



CHRIST CHURCH, WEST WIMBLEDON

## Christ Church West Wimbledon Michael's Messages Edition 2

### Epiphanytide 2018

Dear Members and Friends of Christ Church,

**WELCOME** to the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of an occasional newsletter. Its purpose is to provide up-to-date information about a whole host of matters concerning life at Christ Church, particularly those things which won't fit onto the weekly notice sheet, though there may be some repetition. It is certainly NOT replacing the wonderful quarterly Christ Church Parish News which is produced by Brenda Clark and Naomi Lowe – but more to complement it. I'll be putting it together on an occasional basis when I think there are things to share with you all.

**CHRISTMAS** was a wonderful season at Christ Church and I certainly enjoyed my first Christmas here, though I am glad that Christmas won't be at a weekend again for some time – 6 large services in 24 hours was a bit of a marathon! Lots of visitors commented favourably on the services they attended and the warm welcome they received.

**ASH WEDNESDAY** falls on **February 14th**. There will be a **Parish Eucharist at 8pm** which will include the Imposition of Ashes for those who wish it.

**LENT 2018** – this year I am proposing to run a Lent Course in Church. There will be two sessions – one on Tuesday afternoons (**2pm till 3.15pm**) and one on Wednesday evenings (**8pm till 9.15pm**): **Tuesday afternoons (Feb 20, 27, March 6, 13, 20); Wednesday evenings (Feb 21, 28, March 7, 14, 21)**. Each week both sessions will follow the same material—so you are welcome to come along to whichever time and day suits you best – i.e. no need to come twice! We will be following a free booklet produced by USPG, a large Anglican mission agency working in partnership with local churches around the world. Please sign the list at the back of the Church so we can order sufficient free copies. **NB:** If any of the Small Groups would like to meet independently and use the same material, that would be fine – just let me know how many booklets are required.

**HOLY WEEK AND EASTER** will then soon be upon us, with Easter Day falling on 1 April! It's too soon to publish the list of services from Palm Sunday to Easter Day but we will do so as soon as possible.

#### **VISITING PREACHERS TO CHRIST CHURCH booked so far:**

11 February 2018 at 10am: Canon Leanne Roberts, Diocese of Southwark Director of Ordinands.

29 April 2018 at 10am: Canon Celia Thomson, from Gloucester Cathedral and former Vicar.

24 June 2018 at 10am: The Rt Revd. Dr Christopher Herbert, former Bishop of St Albans.

#### **...and looking ahead to 2019 and the 160<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Christ Church:**

3 February 2019 at 10am (Patronal Festival): The Very Revd Andrew Nunn, Dean of Southwark.

**VISITING** members of Christ Church continues to be an important priority for me and this visiting continues. I am planning to get round everyone – eventually – but, as you can imagine, it takes time, particularly to make space to call on those who work and/or have busy family lives. If you haven't yet had a visit and would like to arrange one sooner rather than later, please do get in touch. **PTO**

**HALL BUILDING PROJECT** is currently at the top of the PCC agenda and you will know that we are intending to undertake a major refurbishment of the Hall. A working party has been set up under the chairmanship of Chris Larkman which has started to work on plans and ideas. Watch this space!

**THE COPSE HILL VICARAGE** has now been sold and the Diocese have purchased 46 Pepys Road as the new Vicarage for Christ Church. We understand the legal formalities are due to be completed in mid-February and then the Diocese will decide what works are required before I move in. It has, however, been agreed that I will only be moving in to the new Vicarage when the builders have moved out!

**OTHER RECENT WORKS** have seen improvements to the sound system, a successful planning application to replace the exterior notice boards and repairs to the boundary stone wall. The future of the underground chamber (still shrouded in fencing and bright green netting) continues to be subject to a whole host of legal wrangles beyond our control but we are hoping there will be some progress soon. We are enormously grateful to our dedicated Churchwardens, Julie Grainger and Sal Edmunds, who work tirelessly, particularly in battling bureaucracy, to get all this work done.

**ONE OF OUR CHURCHWARDENS**, Sal Edmunds, will however not be standing for re-election at the Church APCM on April 22 2018. We are very grateful to her for all her work over these past years. We are pleased that Julie Grainger is willing to stand for one further year and we are therefore looking to elect one new Warden at the meeting to work with Julie. If you are at all interested in standing for election, do please have a word with me or with Julie and Sal as to what it entails.

**THE ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING** takes place on **Sunday 22 April after the 10am Service**. Please make this a priority so that you can learn just how much goes on at Christ Church. Please also check whether or not you are currently on the Church Electoral Roll, as membership entitles you to attend the meeting and to vote. The current list is on the notice board – and if you wish to join, forms are available in Church. If your current details are incorrect (email address/phone number etc) do let Mike Hammond, the Electoral Roll Officer, know.

**SOCIAL EVENTS PLANNED FOR 2018** are: **Barn Dance** (Saturday 3 March); **Open Gardens** (Sunday afternoon 13 May); **Bring and Share Lunch** (Sunday 24 June); **Quiz Night** (Saturday 13 October); **Advent Fair** (Sunday 2 December). More details will be published but do put these dates in diaries!

**CONCERTS AT CHRIST CHURCH for 2018** will soon be planned by the Music Committee and details will be published when they are available.

**OUR YOUNG PEOPLE** are a very important part of our life at Christ Church – and we are grateful to those adults who so strongly work with Junior Church, Stepping Up and KFH. Please do continue to actively support them all by your prayers and by your encouragement.

**PRAYERS EVERY TUESDAY MORNING** takes place in Church at 11am for half an hour. Please feel free to come and join us at any time for this informal time of quiet, reflection and prayer.

**FINALLY, THANK YOU** to everyone who contributes so much to the life and work of Christ Church. Please do try to make your regular Church attendance a priority in your life so that our worship can continue strongly as the whole Church family gathers together Sunday by Sunday.

With my prayers and best wishes,

*Michael J Burns*