

1Corinthians 1:10-18

¹⁰ Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you should be in agreement and that there should be no divisions among you, but that you should be united in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹ For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. ¹² What I mean is that each of you says, 'I belong to Paul', or 'I belong to Apollos', or 'I belong to Cephas', or 'I belong to Christ.' ¹³ Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴ I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵ so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶ (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷ For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. ¹⁸ For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Matthew 4:12-23

¹²Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³ He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the lake, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴ so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: ¹⁵ 'Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles-¹⁶ the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to proclaim, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' ¹⁸As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake-for they were fishermen.¹⁹ And he said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed him.²¹ As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them.²² Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him. ²³ Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (18-25 Jan)

In the coming Week of Prayer for Christian Unity all Christians must remember the words of Jesus: "A new command I give you: "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." (John 13:34-35).

PCC Key Messages

The key messages from the PCC meeting on Wednesday 18 January:

- Approval was given to proceed with replacing the kitchen flat roof and fascias, improving the car park wall, creating a disabled car parking space and a ramp to the church entrance, all to be completed July-August 2023.
- We approved a 2023 deficit budget. We have told the diocese that we will be unable to pay our Parish Share in full.
- We would like to hear your suggestions for our Lent charity giving.

If you have any questions, please speak to any PCC member. All previous minutes and papers are available to read on the PCC noticeboard.

Chalice Assistants

Now that we have returned to sharing the Chalice we want to re-introduce chalice assistants to help with distribution. Would you be willing to undertake this important role? To be a chalice assistant, you need to be a regular communicant and to be physically able to do the task. Each person needs to be approved by PCC, having completed a confidential declaration and provided a non-church reference in line with Church of England safer recruitment practice. If you are interested, please talk to Lucy, and provide the completed paperwork (available at the back of church) by 8 February.

Safeguarding

The PCC is committed to doing their best to protect vulnerable people from harm. Did you know that there are 6 principles of Safeguarding? They are: **Empowerment** – People being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and informed consent; **Prevention** – It is better to take action before harm occurs; **Proportionality** – The least intrusive response to the risk presented; **Protection** – Support and representation for those in greatest need; **Partnership** – Local solutions through services working with their communities. Communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting abuse and neglect; **Accountability** – Accountability and transparency in safeguarding practice.

Prayer for our future

God of our plans and futures, guide us as we dwell in this time of uncertainty. Help us to work together, to love, grow and serve each other; and to share the responsibility of being your light in our community. We turn to your love, comfort and peace as we journey onwards in our faith, becoming the people you desire us to be. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. **Amen**.