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:

BUMPER TWO WEEK EDITION

Sunday 8th March		Second Sunday - three services.
	8.45am	Holy Communion service with hymns
		Coffee
	10.15am	Morning Worship with band, Holy Communion CCPreschool, CCKids and CCYouth
		Coffee
	11.45am	Third service with baptisms
Monday	9am 9.15am	Foyer open Morning Bible Study
Tue	9am 9.15am 9.30am 7pm	Foyer open Morning Bible study Carousel baby and toddler group Tuesday Youth Group
Wed	9am 9.15am	Foyer open Morning Bible Study
Thu	9am 7.30pm	Foyer open LENTEN PRAYER GATHERING
Fri	9am	Foyer Open No Christ Church News this week
Sat		

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 **Coldharbour Lane**
and all who dwell, work or travel there.

Sunday 15th March		Third Sunday - two services. Mothering Sunday
	8.45am	Holy Communion service with hymns
		Coffee
	10.15am	Together for Morning Worship with band
Monday	9am 9.15am 7.30pm	Foyer open Morning Bible Study LENTEN PRAYER GATHERING
Tue	9am 9.15am 9.30am 7pm	Foyer open Morning Bible study Carousel baby and toddler group Tuesday Youth Group
Wed	9am 9.15am 12noon 1pm	Foyer open Morning Bible Study Midweek Holy Communion Midweek Lunch
Thu	9am	Foyer open
Fri	9am	Foyer Open Next Christ Church News out
Sat		
Sunday 22nd March		Fourth Sunday - two services. APCM
	8.45am	Holy Communion service with hymns
		Coffee
	10.15am	APCM and Morning Worship with band CCPreschool, CCKids and CCYouth
		Coffee

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 **Dale Road**
and all who dwell, work or travel there.

LENT AND HOLY WEEK DATES		
Palm Sunday	**29th March**	
Maundy Thursday	**2nd April**	**8pm Holy Communion**
		9pm followed by vigil
Good Friday	**3rd April**	**Am Easter event**
		2.30pm Hour at the cross
Easter Sunday	**5th April**	**8.45 am and 10.15am**
(Doug's last Sunday)		

LENTEN PRAYER GATHERINGS – Praying for the church.

Praying for protection, direction, healing and blessing on the church at this time of change…..

All are invited to prayer gatherings during Lent (fasting during the day is optional): All 7.30-8.30pm

Thursday 12th March

Monday 16th March

Tuesday 24th March

Monday 30th March

All welcome.

A PRAYER FOR THE MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT:

A prayer of hope from Open Doors posted on Saturday from an Open Doors Partner in Iran:

"As an Iranian and as a Christian, I speak with a heavy heart," shares a local Open Doors partner. "I do not celebrate war, nor do I take lightly the suffering it brings to ordinary families in Iran, in Israel and across the region. Every life is precious before God.

"May God bring light out of darkness and peace out of turmoil."

"Yet as an Iranian, I also cannot ignore the deep longing for freedom that has lived in the hearts of our people for generations. If this painful moment becomes a turning point toward justice and true liberty, then my prayer is that it leads not to greater destruction, but to the restoration of dignity, hope and peace."

He adds: "As followers of Christ, we pray for the protection of the innocent, for restraint among leaders, and for a future where Iran and the region may know freedom without fear. May God bring light out of darkness and peace out of turmoil."

Lenten Prayer Gatherings will include prayers for areas of conflict in the world today.

The Electoral roll is now closed until after the APCM on 22nd March. Please check the displayed copies in the Foyer notice board or in the church to make sure that your details are correct.

PARISH PROFILE

PCC **discussed the Parish Profile on 23rd February.**

A **survey of thoughts will come out to all congregation members**, so all will have an opportunity to feed into the final document. There will also be time in the **APCM on 22nd March to discuss** these thoughts and feedback.

Standing Committee will then take all these comments on board and **finalise the document** which will in time be **adopted by the PCC.**

After that we will be in a position to **advertise and recruit.**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 10th March Bereavement journey course starts

Wednesday 18th March – Midweek Communion
Wednesday 18th March Midweek Lunch

Sunday 22nd March – APCM

Sunday 29th March – Clocks go forward

Sunday 29th March - Palm Sunday

Sunday 29th March – Farewell afternoon tea for Doug

Maundy Thursday 2nd April - 8pm Holy Communion followed by vigil

Good Friday 3rd April -AM Easter event

Good Friday 3rd April – 2.30pm Hour at the cross

Easter Sunday 5th April - 8.45 am and 10.15am services

Easter Sunday 5th April - Doug's last Sunday at Christ Church

Bereavement Journey-
The Bereavement Journey is for anyone who has been bereaved at any time and in any way.

By means of a series of films and discussion groups it gently guides bereaved people through the most common aspects of grief, enabling them to process the implications for themselves and discern next steps.
Usually run by churches The Bereavement Journey uniquely offers a final session on faith questions in bereavement provided from a Christian perspective. This is optional, thus making The Bereavement Journey suitable for people of any faith or none. Next course starts on **Tuesday 10th March at 2.30pm**. Booking essential as places are limited.

Doug's Blog

WHAT'S IN A SAUCEPAN?

I have been on some fabulous holidays recently. Hebrides, Scottish Borders, Northern Ireland, Edinburgh…and each time I have tried to bring back a memory. Paintings and photos, including a close up of a locally growing wild flower and a 1900s photo taken from a particular spot, next to one visited ruin and looking across at a cathedral, recently visited.

These memories are mine and looking at my walls, they will not elicit the same feelings in others.

This is the essence of great liturgy, worship songs and hymns, church buildings, ritual and sacraments such as baptism and communion.

They point to something else – they are not generally a means in themselves, but point to the end – to Jesus, our saviour. And that's why what works for each of us might be different. Simple works – because our experience of the "first love" will be different.

It may be the comfort of a well known and oft repeated prayer, or it may be a song or hymn that we struggle to get to the end of without tears in our eyes and a lump in the throat, it might be the pew we sat in when we encountered Him. It could be a whole manner of things.

And it could be something very simple.

These are the thoughts I had when I read a recent social media post by a friend of mine, Evan*.

What's in a saucepan?

Some people need Lamborghinis and fancy watches, immaculate houses and expensive holidays. I just need this saucepan.

As we get older we realise the value of things, if we're lucky. Value in what really matters.

This saucepan is worth more than its weight in gold. This was our mum's saucepan. I remember it back to the 1980s. I imagine she had it in the 70s. This saucepan was the engine behind our family Sunday roasts. The laughter round the table. The shared moments. The hubbub of life and the fountain of memories. Overlooked and unseen perhaps back then. But remembered now.

In this vessel many thousands of roast potatoes have started their journey towards immortality because mum made the very finest roast potatoes. That's not just me saying that because she was my mum. No. The countless guests at our table all attested to their excellence. Indeed her roast potatoes are legendary. Today my wife insists I make our roast potatoes because I've inherited that gene…just as I've inherited this saucepan.

I own many precious things, each of them as unworthy to the untrained eye. This though is my Aladdin's lamp. From this metal bowl and its perfectly fitting lid memories are conjured and love is shared.

What's in a saucepan?

Goodness, joy, love and memories.

I don't need a Lamborghini. I'll be at home par boiling potatoes ready to roast, to enjoy. Good times.

The first question in last week's Worship for Everyone was "What helps you focus on God".

Whatever that is for you, is a precious gift. And it's different for all of us.

Hold onto it. Don't worship the reminder, look through it to the object of our thankfulness, affection and faith.

Jesus, saviour and perfecter of our souls.

This Lent and especially through this Holy week, maybe explore what is our "saucepan" to God!

Every blessing

Doug

* Reproduced with permission

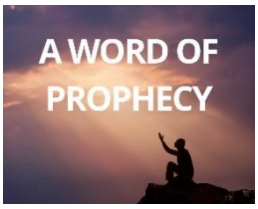
DEANERY SYNOD

A number of our current reps on Deanery will have to step down this year.

Consider the opportunity to support other churches and be a voice in the conversation.

I hear the new Area Dean's quite funky too….

Want to know more, ask Doug.



A picture of a large wheel which was not connected to a cart. On the cart were some parcels which were of vital importance.

God may be saying "I have an important message for My people to deliver at this time - I love my people and I died for them. However it will not be delivered unless the wheel is put on the cart and someone drives it. Prayer is needed for connection and personal faith to drive. You all have the ability to connect and drive My message to its many destinations. So connect and act so that may be brought to my banqueting table to eat with me."

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….

PCC VACANCIES

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) will be on 22nd March at 10.15am.
If you think that God may be calling you to **serve on PCC** then please contact me for a chat about what is involved. Vicar@christchurchpurley.org.uk

PLEASE NOTE THAT TO SERVE ON PCC OR DEANERY YOU MUST:
- BE 16 OR OVER
- BE AN ACTUAL COMMUNICANT
- BE ON THE NEW ELECTORAL ROLL
- NOT BE DISQUALIFIED FROM BEING A CHARITY TRUSTEE

WHAT DOES PCC DO?

TRUSTEES	POLICIES		REPRESENT	**MINISTRY**
AOB!		FINANCES		
	6 MEETINGS		BUILDINGS	**STRATEGY**
MISSION	LEADERSHIP	STAFF		SAFEGUARDING

This year there will be elections for:

Vestry meeting:
Wardens – 2 Positions

APCM:
PCC members – 5 Positions* (3 people interested)

Attend PCC meetings bi-monthly

Deanery Synod (2026-2029) - 4 Positions (1 person interested)

Attend PCC meetings plus 3 Synod meetings per year

(see attached leaflet to find out more)

**Note – correction from last week*

If you would like to know more about these roles then please **contact Doug**.

While PCC requires **no special qualifications**, everyone brings something (!), some expertise in the following areas would be beneficial (non-exhaustive list!):

- Strategy
- Buildings and project management
- Health and Safety
- Finance
- Mission and evangelism
- Worship , discipleship and prayer
- Charity Governance and law
- Human Resources
- Safeguarding
- Justice issues
- Loving God's church and wanting to see it thrive…….

HOW TO FIND THE NOMINATION, PROPOSAL AND SECONDING FORMS FOR CHURCHWARDEN, DEANERY SYNOD AND PCC.

All the forms for the APCM can be found on the church website or via the links below or by using the QR codes on display in the noticeboard in the Foyer
On the nomination form you will need to include your name and the names of the Proposer and Seconder.

CHURCH WARDEN CONSENT FORM

APCM Church Warden nomination consent form

CHURCH WARDEN PROPOSER FORM

APCM Church Warden proposer for nomination form

CHURCH WARDEN SECONDER FORM

APCM Church Warden seconder form

PCC CONSENT FORM

APCM PCC nomination consent form

PCC PROPOSER FORM

APCM PCC proposer for nomination form

PCC SECONDER FORM

APCM PCC Seconder form

DEANERY SYNOD 2026-2029 CONSENT FORM

APCM Deanery Synod nomination consent form

DEANERY SYNOD 2026-2029 PROPOSER FORM

APCM Deanery Synod proposer for nomination form

DEANERY SYNOD 2026-2029 SECONDER FORM

APCM Deanery Synod Seconder form

Safeguarding and standing as a PCC or deanery synod member: You will be required to undertake safeguarding training which is done online, a references and declaration form and a DBS for Christ Church.

New Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO)

Caroline Obonyo has been appointed as a new PSO, replacing Alison Flexman. The Safeguarding Team at Christ Church is therefore:

Jean Loh and Caroline Obonyo (PSOs)

We would like to strengthen this team further with voluntary admin support and a further PSO. If you think you might be able to help let Doug or Jean know.

Family News

Please note that if you want to share family news, change of circumstances etc, good news or sad, please contact office@christchurchpurley.org.uk and we will try to include it under this section – Christ Church Family News.

SAFEGUARDING AND THE NATIONAL CHURCH: INEQE Safeguarding Audit

The Church of England has commissioned the INEQE Safeguarding Group to carry out an **independent audit of all Church of England dioceses and Cathedrals**. Southwark's audit has now started and we are being independently audited on five National Safeguarding Standards.
We will be making the survey documents available to all church members as follows:

- **Workforce** – clergy, staff and all volunteers
- **Community** – others in the church community
- **Children and youth** – 13 to 18 on own, under 13 with parent (will be sent to parents to pass on to children of any age)

Please note that if you have experienced harm or abuse in a church context at any time and place there is a further survey for victims and survivors.

All congregation are invited to respond to this national audit of safeguarding in the Church of England, and responses can be anonymous.

DBF, DBE and Office of the Bishop Workforce

Including all staff or volunteers of these entities and Diocesan Synod.

COMPLETE SURVEY »

The Parish Workforce

Including, for example, clergy, parish staff, volunteers, PSOs, church wardens, PCC members or bellringers.

COMPLETE SURVEY »

The Parish Community

Including, for example, parishioner, worshipper, or an attendee of another acti at the parish.

COMPLETE SURVEY »

Victims / Survivors

If you are a victim/survivor of church-related abuse, we value your input and insight into current Church of England safeguarding practices.

COMPLETE SURVEY »

Child or Young Person

If you are under 18, tell us about your experiences and what you want to change. However, if you are under the age of 13 then please do so with the help of a parent / guardian.

COMPLETE SURVEY »

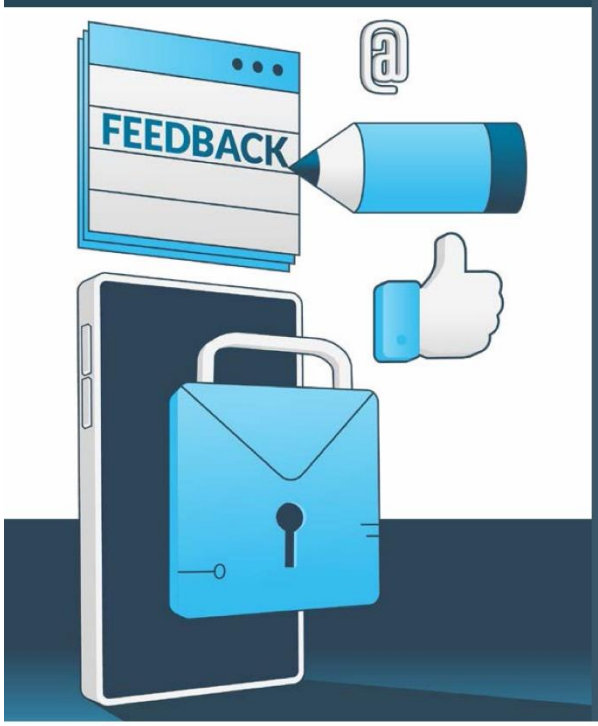
online

Tell the Independent Safeguarding Audit

The INEQE Safeguarding Group is an independent company of safeguarding professionals.

We have been asked to carry out Audits of the Church of England to make sure dioceses, cathedrals and palaces are doing all they can to create environments where everyone feels safe, valued and respected.

Listening to and learning from dioceses is an important part of the Audit.



INEQE SAFEGUARDING GROUP

You can help us

If you have any information, concerns or worries about something that happened in or is related to your Church body, you can contact us via this webpage.

ineqe.com/churchofengland/southwark

Access the webpage by scanning the QR code

Tell us your views

Your participation is critically important and you can help by taking part in an anonymous and confidential survey.

We encourage you to be open and honest. We will only share information if what you tell us indicates a serious risk of harm.

ineqe.com/churchofengland/southwark

Closing date is **08th April 2026**

Don't forget - If you or someone you know is in immediate danger, it is important that you quickly get the right help – **call the police on 999**

NSPCC Helpline
- Helpline - 080 8800 5000
- Email - help@NSPCC.org.uk

Childline
- Helpline - 0800 1111
- Web - childline.org.uk

Safe Spaces Support Service
- Helpline - 030 0303 1056
- Email - safespaces@firstlight.org.uk
- Web - safespacesenglandandwales.org.uk

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MAKING SURE OUR SAFEGUARDS ARE UP TO DATE:

How to help us with our church safeguarding records:

Please make sure that you have linked your safeguarding training account now!

How to report that you have completed your training

You can now provide this record directly to your local Parish Safeguarding Officer as follows.

To do this use the **edit profile** screen (accessed through the top right of your screen of the safeguarding portal).

Scroll down to the last field entitled Local reporting *'Allow a user with the following email address to look at my training record '.* safeguarding@christchurchpurley.org.uk - this corresponds with the profile of the person you would like to view your training records.

Any questions ask Jean

Thank you

Purley FOOD HUB

FOOD LIST MARCH 2026

At Purley Food Hub we provide emergency food, toiletries and household essentials to local people living in great hardship. Please consider donating items from this month's Top Ten list:

- **Cartons of Long Life Whole Milk**
- **Jars of Peanut Butter**
- **Jars of Meat & Fish Paste**
- **Boxes of 40 & 80 Tea Bags**
- **Tins of Plain Meat - Corned Beef, Ham Chicken**
- **Tinned Vegetarian Meals *such as Princes plant based range***
- **Packet Dried Potatoes**
- **Tinned Dessert Fruit**
- **Unisex Shampoo**
- **Unisex Deodorant**

Thank you everyone for your continued kind generosity. Since we opened in 2013 you have helped us to provide food for *420,000 meals for more than 46,000 people.*

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

Churches together Purley & Kenley

Local schools: Police update

Local police have issued the following information:

"*We are aware of a number of recent posts circulating on social media which appear to encourage pupils to carry weapons and target other schools.*

We understand this may be concerning to parents/guardians and we are directly contacting all of the schools in the borough to make them aware of this issue and our planned response. Here in Croydon we have stood up a local policing plan for the coming days to enable extra visibility around schools, especially at the end of the day, and we will respond firmly to any reports of violence or disorder.

Should you receive any specific information relating to a particular event/school/location/date please let us know and we can adjust our plan.

We continue to closely monitor online spaces and have already disabled a dozen social media accounts where threats or violence were planned or encouraged.

If you have any concerns or information you wish to share, please contact us on 101, or 999 in an emergency.

I will keep you apprised of any significant developments in the coming days.

Kind Regards,

Luke

Luke Dillon
Superintendent
South Area BCU, Croydon Neighbourhoods,
71 Park Lane, CR9 1BP
Croydon Police Station, 71 Park Lane, CR9 1BP
Metropolitan Police Service"

For insurance purposes we need to hold details of everyone with any keys at Christ Church and who can access the premises.

If you hold any church keys please complete this form (if you have not already done so)

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.

YouTube live link for Sunday's service

find the link on our website.

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. REPORTNG: Report don't solve or investigate