

CHRIST CHURCH PURLEY

News

MAKING PASSIONATE DISCIPLES FOR CHRIST

"God is in the salvation business, and so are we" (APCM May 2025)

*¹⁴ For we are all **partners with Christ** if we hold firmly to the end the confidence we had at the beginning. (Hebrews 3:14)*

Welcome to Christ Church News:

Sunday 30 th November	Advent 1	SPIRIT FILLED WORSHIP: Hearing from God 1 Corinthians 14:22-28
	8.45am	Traditional service with hymns
	Coffee	
	10.15am	Worship service with CCKids & CCYouth
		Coffee
	11.45am	Third Service
	3pm	Alpha
		Gospel Service
Monday		Christ Church Advent calendar now on the website
	9 am	Foyer open
	9.15am	Morning Bible Study
Tue	9.00am	Foyer open
	9.30am	Carousel baby and toddler group
	7pm	Tuesday Youth Group
Wed	9am	Foyer open
	9.15am	Morning Bible Study
		Midweek Fellowship

Thu	9am	Foyer open
Fri	9am	Foyer open
Sat		
Sunday 7 th December	Advent 2	
	8.45am	Traditional service with hymns
	Coffee	
	10.15am	Worship for everyone Christingle service
		Coffee
	11.45am	Third Service
	3pm	Alpha Holy Spirit "Away Day" (here!)

Sunday 7 December
8.45am -Traditional Communion service with hymns
10.15am - Worship for everyone: Christingle service
11.45am - Third service



ROAD OF THE WEEK

We are inviting you to pray for our parish road by road throughout the year. This week we are praying in particular for **WHYTECLIFFE ROAD** and all who dwell, work or travel there.



YouTube live link for 10.15am and 11.45am services find the link on our website.

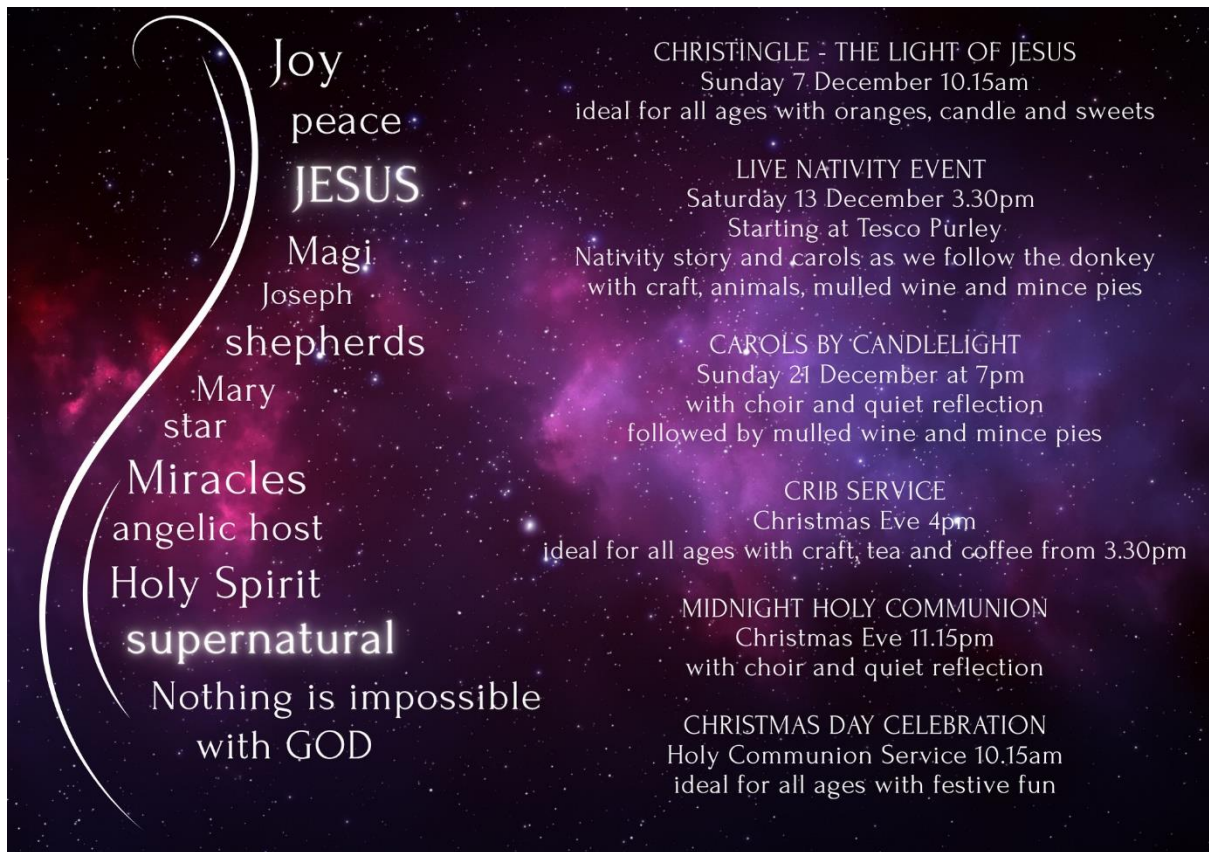


DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Gospel Service – Sunday 30th November

Midweek Fellowship – Wednesday 3rd December
(prebooked only)





LOOKING FORWARD TO DECEMBER AT CHRIST CHURCH

- 1-5 Dec **Christmas Unwrapped** for schools
- 7 Dec 10.15am Worship for everyone **Christingle**
service (8.45 am and 1.45am as usual)
- 13 Dec **Live Nativity**
14 Dec Sunday services at 8.45am, 10.15am and 11.45am
- 17 Dec 12noon Midweek Communion and
Midweek Christmas Lunch
- 18 Dec Holiday at Home Christmas party
- 21 Dec Sunday services at 8.45am, 10.15am and 11.45am
- 21 Dec 6.30pm **Carols by candlelight**
- Wed 24th **Crib service**
Midnight Communion
- Thurs 25th 10.15am **Christmas day All age communion**
- 28 Dec 10.15am All age Communion service



Find our Advent Calendar on our website



Advent Calendar 2025



EMERGENCY EVACUATION

Thank you to everyone who was involved in last Sunday's evacuation drill. You were all wonderful

The Entire church building was empty in under 3 mins 30 seconds

All clear given at 4:00 mins

All back in and in full swing at 6 mins 40 seconds

AND

The rain stopped and the sun shone!!

Please can you let me know your thoughts on the whole process from your perspective.

What went well?

Any issues you encountered?

Any suggestions?

You can send this by email to office@christchurchpurley.org.uk

or you can complete this online form using the QR code



Shoebbox Appeal 2025

Thank You Christ Church for your kindness and generosity packing 97 shoeboxes this year. Please continue to pray for their life-changing impact.

We were a Church Collection Centre again, during the week of 10 – 17 November, when another 626 shoeboxes were brought to Christ Church from the community, making a total of 723. They were collected on November 20th. Thank you to everyone who helped with this.



Can you help? Live Nativity Saturday 13th December (15:30-17:30 plus set-up/rehearsal where appropriate).

Can you help? We have a fantastic opportunity to share the Christmas story of Jesus' birth with the local community through our 'Live nativity' which is taking place on Saturday 13th December starting outside Tesco's and moving along the street until we reach church. This wonderful family-friendly event involved a reenactment of the Nativity, Christmas Carols, crafts, refreshments and donkeys!

We still need:

7x stewards

5x refreshment team

7x actors (to mime to narration)

2 craft leaders (DBS required)

4x prayer tent leaders (DBS required and prayer training)

We also need 6-7 people to help with set-up and pack down.



If you can help, please either fill-in the form here
or contact Jude on: jude@christchurchpurley.org.uk

Please may we ask you to pray for this event as we seek to share
news of Jesus' incredible birth!



ARE YOU ABLE TO HELP IN ANY WAY THIS CHRISTMAS TIME AT CHRIST CHURCH?

We would really appreciate as many offers as possible to
make the services and events all run smoothly and so that we
can bless our many visitors.



DELIVERING CHRISTMAS PUBLICITY

**There are bundles for the streets in our parish waiting to be claimed!
street by street.**

**Please look at the sign-up sheet and sign up when you take a bundle so
that we can cover the whole parish this year again!**

**If you find the numbers are wrong in your bundle please email
Jean office@christchurchpurley.org.uk and I will update it for the next time.**



FUEGO, FUEGO! THERE IS FIRE IN THE BUILDING...HOLY FIRE.

We had our fire drill at the 10.15am service last week. There are always lessons to learn. Much of the preparation and training allowed it to go largely to plan. Thanks to all involved.

Maybe this is an allegory for something else God is calling us into.

But in this case, the fire is not something we are seeking to get safely away from, to save ourselves. Instead it's something to welcome in, to enter us and fire us up – ablaze for God – a Holy fire.

Our current series is over half way, where we have been considering the question posed by Jesus regarding gifts from God – literally the Charisma – the gift of the Holy Spirit. How much more is he willing to give?

And we know from the picture painted in Acts 2 of the day of Pentecost that the coming of the Holy Spirit, poured out on those present, is symbolised by flame – fire upon them. Fire in the bible cleanses and purifies.

³ He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the Lord.^[a] ⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years. (Malachai 3:3-4)

There is a story about a Christian group that visited a silver manufacturer. As the group watched the silversmith at his trade, smelting the silver in the raging fire, one asked "How will you know when it is ready, when it's pure?"

"When I can see my face in it", was the answer.

And that may be an allegory of what Holy Spirit fire does – it makes the creator's face to shine from us – that's when the work is done!

As we have progressed through topics recently such as "How much more does the Father want to give of the Holy Spirit?" to "Faith" to "Worship" and most recently "Confession and Repentance", we can see two things:

1. There is always more of God if we would receive; and
2. To be filled by his Spirit is the normal way of the disciple

We see this in the early church and we see it is the norm in churches that are fired up for God. Churches where more is experienced – of filling, healing, prophecy and powerful intercession. Lives transformed and people giving their lives to Christ, convicted and fired up themselves.

There is always more of God. In his timing and in his way.

It comes with a simple prayer – **Come Holy Spirit**. And an obedience to what he might say to us and do with us if we are open to receive the “how much more” he wants to pour out.

That is the principle we have dipped our toes into and that is the basis of the Third Service.

A time has come and is now for Christ Church to immerse, to go deeper (think Ezekiel 47...).

As preparation for tweaks to our services in 2026 I am **recommending a book to read** – through Advent or at your own leisure and pace – which explains this experiential spirituality in gentle and wise ways. It is ***"The Familiar Stranger"*** by Tyler Staton. He is the Senior Pastor who took over the church in Portland where John Mark Comer led before he stepped aside to dedicate himself to being a Teaching Pastor.

It is an intensely practical book filled with encouragement and challenge. It does not over hype (in fact quite the opposite) but neither does it under play. It is as honest about the failures as the successes, the lows and the highs. And each chapter will make you think – “wow I never thought of it like that!”

But this book makes one big assumption.

This is for you! – if you want to receive.

I commend it to you.

My prayer is that it will make you hungry for more of God’s Spirit in your life and in the church.

It was Manuel who shouted “Fuego, Fuego” and Basil who told him “No , is no fire, is only drill”.*

God is not calling us to a drill but to the real thing – his Spirit fire falling on us – for his purposes and his glory.

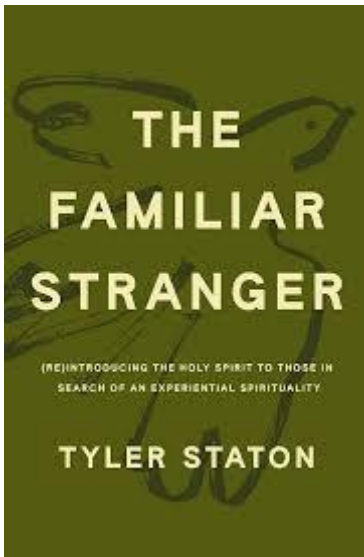
How much more do you want to receive of all that God has to send us?

Yours in Christ

Doug

vicar@christchurchpurley.org.uk

** Fawlty Towers reference...*

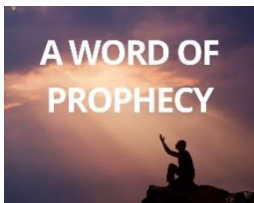


ADVENT READING RECOMENDATION:

To read alongside our current series "How much more?": Spirit filled worship.

A clear and insightful read. Lots of examples. Wise advice. Huge encouragement that there is more of God for every believer.

Practical and accessible.



A picture of a sewing machine.

God may be saying "I have come to mend you in body, mind and spirit. As a garment cannot resist the machine so I want you to be. Receive from Me you Heavenly Father, all good things that will put you together not least in relationship with each other. Put away from your mind or

past wounds so that My Body can be healed, effective and powerful in the Holy Spirit. There will be a greater unity when you allow My stitching to have its healing effect upon you all. Have a stitched up Christmas!

WOULD THAT ALL WERE PROPHETS...Moses (Numbers 11:29):

The one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort.' 1 Corinthians 14:1&3.

Got a picture or verse for Christ Church? Offer it to the service leader....

TO CHRIST CHURCH PURLEY

DEAR ALL,

BIG thanks from Purley Food Hub to everyone at Christ Church Purley for the £1,533.70 proceeds from the 2025 Veteran Car Race that you kindly donated to us in November 2025.

I have attached our Thank You Certificate which we hope you can display in the building.

As you know, at the Food Hub we give three-day emergency food parcels plus toiletries and household essentials to local people in crisis and to date we have provided food for **400,000 meals for 45,000 people** since we opened in 2013.

It is directly because of the fantastic support we receive from local churches like Christ Church, as well as from schools, community organisations, and many families and individuals, that - together - we can make a real difference for families facing real hardship at this time.

And, in the words of Trevor Jones, it means we can continue to be here for them for as long as there remains a need.

With our thanks again and best wishes to you all, Steve



This certificate is presented to



**CHRIST
CHURCH
PURLEY**

for the £1,533 you kindly donated to Purley Food Hub from the Veteran Car Run on 2/11/25.

As always, we are very grateful for your support - it helps to make a real difference to local families facing hardship at this time.



PURLEY FOOD HUB
Tel: 07546 635295 | Email: purleyfoodhub@gmail.com
Website: www.purleyfoodhub.net
Charity no: 1152807 | Company no: 08557885

together
Churches
Purley & Kenley



CHRIST CHURCH COURSES – News

The latest cohort of the Pastoral Training course has come to the end of the internal sessions (with 4 sessions from external speakers planned for the new year).

It has been a joy to join with members of All Saints Sanderstead in this course.

Next courses:

Witness course – how to capture and tell your story of faith

Prayer Ministry

How to hear God's voice

Please contact Doug vicar@christchurchpurley.org.uk to express your interest in any (or all!) of these short courses.



Did last Sunday's service prompt you or someone you know to consider entering God's family of believers through baptism?

Wonderful News!

Complete this form and we will get in touch to discuss the next steps. Find out more information about Baptism on our website



Baptism

We have been asked to share the following request:
 "As I'm sure you're aware, each year we '**Paint Purley Purple**' to raise awareness and funds for the South East Cancer Help Centre – it is a wonderful campaign which sees us adorn the trees in Purley with purple knitted panels. The campaign is due to take place in July and August 2026.

We are now at the stage of trying to recruit 'knitters' who would be happy to knit panels for the trees so that we can increase the number of trees covered in purple."



Celebrating Christmas - CAP Charity Concert, Friday 5th December 7pm to 9.30pm The Salvation Army Band will make a return visit to Purley Baptist Church on **Friday 5th December** to help get us into the spirit of Christmas. This time their choir will join them so it promises to be an extra special event. It's free to attend by registering at <https://capcharityconcert.eventbrite.co.uk>. Any voluntary donations will be used to support the work of Christians Against Poverty (CAP) in our local community. Nigel Davidson Christians Against Poverty

Parking at Christ Church



Parking should only be in in marked bays – on Sundays and during the week. Special attention should be paid to areas needed for access by emergency vehicles such as outside the oak doors and on the roundabout.

Can you help Henry?

Henry is needing new people to encourage him out of his hiding place and to take a gentle weekly stroll around the church.

Are you interested?

Please contact Jean in the office



SUNDAY TOILET FACILITIES:

The toilets on the **back corridor** are for **unaccompanied children** and youth only at all times (on Sundays).

The main block of toilets is for **adults only or parents who need to accompany their child**. There will be signs on the toilet to remind everyone.



SAFEGUARDING AT CHRIST CHURCH

A reminder of the Safeguarding Principles we introduced in 2023:

SAFEGUARDING PRINCIPLES

Everyone protects boundaries and vulnerabilities by reporting.



Safeguarding principles

- 1. EVERYONE:** Everyone is the eyes, ears and heart of a safe church
- 2. PROTECTS:** *Safe Church* intends to protect the vulnerable and the innocent and put off the perpetrator
- 3. BOUNDARIES:** Safe Boundaries are key - if in any doubt, ask first
- 4. VULNERABILITIES:** Power imbalance is always part of abuse - that's why we particularly safeguard children and vulnerable people
- 5. REPORTING:** Report don't solve or investigate