

Advent 2019 at



christ church
moreton

Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him. (Hebrews 9:28)

It's December, and once again the run up to Christmas will inevitably be busy for us all, with its Card Writing Present Wrapping House Decorating Tree Buying Mince Pie Eating Party Going Stress Suffering – all the things that make this such a time of joy and peace!

Though there is nothing wrong with all those things, it is all too easy to be swamped by them. So it is so important for us as disciples to put our relationship with Jesus at the heart of Christmas, and not to allow other things to keep us from worship, from prayer, from the Bible.

But even if we do manage to keep our focus on Jesus, it is also easy for our thoughts to be just about celebrating his coming at the first Christmas. But Advent is also a time for looking forward to Jesus' coming again – it is that which will bring the story to its end, and the salvation Jesus came to bring.

That is something we continue thinking about in our evening series – *When Jesus comes again*. And on Sunday mornings, as we look again at Luke's account of Jesus' birth, it will help us to look forward to his coming again. And it is the promised return of the Lord Jesus which should spur us on in our evangelism. We live in the gospel age, when people can hear and respond to the good news of Jesus. But when he comes again, that time will be over. So as we look forward to his return, let's make the most of the opportunities this season gives to invite family and friends to special services. And let's pray that God will open their eyes, so that they see and understand that Jesus came to be *their* Saviour, so that they too can enjoy the salvation that will be ours when he comes again.

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.

The **Barnabas Fund** work to support Christians in countries where they are an oppressed minority. Where Christians are a minority, their children are often persecuted when they go to school, so Christian schools for Christian children is one of Barnabas Fund's priorities.

Amazingly, just £30 could cover the monthly salary of a Christian teacher in Pakistan. That means that if we can raise £360 through our Big Christmas Card, we could fund a teacher there for a year. So that is our Christmas 2019 target.

CAROL SINGING. We have been invited again to join with Moreton Baptist Church to sing carols outside Home Bargain in Moreton on Saturday 21st December between 11.00 and 11.45 am.



SCHOOL CHRISTMAS SERVICES.

We will be welcoming Lingham School to church for their Carol services on Wednesday 18th December, and Christ Church School on Thursday 19th December. Graham will also be taking a Christmas service at Orretts Meadow School on Monday 16th December. Please pray for these important opportunities to share the real meaning of Christmas with our community.

COMING IN THE NEW YEAR



LIFE|EXPLORED
WHAT'S THE BEST GIFT
GOD COULD GIVE YOU?

Life Explored is a seven session series featuring a combination of short films - shot around the world – and Bible interaction. As it explores the Bible story (creation, fall, redemption, new creation), Life Explored shows how our deepest desires for happiness can only be satisfied in one person, Jesus Christ. The best gift God can give us is himself.

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	20 th December	– 2 nd January 2020
Sunday club	15 th December	– 12 th January 2020
Lighthouse tea bar	17 th December	– 13 th January 2020
Toddler Group	17 th December	– 13 th January 2020
TLC	16 th December	– 6 th January 2020
Youth	12 th December	– 16 th January 2020
Open Church	13 th December	– 6 th January 2020
Mothers 'n' Others	20 th December	– 10 th January 2020
Craft Group	19 th December	– 9 th January 2020
Keep Fit	5 th December	– 9 th January 2020

Home groups restart (week commencing) 13th January 2020

SERVICES FOR ADVENT / CHRISTMAS 2019

Sunday 1st Dec at 9.00 am & 10.45 am

– *Waiting* (Luke 1:1-25)

6.30 pm – Deanery Advent Service at St. Luke's,
Poulton (*no service at Christ Church*)

Sunday 8th Dec at 9.00 am – *Trusting* (Luke 1:26-38)

at 10.45 am – Nativity Service

at 6.30 pm – Jesus – coming to restore

(Revelation 21:1-7)

Sunday 15th Dec at 9.00 am & 10.45 am – *Rejoicing* (Luke 1:39-56)

at 6.30 pm – Jesus – coming to stay

(Revelation 22:1-6)

Sunday 22nd Dec at 9.00 am & 10.45 am – *Salvation* (Luke 1:57-80)

at 6.30 pm – Carol Service

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

at 11.00 pm – Holy Communion (Luke 2:1-14)

Christmas Day at 10.00 am – Family Communion Service

(Luke 2:8-20)

Sunday 29th Dec at 10.45 am – *Responding* (Luke 2:21-40)

Sunday 5th January 2020 – at 9.00 am, 10.45 am & 6.30 pm

2020 Vision (Romans 1:16-17)



**christ church
moreton**

making disciples

growing disciples

being disciples