

CHRIST
CHURCH
in January 2022





Worship in January at Christ Church



2nd 10.30am Holy Communion

with The Venerable Chris Skilton

9th 10.30am Morning Prayer for Epiphany

with Derek Hansen

13th 10.30am BCP Holy Communion

with Revd Nancy Ford

16th 10.30am Holy Communion

with The Venerable Luke Irvine Capel

6pm BCP Evensong with Revd Nancy Ford

23rd 10.30am Morning Prayer with Derek Hansen

27th 10.30am BCP Holy Communion

with Revd George Butterworth

30th 10.30am Holy Communion

with Revd Maurice Slattery

***VOLUME 6 ISSUE 1
JANUARY 2022***

Registered Charity No. 1152846

Parochial Church Council of Worthing Christ Church

Website: www.christchurchworthing.org.uk

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Administrator's email is monitored constantly

Parish Office 01903 215343

Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday 10.30 – 12 noon
Thursday 2.30 – 4pm

Being British...

How to really enjoy the rain:

1. Stand at the window (inside)
2. Put non-tea drinking hand on hip
3. Sip tea from mug
4. Mutter 'look at that rain', 'it's really coming down now' or 'the garden needs it'.
5. Say 'good job we got the cushions/washing in'
6. Eat all the biscuits

Poet's Corner

Two Worlds!



Each festive season voices sing
Peace, goodwill be to all,
To fortunate the privileged bring
Rich gifts that oft appal,
Their favoured to enthal.

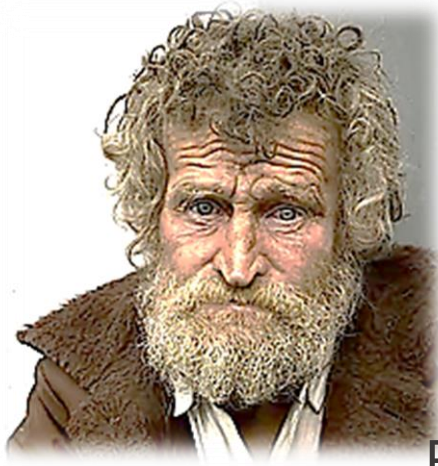


In contrast those without the means,
Carol with joyful hearts,
Their voices hail like kings and queens,
Oft in harmonious parts,
A treasure of gold quartz.

Pre-eminent the Father be,
As is the manger child,
With Spirit in the Trinity,
Here all the world be styled,
In Love, full reconciled.

© Elliott Allison





Non-entity!

The beggar sat numb,
Passers-by barely noticed;
A child stopped and smiled.

©Elliott Allison.



CHRIST CHURCH WORTHING Services and Events...



Saturday 22nd January 11.30am - Film Show

Followed by 'Soup and a scone' [with jam and cream!]

Saturday 5th March & 9th April 2022

12 noon – 1.30pm

Lent Lunches – Soup, a roll and fruit

Tuesday 31st May 2022 12.30pm – 1.30pm

Yoko Ono Concert Pianist

Tuesday 21st June 2022

Paul Gregory Classical guitarist/Cellist

Sea Sunday 10th July 2022

Morning Prayer with Derek Hansen

Donations for Mission to Seafarers

New Beginnings.



Another Christmas has come and gone!

Many will have found great peace and joy in being showered with gifts and well-wishes; most will have been fortunate in being with their families.

Sadly, others will have been struck with tragedy of some kind; others might have been cooped up in prison, laid up in hospital or suffered some degree of misery.

For others, it will have been just 'another day' in their lives.

Whatever the day might, or might not have brought for us, there will be some cause, somewhere for blessings to be counted.

Moreover, we also stand on the threshold of another New Year.

We may want to look into 2022.

What will it bring for us; what lies in store for us and for our families?

What lies ahead for the nation and for the world?

We are able to look back on 2021 as it slips steadily away, to examine our lives and to take stock.

Making New Year's resolutions is a very enjoyable, often amusing past time. They are often broken almost as soon as they are made. However, this should not deter us from making them.

A Christian cannot claim that he/she has attained perfection or maturity. There is always time and opportunity for 'New Beginnings.'

Apart from the usual 'giving up' smoking or 'drinking less' - both of which are usually broken within hours of having been solemnly pledged - there are the more serious kind which can radically alter the way we live, and so enrich our lives.

Here is a taste of what may be considered:

-resolve to refrain from passing judgement on others; we can never know all the facts there are to be known;

-resolve to be more sensitive to the needs of our fellow beings....not merely the material needs; the need to feel loved and accepted; need to be treated fairly; need to be listened to with care.

*-resolve to treat others as we would wish to be treated ourselves;
-resolve to do something about our oft-neglected personal prayer life.*

The whole point of spiritual growth is that we take stock of our lives from time to time; to do a sort of 'moulting exercise' - like snakes shed their old skin or animals shed their fur.

Even humans shed a large amount of dead skin each year.

Standing on the threshold of a New Year, we might do just that...shed some of the old 'dead skin' that encase our lovely souls. To do this we will have to look back on the year that is slipping by...there have been helpful and unhelpful experiences, helpful and unhelpful personal attitudes and patterns of our behaviour...plenty of 'food for thought' in the year that is fading away; much for which to be grateful and some for which to feel remorse.

My prayer for ALL is wrapped up in the words of the English teacher and writer, Minnie Louise Haskins who wrote in 'Desert' (1908):

And I said to the man (woman) who stood at the gate of the year: "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."

And he (she) replied:

"Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way."*

**Quoted by King George VI in his
Christmas broadcast, 1939
(Elliott Allison)*



“When a foreigner resides among you in your land, do not mistreat them. The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native born. Love them as yourself.” *Leviticus, 19, v33,34*

Recently I have been very impacted by the tragic deaths of refugees heading for our country. Their photos taken in happier moments of their lives, now seen online , show people ‘just like us’ . Actually perhaps not just like me as I’m not sure I could match their courage.

Amanda Mukwashi, the CEO of Christian Aid, recently wrote the following reflection, in her article for St Paul’s Cathedral, **‘Don’t Give Up’**:

“In order to not give up, we are going to need to keep courage close. We know that courage is not the absence of fear or challenge, but the ability to push forward in the face of it.”

The courage of refugees heading for the UK takes my breath away, whether they are fleeing persecution or (just!) hoping for a better life for their family. But I understand that not everyone shares my point of view.

Perhaps, like me, you remember reading recently in the local press that Worthing Council had offered to accept refugees from Afghanistan. A few weeks ago I decided to check the internet to find out whether there are refugees in our town and whether they are in need of support.

I found “Worthing 4 Refugees” and on 6th October I met Gay Jacklin, who coordinates their work at Maybridge Community Church.

Since 2017 Worthing 4 Refugees, working with West Sussex County Council, Adur and Worthing Borough Councils, The Good Faith Partnership and the Home Office, has sponsored several vulnerable Syrian refugee families who now live in our area. This means welcoming them to Worthing, providing them with somewhere safe to live and helping them to integrate with their local community and flourish as they begin a new life in a new country.

Before a refugee family is able to settle in the UK they are vetted by UNHCR and by the Home Office (including counter terrorist measures). There are currently hundreds of thousands of refugees waiting in camps on the borders of Syria who have already successfully completed both these processes but have not yet been settled into the UK.

In early October, Worthing 4 Refugees were awaiting details from county and borough councils regarding the settling of potential Afghan families in the area.

On arrival in the UK refugees are given a 5-year visa; after that they may apply for residency. There are few people in the world more in need of our support than the thousands of families who have fled their homes in Syria in the hope of finding somewhere safe to raise their family. Worthing 4 Refugees wants to be that support, helping families find a place of safety, and since 2017 several Syrian families have been settled in the area. A three generational family and other families living in many other West Sussex towns are

similarly supported by partnerships between local organisations & the County Council.....

Worthing 4 Refugees supporters are all volunteers. However, West Sussex County Council currently provides a paid caseworker for the first year of residency. The approach is one of intensive support over that first year which is carefully reduced as the families become increasingly able to support themselves.

Worthing 4 refugees asks for

- **Landlords**

Property owners offering housing for rent at housing benefit rate are desperately needed. (Typically landlords charge £1100 / month for a three-bedroom house of which just £800 is met by housing benefit.)

- **Translators** who speak Arabic and/or Afghani

Currently Worthing 4 Refugees can call on many volunteer translators (who speak Arabic) of whom three are from Syrian families who have independently moved into the area.

- **Prayer**

Worthing 4 Refugees volunteers include a prayer coordinator who offers lists of suggestions for prayer

- **Checking out the website**

We can show our support by signing up for the newsletter and/or prayer updates on the Worthing 4 Refugees website. Having done so we receive email newsletters and occasional requests for help, perhaps asking for particular items of furniture, or for assistance moving a family into new accommodation, or suggestions for prayer.

- **Volunteering**

There are currently no vacancies. As they come up they are made known to those who have signed up on the website to receive the newsletter.

Sadly, there is a risk of hate crime in the area which necessitates complete confidentiality around this work.

On a brighter note after the bike of one of the participants was stolen recently there were 3 offers of replacement bikes.

- **Financial donations, ideally gift aided**

it is possible to invest ethically in property for the homeless through 'Hope into Action,' a quite separate charity. Worthing 4 Refugees may partner with Hope into Action in the future.

- **ESOL teachers** (*Teachers trained in 'English for Speakers of Other Languages'*)

Christianity has a long tradition of showing compassion to the marginalised, Jesus himself was a refugee and the Bible speaks of God not just wanting his people to sing and praise him but to show their worship by breaking the chains of injustice, feeding the hungry, sharing their homes with the homeless and clothing those in need.

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’ *(Matthew 25 v 35,36)*

“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”
(Matthew 25 v 40) *Sally T*

How about joining us for coffee and a chat during the week?

**We are open Tuesday and Wednesday mornings
from 10.30am till noon**

and Thursday afternoons from 2.30pm till 4pm

**On Thursdays, we also have a crafty table, for anyone
to bring along their knitting, crocheting, colouring, in
fact any crafts, or just stop by to have a natter!**

**Even though our reordering has started, we are still
serving coffee and tea in the café area at the front of
the church near the kitchen hatch
and in the organ vestry.**

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Seenager

I **JUST** discovered my age group! I am a **Seenager** (senior teenager).

I have everything that I wanted as a teenager, only 55-60 years later. I don't have to go to school or work. I get an allowance every month. I have my own pad. I don't have a curfew. I have a driver's license and my own car.

I have ID that gets me into bars and the wine store. I like the wine store best. And I don't have acne. Life is Good!

Also, you will feel much more intelligent after reading this, if you are a **Seenager**. Brains of older people are slow because they know so much. People do not decline mentally with age; it just takes them longer to recall facts because they have more information in their brains. Scientists believe this also makes you hard of hearing as it puts pressure on your inner ear.

Also, older people often go to another room to get something and when they get there, they stand there wondering what they came for. It is **NOT** a memory problem; it is nature's way of making older people do more exercise.

SO THERE!

I have more friends I pass this to, but right now I can't remember their names. So please pass this to your friends; they may be my friends too!

The Value of Fellowship/Camaraderie

One of our regular Clergy says he can feel the love when he comes to Christ Church and I, like many others, agree with him. I also find the fellowship/camaraderie amongst many of us is very obvious too.

A few years ago, while shopping during Christmas week at Morrisons Newland Road, I had a reminder of the camaraderie I had lived amongst many years ago. While I waited for my wife to finish paying at the checkout a young man suddenly stopped in front of me and said something. I didn't have a clue what he had said as he spoke so quickly and took me by surprise. I looked up at this young man standing in front of me and asked him what he said. He asked "Royal"?

I then understood. Sometimes I wear a lapel badge, its only around half an inch long, it's a small version of the badge of the Royal Marines who are known to one another as 'Royal' so he was asking me if I was a former RM. "Yes, in a different lifetime I was" I replied at which point he offered his hand and we shook hands warmly. "I eyeballed the badge" he said "pleased to meet you Royal, I'm Mark, currently with four two" (referring to his Unit, 42 Commando).

We had a chat and he told me he was part of a small team who had been selected to deliver Christmas presents from the RM Charity to former Royal Marines who had been

wounded while serving in Afghanistan. He told me that he was picked because he lived locally and was there when his oppos (oppos = opposite numbers = other Royal Marines) had been wounded so he was selected to travel up from his base in Plymouth.

I was pleased to see the RM Charity remembering their wounded Veterans right here in my hometown, it was good to know they were not forgotten after being discharged from the Corps. Meanwhile this young man wasn't even born when I was serving but he still took the time to say hello knowing that I would be pleased to meet him. That felt like camaraderie to me albeit nearly 50 years down the line.

As much as the wounded were being remembered by the RM Charity they were almost always overlooked in TV news reports. When I used to hear another Serviceman or Servicewoman had lost their life in Afghanistan I would often say to my wife "I wonder how many were wounded this time". High explosives and automatic gunfire are indiscriminate weapons so when a fatality was reported in the News it was highly likely that others were wounded in the same attack. I also wondered how others who were involved, but escaped unscathed like Mark, might mentally be affected by repeated exposure to such extreme acts of violence.

After our short chat we shook hands warmly once again as he wished me and all my family a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I wished him the best of luck for his future and watched him walk to the door, at which point he turned to give me a thumbs up before disappearing into the car park. I wondered where Mark might find himself deployed in the coming months and years and hoped he would continue to be lucky.

Nowadays I value the fellowship/camaraderie I find at our church and I am happy to be a part of it. I find it very satisfying when I see people regularly coming to our coffee mornings, and afternoon, to sit and converse about all manner of things. It's great to chat with those who want some company, and others who simply want to 'shoot the breeze' as the Americans say. I don't like Americanisms but I think that particular one sums up a chat about anything, and nothing, just a chat for the sake of a chat. To me that's all a part of the Christ Church fellowship/camaraderie that I appreciate and value, as do many others.

Yours, "The Veteran."



Thoughts.....

Evening news is where they begin with 'Good evening' and then proceed to tell you why it isn't.

To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism.
To steal from many is research.

A bus station is where a bus stops.
A train station is where a train stops.
On my desk, I have a workstation.

How is it one careless match can start a forest fire,
but it takes a whole box to start a campfire?

I didn't say it was your fault; I said I was blaming you.

Why does someone believe you when you say there
are four billion stars but check when you say the paint
is wet?

A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad
memory.

The voices in my head may not be real, but they have
some good ideas!

Always borrow money from a pessimist.
He won't expect it back.

Hospitality: making your guests feel like they're at
home, even if you wish they were.

Money can't buy happiness, but it sure makes misery easier to live with.

**Some cause happiness wherever they go.
Others whenever they go.**

I used to be indecisive. Now I'm not sure.

When tempted to fight fire with fire, remember that the Fire Department usually uses water.

You're never too old to learn something stupid.

Fun Facts

1. You can't see your ears without a mirror.
2. You can't count your hair.
3. You can't breathe through your nose with your tongue out.
4. You just tried No. 3.
6. When you did No. 3 you realised it is possible, but you look like a dog.
7. You are smiling right now, because you were fooled.
8. You skipped No. 5..
9. You just checked to see if there is a No.5.

Share this with your friends, so they can have some fun too.

Have a nice day!



SAVINGS, LOANS & MORE

Many of you may not know that the Parochial Church Council for Christ Church invests money in Boom, the local Credit Union. The money invested is interest received from an endowment, [a donation left to the parish many years ago for 'kindling for the poor']. As the actual money left cannot be used, especially in times when coal fires are no longer considered eco-friendly, the interest is used to help the poor:

Boom! is a Credit Union for people who live or work locally [*formally The West Sussex Credit Union*]. They give local people access to fair and affordable loans, savings accounts and prepaid cards.

*Information taken directly from the Boom website
www.boomcu.com :*

If you need to borrow money but can't access the best rates, loan sharks and high-interest lenders will want to take advantage. Don't get bitten - come to us. If your finances could be in better shape, we won't hold it against you as some other lenders will. Perfect credit history isn't important to us, but helping local people avoid unfair interest rates is. Low income or on benefits? It doesn't matter to us, you're still welcome.

Our values:

We exist to help make life better for our members. Everything we do is based on our beliefs about what's important:

Be fair - make high quality financial services available at a fair cost

Include people - everyone who wants to manage their money responsibly should have access to fair financial services

Show respect - everyone deserves to be treated politely and with respect

Give people a say - people should have a say in the services they use

Act responsibly - always act in the best interests of our members, protecting their savings and lending responsibly

What's a Credit Union?

A Credit Union is an independent not-for-profit organisation. It's owned and controlled by its members, who all have something in common. Boom Credit Union members all have something in common - they live or work locally. We call this our Common Bond. With this bond, we can be sure the money saved in Boom Credit Union supports affordable loans for people living nearby. So, Boom keeps money local to deliver a positive impact in communities surrounding us.

Credit Unions are committed to being responsible lenders, making ethical choices, and making life better for our members and our communities. To do this, different Credit Unions may offer slightly different services, but we share our objectives.

These are to:

- Promote saving and good money management;
- To give people access to credit at a fair and reasonable rate of interest;
- To use members' savings to benefit all members and the community;
- To help people be smarter in how they manage their money.

Credit Unions have been around for decades and today there are more than 40,000 credit unions in 79 countries. There are 118 million other people around the world who believe in and benefit from the ethical and community banking approach that credit unions share.

How we work

Our day-to-day operations are in the hands of a team of staff and volunteers led by our directors. Because we're a co-op, every member has an equal vote in who our directors are, and a say in the services we offer. Any profits that Boom! makes are paid out to our members in dividends, rather than being paid to shareholders.

How are we regulated?

Boom Credit Union is a trading name of West Sussex & Surrey Credit Union Ltd. We're regulated by exactly the same authorities as high street banks. We're authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority. FCA Firm no 475226. You can find us on the Financial Services Register.

Savings in Boom are protected by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme.

What we've achieved so far

Today we have over 8,000 members using our services. Local people and organisations have invested £6 million with us and we're still growing! We're also partners with leading employers, providing Payroll Savings Schemes for their employees.

We work with many local schools and have set up school savings clubs to encourage children to be responsible with their money from a young age. And since our launch, we've provided affordable loans totalling more than £6 million to our members.

Savings with heart

The money you deposit in Boom stays local and supports ethical loans to our other members, helping them to pay for the things they need. That's financial inclusion. You become a shareholder, giving you a say in how we are run, and you'll be eligible to receive a dividend if one is paid. We're here to benefit you and with your help, create a fairer and more equal society. And remember, your savings are safe with us as they are covered by the FSCS, and you can access your money whenever you want to.

For more information contact Boom: 01903 237221
info@boomcu.com

17 Liverpool Gardens, Worthing, BN11 1RY

Groan time again!



If people from Poland are called Poles, why aren't people from Holland called Holes?

If a pig loses its voice, is it disgruntled?

Why is the man who invests all your money called a broker?

When cheese gets its picture taken, what does it say?

Why are a wise man and a wise guy opposites?

Why do overlook and oversee mean opposite things?

Why isn't the number 11 pronounced onety one?

'I am' is reportedly the shortest sentence in the English language. Could it be that 'I do' is the longest sentence?

If lawyers are disbarred and clergymen defrocked, doesn't it follow that electricians can be delighted, musicians denoted, cowboys deranged, models deposed, tree surgeons debarked, and dry cleaners depressed?

No one ever says, 'It's only a game' when their team is winning.

Why do they put pictures of criminals up in the Post Office? What are we supposed to do, write to them? Why don't they just put their pictures on the postage stamps so the postmen can look for them while they deliver the post?

Ever wonder about those people who spend two pound a piece on those little bottles of Evian water? Try spelling Evian backwards:

If 4 out of 5 people suffer from diarrhoea, does that mean that one enjoys it?

Why if you send something by road it is called a shipment, but when you send it by sea it is called cargo?

And finally.....

A parishioner was in front of me coming out of church one day, and the preacher was standing at the door as he always is, to shake hands.

He grabbed the parishioner by the hand and pulled him aside. The Pastor said to him, "You need to join the Army of the Lord!" The parishioner replied, "I'm already in the Army of the Lord, Pastor."

Pastor questioned, "How come I don't see you except at Christmas and Easter?"

He whispered back, "I'm in the secret service."