



St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead

www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

[This sheet is also available on the above website]

Church Office: 01628 622733

admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

Vicar: sally514@btinternet.com

Week Commencing: 23rd March, the Third Sunday of Lent

This Sunday we have a service of Parish Communion at 10am. Everyone is very warmly invited to worship with us. There will be an activity for children at 10 am. At midday a Lent Lunch (soup, bread and cheese) with donations to Christian Aid. All are welcome.

The Collect

Almighty God,
whose most dear Son went not up to joy
but first he suffered pain,
and entered not into glory
before he was crucified:
mercifully grant that we,
walking in the way of the cross,
may find it none other
than the way of life and peace;
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

Merciful Lord,
grant your people grace
to withstand the temptations
of the world, the flesh and the devil,
and with pure hearts and minds to follow you,
the only God;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

First Reading

The LORD says this: ¹Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

³Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

⁶Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; ⁷let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Isaiah 55. 1-9

Gospel Reading

¹There were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ²He asked them, 'Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?' ³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them - do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.'

⁶Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" ⁸He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down."

Luke 13. 1-9

Sunday's Hymns:

P: 703 Let us with a gladsome mind
G: 813 Through the night of doubt and sorrow
O: 294 We love the place, O God
HC: 634 Firmly I believe and truly
R: 2 Christ whose glory fills the skies



Thought for the week:

As we follow the Come and See series of videos from Bishop Steven, we are reminded of the baptismal promise – I turn to Christ. We do turn to Christ and we do mean it, but then we get caught up in things that attract our attention away from God. Rather like the swingometer on election night, we veer back and forth, constantly turning back to Christ. And each time we turn back, he welcomes us. Our God is a God of second chances, as Jesus taught in the parable of the fig tree.

Whoever we are, whatever we have done, the door is always open for us to turn to Christ – again, and again, and....

Prayer suggestions for this week:

- For our own keeping of Lent and growth in personal and corporate faith.
- For our new PCC and church officers
- For our Church leaders and those selecting a new Archbishop of Canterbury
- For Bishop Mary Gregory, our new Bishop of Reading.
- That the ceasefire between Israel and Palestine might hold and further hostages and prisoners be released.
- For survivors of abuse and those who support them.
- 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 Lonsdale Close
- For all those whose anniversary of baptism falls in March: Lola-Rose Watkins, Isala Hughes, Christopher Hickman

- 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.
- Those who have died recently, and those who mourn them: Joyce Buckley, Albert Topham, Barrie Morgan.
- Those whose anniversary of death falls in March: Sandy Raffan, Anthony Wright, Lilian Vizard, Edgar Walford, Anna Meredith, Christine Sawyers, Caroline Wood, Robert Russell, Jacqueline Mundy, Alan Moss, Beryl Bintliffe, Francis Garnett, Jillian Sinclair- Hill, Eileen Herbert, Stella Lee, Andrew Curtis, Susan Robinson, Jill Cotterill, John Marshall, John Cox, Christopher Druce, Frederick Dawson.

Readings for Morning Prayer for the week beginning Sunday 23rd March 2025:

Sunday	Psalm 26, 28	Deuteronomy 6. 4-9	John 17. 1a, 11b-19
Monday	Psalm 5	Jeremiah 11. 1-17	John 7. 37 -52
Tuesday	Psalm 111, 113	1 Samuel 2. 1-10	Romans 5. 12- end
Wednesday	Psalm 38	Jeremiah 13. 1-11	John 8. 12 -30
Thursday	Psalm 56	Jeremiah 14	John 8. 31- 47
Friday	Psalm 22	Jeremiah 15. 10 -end	John 8. 48 -end
Saturday	Psalm 31	Jeremiah 16. 10 -17.4	John 9. 1-17

Rotas for next week

Sunday 30th March: Mothering Sunday: Word Service

Read: tbc Intercede: tbc Chalice: n/a Sound: Simon

Welcomers: Clare, Shula, Don Coffee: Simone, Season Children: n/a

Our church is floodlit at night.

The 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

It is suggested the minimum donation for weekly sponsorship is £15. There are lots of weeks available.



What's on.... This week:

Sunday 23 rd	10.00 am, Parish Communion 12.00 Lent Lunch
Tuesday 25 th	8.30 am, Morning prayer on zoom
Wednesday 26 th	8.30 am, Morning prayer on zoom 10.00 am, Holy Communion 11.00 am, Lent course
Thursday 27 th	8.30 am, Morning prayer on zoom 9.30 am, Baby and Toddler Group 3.00 pm, Gaynor's Gift
Friday 28 th	8.30 am, Morning prayer on zoom 12.15pm, Music Recital 5.00 pm, Evening Prayer

Saturday 29th 9.00 am, Morning prayer on zoom
 Sunday 30th 8.00 am, Holy Communion
 10.00, Mothering Sunday Service

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

6 th April	Stations of the Cross, at All Saints
13 th Apr	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 Jun	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

Readers and Intercessors rota: if you feel called / would like to join the list of people who read and / or lead intercessions in church please contact Revd Sally so that you can be added to the list. With thanks.

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

Good Gym : Good Gym will be here on Wednesday 2nd April, from 7-8pm to help cut down brambles and over vegetation in the church yard. If you would like to volunteer to help please contact the parish office.

Churchyard path: the PCC has submitted a faculty application for a path in the churchyard from the disabled bays to the new bench. The notice is on the PCC board by the church door. If approved it will offer a lovely way for all people to our eco area in the churchyard and space to sit easily and reflect.

Electoral roll: this has now re-opened after the APCM. Forms are on the table at the back of church,. Please do sign up if you didn't before the APCM.

Church care and cleaning morning: Saturday 12th April, from 9.30 am (or join us for Morning Prayer at 9 am). Everyone of any age is welcome to help out care for our beautiful building.

Spring and Summer Recitals

We are planning a short series of recitals by young people at various times this year. Admission will either be free, with a retiring collection and refreshments to purchase, or by prior bought ticket if numbers are needed for catering. All proceeds will go to church funds.

Booked so far:

Friday 28th March, pupils from Queen Anne's School, Caversham, 12.15 pm recital, lunch available to purchase from 1pm.

~~**Sunday 6th April, Andrew Gallacher on piano**, following the last Lent Lunch (lunch donations to Christian Aid, recital to church) - Cancelled.~~

Thursday Lunches: Our next lunch will be on Thursday, 27th March at the Toby Carvery, at Braywick. We meet at 12.00 p.m. Any further details from Jean T-D on 26671 or jeantd@outlook.co

Lent 2025

The Church programme for Lent... is now available as a leaflet – attached to this weekly sheet – and a hard copy can be found in church too. Do join in with some ways of keeping Lent.

Lent Lunches, are held on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of Lent. Please do sign up to help provide lunches – see the sign-up sheet in church.... And come along, midday.

Lent course we are following the diocesan course: Come and See which explores our baptism. Wednesdays at 11 am in church. All welcome.

Come and See...

A diocesan daily email during Lent and out Lent course this year. Come and See is completely free and all are welcome. Sign up: [Sign up for Come and See 2025](#)
We will also be watching the Sunday videos in place of a sermon during Lent.

Eco Church... thanks to Katty for these tips...

Eco-Friendly Gardening Tips for Everyone

Inspired by BBC Gardeners' World, here are some fun and eco-friendly gardening tips to help you get started:

What is Eco-Friendly Gardening?

Eco-friendly gardening means creating a garden that supports nature and uses resources wisely. It's great fun and anyone can do it, regardless of age or experience!

Mulching

What: Mulching involves covering the soil with organic materials.

How: - Materials: Use straw, wood chips, or grass clippings as mulch. - Apply: Spread mulch around plants to protect the soil.

Why: Mulching conserves water, reduces weeds, and improves soil health.

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 4th April 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 11th April
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.

Church Calendar for the Spring (apart from regular activities)

March

Sunday 23 rd	Lent lunch
Wednesday 12 th	11.00 am, Lent course starts (5 weeks)
Friday 28 th	12.15 pm Recital and lunch
Sunday 30 th , 10 am	Mothering Sunday service (Word)

April

Tuesday 1 st , 11 am	School service
Sunday 6 th	Last Lent lunch
Saturday 12 th	Church Care session (maintenance)
Sunday 13 th	Palm Sunday, start of Holy Week
Sunday 20 th	Easter Day
Friday 25 th	St. Luke's School in all day
Saturday 26 th	PCC planning morning

Please note that for 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=Y2hKZkFYZ04zbGZBd1BHcmllldU5Hdz09>

Meeting ID: 814 5909 0925

Passcode: 180609