



The light shines
in the darkness,
and the
darkness has
not overcome it



Parish of Christchurch

We welcome you to St George's Church
this Sunday 4th February 2018
the Second Sunday before Lent

We welcome our President for today's services
Rev Richard Partridge

A COLLECT FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT:

Almighty God, give us reverence for all creation and respect for every person, that we may mirror your likeness in Jesus Christ our Lord.
AMEN.

TODAY'S READINGS:

Old Testament: Proverbs 8; 1, 22-31
New Testament: Colossians 1; 15-20
Gospel: John 1; 1-14

TODAY'S HYMNS:

270	Jesus is Lord, creation's voice proclaims it
511	The world you have made is a beautiful place
9	All Creatures of our God and King
	CHOIR PIECE
Newsletter	God Sent His Son, they called him Jesus
442	Seek ye first the kingdom of God

COMMUNION HYMN:

1 God sent His Son, they called Him Jesus
He came to love, heal and forgive
He lived and died, to buy my pardon
An empty grave, is there to prove, my Saviour lives

Because He lives,
I can face tomorrow
Because He lives,
all fear is gone
Because I know,
He holds the future
And life is worth,
the living just, because He lives

2 How sweet to hold, a new-born baby
And feel the pride, and joy He brings
But greater still, the calm assurance
This child can face, uncertain days, because He lives

Because He lives

3 And then one day, I'll cross the river
I'll fight life's final, war with pain
And then as death, gives way to victory
I'll see the lights, of glory and, I'll know He lives

Because He lives

Our opening hymn today (Jesus is Lord), was written (words and music) by David J Mansell (born London, 1936). The hymn was originally published in "Sounds of Living Waters", a compilation of traditional and modern hymns and worship songs. Maroulla and I became very familiar with this book and this particular hymn when we were members of the Church of the Good Shepherd (Anglican) at Hounslow West, close to Heathrow Airport. The hymn was written in 1974 (although it was not copyrighted until 1982) and has been popular in Britain ever since, Mansell studied at Kings College London and worked as an engineer and a physicist before becoming a full-time evangelist in London.

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH

Jumpers Road, Christchurch. Parish of Christchurch



BEETLE DRIVE

&
PANCAKES



Tuesday 13th February

2.30pm - 4.00pm

£2.50

RAFFLE

Registered Charity No. 1130918

Never been to a BEETLE DRIVE? Believe me, it's great fun. There is no skill involved, it all revolves around the roll of a dice. It is competitive, but it is also hugely enjoyable and there is the added delight of having pancakes too. Why not come along on Shrove Tuesday, 13th February, and join in the fun. Everybody will be welcome, so bring your friends. It will only cost £2.50 per head and any profits will go to either church funds or to a nominated charity.

Today the Church remembers the life and work of Gilbert of Sempringham. The son of a squire, Gilbert became the parish priest in 1131. He encouraged the vocation of seven women of the town and formed them into a company of lay sisters. A group of lay brothers also came into being and they all kept the Benedictine Rule. Gilbert was unsuccessful in his bid to obtain pastoral guidance from Cîteaux for the developing communities and they came under the influence of Augustinian canons, Gilbert himself becoming the Master. At Gilbert's death in 1189, aged 106, there were nine double monasteries (monasteries with nuns and monks separately housed) in England and four of male canons only. It was the only purely English monastic foundation before the Dissolution of the Monasteries in the sixteenth century.

THANKS ONCE MORE TO 'EXCITING HOLINESS' FOR MUCH OF THIS ARTICLE

Our friend and former treasurer MARGARET FINCH has spent some time in hospital recently. She had a fall shortly after Christmas and was admitted to Bournemouth Hospital. Although she was sent home she was admitted again and was found to have an unidentified bug. She was poorly for some time, but the problem has now been identified and is being treated.

IT'S ALL KICKING OFF AT ST GEORGE'S

No, don't worry, I don't mean that there's going to be a major punch-up, simply that the very first concert of the 2018 Christchurch music festival is at St George's Church.

The concert will be on Monday 9th June at 12.30 and it will be a flute and piano duo called "Duo Dolcissimo". For this year's concert you won't have to buy tickets as it is a FREE CONCERT, but there will be a retiring collection. As last time, we will need to provide our own Stewards so any volunteers will be welcomed with open arms.

The full festival programme will be available soon, but there are a couple of new features this time; there will be a "Beer and Hymns" evening at the Priory Church and also we will have the Band of the Royal Marines, also at the Priory. 'Papagena', who entertained us at St George's for the 2016 festival will also be back, but this time at the Priory.

The Worship and Discipleship Committee met before Thursday's PCC meeting and it was decided that for Lent this year there will be an Ash Wednesday service here at St George's at 10.00am. We will have our usual Thursday morning service for Maundy Thursday, and we will have our usual one-hour service on Good Friday. Please let Norma or Bob know at which time you would like this to take place: 12noon, 1pm or 2pm.

Also for Lent this year we will have our own Lent Group if there is enough interest. The time and place is dependent on a number of things, but please let Bob know as soon as possible if you are interested.

There are a few COLLECTION BOXES at the back of the church for our LENT CHARITY which this year, by popular vote, is WATER AID.

Most (or all) of you will be familiar with the work that we are hoping to have done in the church and the hall with the money from the sale of the land and also from Joan Harris's legacy. Unfortunately, the legacy money can only be used for upkeep of the church building, which means that the land money would have to cover the car park and the work that needs doing in the hall.

This week Norma and I received an Email from James Morton who is presently chairing the Property department as follows:

"Dear Norma & Bob

As you know we are keen to progress the work at St George's Church & Hall. However, some questions have arisen. Columba Cook (our architect) has determined that the roof requires re-felting & re-battening, cost unknown. The quotes we have for the proposed carpark are in the order of £45-50,000. The funds for the church are separate from those for the hall. We do not think we can achieve everything you want with the money we have available. Would you please prioritise your wishes so that we do what we can?"

So, over the next two weeks could you please put something down in writing as to what you would like dealt with first, and why, and give it to Norma or myself. Shortly after February 18th Norma and I will get together and compile the results to put before the Property Committee.