



St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead

www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

[This sheet is also available on the above website]

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Week Commencing: 12th January, the Baptism of Christ

This Sunday we have a Service of Holy Communion at 8am and at 10am when there will be activities for children. Everyone is very warmly invited to worship with us.

The Collect

Eternal Father,
who at the baptism of Jesus
revealed him to be your Son,
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:
grant to us, who are born again
by water and the Spirit,
that we may be faithful to our calling
as your adopted children;
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.

Post Communion Prayer

Lord of all time and eternity,
you opened the heavens
and revealed yourself as Father
in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son:
by the power of your Spirit
complete the heavenly work of our rebirth
through the waters of the new creation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

First Reading

¹⁴When the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶(for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Acts 8. 14-17

Gospel Reading

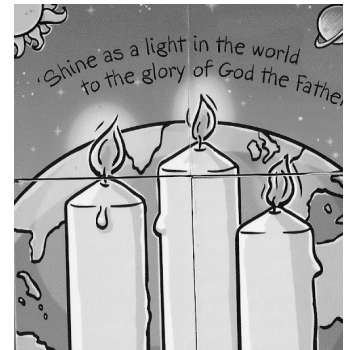
(In the wilderness John proclaimed a baptism of repentance.) ¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

Luke 3. 15-17, 21-22

Sunday's Hymns:

P: 46 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
G: 330 Do not be afraid
O: 238(i) Come down, O Love divine
R: 99 Hail to the Lord's anointed



Thought for the week:

Today we remember the story of Jesus' baptism, and as we do so we might also think of our own – whether we can remember it or not. At your baptism you were signed with the cross of Christ and marked out as his follower; you may have been anointed with oil, a symbol of God's blessing. You will have had water poured three times over your head, in the name of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Water cleanses us and keeps us alive. It is the bare essential in life. And so is Jesus. You may have been given a candle as a symbol of the light in which you walk – guided by the Holy Spirit – the fire of God.

We like the dove image; it is gentle and undemanding. Perhaps we might embrace more whole heartedly the fire of the Holy Spirit and the imperative to cleanse, purify, enliven the world. At baptism each of us became – free and gratis - a member of the biggest family on earth – the church of God, the body of Christ now. The church is not perfect – it is full of human beings. But it is – or it should be – a community of love which has a responsibility to pray for and care for both members and those outside. As we face another year – with all its uncertainties - let's reach into our souls for the fire of God's Spirit and through Him make a difference to our community, to our world.

Prayer suggestions for this week:

- For a healthy and peaceful New Year.
- For the Alpha team and participants.
- The Revd. Canon Mary Gregory, as she prepares to become Bishop of Reading (and the Revd Canon Dave Bull who will be the Bishop of Buckingham).
- For the people of the whole Middle East, for an end to the violence there.
- For our sisters and brothers in the Jewish and Muslim communities of our own town.
- For peace in Ukraine and Russia, and of Sudan, and also in Armenia and Ethiopia.
- For all those who live and work in Hungerford Drive.
- For Isabel Nixon, Keeon Obianwu and Cole Brooks who were all baptised in December
- For all those whose anniversary of baptism falls in January: Otilie Beresford Jones, Grace Mondal, Ryan Westbury, Ritchie Westbury, Jonas Lanyon, Sebastian Lanyon, Arthur Smith.
- The sick and their carers : Monica Olley, Valerie Bosley, Bridget Morris, Emily Buckwell, Jacqueline Lewis, Angela Baldwin, Baby Keeon, Aram Hakobian, Faith Powley, Alicia Little
- Those who have died recently, and those who mourn them: Bill Bowyer
- Those whose anniversary of death falls in January: Clifford Collier, David Bateman, Peter Joyce, Roger Martin, Alice Wellman, Ann Hancock, Charles Woodman, Julie Brazenor, Florence Hampton, Derek Jones, Eileen Gulrayani, Edward Hylton Jones, Dawn Crampin, Nora Searle, Michael Marriner, Christine Bowyer, Phyllis Boshier, Trevor Tilbury, Tony Boaks, Dorothy Nicks, Florence Woodruff, Joey Colton.

A prayer for the start of the year: Lord God, as you led the magi by the star and showed the world your light, please help us to allow your light to shine in our hearts and to set them on fire with love for you. Amen

Readings for Morning Prayer for the week beginning Sunday 12th January 2025:

Sunday	Psalm 89. 19-29	Isaiah 42.1-9	Acts 19.1-7
Monday	Psalm 2	Amos 1	1 Cor. 1.1-17
Tuesday	Psalm 9	Amos 2	1 Cor. 1.18-end
Wednesday	Psalm 20	Amos 3	1 Cor. 2
Thursday	Psalm 21	Amos 4	1 Cor. 3
Friday	Psalm 67	Amos 5	1 Cor. 4
Saturday	Psalm 33	Amos 5.18-end	1 Cor. 5

Rotas for next week

Sunday 19th January: Parish Communion

Read: Don Luff Intercede: Jamie Harle Chalice: Eleanor Kershaw Sound: Dave
 Welcomers: Rachel, Jeanette, Fiona Coffee: Carl and Helen

Our church is floodlit at night.

The flood lighting has been sponsored this week by Howard and Colette Baxter:

*Special prayers for the recovery of Sam Bajallan,
 undergoing cancer treatment.*



To sponsor the floodlighting please fill in the form at the back of church or email:

admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

Given rising fuel prices, it is suggested the minimum donation for weekly sponsorship is now £15.

There are lots of weeks available.

What's on.... This week:

Sunday 19 th	10.00 am, Parish Communion 6.00 pm, Sundays at Six: Night Prayer with reflection, led by the Church of the Good Shepherd
Tuesday 21 st	8.30 am, Morning prayer on zoom
Wednesday 22 nd	8.30 am, Morning prayer on zoom 10.00 am, Holy Communion
Thursday 23 rd	8.30 am, Morning prayer on zoom 9.30 am, Baby and Toddler Group 3.00 pm, Gaynor's Gift (prayer shawl knitting)
Friday 24 th	8.30 am, Morning prayer on zoom 5.00pm, Evening prayer on zoom
Saturday 25 th	9.00 am, Morning prayer on zoom
Sunday 26 th	10.00 am, Parish Communion

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

19 th January	Night Prayer with reflection, on zoom, led by the Church of the Good Shepherd
2 nd February	Taizé service for Candlemas, at St Luke's
16 th February	Evensong and Benediction, at All Saints
2 nd March	Eucharist for St. David, at All Saints
16 th March	Iona service with reflection, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green
6 th April	Stations of the Cross, at All Saints

13 th April	Taize service, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green
4 th May	Eucharist of Wholeness and Healing, at All Saints
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 June	International Taizé service, at St. Luke's
6 th July	Evensong and Benediction, at All Saints
20 th July	Prayer walk on Ray Mill Island

Messy Church. Messy Church dates for 2025 are as follows: 7th February, 7th March, 4th April, 2nd May, 6th June, 4th July, 5th September, 3rd October, 7th November, 28th November

Electoral Roll 2025: 6 year complete update:

Every six years we have to draw up an entirely new Roll and this is one of those years. **Everyone who wishes to be on the Roll must fill in a fresh application form and return it by Friday 5th February** at the latest. You need to be on the Electoral Roll if you wish to vote at the Annual Parish Meeting (Sunday 2nd March this year) or to be considered for the PCC or Deanery Synod.

Ruth Humphreys is our Electoral Roll Officer (i.e. it is maintained by the parish Office).

All those who are currently on the Roll should have received an email inviting them to re-apply for the Roll. There is an electronic copy of the form attached to this week's sheet. Alternatively blank forms can be found at the back of the church. Either form should be returned to the Office please – electronically or via the pigeon hole outside the office.

Anyone can apply to be on the Roll – provided they live in the parish or have been attending this church regularly for at least 6 months

The new Electoral Roll which will be on display from 14th February onwards when you can check that your entry is correct. Please contact Ruth (Parish office) with any queries.

Children's Society boxes 'thank you': Huge thanks to our kind and generous Children's Society box holders who last year raised £268.00. These funds will support the charity as it fights for the hope and happiness of children and young people wherever threatened by abuse, exploitation or neglect.

We are looking for a coordinator for our Children's Society house boxes. This is a simple but important task. If you would like to volunteer or find out more, please speak with Terrie. Also speak to Terrie if you would like to become a Children's Society box holder.

WAMCF Ladies group: our next interfaith ladies meeting is from 7.30 – 9.00 pm on Tuesday 28th January here at St. Luke's. our speaker will be T/Superintendent Louise Warbrick about women in Policing today.

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 7th February 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 10th Jan.

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. Next is 25th January 2025

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=Y2hKZkFYZ04zbGZBd1BHcmllU5Hdz09>

Meeting ID: 814 5909 0925

Passcode: 180609