**St. Luke’s Church, Maidenhead**



www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

[This sheet is also available on the above website]

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 **Week commencing: 22nd March 2020**

**Mothering Sunday**

Welcome to our new look weekly sheet.

Each week we will send you a Saturday update with a Worship section, and a news section.

We may also be sending mid-week updates as appropriate, particularly at the start of this time of massive change to our everyday lives.

If you know of someone who would like to receive this update and does not have access to the internet, please do print a copy for them.

Likewise, if you know of anyone who would like to receive this by email, please ask them to email the office (above) to be added to the mailing list.

**Online worship available this Sunday:**

There are many online resources and churches streaming their services (see later for our own response).

In particular we would today flag up:

* 8.00 am on BBC Radio Berkshire, Archbishop Justin will broadcast a virtual service: ‘The Church of England said the service has been recorded in the crypt chapel at Lambeth Palace in London and includes prayers, hymns and a short sermon’.
* 10.00 am Bishop Steven will preside at the Eucharist this Sunday and offer a brief reflection to the whole Diocese from Christ Church at 10 am. In keeping with the restrictions, only a handful of people will be able to be present.

Prayer requests

Please email subdean@chch.ox.ac.uk for all prayer requests. Anything sent before Sunday morning will be included in Sunday prayers or prayed for at the Cathedral during the week.

Go to: <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/coronavirus-covid-19/livestream/> for the link

**Worship resources for home use:**

Roots on the web produces some really good materials – we already use some of these with our children but the adult ones are great to.

You can access these at:

[www.rootsontheweb.com/adultsathome22mar](http://www.rootsontheweb.com/adultsathome22mar) for adults

and

[www.rootsontheweb.com/familiesathome22mar](http://www.rootsontheweb.com/familiesathome22mar) for families

please do try these resources – the family ones are fabulous and for the adult ones might encourage you to try something new!

The Church of England is also developing resources that can be accessed through the website: <https://www.churchofengland.org/> (you can also watch Archbishop Justin here).

There are many other resources that we will introduce you to move the next weeks – we don’t want to go for overload now.

**Reflection for the week:**

Please find attached an emailed reflection that I prepared for Mothering Sunday some years ago, with slight updates (you’ll get new ones from next week when I have more time, let’s call this one ‘previously enjoyed’!!)

**Light a Candle of Hope**

Please do join in the national call to prayer tomorrow and at 7pm light a candle in your window as a sign of hope for the world.

(the Archbishops have worried the London Fire Service by this call for lighted candles so please do be very careful. An LED candle is just as good).

You might like to use this prayer:

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy
in this time of uncertainty and distress.
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may rejoice in your comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord.
**Amen**

**Today’s worship from St. Luke’s Church**

This morning Revd. Sally and Phyl will conduct a service of Holy Communion which will be filmed and available for you to watch and participate in at your leisure from add

We will use the readings and collect for Lent IV and the hymns for Mothering Sunday.

You will find attached to this email a copy of both the Communion service (to follow) and the Mothering Sunday service (to use in your own way). We will use the Mothering Sunday readings with the Lent Holy Communion service. We will be blessing flowers during the service which we will deliver to as many of our ‘older’ members as we are able – watch your doorsteps and if you hear the bell ring and find no-one there – look down!

We will include a church hymn book with the flowers. If you do not receive flowers and would like a hymn book you are welcome to collect one from church or ask for delivery!

***The Readings for Mothering Sunday***

**A Reading from the First Book of Samuel**

In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, ‘I have asked him of the Lord.’

The man Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the Lord the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow. But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her

husband, ‘As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the Lord, and remain there for ever; I will offer him as a

nazirite for all time.’ Her husband Elkanah said to her, ‘Do what seems best to you, wait until you have weaned him; only—may the Lord establish his word.’ So the woman remained and nursed her son, until she weaned him. When she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine. She brought him to the house of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was young. Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. And she said, ‘Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the Lord. For this child I prayed; and the Lord has granted me the petition that I made to him. Therefore I have lent him to the Lord; as long as he lives, he is given to the Lord.’ She left him there for the Lord. *Samuel 1.2-end*

**A Reading from the Gospel of John**

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, ‘Woman, here is your son.’ Then he said to the disciple, ‘Here is your mother.’ And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home. *John 3.1-17*

***The Collect is:***

God of compassion,

whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,

shared the life of a home in Nazareth,

and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself:

strengthen us in our daily living

that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence

to bind together and to heal;

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. Amen

***Links to today’s hymns: (right click and ‘open hyperlink’)***

CP 505 Lord Jesus Christ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QA_g98O42Q4>

CP 393 Brother, sister, let me serve you <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qblqtb4jzL8>

O God you search me and you know me <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mEGc3_D19Vo>

God, you hold me like a mother

Let us build a house <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gKJgcv8SdnQ>

***Prayer suggestions for this week:***

· For all those currently affected by the coronavirus outbreak and for a calm response, and for those who are now self isolating

· For a fruitful Lent, that we may all recognise God’s mercy to us, and in this challenging time find peace

· For the most vulnerable in our society

· For all NHS and medical staff

· For ALL leaders who have difficult decisions to make

· For all in prison, finding life very tough with all visiting stopped

· For our schools in this uncertain time

· Those whose anniversary of baptism fall in March: Henry Weber,

 Olivia Carter, and Robyn Nash

·  For all those who live and work in Cherwell Close

· The sick and those who care for them: Stephen Sands, John Francis,

 Pat Lovering, Tony Lucas, and Revd Richard Holroyd

· Those who died recently, and those who mourn them: Joan Bartholomew, Win Reynolds, Elaine Williams, Harvey Lovegrove, Francis (Jack) Garnett

· Those whose anniversary of death falls in March: Lillian Vizard,

 Edgar Walford, Anthony Wright, Anna Meredith, Rex Hugo,

 Audry Eggleton, Arthur Harris, Brian King, Sandy Raffan, Ernest Gammon,

 Marjery Lawson, Dora Newcombe, Ellen Ritson, Victor Garroway,

 Christine Sawyers, Caroline Wood, Robert Russell, Jacqueline Mundy

 Alan Moss, and Beryl Bintcliffe

**This week’s news and information**

A reminder that the **church is now closed for public worship, but open 10 am – midday Tuesday – Sunday for private prayer and candlelighting.**

There is a prayer box in the porch at other times.

You are also very welcome to call in then collect free books, DVDs and CDs – or ask for a delivery of the same (email or call the office or Revd. Sally)

You should know who your **contactor** is. If you don’t have one do also make contact and we will set you up with someone.

**Generous Giving:** if you usually give to the work of the church through your bank, this is unaffected. If you give by cash or envelopes, we suggest that you out this aside somewhere safe and bring to church when we meet again.

**Foodshare:** it is really important to keep this going. Feel free to drop items into the basket by the door when the church is open, or to donate via the boxes in supermarkets (great to see these so well used).

It is good to see community service springing up. **Please do be cautious,** however, about accepting help from people you don’t know at all. All those who make contact from St. Luke’s will be DBS checked and / or regular church members. Do not be afraid to challenge anyone you don’t know and / or contact Revd. Sally or your contactor with ANY concerns.

As the email system is becoming overloaded some people have also been receiving emails apparently from Sally, the church, the choir, which are clearly not. In any doubt DO NOT OPEN them and call the purported sender to check.

**Don’t forget the #LiveLent App**: The Church of England has created a free Lent app with daily reflections centred around ‘Care for God’s Creation’. You can sign up at https://www.churchofengland.org/livelent

**Easter Lilies**: We will still have lilies in church on Easter Sunday to

commemorate lost loved ones. If you have not yet given us name please let the office know.

We will have one display of lilies and, with your consent, donate any excess money already given, to Christian Aid, in lieu of cancelled Lent lunches.

**Save the date** : Week of accompanied prayer– an exciting opportunity to further our relationship with God through exploring prayer. Fun and rewarding. Sunday 25th– Friday 30th October. Details to come—do put the date in your diary now. There will be opportunities to help as well as. Watch this space to see if it happens, but at least this gives you something to put in your diaries!

**Inspire:** The next issue will be out in the near future. You may like to spend some of your newly gained free time writing an article for Inspire. Please send articles, pictures etc to stlukes.inspire@gmail.com (or give me paper copies) by 9pm on Wednesday 1st April. Please remember this is a new email address.  Thank you, Louisa

**And finally this week for some good news**

Congratulations to Kevin and Ijeoma on the birth of their baby son, Kevin:

Date 14/3/20

BIrth Wt 2.69kg

Time 14.58hrs

And also congratulations to our lovely yoga/ stretch and breathe teacher Paula Clayton-Nuth on the birth of her grand daughter.

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St. Luke’s Church Office is open Mon Tues, Weds, 9.30 am - 11 am

Deadline for entries for this weekly pew sheet is 9.00 am on Tuesdays.

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