



St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead

www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

[This sheet is also available on the above website]

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Week Commencing: 11th May, Easter 4

This Sunday we have Holy Communion at 8am and then Parish Communion service at 10am, with activities for children, all are welcome.

The Collect

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ
is the resurrection and the life:
raise us, who trust in him,
from the death of sin
to the life of righteousness,
that we may seek those things which are above,
where he reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion Prayer

Merciful Father,
you gave your Son Jesus Christ
to be the good shepherd,
and in his love for us
to lay down his life and rise again:
keep us always under his protection,
and give us grace to follow in his steps;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

First Reading

36In Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. 37At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. 38Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, 'Please come to us without delay.' 39So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. 40Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, 'Tabitha, get up.' Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. 41He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. 42This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. 43Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner. *Acts 9. 26-end*

Gospel Reading

22At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, 23and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. 24So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, 'How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.' 25Jesus answered, 'I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; 26but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. 27My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. 28I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. 29What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. 30The Father and I are one.' *John 10. 22-30*

Sunday's Hymns:

P: 664 How sweet the name of Jesus sounds
G: 724 Loving shepherd of thy sheep
O: 493 Hope of our calling (tune 394)
HC: 785 Such love
R: 422 Alleluia, sing to Jesus

**Thought for the week:**

Sunday is known as Good Shepherd Sunday when the gospel treading reminds us of Jesus the Good Shepherd. A powerful image, one of the oldest known paintings of Jesus depicts him as the Good Shepherd. Shepherds at the time of Jesus tended their flocks with great care – their sheep were everything – their food and clothing and livelihood. They may even have been breeding sheep for temple sacrifices.

At night they herded the flock into the pen, separating our sheep and goats, if necessary, and then the shepherd laid down in the opening, forming a human gate to protect their beloved flock. They fought off wolves and thieves. They knew each one of their sheep – perhaps by number or even by nickname – black socks, lippy, pinkeye...

These 'good' shepherds cared for their flocks completely – their animals were an extension of themselves – a bit like our domestic dogs or cats today.

And the flocks knew their own shepherd's voice, his particular call. They knew their whistles, the sound of their own shepherds flute. The flock knew that they were safe with their shepherd. Flock and shepherd loved in a mutual bond of dependency and trust. They were bound to each other.

As Jesus' disciples today we are both sheep AND shepherds. We too have been changed by the Good Shepherd and called to follow his example, to feed his sheep. We are called to ministry as individuals and as church, to participate in the work of God. To see what God is doing in the world, and to join in.

Sunday is also vocations Sunday when the church focusses particularly on encouraging people to hear God's call to ordained and licensed ministry but it is also a good time for all of us to consider afresh what tune the Good Shepherd is playing for each of us. Through formal ministry perhaps (don't shut that idea out) or maybe by working as a Street Pastor, arranging flowers in church, helping Foodshare, serving as PCC secretary, becoming a teacher, TA, carer... God's list is endless, his flock is huge and diverse.

To what is the Good Shepherd calling you?

Prayer suggestions for this week:

- Our sisters and brothers in the Roman Catholic church, and for the Conclave as they meet.
- That we may live as Easter people and bring hope to those around us.
- For our PCC and church officers, and for those planning to cover the forthcoming interregnum.
- For our Church leaders and those selecting a new Archbishop of Canterbury
- For Bishop Mary Gregory, our new Bishop of Reading.
- For survivors of abuse and those who support them.
- For peace in Ukraine and Russia, between Israel and Hamas, in Armenia and Ethiopia.
- For all those who live and work in Marlow Road
- For Pandora Thompson baptised recently.
- For all those whose anniversary of baptism falls in May: Tajus Ramanauskas, Amanda Simana, Jaxson Williams

- The sick and their carers : Monica Olley, Valerie Bosley, Bridget Morris, Emily Buckwell, Jacqueline Lewis, Angela Baldwin, Baby Keeon, Aram Hakobian, Joan Lynch, Alicia Little, Mandy Salter, Mair Bright, Tina Botting, Ralph Hinchliffe, Paul Bader, Colette Baxter.
- Those who have died recently, and those who mourn them: Barbara Sharp
- Those whose anniversary of death falls in May: Glyn Jackson, Michael Poynter, Edwina Richardson, Ivy Trillow, Brian Webb, Michael Curley, Joyce Turpie, Beryl Eaton.

Readings for Morning Prayer for the week beginning Sunday 11th May 2025:

Sunday	Psalm 146	1 Kings 17. 17-end	Luke 24. 36-49
Monday	Psalm 103	Deuteronomy 9. 1-21	Ephesians 4. 1-16
Tuesday	Psalm 139	Deuteronomy 9.23 - 10.5	Ephesians 4.17-end
Wednesday	Ps 16, 147. 1-12	1 Samuel 2.27 -35	Acts 2. 37 -end
Thursday	Psalm 118	Deuteronomy 11.8 -end	Ephesians 5. 15 -end
Friday	Psalm 33	Deuteronomy 12. 1-14	Ephesians 6. 1-9
Saturday	Psalm 34	Deuteronomy 15. 1-18	Ephesians 6. 10-end

Rotas for next week

Sunday 18th May Easter 4: Parish Communion

Read: Barbara Essam Intercede: Edgar Hakobyan Chalice: Don L Sound: Simon
 Welcomers: Michael, Ben, Lucy Coffee: Kim and Gill Children: Bev

Our church is floodlit at night.

This week the church floodlighting has been sponsored by Jean Jackson.

"In memory of my beloved Glyn and Elwyn"



To sponsor the floodlighting please fill in the form at the back of church or email:
admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

It is suggested the minimum donation for weekly sponsorship is £15.

What's on.... This week:

Sunday 11 th	8.00 am, Holy Communion 10.00 am, Parish Communion 3.00 pm, Baptism Anniversary Party
Tuesday 13 th	8.30 am, Morning prayer on zoom
Wednesday 14 th	8.30 am, Morning prayer on zoom 10.00am, Holy Communion 8.00pm, Bible Study
Thursday 15 th	8.30 am, Morning prayer on zoom 9.30 am, Baby and Toddler Group 3.00 pm, Keeping Company 7.00 pm, WAMCF Dialogue at Thames Hospice
Friday 16 th	8.30 am, Morning prayer on zoom 5.00 pm, Evening Prayer
Saturday 17 th	9.00 am, Morning Prayer Quiet Day

Sunday 18th 10.00 am, Parish Communion
 6.00 pm, Choral Evensong

Sundays at Six: All Services are at 6.00pm Zoom link: use Sunday morning or as specified above

18 th May	Choral Sung Evensong, at St. Luke's
1 st June	Desert Island Hymns and Readings, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green
15 th Jun	International Taizé service, at St. Luke's
6 th July	Evensong and Benediction, at All Saints
13 th July	NB changed date Prayer walk on Ray Mill Island

'Not the Summer Fair' day

This Sunday, 11th May, is the day when we invite donations to the ministry of the church in lieu of holding a summer fair.

If you would like to make a donation please do so in an envelope of cash or cheque marked 'Summer Fair' or by card or bacs with the same reference.

Thank you.

Messy Church. Messy Church dates for 2025 are as follows: 6th June, 4th July, 5th September, 3rd October, 7th November, 28th November

Church Calendar for the Spring (apart from regular activities)

Saturday 10 th May	Church breakfast, speaker Revd. Sally: My life and my faith
Sunday 11 th May	Baptism anniversary party (help requested)
Sunday 11 th May	Not the Summer Fair day!
Thursday 15 th May	WAMCF dialogue
Saturday 17 th May	Quiet Day, St. Michael's convent, Gerrards Cross
Saturday 28 th June	Garden Party
Sunday 20 th July	Revd. Sally's Thanksgiving service

Pastoral Roll

As well as the formal Electoral Roll, the church has a Pastoral Roll – a list of people, who have asked to be kept in touch with the church and who each have an assigned contactor. We have just reviewed the roll with some contactors leaving and a couple of others joining the pastoral team. Over the next few weeks your contact will make contact either by email or phone or just a word in church so that you know who they are. That person is your first port of call if you have any need or just to stay in touch with church. If no one makes contact please do call Ruth in the office or Revd. Sally who can let you know who your contactor is.

Coming up...

Bible Study: a study of the book of Genesis, Wednesday evenings at 8pm in church, started 7th May.

Church Breakfast: Saturday 10th May, 8.45 am in church. Revd Sally will talk about: My life and my faith. Tickets £5, available now.

Baptism Anniversary service and tea party: Sunday 11th May, 3pm. ALL are welcome and to come celebrate baptism. Just let the office know if you are coming so we can cater well.

Quiet day: Saturday 17th May, 10 am – 3pm, St. Michael's convent, Gerrards Cross. £10pp. Bring your own lunch. Please sign up in church, we will arrange shared transport.

WAMCF Dialogue: Thursday 15th May, 7pm, Thames Hospice – see flyer below.

Garden Party: Saturday 28th June, 3pm in the vicarage garden. Tickets £15 pp, to come.

Revd. Sally's final services..

Revd. Sally leaves the parish at the end of July. She would like the final Eucharist on Sunday 27th to be a time for current church family and invites us to the vicarage garden for a bring and share picnic afterwards.

Everyone is warmly invited to a **Thanksgiving service on Sunday 20th July at 3pm in church.** This will be a simple service of Evening Prayer and will be followed by afternoon tea. A number of other guests will also be invited, recognising those wider links that Sally has developed during her time here. To assist with catering and places please book your place by signing up on the list in church.

... and the vacancy process...

- The vacancy start date is not triggered until at least Revd. Sally's formal retirement date (7th August).
- A number of people will support the parish and be involved in the process of appointment of a new vicar: Bishop Mary, the Archdeacon, Area Dean and Rhodri Bowen, our Area Parish Development Adviser. Rhodri joined us for our PCC planning morning recently.
- It will be important to make space for prayer and discernment, and to keep in touch with other 'agencies' such as our school and WAMCF.
- It may be 9-12 months before a new vicar is appointed. In this time the vicarage will likely be let for 6 months (this is an important source of diocesan income).
- The process starts with a meeting of the PCC with the Archdeacon called a Section 11 meeting. There are some legal things that must be done and most importantly the PCC elects two parish reps who will work with the diocesan officers on selecting a new vicar. Usually this is the churchwardens.
- It is really important that the reps and PCC listen to what all stakeholders have to say about where they feel God is leading the church for the future.
- After the Section 11 meeting and the listening, then the PCC (led by the wardens /reps) will draw up a Parish Profile which is a summary of the life and worship of the church and its wider parish. These days this is usually a powerpoint document that can be read online.
- When the Profile is ready the Archdeacon will hold a Section 12 meeting and invite the PCC, at which the Profile will be accepted and the advert and interview process will be agreed.

Our Regular activities:

The 8.00 Holy Communion service will continue to be monthly, on the 2nd Sunday.

Midweek Holy Communion is at 10 am weekly, followed by coffee

Baby and Toddler group meets on Thursdays, 9.30 – 11.00 am term time only. We meet in church.

Messy Church continues on the first (usually) Friday, monthly, 4-5.30pm. Next is 2nd May 2025
admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk to book a place.

Pram Service is a monthly simple service of songs and story for ages 0-4 and their carers. Followed by

coffee for adults, snack and crafts for little ones. Second Friday, 9.30am- 10.30am. Next one 9th May **Keeping Company** is our monthly meeting for those bereaved (at any time). Third Thursday at 3pm, in church.

Thursday Teas meets in the community hall offering tea, cake and conversation. Second Thursdays monthly, 1.30 pm.

Thursday Lunches meets fourth Thursday of the month, usually at the Toby Cavery but please contact Jean Tyrwhitt-Drake on Jeant-d2@outlook.com for further details.

Gaynor's Gift is a prayer shawl knitting ministry that anyone can take part in at home. We meet together monthly to pray, knit and drink tea. 4th Thursdays monthly.

Please note that for Zoom services the links below are being used:

Sunday Morning Worship:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87358197400?pwd=MTFxVINad1R6NEl6cVZ6TVJ5bGlzd09>

Meeting ID: 873 5819 7400

Passcode: 526076


Zoom Morning Prayer at 8.30 am Tuesday – Friday, 9 am Saturday

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81459090925?pwd=Y2hKZkFYZ04zbGZBd1BHcmllldU5Hdz09>

Meeting ID: 814 5909 0925

Passcode: 180609

Scroll down for flyers...



WAMCF Spring Dialogue
Thursday 15th May 2025

What do you find most meaningful in your life?

Join us to explore this topic

7pm – 8.30pm (followed by refreshments)
Thames Hospice, Windsor Road,
Maidenhead, SL6 2DN
Free Admission



**Saying Goodbye
Remembrance Service
Oxfordshire**

CHRIST CHURCH
CATHEDRAL OXFORD

17TH OF MAY, 2025 - 1PM

A SERVICE FOR ANYONE WHO HAS
LOST A BABY IN PREGNANCY, AT BIRTH
OR IN EARLY YEARS, WHETHER THE
LOSS WAS YESTERDAY OR 80 YEARS
AGO. THIS EVENT IS ALSO FOR THOSE
GRIEVING THAT THEY HAVE NEVER
BEEN ABLE TO HAVE A CHILD.

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