

PRAYER AND NEWS UPDATE

FOR MY
EYES HAVE SEEN
YOUR SALVATION,
WHICH YOU HAVE
PREPARED IN THE
SIGHT OF ALL
NATIONS.

LUKE 2:30-31

LATEST UPDATE:
SUPPORTING THE MINISTRIES OF CPAS



cpas



theBigGive

CHRISTMAS CHALLENGE

1—8 DECEMBER 2020

DOUBLE YOUR DONATION

Help us raise £50,000 for the work of CPAS, Ventures, Falcons and School Ventures.

Donate through The Big Give Christmas Challenge to see your gift doubled by our pledge fund.

Please give online at www.cpas.org.uk/biggive from midday 1-8 December.

The coronavirus pandemic has created a challenging funding environment for CPAS, and we are delighted to have this opportunity for donations to be doubled.

Our conviction is that we are not called to go into maintenance mode during this time of global pandemic. The challenge for the gospel to be heard afresh is simply too great and too urgent. Many in our communities increasingly know very little of the Christian faith. New initiatives are needed – and needed now – as a radical response.

Thank you for your support, it is particularly appreciated at this time.

www.cpas.org.uk/biggive

Ventures & Falcons

School Ventures



Registered with
FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR

Every church
a pathway
to faith



Every leader
a catalyst for
evangelism



Every child
the chance to
explore Jesus



Every Christian
a courageous
witness



CPAS is an Anglican evangelical mission agency working in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Our mission is to help every person hear and discover the good news of Jesus Christ through the ministry of local churches.

THE MESSAGE OF SALVATION

In the run up to Christmas 2020 and the start of 2021, many people are looking and praying for a vaccine for COVID-19. To use a biblical word, a 'salvation' is being sought. Many are still fearful of the possibility of them or their loved ones catching the virus. Please join us in praying for a viable vaccine to be developed.

When the angels appeared to the shepherds they told them not to fear – but instead to rejoice because a Saviour had been born (Luke 2:10-11). Simeon – also in Luke chapter 2 – said that his eyes have seen the salvation that God has prepared for the world.

I recently heard a Nigerian Anglican describing the message of salvation as 'beautiful' – and I have to confess that for a moment it pulled me up sharp. On reflection, I think that might be because our Western culture and contemporary philosophy don't admit to the need for salvation – and certainly not through the birth of a child called Jesus.

Yet the message of salvation in Christ is indeed good, even 'beautiful', news for this world. That God should give his only Son that we might be saved from the consequences of sin is a gift beyond all others. And so as we approach Christmas and the New Year, will you join us in praying for churches and leaders – as they point men, women and children to the Saviour.

John Dunnett,
General Director



www.cpas.org.uk
info@cpas.org.uk

All Bible quotations taken from
the New International Version.

29 NOVEMBER – 5 DECEMBER

LOOKING UP, LOOKING FORWARD

Patronage incumbents from the south west will gather online this Tuesday for Looking Up, Looking Forward. These events are a great opportunity for church leaders to connect with some familiar faces from the CPAS patronage family, and be encouraged and inspired together.

Prayer points:

- Ask God to speak through Bishop Nick McKinnel, Bishop of Plymouth, at Tuesday's Looking Up, Looking Forward event for patronage incumbents in the south west.
- Pray that the input on courage in leadership, and how to do parish evangelism in a COVID-19 world, would impact hundreds of churches.
- Ninety-nine CPAS patronage churches are currently without an incumbent. Pray for them as they seek God's next leader for their benefice, including Little Heath (St Albans) and Christ Church Spitalfields (London).

AND LET US
CONSIDER HOW WE
MAY SPUR ONE ANOTHER
ON TOWARDS LOVE AND
GOOD DEEDS, NOT GIVING UP
MEETING TOGETHER ... BUT
ENCOURAGING ONE ANOTHER.

HEBREWS 10:24-25



6-12 DECEMBER

LEADERSHIP COURSES

CPAS is continuing to work with dioceses and other partners to deliver leadership courses for clergy and other leaders. The Cumbria Mission Community Leaders Programme met last week to look at leading in times of change, and we are preparing for the Peterborough Leadership Course, which starts in January.



THE ONE WHO
GETS WISDOM
LOVES LIFE; THE
ONE WHO CHERISHES
UNDERSTANDING WILL
SOON PROSPER.

PROVERBS 19:8

Prayer points:

- Pray for all those involved in the Peterborough Leadership Course, including the mentors who have just completed training ahead of the course starting in January.
- Lift up the clergy taking part in Flourish in Gloucester diocese, in partnership with LICC. Pray as they put into practice what they recently learned about nurturing a culture of whole-life discipleship.
- Ask God's blessing on the 24 leaders taking part in the Cumbria Mission Community Leaders Programme as they seek to lead well in this time of change.

13-19 DECEMBER

MULTI-PARISH BENEFICES



With over 70% of all parishes now in teams or groups, we are keen to do all we can to equip leaders working in this setting. CPAS recently released an add-on to our PCC Tonight resource, offering sessions specifically for multi-parish benefices.

I HAVE GIVEN
THEM THE GLORY
THAT YOU GAVE ME,
THAT THEY MAY BE ONE
AS WE ARE ONE – I IN THEM
AND YOU IN ME – SO THAT
THEY MAY BE BROUGHT TO
COMPLETE UNITY.

JOHN 17:22-23

Prayer points:

- Pray that many PCCs are blessed by this new resource. Ask that the material on relating well across the group, working together and nurturing leaders will help the parishes and groups to go from strength to strength.
- Lift up incumbents of multi-parish benefices as they share the Christmas message of comfort and joy across geographically dispersed communities at this unusual and challenging time.
- Pray for Pam Macnaughton, CPAS Leadership Specialist, as she leads CPAS' offering in this area. Pray also for all the lay and ordained leaders taking part in Thrive multi-parish benefice learning communities.

20-26 DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS



For many churches, the Christmas service is often the biggest gig of the year! As churches hold services online or in restricted circumstances, pray that we as the body of Christ may be able to share the good news of hope and joy with so many who may feel far from that.'

Mike Duff, Patronage Secretary

SHE WILL GIVE
BIRTH TO A SON, AND
YOU ARE TO GIVE HIM THE
NAME JESUS, BECAUSE HE
WILL SAVE HIS PEOPLE FROM
THEIR SINS.

MATTHEW 1:21

Prayer points:

- Praise God for the Church of England's Comfort and Joy campaign. Ask that this will connect people who don't yet know Jesus with Christian resources and church events, so they can find faith in him.
- Ask that there may be a fresh engagement with the Christmas story in churches across our nations. Pray that the familiar story will be retold in a vivid and relevant way at this time.
- At the end of what has been a very stretching year for many church leaders, pray for the opportunity to share relax, recuperate and share Christmas joy with their own wider families in fun and safe ways.

27 DECEMBER-2 JANUARY

VENTURES AND FALCONS

As we look ahead to next year, please pray for wisdom and agility as we respond to the changing scene and plan to deliver a fruitful ministry of faith, fun and friendship for thousands of 8-18s in 2021.'

Tim Friend, Ventures and Falcons Principal



FOR THE
LORD IS GOOD
AND HIS LOVE
ENDURES FOR EVER;
HIS FAITHFULNESS
CONTINUES THROUGH
ALL GENERATIONS.

PSALM 100:5

Prayer points:

- Overall leaders are now recruiting their teams of volunteer leaders. Pray that lots of new people will want to get involved in this life-changing ministry, and that lots who have volunteered before will return.
- Ask God to have his guiding hand over Tim and the whole team as they plan this year's Ventures and Falcons programme in these ever-changing times.
- The Falcons Conference takes place in just over a month's time. Pray that lots of Falcon overall leaders book their place, and that preparations go smoothly.

3-9 JANUARY

2021



Our strategic goals over the next five years include appointing 375 incumbents, equipping 1,000 leaders, running 80+ School Ventures and engaging with over 6,000 different children through the wider Ventures and Falcons ministry. Please pray as we take steps towards this in 2021.

Prayer points:

- Pray for the work currently underway to develop a new online course and learning hub centred around leading in evangelism, as part of our goal of equipping 1,000 leaders.
- Ask God to help us fulfil our 2021 goals to engage with around 3,900 young people through Ventures and Falcons, and put plans in place to restart and accelerate the growth of School Ventures beyond this pandemic.
- Pray we will discern how best CPAS can support leaders in equipping thousands of people in their congregations to become more confident and courageous witnesses for Christ in their day-to-day lives.

FOR
THE SON OF
MAN CAME TO
SEEK AND TO SAVE
THE LOST.

LUKE 19:10

10-16 JANUARY

ARROW LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

The Arrow participants have now had their first online gathering after the June residential was postponed. Following a very different Christmas season, they are now exploring how they continue to look after their well-being and discern God's vision in this demanding season.



Jo McKee,
Director of Arrow

AND
WE ALL, WHO
WITH UNVEILED
FACES CONTEMPLATE
THE LORD'S GLORY, ARE
BEING TRANSFORMED INTO
HIS IMAGE WITH EVER-
INCREASING GLORY.
2 CORINTHIANS 3:18

Prayer points:

- Pray God's blessing on the 24 leaders aged 25-40 taking part in this programme. Ask him to do wonderful things through their ministry as they continue on this journey.
- Ask that the peer cells and mentor relationships that each participant has would be a source of great support to them as they lead their churches forward in this time of pandemic.
- Ask that God would be with the speakers preparing for the second part of the programme. Pray also for wisdom for the Arrow team as the timetable is prepared.



UNEXPECTED BLESSINGS

THANK YOU for all you have done to support CPAS' ministries in this unusual year. It has been a year of incredible blessing, and we have seen God at work in so many unexpected ways.

- Over **1,000 children and young people** attended a Virtual Venture, with many more live views via online platforms. Some had never been on a Venture before and are now planning to come on a holiday.
- Over **350 families** received a Falcon-in-a-box. As well as being a wonderful gift for the children who would have attended Falcon holidays, these were very much appreciated by siblings, parents and carers too!
- Around **1,750 church leaders** attended CPAS webinars on Leadership in Lockdown and Leading in Uncertain Times.
- **Seventy-seven new incumbents** were appointed at CPAS patronage churches across 38 different dioceses.



CHRISTMAS ISN'T CANCELLED!

This Christmas is likely to be the strangest many of us encounter in our lifetime. Many newspaper headlines are predicting a miserable time will be had by all. And of course, for some this will be a very trying Christmas. **But we have the best news in the world to share, and perhaps we have a world more open to receiving it than in years past.**

As a mission agency, we want to do all we can to resource churches to share the gospel during Advent and Christmas. We have gathered a number of ideas, articles and resources from elsewhere to create an online hub which church leaders are invited to both contribute to and take inspiration from.

- A guide to running a drive-in carol service.
- Social-media ready Advent posts, Advent windows and Messy Church style Angel hunts!
- Online Christingles and Zoom crib services.
- Spoken word, Christmas worship songs and videos to use in online events.

Please pray that this is a catalyst for thousands of creative and engaging acts of evangelism and worship across the UK and Republic of Ireland, which lead many to faith in Jesus Christ. If you are involved in leading a church, we warmly invite you to visit www.cpas.org.uk/Christmas2020 to access these resources.

SUPPORTING CPAS

Thank you for your prayerful support. If you'd like to give a financial gift, we'd love to invite you to have your donation doubled through The Big Give Christmas Challenge which runs from midday 1-8 December.

FROM MIDDAY 1-8 DECEMBER:

www.cpas.org.uk/biggive

If you'd like to give after the Christmas Challenge week has ended, or wish to set up or increase a standing order, please visit www.cpas.org.uk/give or phone 024 7526 7835 9am-12.30pm Monday to Friday. You can also send a cheque payable to CPAS to the address bottom right. Thank you.



Thank you for your faithful prayers for our work. We'd love to pray for you and your church too! Please email [Caroline Davenport \(cdavenport@cpas.org.uk\)](mailto:cdavenport@cpas.org.uk) or call the number below to be included in our staff prayers.



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