



St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead

www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

Church Office: 01628 622733

admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

Week commencing: 27th November 2016

Advent Sunday

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: Advent Ring 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 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 Advent Sunday are:

A Reading from The Book of Isaiah

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come

the mountain of the LORD's house

shall be established as the highest of the mountains,

and shall be raised above the hills;

all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,

'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,

to the house of the God of Jacob;

that he may teach us his ways

and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,

and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,

and shall arbitrate for many peoples;

they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,

and their spears into pruning-hooks;

nation shall not lift up sword against nation,

neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob,

come, let us walk

in the light of the LORD!

Isaiah 2. 1-5

A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew

Jesus spoke to his disciples: 'About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.'

Matthew 24. 36-44

Collect

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

Post Communion Prayer

O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service
and joyful in his praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



The floodlighting has been sponsored this week :

In memory of Eileen Rance a former Sunday School leader who also prepared Baptism anniversary cards for distribution



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

WORSHIP AND SPIRITUALITY

Stewardship Sunday: At this time of year we reflect on and re-commit ourselves to giving our time, talents and money to the ministry of God in this place. There is a personal letter for everyone to take away and prayerfully reflect on if you have not already done so. We invite you to return the form about financial giving (which helps the PCC to budget for the coming year) by 11th December. You may also like to make a one-off gift to the work of the church, particularly as a thank offering in this 150th year. Thank you for all that each of you give of yourselves to God's work. Sally

Advent and Christmas: a sheet is now available with details of all our Advent and Christmas services and activities. Contactors, there are now bundles for you to deliver to your contactees.

Messy Church: The last one this year is next Saturday 3rd December in which we think about Advent. 3.30-5pm for a time of crafts, worships and food. £1 a person.

Kindness: Do you remember Stephen Sands ? Sadly he is severely paralysed but still likes to sing . He has very few visitors as his family do not live close by . Would you like to send him a Christmas Card this year ? He has a very good memory for names and it would mean so much to him . If you are happy to do this , please contact Enid or Dick and Jan who will gladly either deliver a card for you or give you Stephen's address . This simple act of kindness is a lovely way of living faith.

INFORMATION

Re-Ordering update: following the Objections and Replies sent to the Chancellor with regard to our faculty application, the Chancellor has directed that the proceedings be heard in consistory court in church on a date after 1st January 2017. We have no further information at this time but will update as soon as we have a date and know more. Please do keep the ministry of the church in your prayers.

Rotas: Thank you to everyone who coordinates rotas for us. From January can we please set all rotas quarterly so that they run concurrently and for ease of admin. Thank you.

Inspire: The next issue of our church magazine will be out in early December and it would be fantastic to see a wide range of contributions from the congregation - thank you to those who've already given me something. Please email your articles, ideas and/or photos to inspire@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk by 9pm **this Wednesday 30th November**. If email isn't possible, I can also accept paper submissions before the deadline. Thanks very much, Louisa Ellins, Editor.

Church Cleaning: The cleaning team for the church is very low on numbers. We would welcome offers to help with dusting. Janet Trinkwon and Sally Somerville.

PCC Meeting

The PCC met on Tuesday 15th November 2016 and discussed the following matters:
The Reverend Sally Lynch thanked everyone for all their help and support during our 150th Birthday events

A report was received from Sue Hinchliffe regarding the 'Baptism Matters' presentation that she and Phyll Sopp attended.

As of next Tuesday all ten Focus planning Groups for our Mission Action Plan will have met twice and reported back. We will continue to meet – and act – in the new year.

The Treasurer produced his final General Fund forecast for the year; this forecast an end of year deficit of £3339 rather than £4794 as forecast in September. This is due mainly to a one-off Parish Share rebate from the Deanery of £1145. The stall at the Combined Charities Fair raised £340.00 for the General Fund. Our 150th Birthday events generated a surplus of £373.13.

The church boiler has been serviced and a safety cut-out switch that was recommended in the last Quinquennial Inspection was fitted. Total cost £3405, charged to the Fabric Fund. One of the three circulating pumps is broken (for chapel, choir and tower double doors radiator) replacement cost £2232 including VAT. The PCC agreed that this pump should be replaced.

Fabric Fund – Including the new pump we will have spent about £8000 on the fabric of the church in 2016, against investment income of about £3,50.

The PCC agreed the new staff payments, parish fees and lettings charges for 2017. There was nothing further to add to Re-Ordering other than what has already been published.

The date of the next Annual Parochial Church meeting will be Sunday 26th February 2017

A report was received from Dorothy Strack-Hankey our Safeguarding Officer.

The meeting also looked at and discussed a number of other matters relating to the theft of lead from churches, Stewardship Renewal, A charitable donation to the church, Littlewick Green Show, Christmas events and services.

SOCIAL and FUNDRAISING

Children's Society: Kristina Smith has taken over as box co-ordinator, and needs your box in order that the money collected can be counted and paid in. Cheques - made payable to 'The Children's Society' - are also very welcome.

Christmas Tree Festival: it's that time again... the CTF takes place from Friday 9th – Sunday 11th December. As usual we need lots of help to make it happen effectively. Please prayerfully consider what you can do... it would be great if every single church member played some part. We need...

Need	Contact	Detail
Raffle	Michelle and Tony Lane	- Good quality prizes by 4 th Dec. - Contributions to the usual Hamper
Publicity	Parish office	- Take posters for self or contacts to display - Deliver flyers - Facebook etc. to tell others - carol singing at the station Wed 7 th
Sponsor a tree	Sally Lynch / office	£25 per tree Anyone or group etc. can do it
Catering	Phyl Sopp	- Cakes, etc. to sell - sandwiches - help serving
Staffing	Sally Lynch	-Stalls over the w/e - the door - general support - around on set up and clear up days

Please contact the above or sign up on the sheets now available. Thank you.

Carol singing at the Station: We are going to be singing at Maidenhead Train Station on Wednesday 7th December, 5.00pm-7.00pm, to publicise the Christmas Tree Festival and spread some Christmas cheer. The station staff always make us very welcome. Please let the office know if you can come along sing and / or give out fliers for the festival

Facebook and Twitter users: please publicise the Christmas Tree Festival. Email the office for a poster .

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.

Church Office Vacancy: As a result of Nicola starting a new job we have a vacancy in the church office for 5 hours a week covering Thursday and Friday mornings. There is an urgent need to fill this post! If you or anyone you know is interested, please speak to Sally .

A simple act to mark Human Rights Day

Local Amnesty International supporters are marking this year's Human Rights Day on Saturday 10th December with a special Greetings Card event in Maidenhead. It's part of Amnesty's annual campaign to send messages of hope to political prisoners and others suffering persecution around the world. A range of people and groups have been selected for the campaign and local people are encouraged to sign cards at the Friends Meeting House in Maidenhead's West Street.

The doors will be open - and refreshments provided - between 10am and 2pm on the 10th. Greetings cards will be available and it's hoped that a good number of Maidenhead people will show their support and compassion at this time of year. Those signing cards will be invited to make a contribution to cover the cost of each card and stamp.

Please spread the word and support us on the day. Anyone who cannot be there on the 10th and would like to send a card can get information about the prisoners selected by Amnesty at <https://www.amnesty.org.uk/write-rights-2016>. More information from Mike Copland at mandcopland@yahoo.co.uk or on 07739 337105



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
- 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 November: Lexi Smith, Lily Morgan, Tori Patton, Harvey Patton, Arthur Ribton, Max Ostrowski-Carpenter
- Those who live and/or work in West Street
- 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: Thomas Yates, George Newman, Margaret Bowdery



**Next Sunday, 4th December
Advent Sunday**

8.00 am Holy Communion

10.00 am All Age Holy Communion

President: Revd. Sally Lynch

Preacher: Revd. Sally Lynch

6.00 pm Sundays at Six: Simple Mass with short reflections
at **All Saints Church**

Next week's readings at 10am:

Isaiah 11.1-10

Matthew 3. 1-12

Next week's rotas under Duty Warden: Peter Goford

Reader: OT: James Ellins

Intercessor: C&YP

Elements: Sue Harbour & Fran Hornby

Coffee: Bridget Morris & Sylvia Jones

Welcomers: **8.00 am:** Ann Hockham

10.00 am: Phyl Sopp, Emma Cameron, Shula Tajima
John Salter, Rita Salter

This week at St. Luke's

Everyone is welcome to all of our services and activities

Monday 28th

Tuesday 29th

8.30 am Morning Prayer

5.30 pm Community meal

Office 9.30-11

7.15 pm Holy Communion

Wednesday 30th

8.30am Morning Prayer

Office 9.30-11

10.00 am Holy Communion

Thursday 1st Dec

8.30am Morning Prayer

Office closed

5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Friday 2nd

8.30am Morning Prayer

Office closed

5.00 pm Evening Prayer

Saturday 3rd

No Morning Prayer

3.30 pm Messy Church

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