St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead



www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk [This sheet is also available on the above website] Church Office: 01628 622733

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Week Commencing: 12th May, the Sunday after Ascension Day

This week we have a 8.00am Holy Communion and a 10.00am Parish Communion. All are warmly invited to worship. There will be an activity available for children during the latter service.

The Collect

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God, giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom: confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

First Reading

¹⁵In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred and twenty people). He said, ¹⁶'Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus – ¹⁷for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry. ²¹So one of the men who have accompanied us throughout the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us – one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.' ²³So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴Then they prayed and said, 'Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.' ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

Acts 1.15-17, 21-26

Gospel Reading

Jesus looked up to heaven and prayed: 6'Father, I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. 7Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; 8for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. 9I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. 10All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. 11And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me,

so that they may be one, as we are one. ¹²While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.' *John 17.6-19*

Sunday's Hymns:

422	Alleluia sing to Jesus
232	The head that once was crowned with thorns
223	All hail the power of Jesu's name
(736	Name of all majesty)
227	Crown him with many crowns

Thought for the week

Prayer forms a theme in today's readings.

In Acts we read that the disciples prayed for wisdom as they sought a replacement for Judas. Earlier in that chapter Luke writes: 'all these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer'.

John chapter 17 is often called Jesus' high priestly prayer as he prays for his disciples and for the world – interceding on their behalf.

The readings from Acts and John include the last words of Jesus to his disciples (pre and post crucifixion). They both stress the importance of prayer, especially in the face of uncertainty and hostility. In Acts, devotion to prayer prepares Jesus' followers for the promised Spirit of Pentecost. In the Gospel, being caught up in the living prayer of Jesus only strengthens their unity with him and one another.



Jesus' teaching after the Last Supper, culminating in this prayer for the disciples, presents Jesus' whole life as an offering, one that will be completed (finished) with his death on the cross. The Gospel asserts that this is Jesus' glorification, rather than what it might appear to be: the ultimate humiliation of someone cast out of society, and strung up as a public spectacle. When the world has done its worst it cannot triumph over God's love, as the risen Jesus proves.

That is a message that the world needs to hear today too.

The obvious thing for the disciples to do in Acts 1 is to come together in prayer - after recovering from the 'double whammy' of seeing the end of all hope in the crucifixion, and then the realisation that Jesus is risen. Their question to the risen Christ before his ascension mirrors the questions of the disciples after the Last Supper in John's Gospel. But instead of giving a reply about the end of time, Jesus points to their empowerment for an immediate new task.

We too today can find that we worry too much about times and places, what might happen and what might not, rather than rejoicing in the presence of the Spirit, who can make us effective witnesses, and rooting our expectation in prayer.

This week we have celebrated Jesus' return to the glory of his father in heaven in order that his Spirit might come to all people for all time. The humiliation of the cross becomes ultimate glory – available for all through prayer.

At this time of all times our world, our nation, our church needs prayer – committed listening to God and seeking help to act through his Spirit. It would be really good for each of us to rise to that challenge afresh.

Prayer suggestions for this week:

- For our new PCC, that members may lead well.
- For a renewed commitment to the ministry and mission of all church members, and to prayer for the church, the world, and all people.
- For those who are living on the breadline and on our streets, for shelter and support.
- For the people of Israel and Palestine, for an end to the violence there and for strength for all those who are suffering loss and fear.
- For our sisters and brothers in the Jewish and Muslim communities of our own town.
- For the King and the Princess of Wales as they are treated for cancer
- For peace in Ukraine and Russia, and of Sudan, and also in Armenia and Ethiopia.
- For our ministry with children and families.
- For a new church music leader.
- For all those whose anniversary of baptism falls in May: Elise Rutland, Harry Portsmouth, Daisy Stevens, Travis Romero, Tajus Ramanauskas, Amanda Simana, Jaxson Williams.
- For all those who live and work in the Denmark street.
- The sick and their carers: Monica Olley, Ann Hockham, Valerie Bosley, Pat Botting, Phyllis Sigsworth, Iris Brown, Lorraine, Ken Young, Olu Rowe, Bridget Morris, Albert Murray, Lucy Young, Pat Brooks.
- Those who have died recently, and those who mourn them.
- Those whose anniversary of death falls in May: John Wells, Kathleen Heskith, Bernard (Vic) Kellerman, Geoffrey Thrift, William Mayers, Helen Bailey, Michael Poynter, Patricia Kealey, Robert Ashby, Priscilla Evans, Edwina Richardson, David Trinkwon, Ivy Trillow, Brian Webb, Michael Curley, Joyce Turpie.

Readings for Morning Prayer for the week beginning Sunday 12th May 2024:

Psalm 76	Deuteronomy 26	John 14.1-14
Psalm 93	Numbers 22.1-35	Luke 7.36-end
Psalm 71	Judges 8.32-9.24	Hebews 8
Psalm 29	Numbers 23.13-end	Luke 8.16-25
Psalm 24	Numbers 24	Luke 8.26-39
Psalm 28	Numbers 27.12-end	Luke 8.40-end
Psalm 43	Numbers 32.1-27	Luke 9.1-17
	Psalm 93 Psalm 71 Psalm 29 Psalm 24 Psalm 28	Psalm 93 Numbers 22.1-35 Psalm 71 Judges 8.32-9.24 Psalm 29 Numbers 23.13-end Psalm 24 Numbers 24 Psalm 28 Numbers 27.12-end

Rotas for next week Sunday 19th May: Parish Communion, Pentecost

Read: Richard Burdett Intercede: Jeanette Lock

Welcomers: Rachel, Shula and Anne Chalice: Nicola

Coffee: Kate and Jenny

Our church is floodlit at night.

This week the flood lighting has been sponsored Reverend Sally Lynch To commemorate the 40th anniversary of death my father, John Crampin

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 12th 8.00am, Holy Communion

10.00am, Parish Communion

Tuesday 14th 8.30am, Morning prayer on zoom Wednesday 15th 8.30am, Morning prayer on zoom

10.00am, Holy Communion 8.00pm, Bible study, in Church

Thursday 16th 8.30am, Morning prayer, on zoom

9.30am, Baby and Toddler group

3.00pm, Keeping Company

8.00pm, Deanery Synod, in Church

Friday 17th 8.30am, Morning prayer on zoom

5.00pm, Evening prayer on zoom

Saturday 18th 8.45am-10.30am, Breakfast and Talk, in Church Sunday 19th 10.00am, Parish Communion

11.30am-3.00pm, Churchyard community project, see details below

6.00pm, Sung Compline, in Church

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

19th May	Sung Compline, at St. Luke's
2 nd June	Eucharist of wholeness and healing, at All Saints
16 th June	International Taizé service, at St. Luke's
7 th July	Evensong and Benediction, at All Saints
21 st July	Prayer walk on Ray Mill Island, led by St. Luke's

Coming up...

Churchyard Community Project: NB NOW Sunday 19th May, 11.30 am - 3.00 pm.

We have been granted some funding from Partners for Heathrow to work in partnership with Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust on a community project on our churchyard. We will be roping off an area to create some wildlife areas, planting and other aspects of care for creation. Please do come along on 12th May to help make a start. Bring a packed lunch with you, drinks provided.

Our next Church Breakfast... is on Saturday 18th May. Jacqueline Lewis will speak about the charity Children Reachout Uganda, following the usual delicious breakfast. Doors open 8.45 am, tickets £5 pp, now available after services or from the parish office.

WAMCF women meeting, Tuesday 21st May. 7.30 pm – 9.00 pm at St, Edmund Campion church. See details below.

Corpus Christi. On Thursday 30th May at 7:30pm, All Saints, Boyn Hill and the Benefice of New Windsor are teaming up to celebrate Corpus Christi at St. Stephen and St. Agnes Church, Windsor. Please see poster below for further details.

Foster care with the Royal Borough. Monday 13 May marks the start of Foster Care Fortnight. In the Royal Borough, we'll be launching on Monday an important campaign to help increase the number of inhouse foster carers with the Royal Borough – people who every day make a difference for local children and young people in our communities. We need more people from all walks of life to look after a range of local children and young people in the short- or longer-term, including teenagers, sibling groups and children with a disability, who for different reasons cannot live with their parents. Providing a secure, stable and supportive home for a child or young person is a valuable and rewarding paid role. We welcome enquiries from anyone aged 21 or over, regardless of income, employment status, gender, sexuality, religion, whether or not you have pets, own your home or rent. In return, we offer our foster carers excellent support, training and benefits. Please see poster below.

Confirmation

There will be a Deanery confirmation on the evening of Wednesday 17th July. If you are interested in being confirmed (or would like to know more about confirmation – making our baptismal promises for ourselves) please speak to Revd. Sally.

Holy Communion Before Confirmation: our church has a policy for the admission of children to communion before confirmation, with preparation. We have not put this into practice for some time and are keen to do so. The initial plan is to have two short sessions after the All Age Holy Communion services in June and July and a party in the summer with a view to admission on 1st September (AAHC). If you know of children who might be interested please speak to Revd. Sally.

Messy Church our Messy church dates are as follows: 7th June, 5th July, 6th September, 4th October, 1st November, 29th November

Bible study: our journey exploring together Matthew's gospel continues again soon. All warmly invited from 8-9pm, in church. Wednesdays 15th May, 5th, 19th June, 3rd, 10th, 24th July.

On the **18**th **May at 1pm, in Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford,** the Mariposa Trust will be hosting one of their Saying Goodbye Services for anyone who has either personally lost a baby at any stage of pregnancy, at birth, or in early years, or who has been affected by family members' or friends' loss. Whether the loss was recent or 80 years ago, everyone is welcome to attend. To read more on the charity, please see the Saying Goodbye website, which you can find at: www.sayinggoodbye.org

Looking further ahead:

Save the dates....

Sunday 23rd June: Not the Summer Fair day (donations and possibly shared lunch)

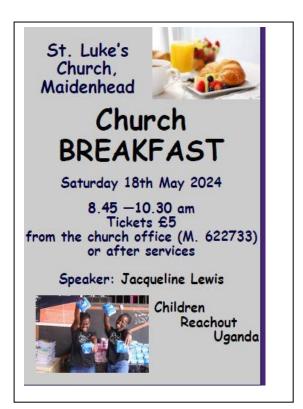
Saturday 7th September: Garden Party

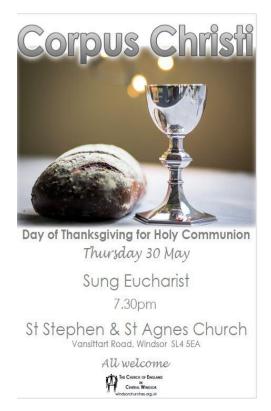
Friday 13^{th/} Sat 14th September: Heritage weekend

Sunday 20th October afternoon: the Johanna Raffan Memorial Lecture.

20th - 25th August: Summer Holiday Arts project for all ages.









Wider Community: Those supporting refugess and assylum seekers have had an urgent request for furniture. A lovely young Iranian brother and sister refugees have managed to get unfurnished accommodation in Slough. They need beds bedding dining table and chairs a sofa and a rug. If anyojne is able to help please contact Jeantte Lock or Revd. Sally.

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 June 2024 admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk to book a place.

Keeping Company is our monthly meeting for those bereaved (at any time). Third Thursday at 3pm, in church. The next is 16th May

Thursday Teas meets in the community hall offering tea, cake and conversation. Second Thursdays monthly. Next is 13th June

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 23rd May

Please note that for all Zoom services the links below are being used: Sunday Morning Worship:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87358197400?pwd=MTFxVINad1R6NEl6cVZ6TVJ5bGlzdz09

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=Y2hKZkFYZ04zbGZBd1BHcmlldU5Hdz09

Meeting ID: 814 5909 0925 Passcode: 180609 **Zoom Evening Prayer** at 5pm on Fridays (except first Friday)

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85378796960?pwd=dUNTTnRZVFJBY2xiS3QyVHIYZ1BaZz09 Meeting ID: 853 7879

6960 Passcode: 386635