



www.christchurchportsdown.org



www.stjohnspurbrook.org.uk

We are now holding attended services in both churches. If you attend any service, it is essential to follow Covid guidelines. You must attend alone or as part of a group all from the same household or from two linked households and must not join any other group or mingle with any person from another group. Face coverings must be worn (unless medically exempt). Advance booking is not required. We are also continuing online services.

Sunday 18th April 2021 (3rd Sunday of Easter)

9.30am Holy Communion at St John's

10.30am Morning Worship online

11.00am Holy Communion at Christ Church

Midweek meetings

Wednesday 7.30pm Christ Church Standing Committee (*zoom meeting*)

Saturday 4.00pm Farewell service for Bishop Christopher
(*streamed on Diocese of Portsmouth YouTube channel*)

Sunday 25th April 2021 (4th Sunday of Easter)

9.30am Holy Communion at St John's

10.30am Morning Worship online

11.00am Morning Worship at Christ Church

Other opportunities for worship this week:

- The Church of England national service on facebook.com/thechurchofengland from 9.00am on Sunday
- Songs of Praise on BBC1 (Sunday 1.15pm)
- Several other churches are also streaming services, which can be watched online at any time during the week.
- Our services from previous weeks are available to watch on the Christ Church YouTube channel or via achurchnearyou.com.

DAILY HOPE PHONE LINE

The Church of England's free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers is still available 24 hours a day at no charge on 0800 804 8044.



HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE PHILIP

The death of the Duke of Edinburgh was announced after the deadline for last week's newsletter. The flag at Christ Church was lowered to half-mast immediately after the announcement on Friday, a bell at St John's was tolled 99 times at noon on Saturday and short acts of remembrance were included in our services last Sunday.

Due to Covid restrictions physical books of condolence are not permitted, but messages can be left at www.churchofengland.org

CHRIST CHURCH HALL – DO NOT ENTER

The removal of the floor in Christ Church Hall has revealed the presence of asbestos. This was safe all the time that the floor was in place but is now potentially dangerous. Therefore no-one should enter the building under any circumstances. We are arranging for it to be professionally and safely removed. This must take place before we can continue work on the church hall floor.

ANNUAL MEETINGS

The bishop has given permission for annual meetings to be delayed in order to increase the possibility of people being able to attend. They must now be held by 31st July. Accordingly **St John's APCM** has been rescheduled to Sunday 4th July and **Christ Church APCM** has been rescheduled to Wednesday 14th July. Times for both meetings will be confirmed in due course.

MISSION OF THE MONTH

Christ Church's Mission of the Month for April is MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship). Donations can be made to support the work of MAF at maf-uk.org/give

CONTACTS

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|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Vicar | Revd Andy Wilson (day off Monday) vicar@christchurchportsdown.org purbrookvicar@gmail.com |
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Sunday 18 April 2021

3rd Sunday of Easter

Collect

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Acts 3:12–19

¹² When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, 'You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? ¹³ The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴ But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵ and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶ And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. ¹⁷ 'And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸ In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹ Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Psalm 4

¹ Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness; you set me at liberty when I was in trouble; have mercy on me and hear my prayer. ² How long will you nobles dishonour my glory; how long will you love vain things and seek after falsehood? ³ But know that the Lord has shown me his marvellous kindness; when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me. ⁴ Stand in awe, and sin not; commune with your own heart upon your bed and be still. ⁵ Offer the sacrifices of righteousness and put your trust in the Lord. ⁶ There are many that say, 'Who will show us any good?' Lord, lift up the light of your countenance upon us. ⁷ You have put gladness in my heart, more than when their corn and wine and oil increase. ⁸ In peace I will lie down and sleep, for it is you Lord, only, who make me dwell in safety.

1 John 3:1–7

³ See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³ And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. ⁴ Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵ You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶ No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷ Little children - let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Luke 24:36b–48

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

^{36b} Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.'
³⁷ They were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I, myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.'
⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹ While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate in their presence. ⁴⁴ Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.'
⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Post Communion

Living God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in all his redeeming work, who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Amen.