



# St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead

[www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk](http://www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk)

[This sheet is also available on the above website]

Church Office: 01628 622733

[admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk](mailto:admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk)

Vicar: [sally514@btinternet.com](mailto:sally514@btinternet.com)

## Week Commencing: 17th September, Trinity 15

This week we have a 10am Parish Communion, all are warmly invited to join us for worship. There will be an activity for an children present so families are warmly encouraged to come along.

### The Collect

God, who in generous mercy  
sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church  
in the burning fire of your love:  
grant that your people may be fervent  
in the fellowship of the gospel  
that, always abiding in you,  
they may be found steadfast in faith  
and active in service;  
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

Keep, O Lord, your Church,  
with your perpetual mercy;  
and, because without you  
our human frailty cannot but fall,  
keep us ever by your help  
from all things hurtful,  
and lead us to all things  
profitable to our salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### First Reading

<sup>1</sup>Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. <sup>2</sup>Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. <sup>3</sup>Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. <sup>4</sup>Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

<sup>5</sup>Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. <sup>6</sup>Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God.

<sup>7</sup>We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. <sup>8</sup>If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. <sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

<sup>10</sup>Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. <sup>11</sup>For it is written, 'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.' <sup>12</sup>So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

*Romans 14.1-12*

## Gospel Reading

<sup>21</sup>Peter came and said to Jesus, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.'

<sup>23</sup>For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. <sup>24</sup>When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; <sup>25</sup>and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." <sup>29</sup>Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." <sup>30</sup>But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup>Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup>Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" <sup>34</sup>And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. <sup>35</sup>So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

*Matthew 18.21-35*

## Sunday's Hymns:

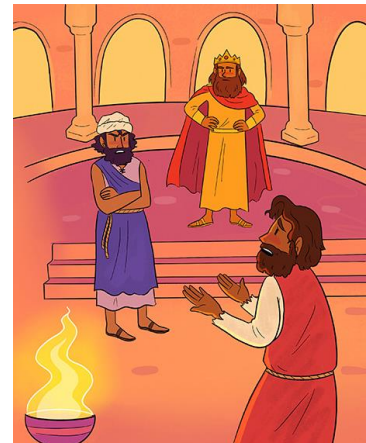
532	All creatures of our God and king	Screen	Bless the Lord O my soul
725	Make me a channel of your peace	785	Such love
791	The God of Abraham praise		

## Thought for the week:

Today's Gospel parable tells a story where a growing cycle of violence – powerful slave trying to throttle underdog slave, fury aroused in the outraged fellow servants, vindictive anger aroused in the king – is halted by savage justice. Harsh it is, but it appeases anger in short order. However, lest we get carried away, we should note that Jesus does not say or imply that the king in this story is God. Indeed, there is much in the story to suggest that this is not an image of how God acts. The sequence of events suggests little more than an uncomfortable and volatile household ruled over by a capricious man.

The parable tells us rather that we need to forgive and do so repeatedly. A truly God-like king would have taken the harder path when easy forgiveness didn't work. He would have forgiven again, explaining his reasons and demanding forgiveness of everyone else involved as the price of their debts being remitted. Forgiveness is only truly achieved when it is accepted by a sinner who, as a result, changes course. And it has to be repeated until the sinner does change course. And this is, or can be, very costly. How good are we, on either end, at being active participants in the two-way act of forgiving?

*From Roots on the Web*



***Sick prayers: every now and then, we delete the list of those seeking prayer so that we can refresh it. Names of those who have asked to be there this week have already been added. Please email the parish office with names of others to add with their permission.***

### **Prayer suggestions for these weeks:**

- For the recovery and restoration operations in Morocco and Libya
- For all school staff and learners at the start of the school year.
- For Sam, as she takes up post as our new Children and Family Leader.
- For peace in Ukraine and Russia, and of Sudan, and also in Armenia and Ethiopia.
- That we may embrace our ministry as an inclusive church, in every way.
- For our growth in faith as individuals and as a church.
- For a new Director of Music / organist
- For those who fear the inset of Autumn and the darker nights.
- That we may each play out part in the ministry of our church and care for its building.
- For our care for creation, giving thanks that we have achieved the Bronze Eco Church Award.
- For Theo Ashe-Velez and Oliver and Rory Peck to be baptised this week and for all those whose anniversary of baptism falls in September: Rosie Ribton, Austin Brooks, Rosie Turner, Katty King, Daisy Trillow, Max Fiordelisi, Chloe Rendle
- For Jordan and Pilar recently married here
- For all those who live and work in Harebell Court.
- The sick and their carers : Monica Olley, Ann Hockham, Valerie Bosley, Pat Botting, Phyllis Sigsworth, Alice.
- Those who have died recently, and those who mourn them: Geoff Tulloch, Wendy Botting, Tessa Armstrong.
- Those whose anniversary of death falls in September: Rennie Jones, Edna Franklin, Joan Richardson, Malcolm Gavin, Mary Dawson, Alice Webb, Vera Velvick, Bessie Molin, Molly Lewis, Royston Woodruff, Joyce Wilkins, Ivy Sparks, June Wells, Vera Wheeler, Geoffrey Knight, Frederick Williamson, Albert Harris, Betty Ackland-Snow, Violet Ferguson, Lisa Plummer, Derek Wilkins, Mac Macaulay Brown, Margaret Burrows, Joan Went, Roy Dalton, Frederick Hearman, Betty Himmonds, Elwyn Jackson, Peter Windass, Arthur Little.

### **Readings for Morning Prayer for the week beginning Sunday 17th September 2023:**

Sunday	Psalm 119.65-88	Isaiah 44.24-45.8	Revelation 12.1-12
Monday	Psalm 30	Zechariah 10	Mark 11.1-11
Tuesday	Psalm 36	Zechariah 11.4-end	Mark 11.12-26
Wednesday	Psalm 34	Zechariah 12.1-10	Mark 11.27-end
Thursday	Psalm 49	1 Kings 19.15-end	2 Timothy 3.14-end
Friday	Psalm 31	Zechariah 14.1-11	Mark 12.13-17
Saturday	Psalm 42	Zechariah 14.12-end	Mark 12.18-27

### **Rotas for next week:**

#### **Sunday 24th September: Parish Communion, in church and on zoom**

Read: Edgar Hakobyan

Intercede: Ruth Sheppard

Welcomers: Ralph, Sue and Kim

Coffee: Kate and Sally

### **Our church is floodlit at night.**

This week the flood lighting has been sponsored by:

#### **The church flood lighting has not been sponsored this week**

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

[admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk](mailto:admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk) The 2023 form is now available.

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



## What's on... This week:

Sunday 17th	10.00am, Parish Communion 12.00pm, Baptism of Theo Ashe-Velez 1.00pm, Baptisms of Oliver and Rory Peck 6.00pm, Sundays at Six, Evensong and Benediction, All Saints
Tuesday 19th	8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom
Wednesday 20th	8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom 10.00am, Holy Communion 8.00pm, Exploring the Bible groups, in Church
Thursday 21st	8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom 9.30am, Baby and Toddler Group, in Church 3.00pm, Keeping Company
Friday 22nd	8.30 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom 5.00pm, Evening Prayer, on zoom - NB new Zoom link below
Saturday 23rd	9.00 am, Morning Prayer, on zoom 9.30am, Church Care morning
Sunday 24th	10.00am, Parish Communion

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

17 <sup>th</sup> September	Evensong and Benediction, in church at All Saints
1 <sup>st</sup> October	Harvest Songs of Praise, in church, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green
22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Sung Evensong (BCP), in church and on zoom at St. Luke's
5 <sup>th</sup> November <b>NB: 4 pm:</b>	Memorial services, in church, at St. Luke's, and the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green
5 <sup>th</sup> November At 6pm	All Souls Eucharist at All Saints
19 <sup>th</sup> November	Service of Wholeness and Healing At All Saints
26 <sup>th</sup> November	Taize service, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green
3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Christ Child Market at All Saints 12.00 – 3pm
10 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Tree Festival Service, at St. Luke's (Tree Festival 8 <sup>th</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup> December)
17 <sup>th</sup> December	Carol Services at each church at 6.00 pm

## St. Luke's Primary School:

Did you go to St. Luke's school as a child (at any time)?

Did you teach there or work there?

Were you a governor at any time?

If so, please do make contact with the school via this email: [celebratinghistory@st-lukesprimary.com](mailto:celebratinghistory@st-lukesprimary.com)

We are celebrating the history of the school this year (160 years the foundation of the first school was laid and 75 years of links with the diocese) and would love to hear from anyone with links to the school,

- and also photos or artefacts.

## Church Flowers

The church will be decorated for Harvest weekend on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September, from 2pm onwards. Anyone who would like to is welcome to come along and help out. If you are able, please bring flowers, fruit and vegetables and anything else 'harvesty' to decorate the windowsills. Please note that as an Eco Church we are no longer using oasis (if you have any chicken wire or other please do bring that!). Thank you.

## Harvest Supper

The raffle at the Harvest supper will have one main prize - a Harvest Hamper, filled with (ideally and mainly) home-made autumnal fare. Everyone is warmly invited to bring contributions for this hamper and to put them in it by 28<sup>th</sup> September. Thank you.

## Coming up..

**Messy Church** our next Messy church is on 6<sup>th</sup> October. £2 per child. All welcome. Do email the office at [admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk](mailto:admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk) to book places (so we know how many to cater for). Dates for following Messy Church sessions are, 3<sup>rd</sup> November and 1<sup>st</sup> December.

## Mens Chinese night

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023, 7.30pm at Jasmine Peking, 29 High Street, Maidenhead, text, call or e-mail Simon Bader on 07860714282 to let him know if you would like to come. Email [simonbader.4691@gmail.com](mailto:simonbader.4691@gmail.com)

## Looking Ahead...

There is lots coming up, do note in your diaries, and come along to what draws you.

**Growing in Faith:** our journey exploring Matthew's gospel continues – an informal time of looking at the gospel together and wondering how it might speak to us today / **Going Deeper** – a small group reflecting on using the Bible imaginatively.

First and third Wednesdays, 8pm, next 20<sup>th</sup> September, in church.

**23rd Sept Care time** come along to church from 9.30 am to help maintain the church building and churchyard – do offer as much or as little time as you can.

**30th Sept Harvest Supper** in church from 6.30pm. Tickets £7 each for Baked potato and fillings followed by apple pie and cream. Available now. Water provided, BYO other drinks.

**1st Oct Harvest Festival All Age Holy Communion service – 10 am**

**7th Oct Church Breakfast** 8.45 – 10.30 am, Phyl, Jeanette and Ben will talk about their work at the vaccination clinic during the pandemic, with a delicious breakfast. Tickets £5 each, available now.

**8th Oct The Inaugural Johanna Raffan Recital:** Andrew Gallagher will give a piano recital at 3pm. Free entry and donations invited for a cream tea to follow.

**18th Oct St Luke's School Patronal and celebration service**, 9.30 am. All welcome – and to see an exhibition of the school in church.

**21st Oct Quiet Day** 10 am – 3pm, location: Bray church spirituality centre.. Led by Revd. Terrie.

**22nd Oct**      **Patronal / back to church day**

**5th Nov**      **Memorial service** 4pm in church to remember all those whom we have loved and lost.

**2nd Dec**      **Quiet morning**, 9.30 – 12.30 in church, led by Revd. Sally

**CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL: 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> December (set up day Weds 6<sup>th</sup>)**

Forms are now available (with further details) for those who would like to sponsor and decorate a tree. Please speak to Revd. Sally for further details or pick up a form and letter from the back of church.

**Produce Stall**

Reminder: Fruit and vegetables are now ripening so if you have access to any of these and are not able to make jams and chutneys, please let us know. Donations of sugar and vinegar would be welcome and can be placed in the cupboard at the back of church (behind back pew, centre aisle). Labels for produce are in a small plastic box in the cupboard.

Ann Darracott 01628 620280 07761 221937 Dorothy Strack Hankey 01628 311153 07743 32363

**FROM THE DIOCESE**

**New course: The Story of Scripture**

The story of the Bible is fundamentally about how God created us, how things have gone wrong, and how God faithfully throughout human history has called people back into relationship with him.

This going deeper course on [learn.oxford.anglican.org](https://learn.oxford.anglican.org) is designed to help you get a firmer handle on that big story through the use of videos, questions, and quizzes. This course can be completed on your own, or as part of a small group. Over six units, you'll open your Bible, gain a deeper understanding of what God was doing throughout the pages of Scripture and how God is calling you to join in that same story.

You'll work at home at your own pace and at a time that suits you with interactive digital resources from Dr Andy Angel. The materials are also suitable for clergy, LLMs and home group leaders to offer in a small group format.

The Story of Scripture launches in October 2023. It will take around 15 hours to complete and can be started at any time during the year.

[Register here](#), or click the button below, before mid October for immediate access to the course materials as soon as





## **Beginners' Retreat**

St Mary's Convent

This short retreat, facilitated by Sr Lizzie Ruth, is for anyone who has never been on a retreat before or who would value some extra guidance on how to use the space and time in retreat. [Find out more.](#)

## **Care for Creation course**

Why should Christians care for creation? What does the science tell us about climate change and biodiversity? And where does Eco Church fit in? Join us for a six-session course, starting 19th September - [contact Hannah Mann](#) to book your funded place.

## **A DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO YOUR CATHEDRAL: Saturday 14 October 2023**

<https://www.chch.ox.ac.uk/visiting-cathedral/st-frideswide-pilgrimage>

We are delighted to invite you to join our next St Frideswide Pilgrimage on Saturday 14 October. Whether you have joined us before or are new to pilgrimage, you are welcome to journey from five different starting points and walk with us to the Shrine of St Frideswide in Christ Church Cathedral. The patron saint of Oxford, St Frideswide founded the priory upon which our Cathedral is based. She was known as a woman powerful in prayer and with gifts of healing, and her community as a place of learning and safety.

Pilgrimage can offer an opportunity to reflect on our own spiritual journeys, to give thanks for the journey of our lives and to meet with other pilgrims as we walk together.

Each route offers its own delights – and every pilgrimage is led by an experienced leader who will guide you through reflections and prayers along the way. There is an opportunity to eat lunch in the churches of the starting points before setting off.

Families are welcome – the route from Iffley Church is particularly suitable for buggies.

On arrival at Christ Church you are invited to have tea in the Great Hall – an unmissable experience – before looking round the Cathedral and joining us for a Pilgrim Service at the end of the day.

So do join us – we look forward to welcoming you.

- Route A      From North Oxford (1.5 miles)  
2.00 pm      Meet at St Margaret's Church OX2 6RX
- Route B      From Wolvercote (5 miles)  
12.00 pm     Meet at St Peter's Church OX2 8AQ
- Route C      From Headington Quarry (3 miles)  
12.30 pm     Meet at Holy Trinity OX3 8NU
- Route D      From Iffley (2 miles)  
1.30 pm      Meet at St Mary the Virgin OX4 4EG
- Route E      From Abingdon (9 miles)  
10.00 am     Meet on Thames Path beneath Abingdon Bridge OX14 3HX

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## **PND call-out for volunteers**

Did you know that Maidenhead has a post natal depression support group ?

It's a hidden gem , offering support to mums with babies of all ages .

It's run by volunteers and is held Monday mornings (10-11:30) at Maidenhead Synagogue. Before covid we had a good team of volunteers and clients but since it's been very quiet with our volunteers finding other roles , so we are looking to recruit ! You can volunteer as little or as much as you like , you get to cuddle babies of all ages , sometimes siblings too . It meets every Monday except bank holidays .

We are a friendly bunch who need a few more volunteers in our pool . Can you help ? If so we would love to hear from you. Please contact Nikola 07931500168/ [nikolarsorrell@gmail.com](mailto:nikolarsorrell@gmail.com) .

## **Baby loss service**

This is a beautiful and moving service that some of us have attended in the past. For more details do speak to Revd. Sally.



# **Saying Goodbye Remembrance Service – St Albans**

**ST ALBANS CATHEDRAL**

**9TH OF OCTOBER, 2023 AT 7PM**

**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 CONCEIVE.**

**[SAYINGGOODBYE.ORG](https://sayinggoodbye.org)**

## **Recycling at St Luke's**

As one of the ways to demonstrate our commitment to living more sustainably and caring for creation, we have set up an area at the back of church by the servery, where things that can be difficult to recycle at home can be brought and members of the 'eco-team' will ensure they are taken to be recycled correctly.

There are two boxes:

- One for used pill packets
- One for dead batteries and empty make up containers.

There is a larger 'hamper' for packaging that can be recycled in supermarkets. This rubbish has this label





## Recycle with bags at large supermarkets | Don't recycle at home

You can see this label on plastic wrapping such as bread bags, fruit and veg bags, crisp packets and chocolate wrappers. You can recycle this type of packaging at recycling points in selected supermarkets.

Please do bring any of these items of rubbish and place them in the appropriate container. Many people making small changes in the end makes a big difference.

### Our Regular activities:

**The 8.00 Holy Communion service** will continue to be monthly, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> October e-mail [admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk](mailto: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 21st September

**Thursday Teas** meets in the community hall offering tea, cake and conversation. Second Thursdays monthly. Next is 12<sup>th</sup> October

**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. 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays monthly. Next is 28<sup>th</sup> September

### Please note that for all 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

**Zoom Evening Prayer** at 5pm on Fridays (except first Friday) **NB: new link**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85378796960?pwd=dUNTTnRZVFJBY2xiS3QyVHlYZ1BaZz09>

Meeting ID: 853 7879 6960      Passcode: 386635