



St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead

www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

Church Office: 01628 622733

admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

Week commencing: 11th December 2016
Third Sunday of Advent

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP

8.00 am Holy Communion

10.00 am Parish Communion

President: Revd Sally Lynch

Preacher: Revd Sally Lynch

6.00 pm Sundays at Six: Christmas Tree Service, here



Welcome to the Christmas Tree Festival

If you are new to St. Luke's please do make yourself known to the ministers or a member of the Welcome Team, who can give you a contact card to complete. Please do join us after the 10.00am service for coffee, which will be served in the Parish centre .

You might like to know that...

... our Baby and Toddler area is at the front with toys and books. Do feel free to sit there with your children. For older children we have activity bags so that they can sit with you in the pews, just ask a sidesperson for one.

... we have large print orders of service and hymn books. If you would like one please ask someone wearing a name badge.

... we have a loop system for those using hearing aids.

... the toilets are through the double doors at the front of church.

... if you would like to receive an intincted wafer at communion please come to the south side of the altar and indicate to the minister.

... we have many activities going on during the week. For a full list please ask a person with a name badge - or take a Parish Directory from the leaflet trolley.

... we send out a weekly email update. If you would like one please email the Parish Office on admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk and we will add you to the list.

Pastoral Care: If you have or know of any particular pastoral need (visiting, home communion, etc) please speak to our Pastoral Coordinator, Sue Hinchliffe in the first instance (01628 784724).

The readings for Third Sunday of Advent are:

A Reading from The Book of Isaiah

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,

'Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,

with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people;
no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray.
No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.



Isaiah 35. 1-10

A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to Jesus, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.'

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you."

Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.'

Matthew 11. 2-11

Collect

O Lord Jesus Christ,
who at your first coming sent your messenger
to prepare your way before you:
grant that the ministers and stewards of your
mysteries
may likewise so prepare and make ready your
way
by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the
wisdom of the just,
that at your second coming to judge the world
we may be found an acceptable people in your
sight;
for you are alive and reign with the Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion Prayer

Father in heaven,
who sent your Son to redeem the world
and will send him again to be our judge:
give us grace so to imitate him
in the humility and purity of his first coming
that, when he comes again,
we may be ready to greet him
with joyful love and firm faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The floodlighting has been sponsored this week :

*By the vicar to celebrate our community coming together with
Christmas Trees*



**What's happening...? See below, and check out our
website too www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk**

WORSHIP AND SPIRITUALITY

Advent and Christmas: a sheet is now available with details of all our Advent and Christmas services and activities.

Christmas Services:

Sunday 18th December

10.00 am, Parish Communion and baptism of Luke Hulks, concluding with children's nativity tableau

6.00 pm, Nine Lessons and Carols, by candlelight

followed by mulled wine and mince pies

Christmas Eve, Saturday 24th December

4.00 (younger families) and 5.00 (older families) pm, **Candlelit Crib Services**

11.30 pm, **Midnight Mass**

Christmas Day, Sunday 25th December

8.00 am, Said Holy Communion

10.00 am, Short Christmas Day service for children / families

10.30 am, Service of Parish Communion

INFORMATION

Police Notice: We get regular updates from Thames Valley Police and the latest maybe important for many people:

Drivers using motorway services stations, particularly those along the M4 in Berkshire, are being warned that thieves could be using technology to prevent people locking their vehicles and then steal from them.

Thames Valley Police officers are warning people to make a manual check that doors are locked before leaving their vehicles.

This advice follows a spate of 14 thefts from vehicles at motorway services in Berkshire. In many of the cases there was no obvious sign of a break in and no damage was caused to the vehicles as items were stolen from them.

SOCIAL and FUNDRAISING

Children's Society: Thanks to collectors for handing in your Children's Society collection boxes or cheques over the last few weeks. Ben D has kindly helped by counting the collections so far. If there are any more boxes or cheques to be handed in please let me know so I can calculate the total sum raised by your kind efforts. Boxes have been re-sealed for return and I have left them at the back of the church for you to take away. If your box is missing please do let me know and I will organise a

replacement. Also, if anyone who isn't already, would like to become a collector please let me know. ropes. Many thanks, Kristina Smith

Open vicarage: Lily (woof) and I invite everyone to call into the vicarage between 7.00 and 10.00 pm on the evening of Thursday 22nd December, for a time of fellowship with mulled wine and seasonal nibbles! Revd. Sally

Buy your tree here! If you would like to buy a tree after the CTF please sign up on the sheet in church—any offers of £15 or over welcome, just reserve it now!

Boxing Day Ramble - Just to let folk know that I will be organising our usual post-Christmas walk, details will follow. Roger Clarke (Tel: 632626)

WIDER COMMUNITY

Bach to Baby: We are delighted to let you know that Bach to Baby - the critically acclaimed classical concerts for babies and young children - is back. The next concert will be a special Christmas concert on Tuesday 20th December at 3pm.

Christmas Lights: The Burdett's are holding their annual "open house" on Saturday 17th from 4.00pm to 9.30pm and Sunday 18th from 2.30pm to 5.00pm and 7.30pm to 9.30pm at 30 Mallow Park (off Cranbrook Drive). Please feel free to drop in for coffee/tea and a mince pie/cake, and to see and hear Richard's Christmas Illuminations.

Wycombe Swan Pantomime: We have a few spare tickets available for our trip to see Cinderella on Thursday 29th December at 7pm, so please let Ann Burdett (631486) know if you would like one. Tickets are £17.50 each - cheques payable to 'St Luke's PCC'. If you have ordered a ticket but not yet paid for it, please do so ASAP.'

Wycombe Swan Pride and Prejudice Saturday matinee 2.30pm 28th January 2017
We have a provisional booking to see Pride and Prejudice with tickets reduced to £15.50. The show promises to bring "elegance, charm and sparkle to the stage with its inventive script and ingenious set" following rave reviews during its sell-out performances at Regents Park theatre and is now on tour.
If you would like to join a group of us from church please let Ann Burdett know (631486). Cheques payable to St. Lukes PCC

Lions Club Swimarathon: Saturday morning January 7th 2017. St. Luke's church has entered 3 teams: children's, ladies' and men's. We swim "relay style" for 55mins and the emphasis is on fun (not speed). We are looking for anyone who would like to join in this fun event as a swimmer, sponsor or supporter. We need to be at The Magnet by 10.30am for 10.55 swim off; afterwards we will head off for lunch. Our teams will be raising money for the Lions Club charities and another charity (TBC). If you would like to participate or sponsor, let Ann Burdett know (631486) and collect your sponsor form.

Christmas Tree Clear up: All hands on deck on Monday morning to clear up the Christmas Tree festival.



Christmas Tree Festival 2016: 9th - 11th December

The church will be open for viewing at the following times:

Sunday 11th December: 12.00 noon – 6.00 pm

Christmas Tree Service at 6.00pm



Carol singing around the parish: Monday 12th December, meet at 7.00 pm at Southgate House. All welcome.

For your prayers (to add anyone to the list, notify the office but please have the permission of the person being prayed for)



- Give thanks for 150 years of St Luke's Church
- Our keeping of Advent and our preparations for a holy Christmas
- The ministry and mission of this church
- The people of the USA, and President Elect Trump.
- Our plans to re-order the church, for funding, and wisdom in the plans and practical work and for the consistory court in the new year
- Our Mission Action Plan priorities and Task groups exploring them
- Our giving of our time, talents and money to God
- Our town and parish and RBWM's borough planning for new homes
- Those whose anniversary of baptism falls in December: Flynn Seligman, Barnaby Craig, Summer Prater
- All those who are homeless
- The sick and those who care for them: Nick Morris, Katharine Morris, Ben Francis, Steven Sands, Tim Williams, Chris Sawyers, John Francis, Sheila Tallent, Vivienne Holland
- Those who have died recently, and those who mourn them: Margaret Bowdery, Peter Bell



Next Sunday, 18th December
Fourth Sunday of Advent

8.00 am Holy Communion

**10.00 am Parish Communion with Baptism and
Children's Nativity Tableau**

President: Revd. Sally Lynch

'Preacher': Emma Cameron

6.00 pm Sundays at Six: Carol Service, here

Next week's readings at 10am:

Isaiah 7.10-16

Matthew 1. 18-25

Next week's rotas under Duty Warden: Dave Sopp

Reader: NT: Gill Curry

Intercessor: Shula Tajima

Elements: Faith and Michael Murwisi Masango

Coffee: Ian and Jan Gilchrist

Welcomers: **8.00 am:** Richard Hannam

10.00 am: Emma Shenton, John Cox, Janet Trinkwon, Ralph and
Sue Hinchliffe

This week at St. Luke's

Everyone is welcome to all of our services and activities

Monday 12th

Christmas tree clear up

7.00 pm Carol singing

Tuesday 13th

8.30 am Morning Prayer

Office 9.30-11

9.30 am Claires Court Carol services

7.15 pm Holy Communion

Wednesday 14th

8.30am Morning Prayer

Office 9.30-11

10.00 am Holy Communion

1.30 pm School Carol service

Thursday 15th

8.30am Morning Prayer

Office closed

5.00 pm Evening Prayer

6.30 pm St. Piran's School Carol service

Friday 16th

8.30am Morning Prayer

2.00pm Memorial service for Margaret Bowdery

Office closed

5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Saturday 17th

9.00 am Morning Prayer

St. Luke's Church Office is open Tues, Weds, 9.30 am - 11 am

Deadline for entries for this weekly pew sheet is 9.00 am on Tuesdays.

Administrator: Ruth (01628) 622733

Vicar: The Reverend Sally Lynch (01628) 783033; Vicarage: 26 Norfolk Road, SL6 7AX