

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: 25th May, Easter 6

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The Collect

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Post Communion Prayer

God our Father,
whose Son Jesus Christ
gives the water of eternal life:
may we thirst for you,
the spring of life and source of goodness,
through him who is alive and reigns,
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G: 645 God is our strength and refuge
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'Do you want to be made well?'

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What did he mean by being made well?

Jesus longs for all people to be well – not necessarily physically (in this life at least), but certainly spiritually.

This story speaks of Jesus reaching out to heal the man and to meet his deepest need – physical but almost certainly emotional and metal healing were needed too.

We are very aware of that need for healing and wholeness today – I suspect that we all know of someone who struggles with mental ill health (in fact most of us will be affected by this at some time in our lives).

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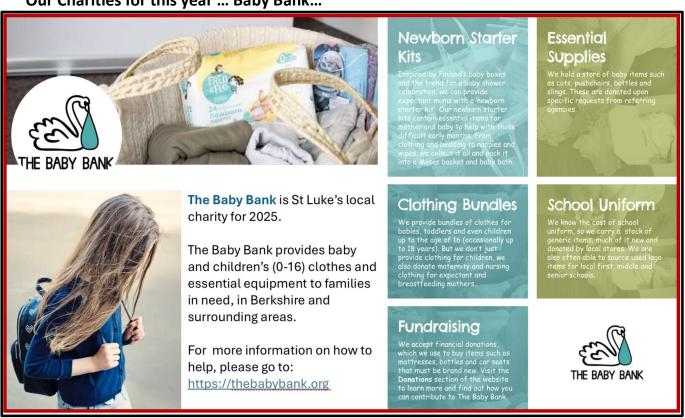
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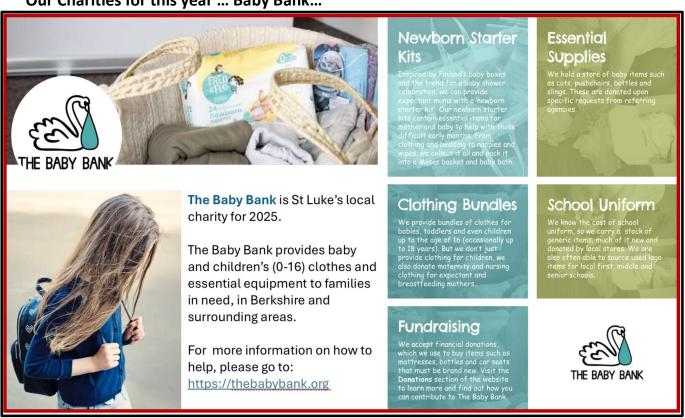
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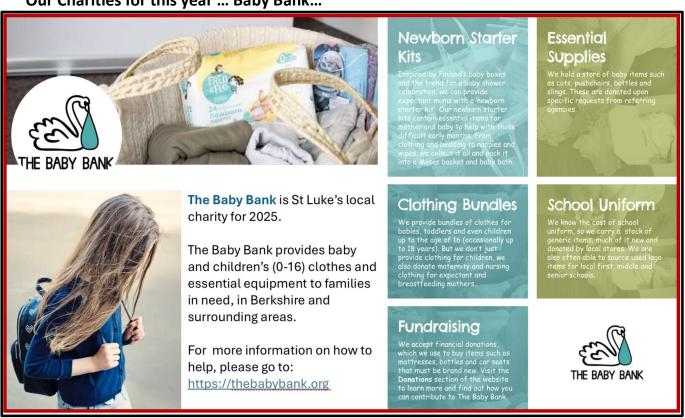
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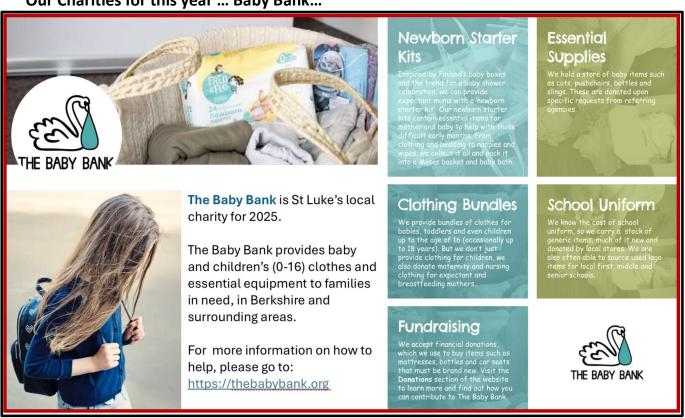
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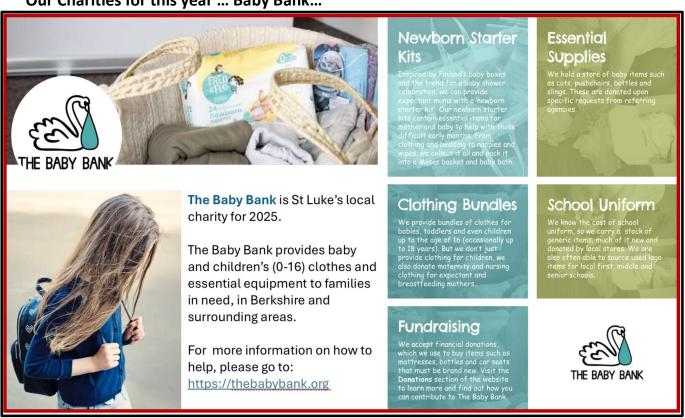
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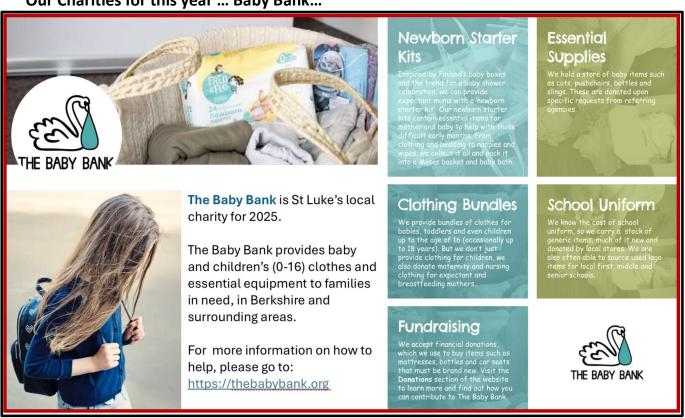
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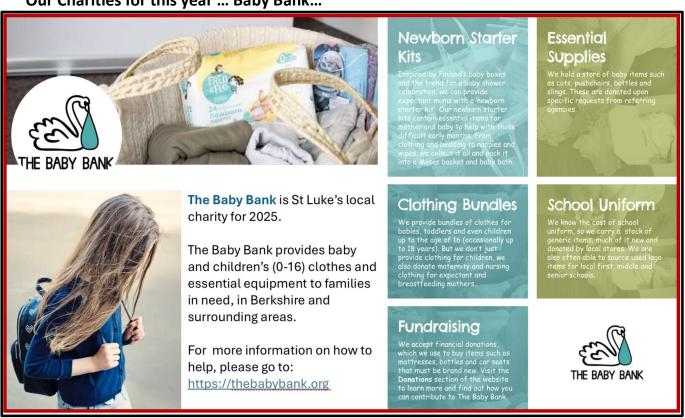
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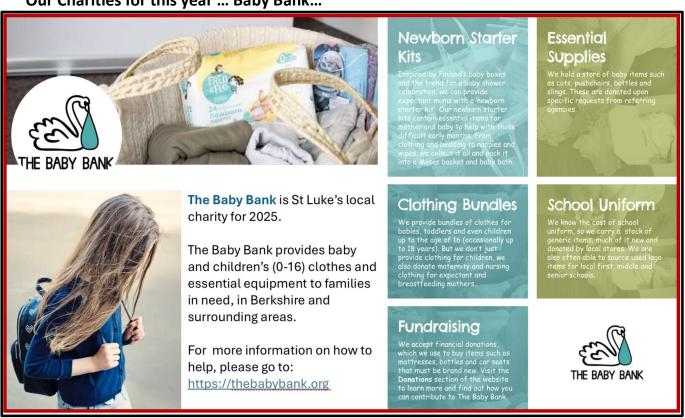
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Church Office: 01628 622733
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Vicar: sally514@btinternet.com

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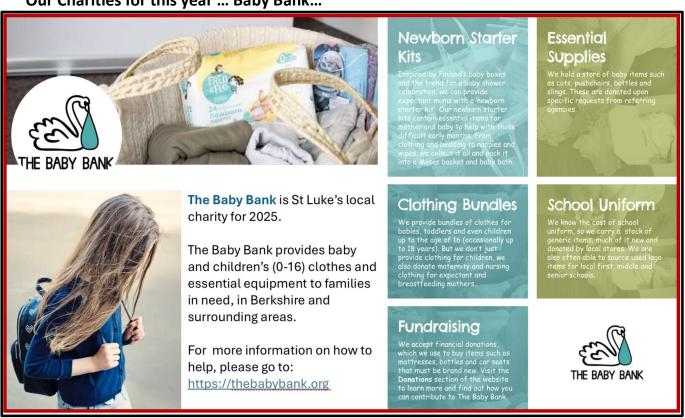
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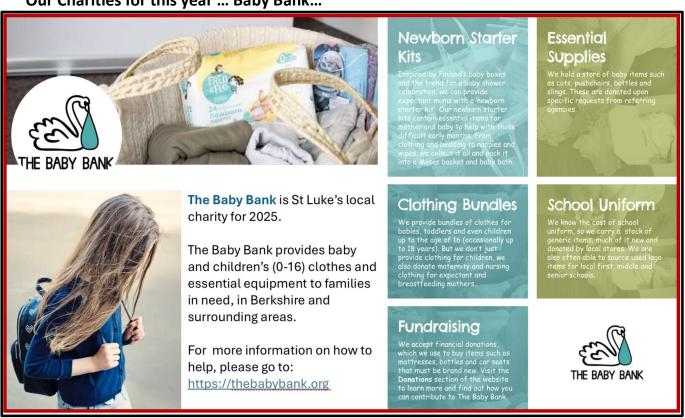
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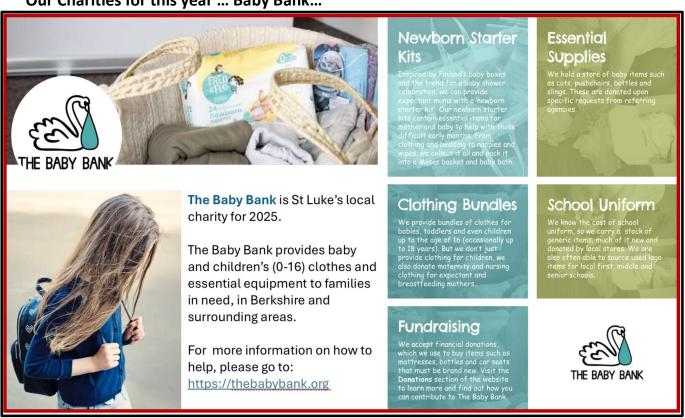
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Meeting ID: 873 5819 7400 Passcode: 526076

Zoom Morning Prayer at 8.30 am Tuesday – Friday, 9 am Saturday

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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: 25th May, Easter 6

This Sunday we have Parish Communion service at 10am, with activities for children, all are welcome. This coming **Thursday** is **Ascension Day**, we have a service of Holy Communion at 8pm in the evening. Everyone is warmly invited to this as we celebrate the time when Jesus returned to heaven following his resurrection.

The Collect

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

Post Communion Prayer

God our Father,
whose Son Jesus Christ
gives the water of eternal life:
may we thirst for you,
the spring of life and source of goodness,
through him who is alive and reigns,
now and for ever.

First Reading

⁹During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' ¹⁰When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. ¹¹We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹²and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴A certain woman named Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, 'If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.' And she prevailed upon us. *Acts 16. 9-15*

Gospel Reading

¹After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

²Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. ³In these lay many invalids - blind, lame, and paralysed. ⁵One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. ⁶When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, 'Do you want to be made well?' ⁷The sick man answered him, 'Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me.' ⁸Jesus said to him, 'Stand up, take your mat and walk.' ⁹At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk.

Now that day was a sabbath.

John 5. 1-9

P: 358 Be still, for the presence of the Lord
G: 645 God is our strength and refuge
O: 621 Dear Lord and Father of mankind
HC: 512 Christ is the world in which we move
R: 456 (ii) Now let us from this table rise

Thought for the week:

'Do you want to be made well?'

That is the question Jesus asked the man by the pool of Bethzatha in Sunday's gospel, reading.

What did he mean by being made well?

Jesus longs for all people to be well – not necessarily physically (in this life at least), but certainly spiritually.

This story speaks of Jesus reaching out to heal the man and to meet his deepest need – physical but almost certainly emotional and metal healing were needed too.

We are very aware of that need for healing and wholeness today – I suspect that we all know of someone who struggles with mental ill health (in fact most of us will be affected by this at some time in our lives).

Being a disciple of Jesus does not exempt us from ill health and accidents - physical, mental, emotional. And so it is crucial that the church today shares in Jesus' healing ministry and through prayer helps people to know the wholeness and peace that God offers.

Here at St Luke's we offer a monthly ministry of prayer and anointing for healing and wholeness. On the last Wednesday during the 10 am service of Holy Communion we offer prayer and anointing with oil - for individuals and on behalf of others.

When we take part in that prayer and anointing, we are invited to take the part of man who was healed by Jesus – not by waiting to go into water – some possibly superstitious practice – but by allowing God to touch us and reach deep inside to heal us from the core and help us to be whole people – from deep inside.

Prayer and anointing for this wholeness and healing are ancient – they go back to Jesus and the life of the early church. It is God who heals us through his Spirit, we are just agents of the Spirit in this. We take our name from St Luke - the doctor - who travelled with Paul to help him know wholeness and physical strength. It seems right then that we should be a community of wholeness and healing. But we don't have to wait for special church services and rituals to be made whole by God. Jesus healed the man by the pool without him needing to go through the palaver of climbing into the water - Jesus was there for him - as he is for each of us, longing to make us whole in him.

As the man by the pool was healed, so we come to God for wholeness and peace: Jesus asks us, as he asked the man by the pool: Do you want to be made well?

- For our PCC and church officers, and for those planning to cover the forthcoming vacancy.
- For our Church leaders and those selecting a new Archbishop of Canterbury
- For Bishop Mary Gregory, our new Bishop of Reading.
- For survivors of abuse and those who support them.
- For our ministry as an inclusive church.
- For peace in Ukraine and Russia, between Israel and Hammas, in Armenia and Ethiopia.
- For the work of our Hospices.
- For all those who live and work in Moorfield Terrace



- For Darcy, who was baptised last week, and Leo and Madeleine, to be baptised this week.
- For all those whose anniversary of baptism falls in May: Tajus Ramanauskas, Amanda Simana, Jaxson Williams
- 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, Colette Baxter, Baby Dean, Harry.
- Those who have died recently, and those who mourn them: Revd. Maurice Skinner
- Those whose anniversary of death falls in May: Glyn Jackson, Michael Poynter, Edwina Richardson, Ivy Trillow, Brian Webb, Michael Curley, Joyce Turpie, Beryl Eaton, Ken Young.

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Monday	Psalm 65	Deuteronomy 26	1 Peter . 4.1-11
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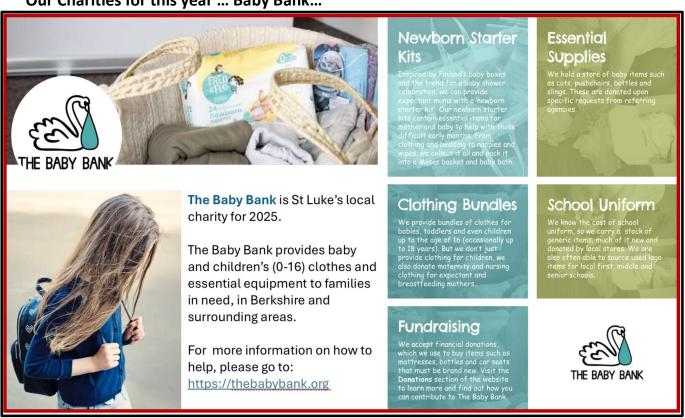
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