



St Bridget's, West Kirby with Caldy Church

Seeking to follow Jesus with open hearts, open minds and open hands

Sunday 22nd November

Christ the King



8am Holy Communion (traditional language)

livestreamed from St Bridget's

10am Holy Communion via Zoom

Storytellers will join the main service at the beginning and then move into their own 'breakout' groups.

Lectionary readings this Sunday

Ezekiel 34.11-16, 2—24

Psalm 95.1-7

Ephesians 1.15-end

Matthew 25.31-end

Prayer for the Week

God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end; for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, one glory. Amen.

Books of Remembrance (22nd – 28th November)

St Bridget: Colin Malcolm Bench-Capon, Jessie Benson, Joan Furness, Douglas McNeill Carson, Frank William Hewson, Ronald Carroll, Elspeth McPherson.

Caldy: Rosa Evelyn Coward, Tessa Neal.

RIP: Shirley Monks, baby Grace Giles, John Tarn.

FUNERAL THIS WEEK

Shirley Monks RIP

Friday 27th November, 12.30pm at St Bridget's

Conducted by Ray Samuels

LIVESTREAMING!

Using livestreaming enables you to participate in worship from afar. We are trialling two ways of doing this. One is via our Facebook page, the other, on YouTube.

To watch on Facebook simply use this link <https://www.facebook.com/StBridgetsChurchWestKirby>

And for YouTube use this link <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnWftoWF4MhN7V-mgGGainQ>

'Livestreamed' services can be accessed via Facebook or YouTube, not only as they happen but any time afterwards. This is something new for all of us, so please be patient !

ZOOM

The link for ALL parish Zoom events (worship, bible study and social events) is

<https://zoom.us/j/8301824880?pwd=SC9vRVNOZU5RVGdOcm56NDBCWmxNUT09>

Meeting ID: 830 182 4880 Password: 0N9H4q If you are not online, you can still join in with the Zoom Communion service at 10am on your phone. To access a Zoom session via their landline phone please do the following:

Dial one of these numbers: 0203 481 5237 – 0203 481 5240 – 0203 901 7895 – 0330 088 5830 – 0131 460 1196 – 0208 080 6591 – 0208 080 6592

- When prompted for the meeting ID, dial 830 182 4880 followed by #
- When prompted for a participant ID - press #
- When prompted for the passcode: dial 861382 followed by #.
- This will give you audio access. Although you won't see other people you will be able to hear the conversation and contribute verbally.

For further help please contact John Smith on 678 6201.

A **huge thankyou** to everyone who has worked so hard to keep things going during both the interregnum and the pandemic. Alex is now licensed as Rector, living in the Rectory and looking forward to getting to know people as much as restrictions allow. She would like to thank everyone for their cards, messages and gifts and, hopes that before too long there will be chance to have an open house at the Rectory to celebrate! Next year the Archdeacon will install Alex with a service of celebration in the church which hopefully everyone will be able to attend.



Joyce Preston would like to thank all her friends at St Bridget's and Caldly for all their prayers, support, and kind messages of sympathy both before and after the death of her husband Harry.

ADVENT SUNDAY is next Sunday, 29th November. Details of activities planned for Advent are at the end of this newsletter.

CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH 2020??

Well you have guessed it – we can't offer this lunch in 2020, because of Covid restrictions ... BUT we do want to keep in touch with the many people who have come in the past and those who might have been looking forward to doing so this year. We are busy making plans to find different ways of keeping in touch and offering company. Please look out for more news in the parish magazine and next week's newsletter. In the meantime, if you want to know more or to offer your help or ideas then please contact Sally Cashen on jonesy@overcross.co.uk

If you know of any parishioners who might need support because of illness, or bereavement, or any other reason, please let us know via the Parish Office on office@stbridgetschurch.org.uk or tel. 0151 625 2739.



DAILY PRAYER AT HOME:

During lockdown we invite you to join us for Morning Prayer as we pray for our nation every weekday at **9am**. **Livestream** enables you to watch but not speak.



Monday and Wednesday livestreamed on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/StBridgetsChurchWestKirby>

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday via Zoom

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnWftoWF4MhN7V-mgGGainQ>

Night prayer is livestreamed on Facebook at 9pm on Wednesday

There are prayer resources at: <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches/call-prayer-nation>. We are asked to pray for the following particular needs

Monday *especially praying for schools, colleges, children and young people*

Tuesday *especially praying for the elderly, isolated and vulnerable*

Wednesday *especially praying for businesses, the work place and economic wellbeing*

Thursday *especially praying for the NHS and other key workers*

Friday *especially praying for national and local government*

Saturday *especially praying for all who are grieving and suffering with physical or mental ill health*

PRAYER IN CHURCH

St Bridget's will continue to be open for prayer on Tuesdays and Fridays 2.30 – 3.30pm

Caldy Church will be open for prayer on Sundays 11.30am – 12.30pm

You may like to try using an App for daily prayer. A gentle guided time of prayer can be listened to via the free Lectio365 App <https://www.24-7prayer.com/dailydevotional>

CONTACTS

Rector: The Rev'd. Alex Williams 625 1052 rectorwestkirby@gmail.com

Assistant Priest: The Rev'd David Chester 625 8004

Churchwardens: David Wright 625 2389 and Gregory Buckridge 625 1636

The Parish Office in St Bridget's Centre is attended weekday mornings: 9.30am – 12.30pm Monday to Friday. Messages can be left on tel. 625 2739.

Material for the website can be sent to: editor@stbridgetschurch.org.uk

We are committed to following Government and Church of England guidelines on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. Our Parish Safeguarding Officer is Bethan Halpenny 07837 755214 bethanhc@live.co.uk

Website: www.stbridgetschurch.org.uk www.caldychurch.org.uk

Facebook: [@ StBridgetsChurchWestKirby](https://www.facebook.com/StBridgetsChurchWestKirby)

Twitter: [@StBandCaldy](https://twitter.com/StBandCaldy)

Thought for the Week

The Church year has come full circle and here we are again at what used to be called 'Stir Up Sunday', the day on which we stir up the Christmas pud, and hopefully begin to stir ourselves up again to receive the Christmas message. Why do we need to stir ourselves up? Because none of us will ever quite grasp the truth that God became one of us. It's too big, too mysterious and too wonderful. If we stumble into Christmas without giving it much thought ('stirring') we are just going to see the coloured lights and perhaps mourn the fact that Covid restrictions have stopped us being with our family and friends in the way we would like.

The Church calls the 4 weeks before Christmas 'Advent' (from the Latin word for 'coming') and hopes it stirs us up for Christmas. In normal years that would involve special church services for all ages. This year, at this stage, we just don't know how much will be possible. So whether in church or not, there is quite a bit to help stir us. Have a look at the Advent page with this newsletter. Hopefully there is something there for everyone.



This Sunday is now also known as 'Christ the King' Sunday. This reminds us that in the season of Advent we ponder on the mystery that although Christ was born in a stable to ordinary parents, he is none other than the King of the Universe. At the end of his earthly life he rose from the dead and ascended into heaven. So although a king, he 'emptied himself' and lived a life that no earthly king would recognise. The readings through Advent will explore this mind-boggling theme. All in all, there's quite a bit there to stir us up!

Ray

ADVENT STARTS NEXT SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER

ADVENT ACTIVITIES

We have lots of ideas and opportunities for you to share in during Advent, the 4 weeks leading up to Christmas. Advent is often described as a time of waiting and preparation, a time we might explore ways of coming closer to God and to each other.



Advent Reflection: Sundays at 6.30pm - livestreamed from the Rectory

Starting Sunday 29th November, Alex is going to give a reflection each Sunday evening (based on the Gospel reading for that day). You'll be able to see this online and/or read it in print.

Advent Link-Up

During the week that follows, there will be an opportunity to talk about the reflection on the phone (15 mins or so) with someone else from church. Don't be put off! This isn't for people who know a lot about the Bible; in fact, it's just the opposite! We've all got our L plates on. This is a chance to explore our questions as well as simply enjoy having a chat.

If you'd like to receive a phone call each week of Advent, please let Anne know by next Thursday (26th November). annesamuels47@btinternet.com or 0151 625 3492.

Holy Communion at 7am on Tuesdays.

This will be 'live streamed' for the first week (1st December) from St. Bridget's, and after that will be both 'live-streamed' and face-to-face, on Tuesday 8th (St. Bridget's), 15th (Caldy) and 22nd (St. Bridget's). To ensure social distancing we will be using the 'main' altar at St Bridget's, which is also the location of the 'live-streaming' equipment.

Advent Bible study via Zoom

Two opportunities each week to look at the Gospel passage set for the previous Sunday. We will meet by Zoom each Monday 7.30pm and each Tuesday 2pm. Just use the usual Zoom link, on the computer or by phone, to join at the appropriate time. Groups should last around an hour and are simply a chance to chat together. Nothing is expected in terms of prior knowledge.

Why not give it a try? - there's no embarrassment in dropping out if it's not for you.

Mondays 7.30pm: 30/11, 7/12, 14/12, 21/12. Tuesdays 2pm: 1/12, 8/12, 15/12, 22/12

Bible passages: First week (Advent 1) Mark 13: 24 – end; Advent 2 Mark 1: 1 -8; Advent 3 John 1: 6 -8, 19 – 28; Advent 4 Luke 1: 26 - 38.

Contact Ray on raysamuels47@btinternet.com if you want to know more.

'In Confidence'

As a new initiative, David Chester is offering "In Confidence":

If you feel you would like a chat with a priest, please feel free to phone me (625 8004) on Tuesdays during Advent between 9 and 11 am.

Advent activity boxes

We plan to have some activity boxes available for children, young people and their families to use during the countdown to Christmas. If you would like to be involved in creating these please let Alex know (tel. 625 1052). Please also let Alex or Paula (tel. 625 2739) know about families who might like to receive an activity box.