

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

## NEWS & CHAT 7 APRIL 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.

**Palm Sunday 10 April,** 10am at Christ Church, All Age, Keith & Joyce Berry  
10.30am at The Bridgwater Drive Church, Communion, The Minister

A reminder that **next Thursday, 14 April at 8pm**, there will be a Tenebrae service with Communion for Maundy Thursday. And the ecumenical town **Good Friday** service will be at **10am at Our Lady of Ransom, London Hill**

**Easter Sunday.** Please bring either chocolate or fresh eggs if you are able. These will be taken to HARP and Hopeworx who we support throughout the year.

### The LENTEN CROSS

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

Week 6 – leading to Palm Sunday

The palm branches that welcomed Jesus as he rode into Jerusalem



**The Church Annual General Meeting is on Thursday, 21st April at 8 PM at the church.**

Joyce Berry, Robert Dart, and Sue Deane have been nominated to stand as serving elders. The vote of each member is important, so please let Jean know if you are unable to attend the AGM and would like a postal vote.

### TIPS & IDEAS

This week's artistic challenge from #64MillionArtists seems aimed at people who regularly do something creative, but having just come back from a long 'big' trip the title and idea appealed to me and I'm sure you could adapt it even if you are not 'regularly' creative (and who defines 'regular' anyway!)

**A Journey - Take a moment to reflect on where your creativity has taken you up until now. Capture your journey through a map, timeline or drawing.**

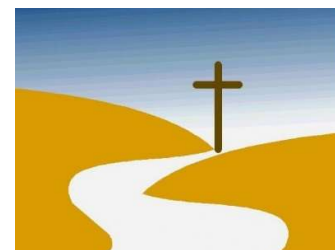


It might be a recent adventure or one you've been on for a long time! See if you can include where your creativity has connected you to someone or given you a new perspective. Were there moments of joy, disappointment, or other emotions, along the way that led you to new places?

Perhaps reflect on your Lenten journey, as Lent comes towards its end. Or your faith journey. Or maybe an actual journey you have been on recently – maybe make a photo collage or scrapbook rather than a map.

Or, as we journey towards Easter in Holy Week next week, why not create your own

*Via Crucis* (stations of the cross) map or picture. **Along these lines – note that *Pilgrimage* the TV programme where a group of celebrities undertake a pilgrimage starts this Friday on BBC2 at 9pm.**



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## RESOURCES

New reflections for April from St Paul's Cathedral, by Ayla Lepine *Cezanne's Old Woman with a Rosary*  
<https://mailchi.mp/7fd71553e219/coming-up-from-st-pauls-cathedral-8251274?e=e30a1f608a>

### The Trussell Trust Race Against Hunger

On Saturday 2 April, thousands of Trussell Trust supporters all around the UK took part in the Race Against Hunger 5K challenge and Robert and Helen were part of it.

Between 1 April 2021 and 30 September 2021, food banks in the Trussell Trust's UK wide network distributed 5,100 emergency food parcels a day to people in crisis. This is an increase of 11% compared to the same period in 2019. Almost 2,000 of those parcels were provided for children every day. This isn't right. Everyone should be able to afford the essentials and put food on the table.

If you would like to make a donation to support the work of the Trussell Trust please click on the link below  
<https://trusselltrust.enthuse.com/pf/robert-dart>

### 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)

### Other FUTURE EVENTS TO SIGN UP FOR:

**Easter Sunday – 17th April 8.30 am.** There will be a short Communion service followed by breakfast in Caley Hall. For catering purposes, please sign up if you are planning to come.

There is an **Away Afternoon on Sunday 15th May** at St Michael's Church, Daws Heath. The speaker is Rev John Proctor. Lunch will be provided, and transport is available. Please sign the form at the back of the church.

**LENT HOUSE GROUPS** – this was a five-week course and so finished this Tuesday (next week is Holy Week – time permitting I will post a reflection to the Church Facebook page daily).

Thank you to all those who led sessions and those who participated.

### PRAYER CORNER

I 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). **Needles and Natter.** Fellowship, creativity, refreshment, friendship, and activity. Please pray for this important and growing ministry and community within our church, welcoming all, whether knitters or natters, neither or both!

#### Particular prayer requests this week:

Sheila S

Frank B

Della

Terry W & James

Peter & Jacqui, friends of Di

Mark E & family

Eve J

Judy & George C

Susan – Penny's cousin

Julia's mum, Larisa

Sandy, Mike & Annie

Gwyneth, Jeff & Amy

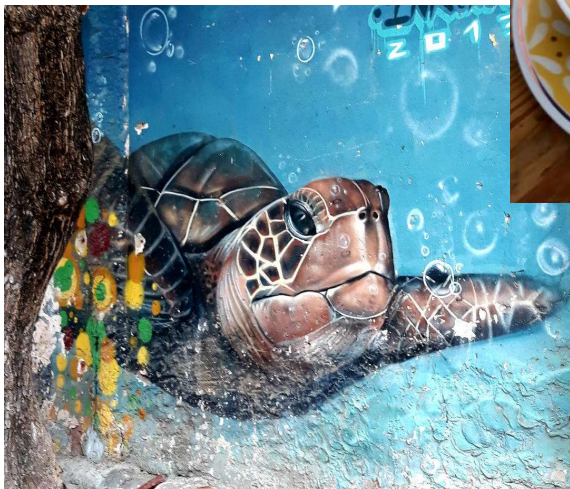
Audrey



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And finally, as I'm not fully up to date with the news yet, and, at the time of writing, it is cold and cloudy, here are a few holiday pics to cheer/warm us up!

I know a few of you have been away recently – why not send in a photo or two for next week's News & Chat? Naomi



**Closing thought** – while all restrictions are ended here and few people are wearing masks anywhere, cases are soaring, while in Colombia where the vast majority of people are still wearing masks on all public transport, all public offices and shops, and some people even in the street, there are now hardly any cases of COVID-19...