



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 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

Midweek Meetings

Wednesday 7.30pm Christ Church PCC meeting (zoom)

Sunday 2nd May 2021 (5th Sunday of Easter)

9.30am Morning Worship at St John's

10.30am Morning Worship online

11.00am Holy Communion at Christ Church

Other opportunities for worship this week:

- The Church of England national service on [facebook.com/thechurchofengland](https://www.facebook.com/thechurchofengland) from 9.00am on Sunday
- Songs of Praise on BBC2 (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.



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 have arranged 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

JOB VACANCY

Oaklands School are seeking to appoint a part-time, term-time, Catering Assistant (30 hrs/week). Closing date for applications is Monday 4th May 2021 at noon. Further details can be found in the application pack at <https://www.oaklandscatholicschool.org/staff/vacancies/>

CONTACTS

Vicar	Revd Andy Wilson (day off Monday) vicar@christchurchportsdown.org purbrookvicar@gmail.com
Associate Minister	Revd Laura Cameron revdlauracameron@gmail.com
Curate	Revd Matt Grove (day off Friday) matt.grove@christchurchportsdown.org
Churchwarden CCP	Stephen Anderson stephen.anderson@christchurchportsdown.org
Churchwarden CCP	Karina Golledge thegolledges@btinternet.com
Administrator	Emma Evans parish.office@christchurchportsdown.org
Hall Manager CCP	Jacqui Wilson hall.manager@christchurchportsdown.org
Website	Matt Doe webmaster@christchurchportsdown.org

Sunday 25 April 2021

4th Sunday of Easter

Collect

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

Readings

Acts 4:5–12

⁵ The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶ with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷ When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' ⁸ Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹ if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰ let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹ This Jesus is "the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone." ¹² There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

¹ The Lord is my shepherd; therefore, can I lack nothing. ² He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters. ³ He shall refresh my soul and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. ⁴ Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. ⁵ You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full. ⁶ Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

1 John 3:16–24

¹⁶ We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷ How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? ¹⁸ Little children let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹ And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰ whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹ Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²² and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³ And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴ All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

John 10:11–18

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹¹ ‘I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³ The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴ I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷ For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Post Communion

Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen