When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God’s wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, ‘What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him’ – these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God’s except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

1 Cor. 2.1-12

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Jesus went up the mountain and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to teach them: ‘You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.’

Matthew 5.13-20
FOR OUR PRAYERS
Those who are ill or in need: Michael Green; Jenny Smith; Sarah Pitman; Hilary Brazier; Judith Sanson; Joyce Smith.

Those who have died: Edgar Anthony Costello.

Those whose anniversary of death falls this week: Jean Guthman (2018); Irene Mills (2008).

Link Parish of St Francis of Assisi, Barham Green

**TUESDAY 11 FEBRUARY**
11am Morning Prayer
2pm + 8pm Study Group on Acts (2) in Truman Room

**WEDNESDAY 12 FEBRUARY**
9.30am Christ Church Toddler Group
-11.15am in Hall
8pm Refugee Working Party at the Vicarage

**THURSDAY 13 FEBRUARY**
8pm Brass Group in Church

**NEXT SUNDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2020**
2nd Sunday before Lent
8am BCP Holy Communion
8.45am Choir Practice
10am Parish Eucharist + Junior Church
6.30pm BCP Evensong

**TUESDAY 18 FEBRUARY**
11am Morning Prayer
2pm + 8pm Study Group on Acts (3) in Truman Room

**WEDNESDAY 19 FEBRUARY**
No Christ Church Toddler Group—half term

**THURSDAY 20 FEBRUARY**
8pm Brass Group in Church

**FRIDAY 21 FEBRUARY**
10am Parish Eucharist + Junior Church
5.30pm Evangelism Group

**SATURDAY 22 FEBRUARY**
8pm BCP Evensong

**SUNDAY 23 FEBRUARY**
10am Parish Eucharist + Junior Church
10.30am HALL CAR PARK: Parking for the 10am Sunday service in the Hall car park and beside the coned off area on Copse Hill are reserved for drivers and passengers who have limited mobility and need to be close to church. Please would other drivers park elsewhere.

**CHRIST CHURCH TODDLER GROUP** continues to meet on Wednesdays 9.30-11.15am for pre school children and their parents/carers in term time. We will welcome help in putting out the equipment on an occasional or regular basis. Help would be particularly welcome at 8.30pm on Tuesday evenings when everything is set up. Please contact Mair Rabagliati.

**TOILET TWINNING IN CHRIST CHURCH HALL** The toilets in the hall have all been twinned with toilets in poor communities overseas through the Toilet Twinning scheme of the charity Tearfund. This was funded by a donation. Have a look at the certificates in the hall toilets to see where our twinned toilets are being built. There are leaflets at the back of church with more information on the scheme.

**WE URGENTLY NEED** at least 2 new volunteers to help with cleaning the Church to join one of our teams once a month. Can you spare an hour or so once a month? Please speak to Michael if you can help.

**IN THE CHURCH KITCHEN** there is a pile of plates, tins and sundry trays etc that have been left from past events and are in the way! Do any belong to you? Please claim now as any remaining will be disposed of at the end of the month. You have been warned!

**JUNIOR CHURCH DATES**—parents please collect a blue sheet of paper giving details of this term’s activities and meeting dates.

**NIGHT SHELTER:** Our local Salvation Army congregation are using their HQ in Kingston Road, Raynes Park as a venue for the Night Shelter in Merton. This will be on 7 consecutive Mondays, beginning on 9th March and concluding on 20th April. They write: “We have already had some commitments to volunteer, but would welcome more from our Churches Together Group. Looking particularly weak are the overnight slots and the Tuesday am breakfast slots. The timings are as follows: Monday evening slot: 6.30pm - 11pm (or part of this time) Overnight slot: 11pm - 7am. Tuesday breakfast slot: 7am - 9am. If you join us as a volunteer, then you will need to attend a short training session run by the Night Shelter. You do not need to sign up to every week of the 7, but you are welcome to do so. Please contact Jill.grinsted@salvationarmy.org.uk if you are interested in signing up!

**BRF SUBSCRIPTIONS** The subscription for Bible Reading Fellowship notes is due for renewal. If any current subscribers want to change their order or if anyone else would like to subscribe, please speak to Jenny Tomlinson.

**MICHAEL’S MESSAGES WAS PUBLISHED LAST WEEK.** Do take a copy today (blue)—it has some important information in it. It is also available to read on the church website.

**BACK GARDEN**—please keep off the whole area while the turf beds down properly. Many thanks to those who are keeping the area watered.

**OUR COURSE ON THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES** continues for the next 2 Tuesdays. All welcome. There is a green explanatory leaflet on the table.

**ENTER THE DESERT – A PRE-LENT QUIET DAY.** You are invited by the Merton Spiritual Formation Group, on SATURDAY 22 FEBRUARY, 10am-3pm, at St Peter & St Paul, Mitcham Parish Church. The desert was a place where Jesus came close to God. Come and explore what the desert might mean for you through worship, readings, prayer and silence. No need to book, just come along! See flier & poster for further details.

**LENT COURSE AT CHRIST CHURCH**—see the blue message sheet for details. There will be two sessions at 2pm and 8pm (opt for one) on the 5 Tuesdays in March. Please sign the list on the table at the back of the church.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER—FRIDAY 6 MARCH**—Praying for Zimbabwe. A service for everyone. “Rise! Take your mat and walk”. 10.30am Service at St John Fisher Church, 207 Cannon Hill Lane SW20 9DB. 8.00pm Service at Christ Church. Refreshments are served after each service. Men, women & children are welcome!

**ST. PATRICK’S DAY BARN DANCE** — taking place from 6.30pm onwards in the Hall on SATURDAY 14 MARCH. £15 a ticket includes hot dogs with delicious sausages, dancing with a caller and the children go free. Please sign the list at the back of church to let us know if you are coming.

**RSBP BIG GARDEN BIRDWATCH 2020 AT CHRIST CHURCH** Thank you to the 14 children and adults that took part in our bird survey in Christ Church gardens on Sunday 26th January. We saw 9 different species of bird but not very many birds in total. There are plans to make our gardens more bird-friendly and we hope to be able to record more birds in our gardens next year.

**EASTER LILIES** If you would like to contribute towards the cost of Easter Lilies in Church, in memory of a loved one, there is a collection box and list at the back of church.

**DO YOU HAVE A WORKING DVD PLAYER YOU DON’T USE?** We would be glad of one for use in the Truman Room. Please let Michael know.

Those who have died:
Sarah Pitman; Hilary Brazier; Judith Sanson; Joyce Smith.

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