

Advent 2018 at



christ church
moreton

*I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people
(Luke 2:10)*

Christmas is coming, and up and down the country, children (and adults!) will be busy compiling their Christmas Present lists. There will be some things which are hopelessly optimistic, some which are genuinely wanted but not really expected, and some which are there just to fill up the list.

But in all of that, how many people will think of the gifts we will be thinking about on Sunday mornings this month? Hope, peace, joy and love. For most people, including I suspect many Christians, they seem hopelessly optimistic – they are the things which we all genuinely want, but have no real expectation of.

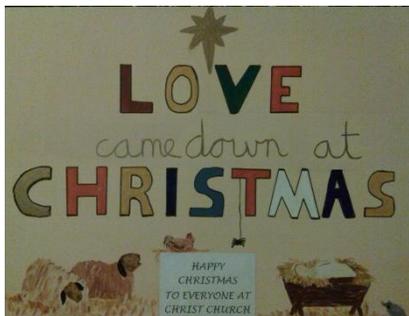
But these are the things which the coming of Jesus brings. A hope for the future, no matter how difficult the present might be. Peace with God, which can bring peace in our hearts and relationships. Joy that goes beyond mere circumstances. Love that is not dependent on our earning it.

In Advent, as we look forwards to the return of Jesus, we remember that when he comes again, his people will have fulfilled hope, and perfect peace, joy and love. But they aren't just for the future – they are gifts offered to us now as we trust in him. Sadly many of us will be rushing around so much in the next few weeks that we will be in danger of missing the wonderful things the coming of Jesus means. The challenge at this time of year is to make the time to keep our eyes fixed on what the coming of Jesus really means.

And don't keep it to yourself. Our society is longing for hope, peace, joy and love, but is unable to find them. They need to see that we do have them; they need to see that difference. And when they do, they need to hear that Jesus can do the same for them.

Yours in Christ *Graham Cousins*

THE BIG CHRISTMAS CARD



Once again our Big Christmas Card is at the back of church. As in previous years, we would encourage you, rather than sending cards to other church members, to sign our Big Card, and then to make a donation to our Big Christmas Card collection.

In January Kat will again be going on mission to Andhra Pradesh in India. She will be involved in providing water wells, medical aid, food camps, mosquito nets and clothing to the poor & orphans. This aid is vital for the people they reach out too, and a wonderful way to show God's great love for them in a tangible way.

The money we raise through the Big Christmas Card will go to support the work she will be doing there.

CAROL SINGING. We have been invited again to join with Moreton Baptist Church to sing carols outside Home Bargain in Moreton on Saturday 22nd December between 11.00 and 11.45 am.



CHRISTMAS BOOKSTALL



As Christmas approaches, and the search for presents hots up, why not give a Christian book? On Sundays 9th & 16th December we will have a bookstall at the back of church, with books for children, books for adults, and books for you!

Our Bookstall is provided by Birkenhead Christian Bookshop – if you can't find what you are looking for here, why not give them a visit at 14, Grange Road West, Birkenhead.

THE SITUATION IN CONGO

Bishop William, from the Diocese of Boga, sent the following: "I want to thank God and thank you for the generous assistance to the displaced people from Djugu. On behalf of all the Boga Diocese, we give our heartfelt gratitude to the Diocese of Chester and all those who have responded to the emergency call." He goes on to say that there is still a tremendous need in the area for food and essential items, given that the displaced are unlikely to be able to go back to their villages until the new year. Reverend Japhet Ruhigwa of All Saints, Bunia, our link parish, has been actively involved in food distribution and pastoral support over the past few months, and would value our prayers as All Saints and their partners in the Congo continue this work.

All activities that meet in the Parish Centre will close during the Christmas break apart from the following:

Tuesday - 6.00 - 7.30 pm Foodbank (except 25th Dec and 1st Jan)

Friday - 2.00 - 3.30 pm Foodbank

	Last date	Re-start
Office	21 st December –	2 nd January 2019
Sunday club	16 th December –	13 th January 2019
Lighthouse tea bar	18 th December –	14 th January 2019
Toddler Group	18 th December –	14 th January 2019
TLC	17 th December –	7 th January 2019
SOS	18 th December –	15 th January 2019
Rainbows	12 th December –	9 th January 2019
Brownies	13 th December –	10 th January 2019
Youth	13 th December –	17 th January 2019
Zumba	20 th December –	3 rd January 2019
Open Church	14 th December –	7 th January 2019
Mothers 'n' Others	14 th December –	4 th January 2019
Craft Group	13 th December –	3 rd January 2019
Keep Fit	13 th December –	10 th January 2019
Home groups restart (week commencing)		7 th January 2019

SERVICES FOR ADVENT / CHRISTMAS 2018

Sunday 2nd Dec at 9.00 am & 10.45 am

– The coming of hope (Titus 2:11-14)

6.30 pm – Deanery Advent Service at Emmanuel,
New Brighton (*no service at Christ Church*)

Sunday 9th Dec at 9.00 am – The coming of peace (Micah 2:2-5a)

at 10.45 am – Nativity Service

at 6.30 pm – Mary – trusting and obeying

(Luke 1:26-38)

Sunday 16th Dec at 9.00 am & 10.45 am

– The coming of joy (Luke 2:8-14)

at 6.30 pm – Carol Service

Sunday 23rd Dec at 9.00 am & 10.45 am – The coming of love

(1 Corinthians 13 / Matthew 1:18-25)

at 6.30 pm – Joseph – trusting and obeying

(Matthew 1:18-25)

Christmas Eve at 5.00 pm – ‘Twas the night before Christmas

at 11.00 pm – Holy Communion

Christmas Day at 10.00 am – Family Communion Service

Sunday 30th Dec at 10.45 am – Patience (Luke 2:22-35)

Sunday 6th January 2019 – at 9.00 am, 10.45 am & 6.30 pm

the visit of the wise men (Matthew 2:1-12)



christ church

moreton

making disciples

growing disciples

being disciples