



# 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: 27<sup>th</sup> April, Easter 1

This Sunday we have a service of Parish Communion at 10am, to which all are welcome. There will be an activity for children.

### The Collect

Almighty Father,  
you have given your only Son to die for our sins  
and to rise again for our justification:  
grant us so to put away the leaven  
of malice and wickedness  
that we may always serve you  
in pureness of living and truth;  
through the merits of your Son  
Jesus Christ our Lord...

### Post Communion Prayer

Lord God our Father,  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ  
you have assured your children of eternal life  
and in baptism have made us one with him:  
deliver us from the death of sin  
and raise us to new life in your love,  
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

### First Reading

<sup>27</sup>When the temple police had brought the apostles, they made them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, <sup>28</sup>'We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us.' <sup>29</sup>But Peter and the apostles answered, 'We must obey God rather than any human authority. <sup>30</sup>The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. <sup>31</sup>God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. <sup>32</sup>And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.'

*Acts 5. 27-32*

### Gospel Reading

<sup>19</sup>When it was evening on the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

<sup>24</sup>But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark

of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

<sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book.

<sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name. *John 20. 19-31*

### Sunday's Hymns:

P:	194	Alleluia, alleluia hearts to heaven
G:	209	Love's redeeming work is done
O:	765	Praise to the Lord, the almighty
HC:	685	Jesus, my Lord, my God, my all
R:	818	To God be the glory



### Thought for the week:

Thomas was the sort of man who was totally committed and had been willing to die for Jesus first time round. When the disciples first heard that Jesus intended to go back to Jerusalem when his friend Lazarus was ill they were concerned for his (and their own) safety. It was Thomas who said, 'come on, let's go with him - we might as well die with him too'. He was committed. Yet he appears also to be the sort of man who needed to grieve alone. He was not with the other disciples on the first day of the week - the day that Jesus has appeared to Mary, and Peter and John had found the tomb empty. Maybe he had heard about it all, maybe he just couldn't hack being with the others - it was a reminder of all that had happened. And so when Jesus appeared to them he was not there. And being the strong and decisive sort, he would not believe without proof.

He wanted proof in order to believe - he knew that the others were all upset - maybe they were just hallucinating. He needed to get things right in his own head. Someone has called him a natural pessimist - and I suspect that all of us know at least one of them. Perhaps that's how we are ourselves. Tennyson wrote: there lives more faith in honest doubt, believe me, than in half the creeds'. Thomas had to wait a whole week to find out if his friends claims were true – what a tough week that must have been, but if Thomas had not doubted the integrity of his friends' claims, then we would not have this wonderful picture of Jesus, appearing and inviting his follower to touch him. At this point Thomas was totally convinced and able to proclaim: My Lord and my God'. The first very simple creed.

We live in an age today needs proof – in all sorts of ways. The media encourage us to search for the truth through scientific discovery, our legal system works on the basis of proof. In our work we often are asked to provide portfolios proving what we have achieved in order to move up the pay scale. Faith is not like that. There are some things that we just cannot prove in a concrete way. Thomas did have his proof of the resurrection when he saw and touched Jesus. I suspect that by the second week., when Jesus appeared to all of the disciples, they had been studying the scriptures more fully, and were much more clued up about what was happening -even if they could not understand it. But then Thomas was told by Jesus, 'Because you have seen me, you have believed, blessed are those who have not seen, and yet have believed'. He says that to each of us today, too.

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

- Our sisters and brothers in the Roman Catholic church, as they mourn for Pope Francis, and for those charged with electing a new Pope.
- That we may live as Easter people and bring hope to those around us.
- For all affected by the current global economic situation.
- For our PCC and church officers, and for those planning to cover the forthcoming interregnum.
- 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 peace in Ukraine and Russia, between Israel and Hamas, in Armenia and Ethiopia.
- For all those who live and work in Market Street
- For all those whose anniversary of baptism falls in April: Abigail Porro, Jazmin Porro, Iris Bithell, Albert Bithell
- 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.
- Those who have died recently, and those who mourn them: Rob MacDonald.
- Those whose anniversary of death falls in April: Peter Brown, Philip Agnew, Peter Petter, Roy Howton, Helen Poynter, Roger Bevitt, Virginia Mzorori-Murwisi, Dorothy Main, Philip Davies, Alan Coombs, Keith Morris, Ernie Thomas, Brenda Clark, Brian Pitts, Patricia Lovering, Brian Beard, Rita Redhead, Maureen Williams, Reginald Jacobs, Francis Hepburn, Alice Smith, George Haywood, John McLean, Barbara Lewis, Eileen Daniel, Janet Whitlock.

***Readings for Morning Prayer for the week beginning Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2025:***

Sunday	Psalm 136. 1-16	Exodus 12. 1-13	1 Peter 1. 3-12
Monday	Psalm 5. 146	Joshua 1. 1-9	Ephesians 6. 10 -20
Tuesday	Ps 37.23-end, 148	Isaiah 62. 6-10	Acts 12.25 -13.13
Wednesday	Ps 30, 119. 1-32	Deut 3.18 -end	John 20 . 19 -end
Thursday	Psalm 139, 146	Proverbs 4. 10 -18	James 1. 1-12
Friday	Psalm 61	Deuteronomy 4. 15-31	John 21. 15-19
Saturday	Psalm 84	Deuteronomy 4. 32- 40	John 21. 20 -end

**Rotas for next week****Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May Easter 2: All Age Holy Communion**

Read: Charlotte Sloan      Intercede: Preacher      Chalice: Shula      Sound: Simon  
Welcomers: Clare, Ben, Emma and Noah      Coffee: Sally, Marc      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](mailto:admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk)

It is suggested the minimum donation for weekly sponsorship is £15.



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

Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am, Parish Communion 12.00 pm, Baptism
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup>	8.30 am, Morning prayer on zoom
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup>	8.30 am, Morning prayer on zoom 10.00am, Holy Communion
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	8.30 am, Morning prayer on zoom 9.30 am, Baby and Toddler Group
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	8.30 am, Morning prayer on zoom
Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	9.00 am Morning Prayer
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am, Parish Communion 6.00 pm, Sundays at Six: Eucharist of Wholeness and Healing, at All Saints

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

4 <sup>th</sup> May	Eucharist of Wholeness and Healing, at All Saints
18 <sup>th</sup> May	Choral Sung Evensong, at St. Luke's
1 <sup>st</sup> June	Desert Island Hymns and Readings, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green
15 <sup>th</sup> Jun	International Taizé service, at St. Luke's
6 <sup>th</sup> July	Evensong and Benediction, at All Saints
13 <sup>th</sup> July	NB changed date Prayer walk on Ray Mill Island

**Messy Church.** Messy Church dates for 2025 are as follows: **9<sup>th</sup> May**, 6<sup>th</sup> June, 4<sup>th</sup> July, 5<sup>th</sup> September, 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 7<sup>th</sup> November, 28<sup>th</sup> November

## Church Calendar for the Spring (apart from regular activities)





Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	Church breakfast, speaker Revd. Sally: My life and my faith
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	Baptism anniversary party (help requested)
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	Not the Summer Fair day!
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	WAMCF dialogue
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Quiet Day, St. Michael's convent, Gerrards Cross
Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Garden Party
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Revd. Sally's Thanksgiving service

## Come and See

It has been good to use Bishop Steven's videos in Sunday services during Lent and for a small group to meet on Wednesdays to discuss baptism in detail. A number of issues have been raised and the C&S team offers some answers:

Bishop Steven writes:

Thank you so much to everyone who submitted questions this year. We couldn't get through all of them, but there were some common themes that popped up, so it's well worth a watch as Bishop Steven answers...

-  Why do we baptise infants?
-  What does it mean when Jesus says, "I am the way, the truth, and the life"?
-  Does God have a sense of humour?
-  ... and more!

[Bishop Steven answers your questions from this year's Come and See.](#)

## May Messy Church

We will be thinking about St. Thomas, the story of Jesus' resurrection, and what it is to have faith. Please note the CHANGE OF DATE – to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May. Sign up in the usual way through the office.

## Coming up after Easter...

**Bible Study:** a study of the book of Genesis, Wednesday evenings at 8pm in church, starting 7<sup>th</sup> May.

**Church Breakfast:** Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May, 8.45 am in church. Revd Sally will talk about: My life and my faith. Tickets £5, available now.

**Baptism Anniversary service and tea party:** Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May, 3pm. ALL are welcome and to come celebrate baptism. Just let the office know if you are coming so we can cater well.

**Not the Summer Fair Day:** Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May. We are invited to make a financial offering to the church in lieu of the hard work of a summer fair!!

**Quiet day:** Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May, 10 am – 3pm, St. Michael's convent, Gerrards Cross. £10pp. Bring your own lunch. Please sign up in church, we will arrange shared transport.

**WAMCF Dialogue:** Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May, 7pm, Thames Hospice – see flyer below.

**WAMCF Ladies meeting:** Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May, 7.30 pm, here. Speaker: Catherine Williams *Introducing Healthwatch - your local consumer champion for health and social care*

**Garden Party:** Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June, 3pm in the vicarage garden. Tickets £15 pp, to come.

## Quench Bookstall

We are delighted to be hosting a bookstall from Quench after the service on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May. Do come along to browse and maybe purchase some Christian resources from our local Christian bookshop. There will be a selection of items including resources for Christening/ Baptism occasions. The shop is open Mon-Sat 10.30am-4.30pm, at Unit 11, Holme Grange Craft Village, Heathlands Rd, Wokingham RG40 3AW. [0118 977 6715](tel:01189776715)

If you wish to place an order or have a query, please go to the "contact" section and drop us a message.

Alternatively, you can buy books of *all* genres online, by clicking [here](#).

## **And ... Revd. Sally's final services..**

Revd. Sally leaves the parish at the end of July. She would like the final Eucharist on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> to be a time for current church family and invites us to the vicarage garden for a bring and share picnic afterwards.

Everyone is warmly invited to a **Thanksgiving service on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> July at 3pm in church.** This will be a simple service of Evening Prayer and will be followed by afternoon tea. A number of other guests will also be invited, recognising those wider links that Sally has developed during her time here. To assist with catering and places please book your place by signing up on the list in church.

## **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 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2025 [admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk](mailto: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 9<sup>th</sup> May

**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](mailto: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. 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays monthly.

**Please note that for 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

## **Scroll down for flyers...**





## WAMCF Spring Dialogue Thursday 15th May 2025

**What do you find most  
meaningful in your life?**

**Join us to explore this topic**

7pm – 8.30pm (followed by refreshments)  
Thames Hospice, Windsor Road,  
Maidenhead, SL6 2DN  
Free Admission



## Saying Goodbye Remembrance Service Oxfordshire

CHRIST CHURCH  
CATHEDRAL OXFORD

17TH OF MAY, 2025 - 1PM

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 HAVE A CHILD.

[SAYINGGOODBYE.ORG](http://SAYINGGOODBYE.ORG)

SAYING GOODBYE IS A DIVISION  
OF MARIPOSA INTERNATIONAL



**Messy Church**  
St Luke's Church  
Norfolk Road  
Maidenhead  
SL6 7AX

**9th May** (NB changed date)  
**4.00-5.30pm**



## Thomas

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

Craft, worship, 2 course tea

£2.00 per child

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