

PRAYERS

We pray for all those who are feeling lonely and missing social contact during this second lock down. As we connect in ways we didn't know or think possible at the beginning of the year, may we remember those who do not have access to technology and hold out our hands through letters and phone calls to let them know they are not forgotten

We remember all who ask for our prayers and those who are unwell. We particularly remember **Graham Webster, Nick Ward, Jennifer Morshead, Eileen, Sally Calvert, Nicky, Sandy, Ron Backhouse, Beryl, Mary Clarke, Douglas James, Win, Betty, Clare, Joan, Finlay Relf**, and all who are still very vulnerable and continuing to shield, including Zofia Golebiowska.

We pray for those who have died recently, particularly **Joan Probert Christian Schembri and Ashley Waite**. May their families know God's comfort. We also remember all those who are mourning the anniversary of a loved one's death. Joan Probert's funeral will be on 1st December at Randall's Road Crematorium.

Christmas Hampers: Thank you for your response so far for our annual Christmas hampers in Capel. We have now learnt of a few more families who need our help, so an extra sheet for 4 more hampers has been added and is in the church. If you able to, please do sign up to give something.

Gifts for Christ Church Brixton: Many of you will have heard that Revd Tim Jeffries sadly died in the summer. We have been asked if we would donate about 30 gifts once more for the people at their Christmas party. Gifts should be for adult men and women and labeled with the type of person they are for.

Capel Advent Trial

This exciting initiative which has been masterminded by Sally Wyborn will be happening in Capel throughout advent. Rev Liz will be doing one of the adverts in her garden and needs old sheets to make some costumes. Can you help?

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The Parish of Capel & Ockley

Sunday 22nd November 2020

Christ the King

Welcome to your church



There are no services today as we continue the second lockdown. Capel church is open for private prayer every day between 9am and 4pm.

DECEMBER (subject to restrictions)

Saturday 5th Community Decorate the Christmas trees
times are staggered so please follow published guidelines

Sunday 6th SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
9.30am Service of Matins at Ockley
10.30am Family Communion at Capel

This Sunday we come to one of my favourite Sundays, Christ the King, or some may know it as Stir Up Sunday due to the Post Communion prayer set for this day. Whilst some may think of this as the traditional day in which Christmas puddings were stirred up, the readings set for today both inspire and stir up faith, giving us a wonderful picture of Christ's position as the one true King of creation who has the power to forgive, to bless and also to judge. Judgement not on what we have necessarily believed but on how we have treated others. Matthew draws us into a vivid cosmic scenario, with the Son of Man enthroned in glory, surrounded by angels in the presence of all nations. Yet the focus is on individuals, especially the poorest, weakest, least respected, forgotten members of society. The message is clear - loving service lies at the heart of this Messiah's rule. It starts at the bottom, which those whose struggles are greatest and whose ability to give in return is smallest. This is the crux of his kingship. Whilst commanding heavenly authority he is one with the stranger, those who are naked, hungry, sick or imprisoned. Yet this is not just a humanitarian ethic or action taken for reward. No, to see Jesus in the stranger etc is to perceive each person as a unique self with their individual and distinctive personhood, to care for and love them as we would care for and love ourselves. It is on this, not on confession of faith, justification, grace or forgiveness of sins that we shall be judged. This is backed up by the Old Testament reading from the book of Ezekiel where the greatness of God is demonstrated in God's capacity to find, protect, provide for and guide God's people. God is presented like a shepherd, one who is diligent and compassionate, gathering those who have been scattered and providing sustenance for them. This is in contrast with those who establish themselves as leaders but who exercise an unjust form of power and control. The New Testament reading for today presents us with conventional terms to describe the greatness of God where Paul's guides the fragile new community of the church. Paul demonstrates that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ exercises power in a different way. God's power brings enlightenment and hope and is exercised on behalf of those who are the church. Let us pray that we will be filled with a thirst for holy justice, overflowing love so that we may see Christ in how we serve others.

For all Services & Events

<https://www.capelandockleychurch.org.uk/events-calendar/>