

# Christ Church News

## APRIL 2020



EDITION 24/2020

## Welcome to Christ Church News

When we produced the last edition of the Christ Church news, all seemed much the same as usual. We knew that China was having problems with the Corona Virus but it didn't really affect us here in Cardiff. What a difference a month makes. COVID-19 is constantly in the news as it starts to resemble a modern day plague ravaging its way across the world. Many of us are self-isolating and probably by the time this is published we will all be in lock down.

All our certainties have changed, and the world looks so different in such a short space of time, as though reality has shifted.

We are not even sure that this Magazine will be printed, but one way or another we hope you will be able to read it and that it will bring some sense of normality into the rhythm of the month.

You will find a Bible quiz on the back page to amuse you as you face your four walls.

You will see that inside we welcome Derek and Ruth Fabby, who are new members of our congregation. It's great to see Ruth signing her praises to God, she is profoundly deaf and seeing her signing is a great joy.

Many of our church children have been sending designs to those who are feeling lonely. Emily has designed our cover picture and it resounds with joy and resurrection life. Corona **will** cease.



We are very sad to report the death of Glen Thomas, husband of Gloria. Gloria sang in our choir until a couple of years ago when she and Glen moved to sheltered accommodation in Llanishen. Our prayers go out to her and all their family at this terrible time



Designed by Emily Bell



ChristChurchCardiff

[www.christchurchcardiff.co.uk](http://www.christchurchcardiff.co.uk)



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## *A letter from our Vicar as we face the covid-19 pandemic*

**It is an horribly difficult time for everyone at the moment as we face a virus that has the potential to dehumanise and divide. I've spoken to a good number of you on the phone and so I know something of your fear, confusion, and anxiety.**

Those in our church who, because of age or medical conditions, are considered high risk are particularly anxious and lonely, cut off from family and friends. And then there are those in our church community who are selflessly working in difficult circumstances – those working in all sorts of roles at the University Hospital of Wales up the road from the church, teachers and head-teachers, shop workers, dentists, vets, carers, and so on. None of us are unaffected by this pandemic – all our lives have changed dramatically, and will stay that way for many more weeks and months.

**So, it is times like these that our church needs to show that our faith can face the fear and challenge of this pandemic with Jesus's love, care, compassion, and hope. We want you all to know – you're not alone. We're all in this together and the only way we will get through this is, with God's help, together.**

So, Christ Church is doing a number of things to help each other to feel connected, feel loved, feel close to God and to other people.

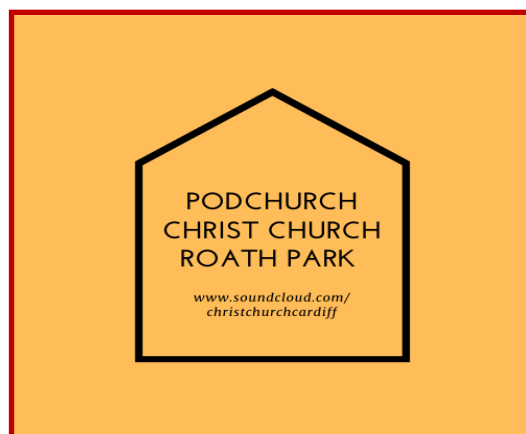
Firstly, we have a large group of people in Christ Church who are not in a high risk category and have signed up to help with our pastoral care over the next few months. They have offered to keep in touch with those of you who are not able to leave your houses, just to chat with you over the phone or to buy any groceries or collect any medication for you. Please, please do let me know if you haven't heard from anyone in this pastoral care team yet and would like to have conversation or help.

Secondly, Christ Church children and young people have been drawing or painting pictures and then photographing them so I can email them to



**May God's peace,  
His tangnefedd,  
be with you all.**

those who are self-isolating (or to their families and care homes)



**Finally, we have started weekly Podchurch Services – church services in the form of audio podcasts.** These have allowed us to connect with both God and each other, not least in the uplifting messages at the end of each service. They have also inspired us to continue living lives of love, compassion, hope, and even joy in these difficult days.

**So, again, please do let us know if we can help you in any way and God bless you all, stay safe, and may God's peace, his tangnefedd, be with you all.**

*(to access the podcasts put the podcast link into your computer browser bar... Ed)*



# Welcome Derek & Ruth Fabby



Wedding in Liverpool Cathedral

**We are delighted to be part of this wonderful church here in Roath. This was the first church we visited back in August last year and totally fell in love with it.**

The sense of community, friendliness and warmth was overwhelming. Derek and I were married in Liverpool Cathedral on 26<sup>th</sup> October last year. If you had said a year ago we would not only get married, but be working and living in Cardiff, Wales - we certainly wouldn't have believed it.

I first met Derek, and his then wife, Judy, over 40 years ago in St Gabriel's Church, in Liverpool 8. Derek was a church elder and worker with the Navigators. We knew each other's families, and both had young children to support. Following Derek and Judy's move to Chester, we lost touch. Derek's wife Judy lived with Rheumatoid Arthritis and sadly died over two years ago.



I went through a divorce five years earlier. Both of us didn't think we would ever marry again [let alone to each other!], but such is the nature of God's plans for us. We met again just 18 months ago – unexpectedly fell in love and felt God was calling us to get married. Derek was living in Chester at the time and I in Liverpool. In July last year I had an interview to become the Director of *Disability Arts Cymru*, got the job and within two weeks we found not only our church, but our home on Cardiff Bay and both of our houses sold!

We KNOW God wants us here [Derek's house had been on the market for over a year!]. After the amazing honeymoon in Fiji – we started life together in our first home in Cardiff mid-November. We love and value this church community and are extremely thankful for your acceptance, welcome and we are eager to get to know you more.

*Ruth & Derek*

**"we know God wants us here"**

*We are thrilled to welcome you to our church community.... And perhaps you are here for such a time as this! How God makes a way where there seems to be no way! Ed*

**"Be strong and courageous.  
Do not be afraid or terrified  
because of them, for the LORD  
your God goes with you; He will  
never leave or forsake you."  
Deuteronomy 31:6**

**Correction: In the last edition we referred to Ian and Brenda Rogerson as Part time members of Christ church. They are very much FULL TIME MEMBERS. Apologies Ed.**

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**Priest in charge: Revd Canon Dr Trystan Owain Hughes Tel: 07976 523634**

**Lay Reader   Dominic De Saulles**

**Parish Secretary Denise Searle: at Parish Office   (Monday and Wednesday mornings)**

**Parish Office/Hall Enquiries Tel: 029 20763151**

**Church Wardens**

**Haydn Hopkins Tel: 029 20621280**

**Colin Francis Tel: 029 20751773**

**PCC Secretary   Judith Hill   029 20758080**

**Treasurer   John Hodgson   029 20764485**

**Gift Aid Secretary   Gerald Bradnum   029 20751177**

**Electoral Roll Officer   David Alexander   029 20759704**

**Pastoral Care Co-ordinator   Val Jones   029 20747021**

**Music at Christ Church** is coordinated by Sue Hurrell & Jane Roberts: youth choir on Tuesday evenings in Sue's house  
Main choir 2nd & 4th Thursday of month 6.30-7.30pm in church email : hurrell.sue@gmail.com / 029 20485171 for  
**youth choir** Janeg@doctors.org.uk/ 07909 971293 for **adult choir** We'd be delighted to welcome new musicians and choir members

### **A Bible Puzzle by Roger Feesey**

**Hidden in the following paragraphs are a considerable number of books of the Bible.  
See how many you can find – answers next time!**

This is a most remarkable puzzle. It was found by a gentleman in an aeroplane seat pocket on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, keeping him occupied for hours. He enjoyed it so much he passed it on to some friends.

One friend from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his john boat. Another friend studied while playing his banjo. Elaine Taylor, a columnist friend, was so intrigued by it she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column. Another friend judges the job of solving this puzzle so involving, she brews a cup of tea to help her nerves. There will be some names that are really easy to spot. That's a fact. Some people, however will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalised. Truthfully, from the answers we get, we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or scholar to see some of them at the worst. Research has shown that something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books in this paragraph. During a recent fund raising event which featured this puzzle, the Alpha Delta Phi lemonade booth set a new sales record. The local paper, The Chronicle, surveyed over 200 patrons who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult they had ever seen. As Daniel Hunana humbly puts it, 'the books are all right here in plain view, hidden from sight.' Those able to find all of them will hear great lamentations from those who have to be shown. One revelation that may help is that books like Timothy and Samuel may occur without their numbers. Also, keep in mind that punctuation and spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete really well against those who claim to know the answers. Remember, there is no need for a mad exodus, there really are 30 books of the Bible lurking somewhere in this paragraph waiting to be found.