



CHRIST CHURCH DOUGLAS-IN-PARBOLD NOVEMBER 2017 PRAYER NEWSLETTER

‘Prepare the way of the Lord; make His paths straight.’ Mark 1:3

Preparing for Christmas seems to start earlier each year; with decorations in shops, to do lists and the general busyness of life as December draws near.

But preparing for Christ is a completely different ball game and for me one that’s much more exciting.

‘Prepare the way of the Lord’

In our own hearts, getting rid of the clutter, cleaning things up, making room for Him to live in us, His presence dwelling daily in us - *‘Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own’ 1 Corinthians 6:19*

In our families and relationships, loving, forgiving - *‘love one another deeply, from the heart’ 1 Peter 1:22. ‘By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another’ John 13:35*

In our community and world; in action and in prayer learning to share the heart of God - *‘Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow’ Isaiah 1:17*

Preparing the way of the Lord here in our hearts, at Christ Church, in Parbold, in our nation is an exciting call to each one of us. The most exciting thing for me is that as we prepare the way, He comes!
God bless,
Sue



PARISH TELEPHONE PRAYER CHAIN.

- a) Anyone who has a prayer need can phone his/her request to Brian and Frances McGucken (01257 462058) between 6pm and 6.30pm any day, or for urgent needs, at any time. A team of people is on hand to pray immediately for your need.
- b) If neither is available to take your call live - please do not use the answer phone for this purpose - but contact Lin Milne on 463523 or John Mountain on 463919.

Your prayer request will be treated as confidential – unless you state otherwise.

THANKS

Thank you to all who sent in contributions to the newsletter. The next edition will be a Christmas edition on Sunday 18th December. Items to Lin Milne by the 16th please.

REMEMBRANCE

At this time of year, we remember with gratitude those who gave their lives in the World Wars. Some of those who lived during the Second World War are now in their eighties and nineties. So we thought it would be good to hear first-hand from some of our congregation just what it was like for them to go through the war years 1939-1945.



JO MILLNER

I was 13 when the war started and lived in Hull. My younger sister and I was evacuated to Scarborough as Hull was considered too dangerous for children. My older brother stayed behind and eventually enlisted in the navy. We had a good time in Scarborough and stayed at the home of a school teacher and his wife. Because there were so many children, we only went to school for half of the day and the other children attended the other half. Eventually, we went back home even though the bombing was still going on. We would sleep at night in the air raid shelter.

When I was 16, I went to London and started my nurse training at the Dalston German Hospital. All the German staff were interned in the Isle of Man, so they were very short staffed and allowed us to train even though usually you had to be 18. After a year, I went back to Hull and completed my nurse training at Hull Infirmary.

SYLVIA HUNTER

When WW2 started I was a schoolgirl living in a small village 10 miles from Sheffield. Being out in the country, it was considered a safe place to live so our village was required to accept evacuees from the south of England.

One evening, during the middle of December An air raid took place over Sheffield. We could hear bombs exploding in the distance and see the night sky as a red glow. Suddenly, there was a very loud bang sounding very close by. We were frightened and all four of us dived under the kitchen table. Mother suggested we all sing, So we sang – under the kitchen table! Next morning we heard that a high explosive bomb had landed in a field not far from our home. It was assumed that the pilot had missed the target – a munitions factory a few miles away.

Food was in short supply but we were issued with ration books to provide us with basic nourishing food, Advice from government encouraged to “Dig for Victory”. Lawns and flower beds were dug up to make room for growing fruit and vegetables.

FRANK AND JEAN BRUNTON

When the war broke out we were both 13 and living with our families in a suburb of Nottingham. Frank had 3 sisters and 1 brother, Jean had 2 sisters. We lived at home and when the Air raid sounded, had to go down to the Anderson Shelter at the bottom of the garden. The first job was to make sure tea was provided and food provisions available (limited because of rations). To make tea we had to use Condensed milk. People thought it was tea leaves floating in the cups but it was ants.....!

Because of rations there was NO fruit - Didn't know what a banana looked like.

We can remember when bombs in the area hit a golf course so there were some extra bunkers from then on. The Ice rink was also hit. If you were out on your bikes and the Warning sounded then the roads were closed and we had to go into anybody's shelter for safety. Our parents never worried nor did we... the best time was when schools had to closed. We did not feel scared

REMEMBRANCE (cont.)

MURIEL HUYTON

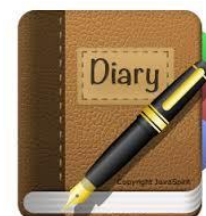
I was 11 years old when the war started and lived in Tuebrook Liverpool with my younger brother and sister. My mum did not want us to be evacuated and my dad worked in Cammell Laird shipyard during the day and at night would often bike down to the Pier Head to do Fire Watch duties around the docks. I remember the Liverpool Blitz of 1940 onwards. We had a cage in the house to shelter in and there was an Air Raid shelter down in Shiel Road. When the bombs dropped we would go to the shelter and often the next day would walk back along the streets which had a few less houses only piles of bricks and broken glass. But everyone helped each other and stayed cheerful. I started working in T J Hughes and towards the end of the war met a Scottish sailor know as Jock. He was on the HMS Wild Goose, one of Captain Walker's fleet sailing out of Liverpool. We married in 1947 after he was demobbed. His mother came down from Aberdeen with a large tin of Corned Beef and some strawberries especially for the wedding breakfast.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Evening of Prayer on Wednesday 22nd November at Appley Bridge (warmer than our church in autumn) at 7.30pm for 8pm

'Refresh' – Mon 4th December at All Saints' Church, Appley Bridge 10.45am – 1pm. 1 hour of worship followed by a bring-and-share lunch.



Prayer Time for Youth & Children's Work Tues 5th Dec 9.15am-10am

At Parbold Douglas Academy, Lancaster Lane.

Blackburn Cathedral Advent Carol Service - is taking place on Sunday 3rd December at 630pm - Everyone is welcome to attend. See notice at the back of church.

Carol Service Choir This year's carol service is at 6.00pm on Sunday 17th December – please note it's the week before Christmas weekend. Choir rehearsals are on Sunday nights from 12th November onwards, from 7.45pm – 9.00pm at 78 The Common. Please can you let Charles or Jill Bithell know if you would like to join in or just turn up on the night (contact tel: 464878 or email cbithell@btinternet.com). All are very welcome.

HARVEST APPEAL 2017

Many thanks to all those who gave so generously to our Harvest Appeal this year. We raised, including the school Harvest service and Gift Aid, a magnificent £5050. So we were able to send cheques of £1250 to UCB, Mercy Rescue Trust and the Message Trust and £1300 to EducAid. We have had the following replies so far,

UCB

Thank you so much for your generosity expressed through the gift of £1250 which we deeply appreciate.



Without your partnership we would not be able to continue to serve others. This kind donation is helping United Christian Broadcasters reach a potential audience of over 50 million and is really making a difference in the spiritual climate of our nation.

Barbara Haughton

Strategic Partnerships Co-ordinator.

EducAid.



I am writing to you on behalf of EducAid Sierra Leone and would like to thank you, the congregation of Christ Church Parbold and the staff and students of Parbold Douglas C of E Academy for their donation of £1300 towards our Emergency Flood Appeal.

We are now in a god position, having assessed the needs and damages, to provide the necessary assistance to some of the worst affected. We are pleased to be able to provide a home to some 84 children who have been terribly affected by the floods, having lost homes, possessions and, more importantly, family members. As well as homed, they will be cared for and educated at an EducAid school for at least a year.

It would be impossible for EducAid to provide this assistance had it not been for your generosity and that of the rest of our dedicated supporters. Thanks from all at EducAid.

Farah Lungy
Fundraising Manager

EMBRACE THE MIDDLE EAST GIFTS

If anyone would like to buy Christmas cards or small gifts as a way of supporting the work of Embrace in the Middle East, there are some catalogues on the table at the back of church. Please feel free to take one

Brian



ANDREW FANSTONE VISIT

On 26th October we had a wonderful time of fellowship with Andrew who was visiting from his work with IRIS Fortaleza ministries in Brazil. We heard first hand of the difficulties of working in the middle of the favela slums surrounded by drug gangs, prostitutes and many street children. But it was so encouraging to see God's hand at work right in that darkness with Andrew and his team reaching so many with the light of the gospel. If you want to know more, get his book – God plus One – to read how God has led him and his family in Brazil.

We had a collection for his work and we were delighted to give him £340 for IRIS Fortaleza.



PRAYER REQUESTS

- Please continue to pray for Tracey as she settles into her role as Children's and Family Worker.
- Pray for all the upcoming services over the Advent and Christmas period that we can celebrate the Good News of Jesus with as many people as possible.
- Please remember to pray for our older members and those who are housebound during these dark nights and cold weather. Perhaps you could check that they are ok and have all they need to be comfortable.