



## St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead

[www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk](http://www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk)

Church Office: 01628 622733

[admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk](mailto:admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk)

**Week commencing: 18th December 2016**  
**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

### WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP

**8.00 am Holy Communion**

**10.00 am Parish Communion with Baptism of  
Luke Hulks, and Children's Nativity Tableau**

President: Revd Sally Lynch

'Preacher': Emma Cameron

**6.00 pm Sundays at Six: Nine lessons in Carols 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 at the back of church.

***Please note that is the last pew sheet until 8th January***

### 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](mailto: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 LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

Isaiah 7. 10-16



### **A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew**

The birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall name him Emmanuel',

which means, 'God is with us.' When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

*Matthew 1. 18-25*

## **Collect**

God our redeemer,  
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary  
to be the mother of your Son:  
grant that, as she looked for his coming  
as our saviour,  
so we may be ready to greet him  
when he comes again as our judge;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## **Post Communion Prayer**

Heavenly Father,  
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary  
to be the mother of the promised saviour:  
fill us your servants with your grace,  
that in all things we may embrace your  
holy will  
and with her rejoice in your salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **The Collect of Christmas Day**

Eternal God,  
who made this most holy night  
to shine with the brightness of your one true light:  
bring us, who have known the revelation of that light on earth,  
to see the radiance of your heavenly glory;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## **The Collect for 1st January**

Almighty God, whose blessed son was circumcised  
in obedience to the law for our sake  
and given the name that is above every name:  
give us grace faithfully to bear his Name,  
to worship him in the freedom of the Spirit,  
and to proclaim him as the Saviour of the world;  
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
One God, now and for ever.

## **Organ Voluntary 18th December**

J S Bach, Fugue above the theme of the Magnificat, BWV 733

**The floodlighting has been sponsored this week by:  
Iris Brown**

*A very Happy Christmas to everyone*

**What's happening...? See below, and check out our  
website too [www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk](http://www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk)**



## **WORSHIP AND SPIRITUALITY**

### **Christmas and Epiphany Services:**

#### **Sunday 18th December**

**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

#### **Sunday 1st January**

10.00 am Parish Communion for the Naming of Jesus

#### **Friday 6th January**

Midday, Holy Communion for the Feast of the Epiphany

3.30 – 5.30 pm Messy Epiphany – family fun activity for all ages with meal

Book at: [admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk](mailto:admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk), or turn up

#### **Sunday 8th January**

10.00am, All Age Communion service for Baptism of Christ

6.00 pm, Epiphany Carol Service

## **INFORMATION**

**Re-Ordering update:** the PCC met on 8<sup>th</sup> December to hear an update on progress from the vicar and churchwardens (the 'petitioners' in the faculty application). As part of our duty of care as trustees of the church the petitioners, acting for the PCC, had been advised by the Registry to take legal advice concerning the forthcoming consistory court. The vicar and a churchwarden had met with solicitors and invited the PCC to ratify their engagement to represent the PCC at the hearing. Following some discussion of a statement made by one of the parties opponent, a member of the PCC, the PCC voted on five proposals, as follow. All were carried with a majority and just two against or two abstentions.

1. This PCC approves the appointment of Catherine Shelley and Howard Dellar, of Lee, Bolton, Monier-Williams to prepare the case for and to represent the petitioners at the Consistory court hearing to be held in January 2016 or other date TBA.
2. This PCC approves spending of money from the Development Fund to cover the costs of proposal 1.
3. This PCC approves spending of money from the Development Fund to cover the costs of the Consistory Court.
4. This PCC ratifies the re-ordering plans as agreed in the final version of the faculty application.
5. This PCC ratifies the spending of funds from benefactors / fabric fund (including the bequest of £68,000) to cover the cost of phase 1 (recognising that grants will also be sought).

We now have a date for the consistory court: Monday 6th February, at 10 am, in this church. As a result the **APCM** will not now be in 26th February, as on the key dates sheet, but at 11.30 am on Sunday 2nd April, followed by a Lent Lunch.

## **SOCIAL and FUNDRAISING**

**Children's Society:** This year's collections raised a total of £610.40 for The Children's Society. Thanks to those who gave me their boxes or cheques. Thanks to Ben for counting all the boxes. We have now paid this in and notified the charity of our donations. Returned boxes have been re-labelled and can be found on a pew at the back of church. Next year's box opening September time. Anyone wishing a box to start their own collection please let me know. Kristina

**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

**Christmas Tree Festival:** A huge thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make it a successful weekend. We raised £1000 for Alexander Devine Children's Hospice in the voting pots and around £2500 for church funds.

**Boxing Day Ramble:** Meet at 10.30 am in the car park at Mill End (600 yards along the road to Hambleton from the junction with the Marlow/Henley Road MR: SU785854). Hope you can come along for a walk of 3.5/4 miles with a little climbing (200') to help to burn off some of those calories from Christmas Day. Afterwards, all are invited to No.5 for a simple lunch. Further details from Roger Clarke, M: 632626

**Inspire:** The new edition of Inspire magazine is now available at the back of church. A big thank you to Louisa for putting it all together and to all the contributors.

**Church office open hours:** The office will be closed the week beginning Sunday 25th December and will reopen on Tuesday 3rd January

**Pewsheets:** Please note there will be no pewsheets on Christmas Day or 1st January.

## 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 this 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.

**Music Festival . Advance Notice.** If about now you are planning your next Summer's holiday, do try not to be away between **10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> June 2017** otherwise you will miss our exciting third Music Festival – a wide variety of music for all tastes including orchestra, choirs, bands, solos, etc. More information in the New Year.

### Services, diary and rotas

**Next Sunday, 25th December**

#### **Christmas Day**

**8.00 am Holy Communion**

**10.00 am Short Christmas Day Service for families**

**10.30 am Service of Holy Communion**

President: Revd. Sally Lynch

Preacher: Revd. Sally Lynch

## The next two weeks at St. Luke's

Everyone is welcome to all of our services and activities



Tuesday 20th	8.30 am	Morning Prayer
<i>Office 9.30-11</i>	3.00 pm	Bach to Baby
	7.15 pm	Holy Communion
Wednesday 21st	8.30am	Morning Prayer
<i>Office 9.30-11</i>	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Thursday 22nd	8.30am	Morning Prayer
<i>Office closed</i>	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer
	7.00-10.00 pm	Open vicarage
Friday 23rd	8.30am	Morning Prayer
<i>Office closed</i>	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer
Saturday 24th	9.00 am	Morning Prayer
	4.00 pm	Crib Service (younger families)
	5.00 pm	Crib Service (older families)
	11.30 pm	Midnight Mass
Sunday 25th	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	10.00 am	Children's service
	10.30 am	Parish Communion

26th - 31st December

**No services at all**

Sunday 1st January	no 8.00 am service	
	10.00 am	Parish Communion
Tuesday 3rd	8.30 am	Morning Prayer
<i>Office 9.30-11</i>	7.15 pm	Holy Communion
	8.00 pm	PCC Standing committee
Wednesday 4th	8.30am	Morning Prayer
<i>Office 9.30-11</i>	10.00 am	Holy Communion
	3.00 pm	Prayer group
Thursday 5th	8.30am	Morning Prayer
<i>Office closed</i>	5.00 pm	Evening Prayer
Friday 6th	8.30am	Morning Prayer
<i>Office closed</i>	midday	Holy Communion for Epiphany
	3.30 pm	Messy Church
Saturday 7th	9.00 am	Morning Prayer
	10.00 am	Weddings meeting
		Swimarathon day
Sunday 8th	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	10.00 am	All Age Holy Communion with Baptism

## Rotas for next two weeks



### Readings for 25th December at 10.30am:

Isaiah 52. 7-10

John 1. 1-14

**Next week's rotas under Duty Warden:** Peter Goford

**Reader:** OT: Kristina Smith

**Intercessor:** Ministry team

**Elements:** Assistant Churchwardens

**Welcomers:** 8.00 am: Joan Harnby

10.00 am: Don Luff, Ann Burdett, Ben Darracott, Ann Darracott

### Readings for 1st January at 10.00am, Parish Communion

Numbers 6. 22-27

Philippians 2. 15-21

Luke 2. 15-21

**Next week's rotas under Duty Warden:** Dave Sopp

**Reader:** OT: Sue Hinchliffe

NT: Michael Masanga

**Intercessor:** Phyllis Sigsworth

**Elements:** Mary Pennington and Helen Petter

**Welcomers:** 8.00 am: Joan Harnby

10.00 am:

### Readings for 8th January at 10.00am, All Age Communion with Baptism

Matthew 3. 13 - end

**Next week's rotas under Duty Warden:** Don Luff

**Reader:** n/a

**Intercessor:** Children and Young People

**Elements:**

**Welcomers:** 8.00 am: Joan Harnby

10.00 am:

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



- Our keeping of Advent and our preparations for a holy Christmas
- The ministry and mission of this church
- Our plans to re-order the church, for funding, and wisdom in the plans and practical work and for the consistory court in February
- Our Mission Action Plan priorities and Task groups exploring them
- 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
- 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, Dave Sawyers
- Those who have died recently, and those who mourn them: Margaret Bowdery, Peter Bell

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