

Christ Church News



At its last meeting of 2017 and after a period of prayerful consideration, the Parochial Church Council voted unanimously to sign up to Inclusive Church. www.inclusive-church.org.uk

So, what is Inclusive Church?

Basically, **Inclusive Church** is a group of Christians uniting together around this statement of belief:

"We believe in inclusive Church - church which does not discriminate, on any level, on grounds of economic power, gender, mental health, physical ability, race or sexuality. We believe in Church which welcomes and serves all people in the name of Jesus Christ; which is scripturally faithful; which seeks to proclaim the Gospel afresh for each generation; and which, in the power of the Holy Spirit, allows all people to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Jesus Christ."

Over the coming months we will be examining how we can best live up to being an Inclusive Church. It may well mean that we have to make one or two changes to what we do, in order to make sure no-one feels excluded in our church, but the process never ends. We need to keep this initiative on the agenda to enable us to say with warmth and confidence, "ALL are welcome in this place!"

Leaflets have previously been circulated and more available at the back of church.

*Father Jonathan Page
Vicar*

www.christchurchbelper.co.uk

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Giving in Grace



The Parochial Church Council recently agreed to the launching of “Giving in Grace” a stewardship campaign. As Christians meeting together to worship almighty God it can sometimes be easy to overlook the fact that - like Jesus and his parents, whom we especially think of at this time - we live in the real world, a world where the realities of making ends meet are never far away.

To help us think prayerfully about what we give to Christ Church we will have two sermons on giving, one by a guest preacher (28th January) and one delivered by Fr Jonathan (11th February). Within the next few weeks you will also be invited to a parish supper (free!) where there will be a guest speaker to entertain us and the campaign will be launched.

Here are the Key dates - PLEASE put them in your diary now!

- 28/01/18 Preacher at 11am: The Revd Dr David Mundy
- 11/02/18 Fr Jonathan to preach on giving
- 17/02/18 Parish supper and launch of giving campaign
- 18/03/18 Thanksgiving Sunday, followed by cake and sherry

At the end of the day, how much to give is a thoughtful, prayerful decision only you can make and there will certainly be no pressure. Love is generous, love is kind and love is selfless - we see this in all that God gives to us; how will we respond?

*Father Jonathan Page
Vicar*

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