

Bringing you the latest news from

Christchurch

www.christchurch-clevedon.org.uk

and the Community

Welcome to our weekly newsletter! We hope you'll find this newsletter a source of encouragement, hope and useful information as we journey together through these turbulent times.

Any items you'd like to include in our newsletters can be emailed to:

admin@christchurch-clevedon.org.uk

Other ways of connecting:

Check out our Facebook page: Christchurch Clevedon

and our children's blog: www.christchurch-kids.blogspot.com .

For **prayer requests**, please email Jean Balcombe: prayer@christchurch-clevedon.org.uk

Non-confidential prayers and regular updates will appear on the website as well as a message from Clive and /or Russ every Sunday (see 'This Week's Service' under the 'Church Life' tab).



Dear Christchurch family,

Welcome to our third weekly newsletter and thank you to Kathryn for managing our admin from home. Please ensure you sign up to receive these weekly updates and keep in touch.

You can keep in contact with Kathryn by email at admin@christchurch-clevedon.org.uk

Firstly, thank you for looking out for one another and your neighbours, friends and family at this time. We are hearing some truly heart warming stories about people caring for each other in a variety of ways.

For those of you who are essential Keyworkers at this time, our thanks, thoughts and prayers are with you and your teams and colleagues in the various and challenging settings in which you are working and serving.

Thanks too for the feedback and encouragement for the weekly service we post online each week, it's a different way of 'being church' and thanks to James and the wider Christchurch team that are making it happen.

www.christchurch-clevedon.org.uk

www.christchurch-kids.blogspot.com

prayer@christchurch-clevedon.org.uk.

Great news: If you are in the 15 – 18's age range you can SKYPE together with Will and Ashlee on a Wednesday at 6.30pm and for the 13's to 14's, you can do the same on a Thursday at 6.30pm.

Contact is via Will and Ashlee at Youth@christchurch-clevedon.org.uk .

For all of us, Holy week takes on a whole new aspect this year. In this week, we seek Jesus more and more and engage with his character in the challenges, struggles, and above all the cost that he faced in order to bring us to His and our glorious Easter day.

Holy week is an opportunity to follow Jesus and get to know yourself better, as we reflect on His journey and in doing so seek afresh renewed inspiration and faith in the power of the Holy Spirit.

A time will come, hopefully soon, when we can look back on these past weeks and see how it has changed and strengthened us, and celebrate new ways of 'being church' that brings new life from our reflections and experience.

I think we all need a post Easter holiday, so we are inviting you to join with us along with thousands of others at Spring Harvest. You don't have to pack the car, put the dog into kennels, or endure the long and winding road to Minehead because...

Spring Harvest is coming to us, into our homes!

Spring Harvest is a large gathering of Christians, singles, families, all ages from all denominations who gather for an amazing week of teaching, worship, fellowship, fun and most of all renewal.

The theme this year is 'Unleashed - The ACTS Church Today'.

It's a great opportunity to gather, worship, receive teaching and inspiration from the book of Acts.

It's available online everyday for all ages from **Easter Monday April 13th to 17th**. More information and access details via YouTube: https://youtu.be/bw_t1J2734g or just put **Spring Harvest home** into your search engine to preview what's on offer.

There are also links on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!

<https://springharvest.org/> <https://www.facebook.com/springharvest/> <https://twitter.com/springharvest> <https://www.instagram.com/springharve...>

So with that good news, Russ and Clive look forward to joining with you again this Sunday for our online worship.

Lets pray:

Lord Jesus, on this week when you endured so much for me, help me to follow you more closely and show me more of you and your character, and more of your character in me.

Amen

With our love and prayers at this time,

Clive and Russ and the Christchurch team.

Happy to Help

If you are considered 'high risk' or are poorly and therefore self-isolating, please let your home group leader or Carolyn Waite know (contact details at the bottom of the newsletter) so we can keep in contact, pray for you and provide whatever practical assistance we can.

Alternatively, please email Kathryn: admin@christchurch-clevedon.org.uk

Please note that although the answer machine in the church office will be checked as often as possible, it is advisable to contact one of the clergy (by phone /email) or Kathryn (by email) if the matter is urgent.

All contact details can be found at the bottom of this newsletter.

Clevedon Mutual Aid Group, which works closely with the Town Council and North Somerset Together, can also help with shopping and prescription collection.

Please see their website for details and to log a request for help: www.ClevedonMutualAid.co.uk

Praying together wherever we are - 5th April 2020

*'The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,
'Hosanna to the Son of David!'
'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!'
'Hosanna in the highest heaven!'
Matthew 21: 9*

Each of our experiences in this time of 'stay at home' and social distancing,
of self-isolation or hospitalisation is different.

We will each come to this Palm Sunday with different experiences of the past week.
Let's take some time to be still and to seek God's heart as we pray through our own experiences
and what we know or observe of those of others.

Living God, we give you thanks for those conversations we have had by phone,
email or social media that have encouraged us, inspired or enthused us.
We offer to you those conversations that have brought us sadness, despair or concern for others.
Jesus, be in the heart of each to whom we speak and in the mouth of each who speaks to us.

This week let us remember those who have responsibility for staff in the workplace
and in remote working arrangements. We pray for those who feel the weight of
that responsibility especially when staff face sadness or difficulty in their own families.

We remember those for whom life in all its struggles and challenges still goes on
despite the COVID-19 virus - those with chronic physical and mental health conditions;
those caring for loved ones with disability or learning difficulties;
those in care homes and those providing the care; those who are homeless;
those that may be unseen but no less important.

We remember families thrust together because of closed schools and home working
and pray that they will find this to be a time of opportunity to explore different ways
of being together that build healthy relationships and for them
to enjoy new experiences together and separately.

We remember families struggling financially because of reduced income
and pray they will be offered and accept the help they need.
Father God, give parents peace of mind as they seek to balance work, school work supervision
and leisure time well. May children flourish in this time and grow in good ways
we could not have foreseen.

Loving God, grow our faith as we draw closer to you.
Keep us focused on Jesus, your one and only Son,
who gave his life with unwavering loyalty and obedience to your purpose,
that all might be saved.

May we honour His sacrifice by acknowledging that we know Him.

*'Peter replied, 'Man, I don't know what you're talking about!'
Just as he was speaking the cock crowed. The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter.
Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to him:
'Before the cock crows today, you will disown me three times.'
And he went outside and wept bitterly.'*
Luke 22: 60 - 62

Voluntary Action North Somerset (VANS)

VANS have launched a coordinated community volunteers programme for anyone external to the council who may be interested in registering to formally volunteer throughout the COVID-19 outbreak. The service will work to address demand in health and social care roles and as identified within other statutory service provision. Should you be aware of anyone who may be interested in volunteering across North Somerset, they can register online at <https://www.vansweb.org.uk> or by contacting the VANS team on 01934 416486.

The latest information on North Somerset Council's response to Coronavirus and COVID-19, its services, and how to get support can be found here: <https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/community-safety-crime/emergency/coronavirus/coronavirus/>

Christchurch—Mini Directory

Clergy		
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Clergy P A		
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Home Groups Co-ordinator		
Carolyn Waite	340689	carolynmwaite@gmail.com
Safeguarding		
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Children & Family Co-ordinator		
Kate Dommett	871483	childrenandfamilies@christchurch-clevedon.org.uk
Sunday Children and Families Co-ordinator		
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