



St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead

www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

Church Office: 01628 622733

admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

Week commencing: 17th December 2017
Advent 3

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP

8.00 am Holy Communion

10.00 am Parish Communion

President: Revd Nicola Hulks

Preacher: Revd Sally Lynch

3.00pm Sundays at Six: Carol Service, here

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 fellowship area at the back of church.

You might like to know that...

... our Baby and Toddler area is at the front with quiet 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 the Third Sunday of Advent

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

The servant of the Lord said:

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the broken-hearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;
to proclaim the year of the LORD's favour,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
to provide for those who mourn in Zion –
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.
They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.

For I the LORD love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.
Their descendants shall be known among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.
I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

Isaiah 61. 1-4, 8-11

A Reading from the Gospel of John

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, 'I am not the Messiah.' And they asked him, 'What then? Are you Elijah?' He said, 'I am not.' 'Are you the prophet?' He answered, 'No.' Then they said to him, 'Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?' He said, 'I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord"', as the prophet Isaiah said.

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, 'Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?' John answered them, 'I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.' This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Collect

John 1.6-8, 19-28

O Lord Jesus Christ,
who at your first coming sent your
messenger
to prepare your way before you:
grant that the ministers and stew-
ards 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.

Amen

Post Communion Prayer

We give you thanks, O Lord, for
these heavenly gifts;
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit
that when your Christ comes again
we may shine as lights before his
face;
who is alive and reigns now and for
ever.

The floodlighting has been sponsored this week by:

Mr T Autos



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

WORSHIP AND SPIRITUALITY

Advent and Christmas:

You may like to take on a devotional activity during Advent to prepare for Christmas, for example why not come along to morning or evening prayer now and then.

Two dates for your diary: Bishop Andrew is going to be spending all day with us on Sunday 11th February. He will preside and preach and then join us for a church family lunch and time to explore and celebrate our mission. Please do make it a priority to be with us that day. On Thursday 8th March at 7.30pm he will return to dedicate our re-ordering church building.

Holy Land Pilgrimage: a reminder that Revd. Sally is leading a pilgrimage to the Holy Land from 2nd – 11th October 2018. If you would like details of this amazing opportunity please speak to Sally or take a flyer from church. If you have shown interest could you please let Sally know if you'd like a place.

SOCIAL and FUNDRAISING

Thank you: A big thank you to everyone who helped and came along to the Christmas Tree Festival. We raised £1253 for PLANETS and the winner of the best dressed tree was Stitch and Bitch, many congratulations!

Trees: There are still trees available for a donation, please take from outside church and put your donation through the vicarage door.

Auction of Promises: Thank you to everyone who gave lots and bid for lots. Successful bidder have now been notified by email and we ask that they liaise with each other to make the necessary arrangement.

Open Vicarage: as usual, Lily and I would like to invite everyone to the vicarage on Friday 22nd December to partake of seasonal drinks and light refreshments. We are open between 7pm and 10 pm – please do accept this as your personal invitation to drop in whenever you can that evening. Revd. Sally

St Lukes School OFSTED: Many congratulations to all members of our school community on achieving outstanding in the recent Ofsted inspection.

Co-op Local Community Fund: Co-op members can pick St Luke's as their chosen community charity. 1% of everything you spend on Co-op products and services goes into your membership account. They can do this by logging into their membership account on the Co-op website or calling the membership contact centre. This applies to co-op supermarkets, but also co-op funeral homes, banks, electric, insurance, legal services. The nearest Co-op store is Shifford Crescent and Cox Green. Please do sign up for membership.

Christmas Lights: The Burdett's are holding their annual "open house" on:

. Saturday 16th from 4.00pm to 9.30pm

. Sunday 17th 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."

Lions Club Swimarathon: Saturday morning January 6th 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

Thank you: A huge thank you - from the new Mr and Mrs Burdett! We are so grateful so many friends from St Lukes were able to join our families and friends for our special day. The service will be treasured by us both for years to come. The flowers were perfect, the choir were wonderful, and the cakes after in the Community Hall were delicious! We know so many people were praying for us and supporting us - and we're sure that's why it was quite the success it was. Huge thanks again from us both. Matthew and Clare Burdett

Boxing Day Ramble: ALL WELCOME. Meet at 10.30 am in car park behind Wooburn Parish Church (MR: SU 91 1878) the church is approximately 0.5 miles from the mini roundabout at Cores End on the way to Wooburn Green. All are welcome for a walk including some uphill sections of 4/4.5 miles and then afterwards for a light lunch at 5, Wentworth Crescent. Please let Roger know if you are intending to join the lunch. More information from Roger Clarke (Tel: 632626)

WAMCF Ladies: will now be meeting monthly. The next two meetings are: Monday 29th January from 7.30—9.00 pm at Maidenhead Gurdwara on Rutland Road: what do Sikhs believe? Wednesday 21st February, from 1.30—3.00 pm, here at St. Luke's: Gill Curry will speak about her visit to Kori in Sierra Leone.

Inspire: with thanks to guest editor, Revd. Nicola, there is a Winter supplement to Inspire with special tree festival photos. Available at the back of church for £2 per cop

Advent, Christmas and Epiphany at St. Luke's Church

Christmas Eve, Sunday 24th December

10.00 am, Parish Communion, with children's nativity tableau

Candlelit Crib Services at

4.00 (younger families) and 5.00 (older families) pm,
11.30 pm, **Midnight Mass**

Christmas Day, Monday 25th December

10.00 am, Short Christmas Day service for children / families
10.30 am, service of Parish Communion

Friday 25th January

3.30pm-5.30pm, Messy Epiphany– family fun activity for all ages with meal . Please contact the office to book or just turn up...

Sunday 7th January

6.00pm Epiphany Carol Service



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



- The ministry and mission of this church, giving thanks for the completed re-ordering work.
- Peace in the world
- Those whose anniversary of baptism fall in December: Barnaby Craig, Summer Prater, Luke Hulks
- For Matthew and Clare who were married here recently
- All those who live and work in Way Side Mews
- The sick and those who care for them: Nick Morris, Ben Francis, Stephen Sands, Tim Williams, John Francis, Sheila Tallent, babies Albert and George, Rose Dolan
- Those who died recently, and those who mourn them: Elizabeth Pearce, Charles Hummer, Revd Roy Taylor, Colin Bowerman
- Those whose anniversary of death falls in December: David Sawyers, Robert Gardener, Eileen Pond, Max Neale, Joan Joyce, Stuart Courtier, Gerard Beattie, Eileen Hurst, Margaret Swanborough, John Norris, Denis Rayfield, Ruth Keys, Mary Church, Thomas Speakman, John Sheppard

Sidespeople

We give thanks for all those who Sunday by Sunday act as sidespeople. We pray that they will do this job with joy and enthusiasm, and that the order they bring to the service will enable the congregation to worship and glorify our Lord.

May you welcome the stranger at the door,
may you serve the church community with joy,
may you provide a calm order to the service,
may you all be blessed by doing this work,
and may the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be upon all who are gathered here today.
Amen



Next Sunday, 24th December

Christmas Eve

8.00 am Holy Communion BCP

10.00 am Parish Communion

President: Revd Sally Lynch

Preacher: Revd Nicola Hulks

4.00 pm Crib Service

5.00pm Crib Service

11.30pm Midnight Mass

Next week's readings at 10am:

2 Samuel 7, 1-11, 16 Luke 1. 26-38

Next week's readings at Midnight Mass

Isaiah 9. 2-7 Luke 2 1-14

Next week's rotas under Duty Warden: Johanna Raffan and Dave Sopp

Intercessors: Ministry team

Chalice: Don Luff, James Ellins

Acolytes: Sue Hinchliffe, Monique

Server at 8am: Ben Darracott **Crucifer at 10am:** Ben Darracott

Elements: Julienne Grobler and Ann Hockham

Monday 18th Dec 1.30pm School Carol Service

Office open 9.30—11.00 am

Tuesday 19th Dec 8.30am Morning Prayer

Office open 7.15pm Holy Communion

9.30-11.00 am

Wednesday 20th Dec 8.30 am Morning Prayer

Office open 10.00am Holy Communion

9.30-11.00 am

Thursday 21st Dec 8.30 am Morning Prayer

Office closed 5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Friday 22nd Dec 8.30 am Morning Prayer

Office closed 5.00 pm Evening Prayer

7.00-10pm Open Vicarage

Saturday 23rd Dec 9.00 am Morning Prayer

St. Luke's Church Office is open Mon 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