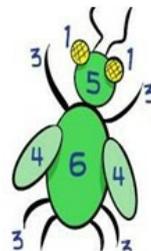
## Fish, Chips and Beetles



On Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2019, at 6pm for 6.30pm at Christ Church Hall, Echo Square, Gravesend.

Book your tickets, order your food, and pay by calling Angela on 07900430002 (last booking date is 2nd February 2019)

Fish and chips (£7.50) or sausage and chips (£4.50) will be ordered and delivered to the hall, just BYO drinks.



## BIBLE NOTES

As well as the "New Daylight" booklet of Bible notes prepared by the Bible Reading Fellowship, there is also a booklet entitled "Bible reflections for older people". This also comes out every four months and is priced at £4.99.

This booklet is written by older people for older people, the reflections are designed to bring hope, assurance and sustenance, reminding the reader of the presence and love of God. Each issue contains 40 Bible reflections and prayer suggestions to use and revisit as often as needed.

If you would be interested in seeing a copy of this booklet please have a word with Julie Hill.

## **FIRST STEPS**

12TH DECEMBER 18

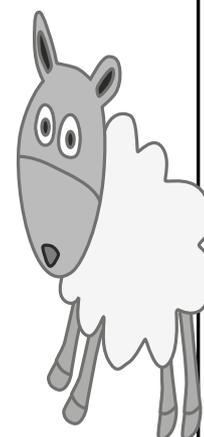
## **CHRISTMAS**

It's a chilly bright morning when our naughty little sheep gets up. He's very excited and so are his friends because it is our First Steps service this afternoon and we are going to tell the Christmas story. It is their very favourite story and they are so looking forward to hearing it again. They can't believe that it is nearly Christmas. They are all a bit sad because Audrey Hedgehog won't be joining us this afternoon. She's found somewhere warm and cosy to hibernate for the winter so we won't be seeing her until the spring. It is pretty chilly for our walk up to church in the afternoon but lovely and bright.

Once in everyone finds their usual spot to get comfortable and watch me getting things ready for our service. Linda and Jan soon join us to help. Anne comes in to play the piano for us. When everything has been done we open our big church doors and wait to see who will come in first. Matthew rushes in closely followed by Mum Kelly. It is so good to see them. Mum Rachel comes in, too, with baby Evelyn who now has a lovely toothy smile. Others come to join us and soon we have a small but lively crowd. I hear that Abigail is going to Nursery school in January and won't be joining again for a bit. We will miss her.

When everyone has got their jingle bells and are sitting comfortably, our service begins. We light our altar candles and two of our advent candles, too, while we sing "Candle time". Then we hear that very special story and the children bring up our figures as it all unfolds. Mary and Joseph are making their long and difficult journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Mary has got a baby in her tummy. Our naughty little sheep and his friends are all sitting very quietly and listening intently. When Mary and Joseph finally arrive in Bethlehem, they can't find anywhere to stay. When they are really desperate and Mary's baby is on its way, a very kind innkeeper suggests lets them stay in the stable at the back of his inn. It is dry and will give them some shelter from the cold.

In that poor and humble place, Mary's baby is born and she names him Jesus, wrapping him in a clean blanket and laying him in the manger. Wow, isn't that amazing! Other amazing things are about to happen! Out on the bare, cold hillside, shepherds looking after their sheep see the wonderful sight of angels, praising God and telling them to go to the stable and see this new born baby, who is God's own son. They make their way to see this holy child, and kneel and worship him. There is a very big and bright star in the sky. Wise men from the east have been following it for ages. They think that when they get to where it is leading them, they will discover a new born King, a holy child. When they arrive at the stable the shepherds have already gone. Mary and Joseph make the three wise men very welcome. They have brought special gifts with them for this wonderful child, gold, frankincense and myrrh. When they, too



have worshipped Jesus in the manger, they go on their way, rejoicing.

The children have helped to tell this amazing story. We have sang our Christmas songs and we have said "Thank you" to God for coming alongside us in Jesus. Then our service is over and we all go into the hall for our mince pies and other goodies. The children have a wonderful time playing with the toys and our naughty little sheep and his friends have a wonderful time watching them. We hope that everyone has a very happy Christmas and everything good in the new year to come. We also hope that they will all join us again on 9th January 2019 for our next First Steps service.

**God Bless Rosemary Austin**

# Semiquaver's proud supporter

On the 24 November a few of our congregation went to St Augustine's Church in Bromley for an autumn concert by the Bromley Ecumenical Singers and featuring our own Semiquavers Seniors.

Nine young ladies and Cameron sang three pieces on their own and they then joined with the Bromley Ecumenical Singers, and together they were amazing.

We were all so proud of them. They are a credit to Christ Church, not only with their talent but also with their behaviour. We must do all we can to support this group of dedicated young people.

Well done and thank you Semiquavers, Helen and Debbie, we are so proud of you all.

## **PILGRIM**

**Recommences in the New Year**

## **COURSE**

**Everyone is welcome to come along to one or all sessions**

### **Exciting Youth Choir in Gravesend**

If you are aged between 7 and 17 and enjoy singing then come along!

- Join a friendly group of singers
- Learn great music of different styles and
- Perform at concerts and services

**For further information visit**  
**[www.christchurchgravesend.org.uk](http://www.christchurchgravesend.org.uk)**

- **Or call 01474 534517**

Join the



**Youth choir in Gravesend**

**We meet weekly for Rehearsals**

**at Christ Church**

**Tuesday evenings**

**6.15 pm to 7.30 pm**

# Successful fundraiser for Rainbow Group

On 7th December  
3rd Milton (Christ  
Church)



Rainbows had a fundraising event in Christ Church hall and raised £218 40p for their funds.





**Another successful collection by our hardy singers who on 15th December Chrstian Aid Carol singing raised £706 61p for Christian Aid.**



Christ Church Christmas Tree and the one on Community Square where the Christian Flag has been flown on every Sudad during Advent. The flag will also be flown every day from Christmas Eve until the Feast of the Epiphany on 6th January 2019.



# Armistice Centenary Commemoration at Ypres

## A diary written by Peter Read

Veronica and I decided that Ypres was the right place for us to commemorate the Centenary of the Armistice. Although we have been to the Ypres Salient several times before, being deeply moved on each occasion, for the Centenary we were completely overwhelmed by the solemn atmosphere we encountered as the overwhelming number of visitors were wholly caught up in the occasion.



The Upper Room at Talbot House

We arrived in Belgium the Wednesday before November 11th and stopped off at Talbot House in Poperinge on the way, a poignant site for us, as one of my last memories of my father was taking him there. Talbot House was a rest centre for troops away from the front line, with a Christian ethos and where the Toc H movement was founded. The house and garden have been preserved very much as they were then, although with a large visitors' centre now added. The Upper Room, where the Rev Tubby Clayton conducted services during the war, is still a chapel housed in the attic as it was a hundred years ago. It is accessed via a very steep ladder-like stairway. The image of my father, a WW2 veteran and strong Toc H member, determinedly struggling up the stair whilst crippled with arthritis, shortly before he died, will remain with us always.

That evening we watched a brilliant and moving performance of the play 'Journey's End', surely the dramatic

epitome of life in the trenches in WW1, with a professional cast and taking in place in a wartime Ammunition Magazine for additional authenticity.

Thursday was Ypres itself, a city whose buildings were completely obliterated by shelling in the four years it was under attack. We began in the medieval Cloth Hall, meticulously reconstructed to its pre-war condition and now housing the impressive Flanders Fields Museum. This features multi-media depictions of the events of a century ago along with the life stories of soldiers and civilians and relics of the Salient's battles which continued for almost the entire war. We then moved onto St Martin's Cathedral, also entirely rebuilt following the original plans, although the tower was built with a higher spire than the original, to become one of the tallest buildings in Belgium.

Next came St George's Memorial Church completed in 1929 to commemorate the more than 500,000 British and Commonwealth troops who died in the defence and three major battles of Ypres. The exterior of the church was awash with knitted poppies, including along the boundary wall and right up to the top of the spire in a splash of red. Inside, the word 'Memorial' comes into its own, with a multitude of plaques commemorating many of the formations which fought in the battles. There are also many recording school visits and the casualties of their former students.



St George's Memorial Church

Then it was the walk through the Grote Markt, the main square in the town (the cathedral status being officially lost in 1801, but still regularly used) bounded on one side by the Cloth Hall, up Menenstraat with its many WW1 related shops to the Menin Gate which commemorates 54,395 Commonwealth soldiers who died but whose bodies were never recovered. What I hadn't previously realised was the design turned out too small for all the names, and so a further 34,984 names are inscribed on the Tyne Cot

## Continued from previous page

Memorial (see below) of casualties who went missing after 15th August 1917. We also spent time here in 2016 tracing and honouring the four Christ Church soldiers whose names are recorded on the Memorial: Charles Fox, Francis Gray, William Tait and Frederick West. The whole is immensely moving, and the many visitors all treat it with the greatest respect, creating an almost spiritual aura. It is naturally situated in the wall of the town, with walks along the grassy



Rainbow over Tyne Cot

top, looking over the still water filled moat. On one of these a field of artificial poppies has been planted, each inscribed with a quotation or remembrance of a soldier.

We returned that evening for the poignant Last Post Ceremony, performed every night at eight p.m. since 1928, except during the four years of German occupation in WW2. The crowds already building up for Remembrance Sunday were such that we were unable to get closer than 20 yards, although in previous years we have stood inside the gate itself.

Friday began with a visit to Palingbeek Park, outside the town, where an art installation of 600,000 small clay figures representing each of the victims who lost their lives in Ypres in WW1 is laid out. This has taken over four years to come together, with large numbers of contributors making the figures on site and in workshops out of Belgian and German soil, before being fired. The Park was at the centre of large tunnelling warfare between 1915-17, leaving many large craters where underground bombs were let off. A second installation was a walkway through the craters of The Bluff, a huge spoil heap, offering opportunities to hear and read war poetry, emerging onto an observation point overlooking the park. We then visited three small cemeteries in the woodland, well away from the road and so rarely visited, situated and shaped by the frontline contour. Our final visit of the day was to Bedford House Cemetery one of our

favourite locations in the Ypres Salient. This is situated in the grounds of an old ruined chateau set alongside a picturesque canal.

It was used as a burial ground from the early days of the war, through to the grave of Private Harry Reidler, buried under a Jewish headstone, who had been in the Russian Labour Corps (died July 1919). Its five enclosures, each of different character, reflect the changing fortunes of war as it was near the front line being based on the site of several smaller cemeteries, also accepting reburials from others. On a single day it was the recipient of more than 500 gas shells, as it had also become a Brigade Headquarters. The final section was set up in the 1930s for graves of soldiers discovered after the armistice together with 69 WW2 graves from 1940. The whole contains 2195 graves.

We started Saturday with a commemoration at Steenstraat, a hamlet comprising a café and little else apart from two memorials, one of which recalled the first gas attack in WW1 on 22 April 1915. Chlorine Gas was used to great effect, the noxious yellow cloud killing 5,000 soldiers, another 10,000 being injured as the gas ate into their unprotected lungs. However, our destination was the second memorial, to 162 men of the 3e Regiment de Ligne of the Belgian Army, killed whilst trying to recover the ground soon afterwards. A small but splendid ceremony took place with the Band of the West Yorkshire Police Force playing a prominent role. The Band tours internationally, and plays at a number of Remembrance Ceremonies around Ypres each year, including the Last Post at Menin Gate. Afterwards, everyone piled into the café for refreshment!

Next stop was Passchendaele, beginning with the Memorial Museum, based in a historic chateau situated on the front line and one of the most moving we have visited, including replica trenches. This set up our visit to the breathtaking Tyne Cot Cemetery, the largest cemetery for



Reconstructed Trench at Passchendaele Museum

## Continued from previous page

Commonwealth forces in the world, for any war, with 11,954 graves including 8,367 unidentified, together with a memorial to 34,887 soldiers who went missing towards the end of the war, many of whom were lost in the mud of the horrific battle of Passchendaele. These include Harold Ford and Frederick Sedge from Christ Church. The cemetery still contains two German blockhouses where guns were placed to mow down the Commonwealth soldiers attacking up the exposed hillside, but trapped in the mud. We arrived in time to see a rainbow framing the whole cemetery and witness



a fly-past including a number of old bi-planes. A reminder of how the work of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission still continues, were the three newly dug graves for soldiers recently discovered in the ground.

Then it was on towards the village of Passchendaele itself, stopping at the nearby Crest Farm Canadian Memorial, the date marking the 10th November 2017, when Canadian troops ended the Battle of Passchendaele by capturing the ruins of the village. When we arrived for a 6 p.m. Remembrance Ceremony, we were handed blazing torches to illuminate the darkness, which burned through out. As with all such ceremonies it was immensely moving, this time in French as well as Flemish and English, to include the French-Canadians. Afterwards, if our torches had expired there were fresh ones available for a torch light procession along the streets to the town square and an open air Reception. One of the more poignant parts of this was when the Canadian flag until 1963, the Red Ensign also used on UK merchant shipping, was ceremonially lowered in front of the Town Hall and replaced by the Maple Leaf.

Remembrance Sunday saw us in the Ypres Grote Markt shortly after 9 a.m. to secure a good vantage point to see the Poppy Parade which set off from St George's Church

to the Menin Gate at 10 a.m. and also the giant screens to show events in the Gate itself, open only to invited guests. The half mile route was packed with visitors all the way. The procession was enormous, open to all, who were able to walk through the Gate before 11 p.m. and assemble the other side. We chose to watch events from the Grote Markt and its big screen offering a close up of events at the Gate. The formal part of the Parade comprised a large number of military organisations, a multitude of bands, as well as marching police, fire services, British Legion from the UK and Ypres, all with a multitude of wreaths to lay. There was even a Sikh Bhangra Band commemorating the prominent part the 47th Sikh Regiment played in the first battle of Ypres, many commemorated on the Gate. These were followed by a large number of individuals, each carrying a Royal British Legion Poppy Petal to leave at the Memorial. The numbers wishing to process were so great that by 11 a.m., the Parade was nowhere near clearing the Menin Gate, so the Two Minutes Silence and Last Post did not take place until 16 minutes past 11, with the whole town falling silent as we watched the poppies falling on the crowds inside the Gate. Later, we walked up and through the site, with its many individual memorials such as that commemorating the 9,000 members of the Indian Expeditionary Force who died as casualties in France and Flanders, not only due to the nature of their injuries in battle



but also due to the severe winter weather conditions they were exposed to.

Later, we walked to the small Ramparts Cemetery between the city wall and its moat on the old rampart, an opportunity for reflection of the horrors of war we had seen, in its beautiful tree lined surroundings at the end of our visit to the Ypres Salient. For the fallen: They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old, Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, We will remember them



**HOLY BAPTISM**

3<sup>rd</sup> November

Joshua David Jorge Small

4<sup>th</sup> November

Jacob Oliver Barden

18<sup>th</sup> November

Zak Alexander Kevin Mutepfa

Spencer Terence George MacDonald

Ivy Grace Whitaker

9<sup>th</sup> December

Jemima Rosalie Orr

Beatrice Margot Carr

16<sup>th</sup> December

Jesse Kane Ansell

**HOLY MATRIMONY**

27<sup>th</sup> October

Andrew Drain and Rosemary Buchanan

**REST IN PEACE**

17<sup>th</sup> October

Mavis Janet Casely

2<sup>nd</sup> November

Sylvia Read

15<sup>th</sup> November

John Pullen

**Fitness League**

Movement for Life In Christ Church Hall

**Every Tuesday From 2-3.15 pm**

Light remedial exercises Fully qualified teacher

**Ladies why not join us!**

For more information please

**Phone 01634 255759**

*Volunteers needed.....*

'We always need volunteers... the church runs because of the generous service of volunteers.

If you have time and enthusiasm to spare but you are not sure where your talents can be used, we would be glad to meet you for a cup of coffee and to talk through possibilities.

# A Tribute to Tony Larkin

Andrew Marshall has written **Man of Milton**.

Cost £5 which includes a donation towards a plaque which will eventually be placed on the house at Constitution Hill where Tony lived.

Priest Jacqueline has copies of the book if you wish to purchase.



## No prizes in this occasional feature, but give it a try just for a bit of fun

V C L H H I N O S X L U R U P  
 D C P K L O U E P S F J C E Z  
 B S F W J B Z R I I A W A H K  
 Q O U V I L L I N O I S I S U  
 E U F F O C I X E M W E N B E  
 F T W N Y K H O G Z B W I Z S  
 J H L I E C V C Q C S Q G C O  
 S C O Z S P K Q P S B U R T M  
 A A U C R C O R E G O N I T P  
 S R I E E W O A W G K X V O C  
 N O S B J R U N D I F T T H H  
 A L I F W A T C S I L N S F B  
 K I A W E H A Q A I C D E T G  
 X N N V N D H S T D N C W H W  
 S A A S O U T H D A K O T A T

*Find the twelve  
American States*  
 LOUISIANA  
 SOUTHDAKOTA  
 SOUTHCAROLINA  
 ILLINOIS  
 HAWAII  
 UTAH  
 WESTVIRGINIA  
 NEWMEXICO  
 OREGON  
 KANSAS  
 NEWJERSEY  
 WISCONSIN

# Ladders used to link with WW1 trenches.

WW1 putties had names on each card of those from Christ Church parish who died during the Great War.



## Gravesend & District Osteoporosis Support Group

Our next meeting is on  
**22<sup>nd</sup> January 2019**

at Christ Church Hall  
Old Road East, Gravesend  
DA12 1NR

(Parking in Church Car Park or in Park Avenue)

Starting at 7.00 p.m.

**Social Evening**  
**“Call my Bluff”**

**Please invite Family and Friends**

**If possible please bring a plate of  
food to share**

For more information please contact  
the Chair on 01474 564234



**Do you run a  
local business?  
Have you  
thought of  
advertising in  
this monthly  
magazine?**

If you would like  
details of costs  
and how you could  
contribute to Christ  
Church through  
advertising please

contact  
**07840343831**

or email  
ccgravesend.mag10@yahoo.co.uk

**First Steps**

**First Steps**

**First Steps**

## **FIRST STEPS**

Is a service especially designed for families with pre-school children, although all children in the family are welcome to come.

We meet in the church at 1.45pm on the second Wednesday in each month for a short service and then to enjoy a chat over a cup of tea.

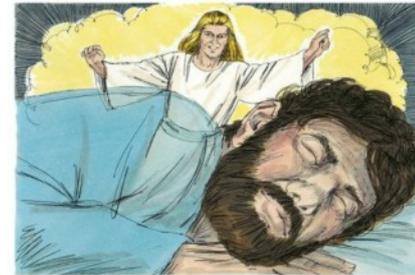
We are finished in plenty of time for parents to meet their other children from school.

Why not come along with your children, you will be very welcome.

**Next date is Wednesday 9 JANUARY 2019.**

# Escape to Egypt

So many things had happened since Jesus was born. One night, Joseph again dreamt that an angel came and stood by his side. "You must take Mary and the baby and hurry away from here at once," came the angel's urgent message. "Go quickly into Egypt and stay there until I come to tell you it is safe to return. King Herod of Judea is going to search for the child. He is determined to kill him."



Next morning, Joseph gently shook Mary until she was awake and told

her to get Jesus ready. He lifted his wife and her precious child on to the donkey and the family crept away unnoticed through the quiet streets of Bethlehem.



Meanwhile, in Jerusalem, King Herod was waiting for the wise men to return with news they had found the special baby that they came to look for.

Every day the king grew more and more impatient and more and more angry. "Surely those wretched astrologers must have found the child by now?" The days turned into weeks, and Herod grew more and more furious. Finding the baby Christ was top of his agenda. The thunder-faced king could think of nothing else. How could he enjoy life, knowing that rumours were spreading about another king of the Jews? Besides, if the wise men were right, and this baby really was the Messiah spoken of in the scriptures. He would soon have supporters up and down the country. And that would leave Herod at serious risk of losing his throne.

Another day ended with no word from the wise men, King Herod finally snapped. "Bring me the general of the royal army!" he howled with rage. The burly army commander was at once ushered in.

"Order your men to go through every single household in the Bethlehem area and find every male child under two years old," Herod shouted, "then kill them all." A gasp went around the court room. The blood drained from the general's face and he fell to his knees before the ruthless, cruel king. The king said. "If I hear that there is even one male child less than two years old left alive, I shall hold you personally responsible."

The soldiers marched through the city, killing every child under the age of two. When Herod heard that the job was done, he was satisfied for this would be the end of all the talk regarding a Messiah, king of the Jews!

Meanwhile, in Egypt Joseph, Mary and Jesus were safe and they stayed there until Herod the king died and it was safe for them to go back to Judea. They returned to the quiet town of Nazareth, where Jesus grew up far away from the evil eyes of Herod's son, King Archelaus.





**Mustard Seed and Over 80's Tea and Christmas Carols afternoon in Christ Church hall on Thursday 13th December**



# What happens at Christ Church?

## Sunday Services

08.00 am Holy Communion (said)  
10.00 am Communion with crèche & God's Gang  
On the 2nd Sunday All-Age service  
Evening Service - see inside magazine for details.

## Weekday Services

Monday morning prayer 08:00  
Holy Communion (said)  
Saturday 08:00  
Wednesday 10:00  
and evening prayer 17.15

**For further information  
Contact  
The Church Wardens**

## Office hours

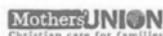
Friday 18:30 until 19:30

Registered Charity no. 1130741

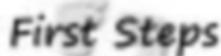
## Regular activities and youth organisations

There are a wide variety of clubs for you:-

Daily	Christ Church Pre-school (2½ upwards)
Monday	Music Group; Brownies
Tuesday	Mothers Union (2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday In church hall) Cubs and Semiquavers
Wednesday	Guides
Thursday	Beavers/Brownies; Choir Practice: 2.30 p.m. Mustard Seed (every third)
Friday	Rainbow Unit; Scouts; Parent and Toddler
Saturday	Working Party (9.30 a.m. every second)

 Mothers UNION  
Christian care for families



 First Steps



# CALENDAR JANUARY 2019

Sunday 		6 08.00 Holy Communion 10.00 Holy Communion	13 08.00 Holy Communion 10.00 Holy Communion All age service	20 08.00 Holy Communion 10.00 Holy Communion	27 08.00 Holy Communion 10.00 Holy Communion
Monday 		7 08.00 Morning Prayer <b>BROWNIES</b>	14 08.00 Morning Prayer <b>BROWNIES</b>	21 08.00 Morning Prayer <b>BROWNIES</b>	28 08.00 Morning Prayer <b>BROWNIES</b>
Tuesday 	1	8 <b>CUBS</b> 18.15 Semiquavers	15 <b>CUBS</b> 18.15 Semiquavers	22 <b>CUBS</b> 18.15 Semiquavers	29 <b>CUBS</b> 18.15 Semiquavers
Wednesday 	2	9 10.00 Holy Communion 17.15 Evening Prayer <b>13.45 First Steps</b>	16 10.00 Holy Communion 17.15 Evening Prayer	23 10.00 Holy Communion 17.15 Evening Prayer	30 10.00 Holy Communion 17.15 Evening Prayer
Thursday 	3	10 <b>BROWNIES</b> Choir Practice	17 14.30 Mustard Seed <b>BROWNIES</b> Choir Practice	24 <b>BROWNIES</b> Choir Practice	31 <b>BROWNIES</b> Choir Practice
Friday 	4	11 13.15 Parent and Toddlers 18.30 Office hours <b>SCOUTS</b>	18 13.15 Parent and Toddlers 18.30 Office hours <b>SCOUTS</b>	25 13.15 Parent and Toddlers 18.30 Office hours <b>SCOUTS</b>	
Saturday 	5	12 08.00 Holy Communion <b>09.30 Work party</b>	19 08.00 Holy Communion	26 08.00 Holy Communion	