

Christ Church, Rayleigh (CC) and the Bridgwater Drive Church (BDC)

## NEWS & CHAT 24 March 2022

The online service is live-streamed every week from Christ Church, on the Christ Church Facebook page.

**Though no longer legally required by the government, masks must be worn for singing and are strongly recommended to be worn throughout Sunday Worship.**

**To continue to keep Covid-19 safe, please remember to:**

- Wear a mask at all times (unless you have an exemption) **required when singing.**
- Sanitise hands when entering the building
- Keep at least 1m from people you are not in a 'bubble' or live with, including at groups meeting at church.

During services and other events, we will endeavour to keep the Church as warm as possible whilst maintaining good ventilation, so please dress accordingly.

**Sunday 27 March** Gwyneth (Mothering Sunday)  
Margaret Bates at BDC



### LENT SILVER COLLECTION

Christ Church will again have its Lent Silver Collection - **Jars for Change** appeal during Lent. Bring your coins for the jar to support **Water Aid**.



### The LENTEN CROSS

Throughout Lent, each week we add symbols to the Cross in church

Week Five The Crown of Thorns  
To cause him pain and mock his calm authority

**PLEASE NOTE: Naomi is on annual leave until 3 April. If you have a church-related issue or prayer request, please contact Jean. Sue will prepare and send out News & Chat during that time – if you have anything you want included in N&C, please send it to Sue.**

### PRAYER CORNER

We invite all of you to set aside time daily to pray for our churches and members but also for the whole nation and world. We pray especially for the people of Ukraine.

This week's prayer theme (prepared by Gwyneth). **Humility.** To compliment, encourage and appreciate another is to humble ourselves whilst raising them to greater importance. After all, Jesus, God in person, did this for each of us. What can we give in Lent? Praise, devotion, dedication, and honour to Him who died and rose again for us, love personified.... And a willing, loving heart to be His love to those around us.

#### Particular prayer requests this week:

Sheila S  
Frank  
Della  
Terry W & James

Mark E & family  
Eve J  
Judy & George C  
Susan – Penny's cousin

Phil & Penny  
Sandy, Mike & Annie  
Gwyneth, Jeff & Amy

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Congratulations to Mavis and Roy, celebrating their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 24<sup>th</sup> March.

### **INDIAN MEAL Monday 11th April 7:30**

Mango Lounge High Street Rayleigh

£20 per person

Reserve your place with Janine Danes

07719892728 01702511861 [janinedanes@talktalk.net](mailto:janinedanes@talktalk.net)

### **IMPORTANT REMINDER**

A reminder to church members – that nomination forms for the election of elders should be with the secretary by this coming Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> March please.

### **LENT HOUSE GROUPS**

Lent House Groups, joint with the Methodist Church:

**Tuesdays at 2.30pm at the Methodist Church**

**Tuesdays at 7.45pm on Zoom:**

<https://zoom.us/j/99345651990?pwd=OW45UkVzZVJDN08wM05WY2JNWDYwZz09>

We will use this year's York Course – *God has No Favourites*

“Dr Carmody Grey explores how each of us is called to discover that God is completely inclusive - God Has No Favourites, because God favours everyone.”

It is not essential to have a copy of the course, but it would be helpful. **Copies are available at the back of the church** along with transcripts of the audio. These will be free of charge, unless you would like to make a donation to the church. (cost £3.99) Each week in News & Chat, we will give a summary of theme for the following week's session and two or three sample questions.

### **Lent course session 4: Neither Slave Nor Free – 29<sup>th</sup> March**

Christianity came into a world of gross inequality where slavery was commonplace and nobody sought to question the situation. But Jesus scandalised those around him by acting as though every human being mattered. Jesus undermined the whole order of society in which slave and free knew their place. Jesus made any attempt to maintain social boundaries unsustainable. Showing any form of preferential treatment or discrimination is incompatible with being followers of Jesus. And yet in the 21<sup>st</sup> century people are still captive to economic and social discrimination even in the UK. There are those who have been excluded and pushed to the peripheries of society. Jesus' ministry reached out to those on the periphery and those who follow Jesus are asked to do the same.

- How do you react when you encounter someone begging on the street?
- What hierarchies are there in the UK's society and have these been made more visible by the impacts of the coronavirus?
- Slavery is not only a past reality but a present one. What forms of slavery are there in the world today? How visible are they?