

CHRIST CHURCH *in* September & October 2023



Registered Charity no: 1152846

Parochial Church Council of Worthing Christ Church

Website: www.christchurchworthing.org.uk

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 9/10

Worship in Christ Church



HOLY COMMUNION

10.30am on 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays

MORNING PRAYER 10.30am on 2nd and 4th Sundays

BCP HOLY COMMUNION

10.30am on 2nd & 4th Thursdays

EVENSONG 6pm on 1st and 3rd Sundays



Contact us....

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Parish Office 01903 215343

Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday 10.30 – 12 noon

Thursday 2.30 – 4pm

Guest Sermon

with grateful thanks to Revd. Yvonne Murphy

Matthew 4 verses 12 -18

In this passage, John the Baptist has been arrested and Jesus boldly replaces him. Jesus continues the teaching of repentance. Here, Matthew stresses the continuity of Jesus' work with all that had gone before.

Jesus moves from the area of Nazareth and he came to live and work in the area of the Sea of Galilee, probably based at Capernaum. This is a large freshwater lake fed by the river Jordan – a significant expanse of water, some fourteen miles x seven.

In comparison, the whole province of Galilee was only fifty miles by twenty-five.

Jesus chose this area wisely – it was not popular choice with Southern Jews, who thought that they were living in the shadow of moral and spiritual death: 'Galilee of the Gentiles'.

It was a population that had the reputation for being volatile and open to change. They were a tough and courageous people but were despised by the Jews in the south.

Galilee stood on one of the oldest and most used trade routes in the East. The Greek language and pagan customs dominated. It was a multi-cultural, yet volatile area – a perfect area for Jesus to begin.

Jesus began to preach:- “Repent, for the Kingdom of God is at hand - it is here, it has begun, make yourself ready, for time is running out”.

This message needed a response.

First to respond were the brothers Andrew and Peter.

So captivated by Jesus were they that they left behind their belongings, their jobs and their families to follow him.

Likewise James and John – “The sons of thunder” – what a marvellous nickname! - perhaps they too were volatile - perhaps like any sibling group they argued among themselves.

But they left everything. Like Andrew and Peter, James & John knew that once they had heard the call of God - they had to respond - they had no option.

Rough and ready they may have been, but they had the courage and decisiveness that was so needed to make the sacrifices that being a disciple called for. - A price too costly for the rich, educated and powerful. These were professional fisherman. A good fisherman in those waters needed courage - for dangerous squalls erupt on that treacherous lake.

Further on in the gospel Matthew tells the story of Jesus calming the storm - a picture of storms that were part of the life of a fisherman.

They would need perseverance, patience and flexibility; they must keep themselves unobtrusive so as not to frighten the fish away and they must have a sense of timing.

All qualities needed in the new kind of fishing Jesus was calling them to.

I was delighted on my first visit to Christ Church to learn of the work the parish does supports The Mission to Seafarers Charity, and the link with Fishermen who sat in the gallery - not only because they were smelly, but sitting in each of the galleries, they had a quick exit should the call come to the doors at the bottom of the stairs.

My Grandad was a professional seaman and I still have his "ditty box". I think he was a bosun in the Navy, but I'm not sure if my memory is correct.

In the box is his lanyard, letters from his wife, my Grandmother Emmie, and his mother, when he was away serving in the navy. He served in both wars, as a young boy of 16 in the first World War, and a middle-aged married man in the second.

My sister and my cousins thought he was grumpy and strict, but I loved him. Having been born in his house, I was his favourite. I went with him to collect my grandmother from work, sitting next to him in his car and I adored him. On his back there was a big dragon tattoo; around his neck he had a ring of chrysanthemums, and there was an anchor on one of his arms.

But it was when I was older that I remember most. I went to the Methodist church every Sunday; my family didn't, I was the black sheep of the family! On Remembrance Day, the Brownies and Guides would parade. On those Sundays my Grandad would come too. We walked along the road together - he had a sailor's gait and his many medals would tinkle in the movement. I was so proud to be beside him!

Then, during the service, at the two-minute silence, tears would flow non-stop down his cheeks. I knew, because he told me, that he had been torpedoed twice and each time

he'd lost all of his belongings, but more importantly - most of his friends.

His bravery was beyond doubt, he knew he needed to be in church on those days, to be close to his God and remember those whom he had loved and lost.

Perhaps I have inherited his love for the sea.

I still can't believe that I live here. There is something about the sea, the relentlessness of the waves, the ebb and flow of the tide and the wonderful smell of fresh air that I find mesmerizing. I sit staring at the ocean most days, and often expect someone to tap me on the shoulder to tell me to go – your holiday is over! Time to go home!

It's no surprise to me that I find the stories of Jesus on the shore of Lake Galilee most compelling. It is in those stories - the calming of the storm, the walking on water and the picnic on the beach that we see the power of God at work. We, like the fishermen have been called to follow Jesus.

Our wayward world has freedom of speech, we are not persecuted for our faith but there are times when the church seems silent. Our world seems indifferent to the gospel message of salvation.

So many people do not know of those stories by the lakeside. It's up to us to live out our faith with the same courage, decisiveness and tenacity that those early disciples had.

We are the Body of Christ in this place, and we are called to serve him here.

Are you ready to make a response?

Amen

CHRISTCHURCH FOODBANK

If you are able, please would you donate **anything from the list by the collection baskets in church** so the volunteers can assemble identical packages. Also please check everything is “in date”. Baskets are either side of the cross aisle in the middle of the church. **THANK YOU!**

Why not join us through the week?

We're open for coffee and a chat every Tuesday and Wednesday morning from 10.30 till 12noon

On Thursday afternoons between 2.30 and 4pm,
we open for “The Crafty Club’s” coffee and natter sessions, when you can bring anything you love doing, knitting, crochet, sewing, drawing, colouring... anything.

Enjoy chatting over a cuppa, or you can just pop in to talk with friends old and new, have a tea or coffee and biscuits and catch up.

Maybe you would just appreciate sitting in the church in quiet reflection... whatever you like, you are always welcome!

Mind how you greet one another, for we never touch people so lightly that we do not leave a trace

Poet's Corner

Seasons...

Salad days,
Spring is sprung;
Fearless frolics,
Fulsome fun.

Playing the fields,
Summer sun;
Living life
On the run.

Browsweat past,
Risky rambles;
Savour wholesome
Autumn ambles.

Twilight hours,
Fading sight;
Warmly embrace
Winter's night.

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Daybreak!

**Deep discordant notes
Crack the brooding silence,
Of the early morn.**

**Squawks of the black crow,
Perched in a leafless tree top;
Greet the rising sun.**

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Care for the Family

Proverbs 23: 22 and 25...

‘Listen to your father who gave you life,
Do not despise your mother when she is old....’
Give your father and your mother cause for delight,
Let her who bore you rejoice.....’

They might not have been perfect; they were not, for they, too, were flawed like all of us. Yet, they were as good as they were able to be..and for most of the time they were very good. For all they were to us, and for us, we give thanks. Yes, even during those times when they would be deemed to have failed, or fallen short of expectations, such remiss would have wrought some positive effects.

There might have been others that were born from the same womb - siblings who shared in the life of that nuclear family; a family life which would have known its joys and sadnesses, its laughter and tears and all that makes for the indispensable ingredients of that indestructible relational bond....quite unlike

any other we would experience for the rest of our lives.

The Care and Nurture we receive within our families, fostered and forged within our parental family home, will inexorably continue in our own lives when we are fully fledged and set out on our personal pilgrimage in Life. The bond of blood and family heritage will remain branded on our souls forever. Our common physical, emotional and spiritual experiences form integral parts of who and what we are...

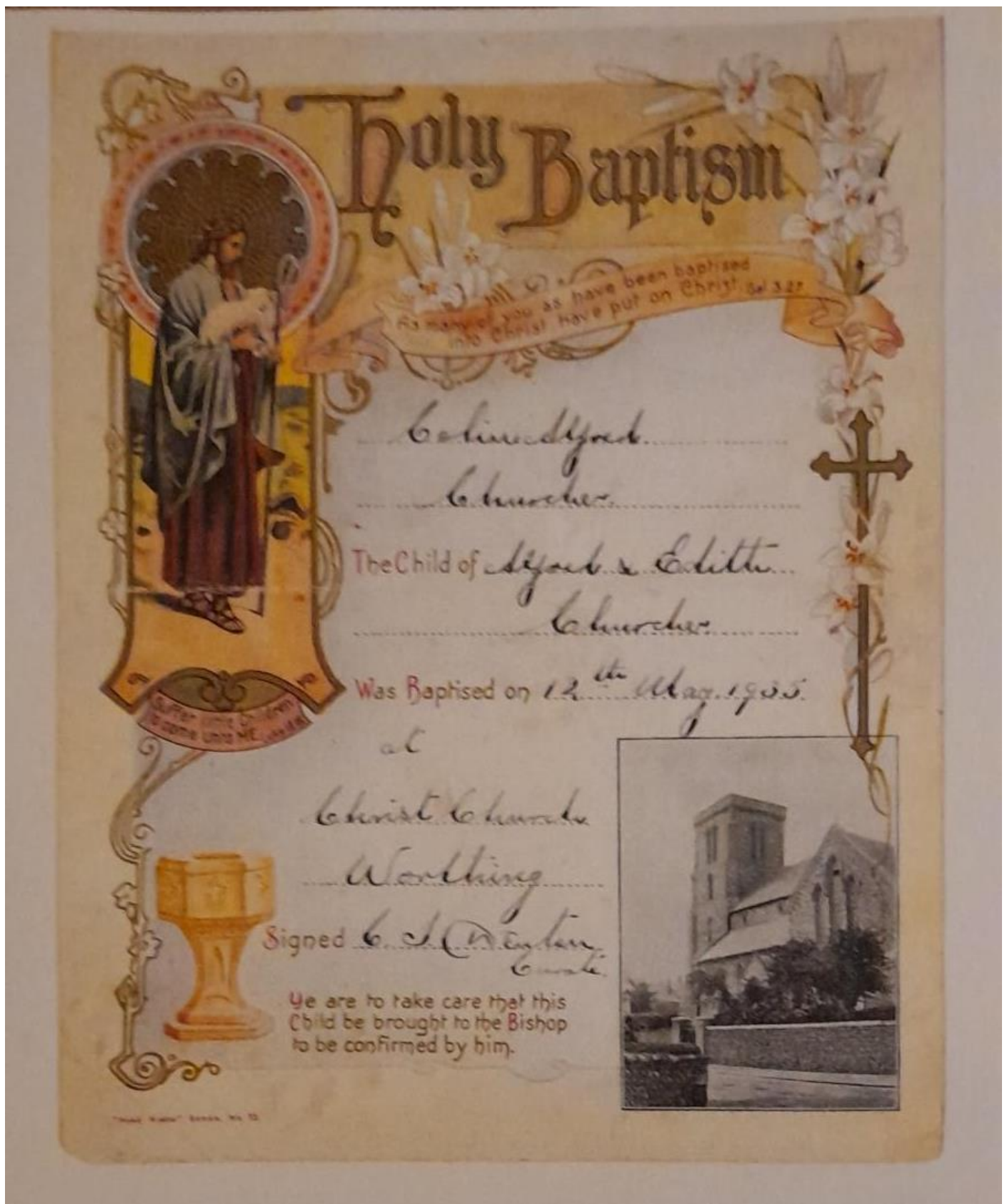
The imperative to Care for our mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters is compelling, even though there may be some for whom such family life stir deep, unpleasant memories. The longing for our nuclear family remains irresistible; if and when the 'Call' for help comes from Mum, Dad or sibling, only the deeply distorted or disturbed person will resist responding.

When parents grow old and infirm, becoming vulnerable and fragile, we are almost instinctively reminded of the time we, too, were vulnerable and fragile as little helpless infants or toddlers fumbling our way into a strange, unknown world - then, Mum and Dad..or even an elder brother or sister will have been there 'To Care' for us.

Family is the Cradle of Care! I can do none other than 'To Care' for them.

Elliott Allison

And talking of Family....



How beautiful our Baptism certificates were then.. this is Karen's father's from 1935!

Thoughts from Derek.....

The passage from 2 Peter 3: 8 – 13 tells us about God's timing, his patience and the hope he provides. The way he measures and calculates time is so different to ours. Peter starts by reminding us of a truth that was so often hard to grasp back then – it's harder in our fast-paced world now. God's perspective on time is vastly different from ours. "But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day." God is not bound by our human constraints of time. That's all very well but, at best, we measure in weeks, months or years rather than centuries and we're not going to be around for a thousand years! - What's God's plan for the now?

When Peter writes "God is not slow in keeping his promise" he is expressing his confidence that God will work God's will - God's Patience reflects His Love. Peter reassures us that any apparent delay is not a sign of God's forgetfulness or indifference but simply a reflection of His desire and hope for all of us to turn around and change – an invitation to turn to Him, to recognize His mercy and grace, and to align our lives with His will.

2000 years or so after Peter's letter was written, we're not just in a different time, we're in a totally different culture. Peter's letter could be taken as a sort of carrot and stick approach. We won't enjoy God's blessing, know his promises until we turn around and get our act together. And there are those who teach and preach that – I think their vision of God is too small.

God is so much bigger and kinder than that. The picture he gives us in Christ is that He lifts up the broken, the hurt, the damaged – the you

and the me – first and without any qualification. If in doubt, do glance at the story of the Good Samaritan or the woman who just touched the edge of his cloak and was healed. But it remains God's timing – our hopes, our fears and our dreams are in his hands. He loves us as we are but because he loves us so much he doesn't want us to stay that way. With all our faults and frailties, sorting us out may take some time!

He wants to lead us, whether it be through our still, or our stormy waters, to a place of safety and love – to enable us to become the person he would have us be. Peter then turns to the day when the day of the Lord will come. And it will be just as unexpectedly as a thief in the night. Equally God is the God of surprises – so don't be surprised when you discover him unexpectedly - at unusual times, in unusual places and in or through different people.

This teaching about the end times is an integral part of the New Testament – the earth will move towards destruction and Peter uses an apocalyptic description of the end times. Years ago, there was a man who, with his billboard, used to march up and down Montague Street proclaiming the end of the world was nigh – I don't remember anybody paying him any attention. Now, looking at the fires that ravaged Hawaii recently, and earlier, Greece, part of the Mediterranean and Canada. Add to this the threats from Vladimir Putin and we may feel less confident about the future. But with Christ and in Christ we are invited to live Godly and holy lives whilst, Peter tells us, we await the promise of the new heaven and earth that God has prepared for us. The Kingdom of God is already here although sometimes it doesn't look much like it. You see savagery, cruelty, and all the rest of the horrors but alongside them – if you have eyes to see - you recognise, you might

even experience loving, forgiving, healing and reconciliation every day. Believers in Jesus are currently taking part in, being, the kingdom of God right now. And that's God's plan for the now – loving, forgiving, healing and reconciliation – a plan that has never changed.

Help us to announce your Kingdom O Lord, a Kingdom of justice and peace and a Kingdom of like and truth. A Kingdom that has already begun and a Kingdom that will have no end. AMEN

Derek Hansen is a licensed reader who has supported Christ Church for many years.

WORTHING BEACONS, WATCH HOUSES AND SIGNAL STATIONS.

Alex Vincent.

A number of beacons, watch houses, signal stations, block houses and coastguard stations were erected along the coast over the centuries to warn of attacks and smugglers. Fires were lit in many places and a pile of wet leaves was set alight to use as a smoke signal. In some cases, iron baskets were filled with combustible material, which were raised and lowered by a simple pulley mechanism. Some churches, which offered good visibility, used tar barrels, which were hoisted to the top of the tower and burnt. In some cases, a flag on top of the church tower was used as a warning system. During the 14th and 15th centuries beacons of timber were built along the coastline.

Fire Beacons were erected along the coast and on the South Downs in the 16th century to warn of the Spanish Armada Threat of 1588. These were erected along the coast in the area

at Worthing, Heene, Lancing and also on Highdown, Cissbury and Chanctonbury. The windmills at Highdown and Heene were also used as signal posts for the Armada. They were marked on the Spanish Armada map of 1587.

A watch house existed at Heene in the late 17th century, but this fell victim to the encroaching sea and was lost beneath the waves by 1726. No sign of this can be seen at low tide today. Signal stations were built along the coast between 1794-95. The one at Heene was built in 1795 and situated on the beach at the southern end of Heene Road. This together with others built at the same time were built for the Napoleonic wars at the time. Another existed at The Half Brick in East Worthing. These signal stations were placed at regular intervals of about four miles between Portsmouth and Beachy Head. These signal stations had a hut built alongside them.

Smuggling along the Sussex coast has been a problem for many centuries and rife during the 18th and 19th centuries. Smugglers smuggled sheep's wool on the coast during the medieval period and were known as Owlers. Worthing had its share of smugglers, and the Rambler Inn in West Street was a notorious place for them. The site of the pub is now a block of flats called Wyvern Court. Smuggling was rife by the twitten on the Worthing-Heene boundary by Western Row. The cobblestone twitten wall separates the ancient parishes of Worthing and Heene.

The Worthing Town Commissioners ordered it to be built to keep out the Heene community who were regarded as

lawless. Edward Ogle was Chair of the Commissioners at the time and the wall became known as Ogle's Wall.

Coastguard stations were erected along the coast from the early 19th century as part of the Coast Blockade for the prevention of smuggling. The coastguard station on the sea front on the Worthing-Heene boundary was built in about 1820, which is now a private house. Brunswick cottages behind it were probably later connected with it. Other coastguard cottages were built in the 1850s at the south end of Edinburgh Cottages in Western Row. Another was built in 1886 in Western Place, which was demolished in 1934 and the site is now Burleigh Court. The coastguard cottages at The Half Brick in East Worthing built in c. 1845 were lost to the sea by coastal erosion in 1869 together with a brickworks and the original Half Brick Inn. Other coastguard houses were nearby at Lancing and Goring.

Our thanks to Alex for another fascinating piece.

KEN's ENGLISH FRITTATA

Ingredients for 1/2 people – increase for more people

4/5 Eggs

Fresh/Dried Parsley or herbs to your own taste

Salt & Pepper

Grated Cheese [as much or little as you like]

Red/Green/Yellow Pepper– sliced optional

Mushrooms– sliced optional

1 - Tomato – sliced

2/3 - New Potatoes - sliced

1 Onion - sliced

Preparation

Break eggs into jug & add herbs, salt and pepper and mix gently. Empty cheese into the mix and leave to settle. Light the hob to a medium heat.

Place the frying pan on the heat with a small amount of olive oil or several squirts of One-Cal Oil - place one layer of spuds with skins in the fry pan, for about 1 minute. Spill a small amount of your egg mix onto spuds and move pan to spread the mix to over them. Allow to cook for a while, but don't let it burn.

Layer more spuds and peppers and onion – pour on more egg over and allow to bubble and sizzle a while more – continue to move pan so that the frittata slides.

Repeat process until all [except tomatoes] ingredients are spent, and the egg mix is cooking – (because of the cheese content, it will sizzle on the edges for longer, ignore this) When the mix is solidifying, turn the heat down and cook for a few more minutes until it feels cooked on the base. [DON'T fold the egg as if you are cooking an omelette]

Place a large plate on top of the mix and turn over carefully, so the frittata is on the plate – then slide uncooked side into pan and cook. Don't burn yourself!!

Continue to watch the mixture and press the frittata down with spatula, to ensure it is fully cooking – you can feel from pressing whether all the egg mixture is cooked, use your instinct including your sense of smell. Turn it over with plate after your confirmed instinct. Each side should be a golden brown. Continue until it is, then place the sliced tomatoes on top and allow to soften from the heat of the frittata.

.... *Cont'd overleaf*

Leave the frittata in the pan with the heat off. It is superb eaten cold with loads of home-made pickle and a green mixed herb salad. If you are saving some until the next day – even better Enjoy!

A Reason for Living

Viktor Frankl, one of the great psychiatrists of the twentieth century, survived the death camps of Nazi Germany. His little book, *Man's Search for Meaning*, is one of those life-changing books that everyone should read.

Frankl once told the story of a woman who called him in the middle of the night to calmly inform him she was about to commit suicide. Frankl kept her on the phone and talked her through her depression, giving her reason after reason to carry on living. Finally she promised she would not take her life, and she kept her word.

When they later met, Frankl asked which reason had persuaded her to live?

"None of them", she told him.

What then influenced her to go on living, he pressed?

Her answer was simple, it was Frankl's willingness to listen to her in the middle of the night. A world in which there was someone ready to listen to another's pain seemed to her a world in which it was worthwhile to live.

Often, it is not the brilliant argument that makes the difference. Sometimes the small act of listening is the greatest gift we can give.

EA

One for the Thespians!

Q: What's the difference between Ninjas and Stage Crew?

A: Ninjas move silently around walls whereas Stage Crew move walls around silently.

But you know what is so great? The tradition of Ninjas being dressed all in black comes from traditional Japanese theatre.

Real Ninjas didn't dress in black as this would have made them too conspicuous in daylight and at night black would also stand out; dark grey or blue blends into shadows much better.

Normally they wore ordinary day clothes allowing them to blend into crowds better than if wearing some sort of theatrical costume.

So who does wear black? Well, Stage Crew in theatres for one and it was generally accepted that black-clad Stagehands were invisible and so could be on stage at the same time as actors and move things around and the audience would mentally blank them out. But one day there was a genius Director and, during an otherwise normal performance of a play, a Stagehand suddenly stepped forward and assassinated one of the main members of the cast and then melted away into the background.

He was a NINJA! And the audience were shocked and amazed.

But this surprise soon lost its shock value as many theatre goers had seen the same effect and realised that although the

"Stagehands wear black and are invisible" convention continued the new convention "Ninjas wear black and are invisible until they choose to strike" became established and from then on fictional Ninjas wore black because it just looks so cool.

So back to the question "What's the difference between Ninjas and Stage Crew?"

Answer: You'll never know until they get you!!!

Chippy



CHRIST CHURCH Events...

John Collins – Resident Organist

Wednesday 20th September, 12.30 to 1.30pm

On **Sunday 17th September 2023**, there will be a **Special Service of Thanksgiving** to mark the anniversaries of Christ Church becoming the Parish of Worthing Christ Church [5 years at the beginning of September and 180 years since the church was built on 21st September] and will include celebration refreshments.

Rob Campkin & James Buckham, [Violinist & Pianist]
11th October 12.30pm to 1.30pm

Fish and Chip lunch on Saturday 14th October
at 12.30pm. *Bring your own wine/beer. No spirits!*
Cost to be announced.

The ‘Inspired Instrumentalists’ will perform
on **8th November** from 12.30pm to 1.30pm

Christmas Mini Market – Saturday 25th November

Our annual **‘Celebration of Life’ Service** will be held on
26th November at 10.30am [*Christ the King Sunday*]

This year’s **Carol Service** will be on
Sunday 17th December at 4pm.
This takes the place of Evensong on that day.