

It is important that as Christians we continue to demonstrate the peace of Christ's Mission in the world.

We are in a good position to grow the church community and as such the Parochial Church Council (PCC) will be engaging with the Diocese's new mission initiative 'Reaching New People' in the autumn and working out how we can reach out to our local community in the parish around us.

Please do continue to pray for the church and its family. I would love to see a regular prayer meeting for the church family – perhaps once a month when we can pray for the issues posted on the prayer board and the work of the church in general.

Please do talk to me if you have suggestions or would like to be involved in anything I have mentioned or in planning special events and services.

Yours in Christ,

The Revd. Atalie Gaines  
vicar@kcm-church.org.uk 01707 661266

### **p.s. Keeping in touch**

We have all being affected by The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) which took effect in the UK on 25 May 2018 and I expect that you have had lots of letters and emails from organisations asking if they can still stay in touch.

By law Parishes must comply with its requirements and therefore we are asking you to fill in a form, with your contact details, to confirm that you are happy for KCM to contact you and to hold your details. Not many people have done this, **please do take a form and fill it in**, we don't want people to miss out on information about the church and its events!

KNOW CHRIST MORE

MAKE CHRIST KNOWN



### **Pastoral letter July 2018**

*Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life.  
Whoever comes to me will never be hungry,  
and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. John 6. 35*

As we enter this period of summer, I hope that you will have some time for rest and recuperation.

As the weather warms and our patterns of worship changes please do be aware that we meet together as a church congregation at 1030 on Sunday's during August. The services will be holy communion as we continue to celebrate Christ's victory for us.

The Gospel readings in the lectionary, which is the readings that are set for each Sunday, are from John Chapter 6 and speak of Jesus as the Bread of Life. Therefore, sermons during August will help us delve a little deeper into why we celebrate the Eucharist in the pattern that we do. Recognising Jesus as the Bread of Life.

**Exploring our faith** - It is good to be interrupted from our usual pattern occasionally to enable us to think about what we are doing, to whom we belong, and how we can serve the Lord in this place.

The things that we do already; Charlies Angels, Messy Church, the choir, Wednesday Break, the Men's group, Mother's Union, the Community Café are all part of our growing the kingdom corporately in this place but what do we do that grows our own individual faith?

While we take this break from our usual pattern of services I would like to encourage you to reflect on your journey with Christ and with this church here in Potters Bar.

In the Autumn I hope to start a group for those who wish to explore their faith further. To explore what the church believes and how we translate that into daily life.

There will be an opportunity to meet with others who are exploring their faith and there is the option for those who engage in the group to have their faith confirmed at a **Confirmation service** by a bishop later in the year. Please do talk to me if you might welcome this opportunity.

**Baptisms** - We have a steady number of baptisms at KCM but I would like to set up a small baptism team to support those who are bringing their children to baptism. The key skill you need is to be keen to work with our young families to welcome them on the day of their Baptism, perhaps to lead the prayers and to hand out the orders of service. Then later to stay in touch with families to send them baptism anniversary cards and invite them back to Charlie's Angels, Messy Church and other activities that we are running.

Please do come and talk to me if you think that you would like to help keeping in touch with those who are baptised into the KCM family.

**From September** - we will be starting a series of monthly talks at the Community Café. These 'café talks' will cover a variety of subjects and are part of our continuing outreach and support of our local community. The first will be on 13 September and thereafter on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month (4 Oct, 1 Nov and 6 Dec).

We are also planning a café Harvest service on Thursday 20 September when donations can be made to the Bishop's Give Peas a Chance appeal run by Christian Aid, and the Potters Bar food bank. Looking further ahead the Christmas service will be on Thursday 20 December.

Our thanks go to all of those who volunteer at the Community Café throughout the year and we wish them a well-deserved rest, especially

after being awarded the highest hygiene rating by the local Health and Safety Inspector following a surprise inspection.

**Sundays in September** - as we come back after the summer break we will bless backpacks and work bags on Sunday 9 September as we return to school and work. Please bring your bags into church to receive a blessing during the services.

On Sunday 16 September we will celebrate our Harvest Festival with the Scouts and Guides at a 1030 all age Eucharist Service to which all are welcome. Donations will be collected for the Bishop's Give Peas a Chance appeal run by Christian Aid and the Potters Bar food bank.

At 5pm that evening the choir will sing Choral Evensong for Harvest with members of the other local church choirs. Evensong is a beautiful way to end the day and will include some of the classic hymns that you would expect at Harvestide.

In October we will host the **Churches Together in Potters Bar** monthly prayer meeting at 8am on Saturday 6 October. Please do try to join us as we pray with members of other churches from Potters Bar. We are seeing the fruits of the partnership that we have with other churches in the large numbers who turned out for the Walk of Witness on Good Friday, and for the successful Holiday Club we have just held at Elm Court.

There is a growing Christian presence in the town and it is right that it is supported in prayer by all of us.

Keep an eye out for information about a Churches Together Christmas event on Saturday 15 December which will include arts and crafts for the children and a walk of witness between two of our churches.

The Church played an integral part in supporting families during World War One and as we reach the **100year commemoration** of the end of that conflict I am wondering how we might mark it at KCM. Perhaps a service for peace, a concert or a vigil?