

Next Sunday, 5th February: 3rd Sunday before Lent

8.00 am Holy Communion

President: The Reverend Sally Lynch

10.00 am All Age Magic Carpet Holy Communion

President: The Reverend Sally Lynch

Preacher: The Reverend Sally Lynch



4.00 pm Sunday Half Hour: Southgate House

6.00 pm Sundays at Six: Evensong for Education Sunday here

Officiant: Sonya Clarke, Preacher: The Reverend Sally Lynch

Next week's Bible readings:

Isaiah 40. 21-31 Mark. 1. 29-39

For your prayers

Please pray for:

- Our ministry and vision for the future, our giving of ourselves to God
- Peace in the world
- Pupils, staff and governors at our Primary School
- Those who live and work in Belmont Vale
- Those who have been Confirmed: adults: Sue Brett, Shelley Summers, Rachel Harris, Michael Murwisi, Katheryn Russell children: Michaela Murwisi, Daniel Harris, Katie Harris, Philippa Russell, Nathan Summers, Matthew Summers, Rhys Bartholomew
- The sick and those who care for them: Gillian Fitzpatrick, Tim Williams, Win and Len Reynolds, Nick, Katharine, Steve N. Hilary Fortnam, Stephen Sands, John Francis, Beryl Horsham, David Holden, Melanie, Betty Galliers, Carl Bartholomew, Jo Jones, Glyn Jackson, Ted Stevens, Katie, George, Ina. Those who have died recently, and those who mourn them: Vivian Oliver, Andrew Drummond, Roy Smith



to

If you are new to us...

We'd love to stay in touch with you, so please complete the following and pass it to one of the sidespeople or put it in the office mailbox.

Name (s) _____

Address _____

Contact number _____

I / we agree to our information being kept on the parish database.

Date _____ Signed _____



St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead

www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

Church Office: 01 628 622733

Week commencing

29th January 2012

Feast of Candlemas

8.00 am Holy Communion

President: The Reverend Sally Lynch

10.00 am 'Word ' All Age Service

4.00 pm Confirmation Service at Reading Minster

6.00 pm Sundays at Six: Evening Worship for Candlemas at ChOGS.

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP

If you are new to St. Luke's please do make yourself known to the ministers or the sidespeople. You may like to complete the contact form on the back of this sheet.

Everyone is welcome to join us for refreshments after the 10.00 am service in the Parish Centre. Please stay if you can.

This week at St. Luke's:

Everyone is welcome to all of our services and activities

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|---------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------------|
| Tuesday 31st | 8.30 am | Morning Prayer |
| | 7.15 pm | Holy Communion with prayer for healing |
| Wednesday 1st February | 8.30 am | Morning Prayer |
| | 10.00 am | Holy Communion |
| Thursday 2nd | 3.00 pm | Prayer Group |
| | 8.00 pm | Re Ordering Meeting |
| | 8.30 am | Morning Prayer |
| | 9.30 am | Toddler Group (Community Hall) |
| Friday 3rd | 5.00 pm | NO Evening Prayer |
| | 8.30 am | Morning Prayer |
| | 5.00 pm | Evening Prayer |
| Saturday 4th | 8.00 am | Choir Practice |
| | 9.00 am | Morning Prayer |
| | 9.30 – 11.00 am | Open PCC Meeting |

Today's readings:

First Reading: Malachi 3. 1-5

Thus says the LORD God:

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight – indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years. Then I will draw near to you for judgement; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

Second Reading: I John 1. 1-7

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life, this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us, we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

Gospel: Luke 2. 22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.' Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.' And the child's father and mother

were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul too.' There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.



Collect

Almighty and ever living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh; grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

The Post Communion prayer

Lord you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna, who lived to welcome the Messiah; may we, who have received these gifts beyond words, prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes to bring us to eternal life; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Amen

Ladies breakfasts: This new activity kicks off on 3rd March. Ladies of all ages are invited to join us for a nice breakfast and a good speaker and to be pampered from 8.45 - 10.30 am, leaving much of the day still to do what you need to do on Saturdays. More to follow but do consider coming along - and bringing a friend. Tickets on sale very soon.

And so the men don't get left out. we'd love to start a men's group too so if men have thoughts about what you'd like to do together please speak to Gerry Knight in the first instance.

St Martin in the Fields - the Connection - mobile phones. This project which we sometimes support through Don Luff and Ian Gilchrist is seeking old mobile phones and chargers for a project with people they work with. If you can help or would like to know more please see Don or Ian.

Next Inspire: I need material for the next edition of the church magazine, to be published in a few weeks. For a list of suggestions, see the poster in the Parish Centre. Please email content to inspire@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk Andrew Burdett

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Community Hall

St. Luke's Toddler Group meet in the Community Hall every Thursday morning during term time, 9:30am - 11:00am,

Brownies meet in the Community Hall every Thursday evening, 6:30pm -7:45pm.

Young people

The Sunday Club, for children aged 3 to 10 years, meet every Sunday at 10.00am in the Parish Centre, (except the first Sunday in the month, which is an all-age worship service in church).

The Sparklers, for young people aged 10+, meet in the Community Hall for discussions. Sparklers leave church before the sermon.

Emmaus Discussion Group about aspects of our faith.

Contact: Eileen Goford (T.638238)

Emmaus 05 (2nd Course)

Contact: Sue Harbour (T.670246)

Timeout

topical issues aired and shared.

Contact: Shula Tajima (T. 546889)

BRF

(discussion about bible reading notes)

Contact: Revd Dick Cheek (T.628484)

Prayer Group

1st Wednesday in the month. 3:00pm in church

etc

**The floodlighting has been sponsored this week
by Ben and Luke Darracott
in celebration of their parent's 40th Wedding Anniversary today**

What's happening...? See below, and...

...check out our website too...

www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk



WORSHIP AND SPIRITUALITY:

Pools of Stillness: An opportunity for quiet reflection in church: Next dates 15th February, and 18th April from 7.30 pm. For more details ask Sally.

Time out: A topical discussion group open to all. The next meeting will be at Clare Price's home (23 College Avenue) at 8pm on Tuesday 28th February

BRF Quiet Days: 17th April at Highmoor Hall is now fully booked. However the same day is to be repeated on the 16th May (Bluebell time) if you are interested, get in quickly. Remember that 5 people booking together pay the cost of 4. For further details please contact Enid.

Confirmation: This takes place today at 4pm in Reading Minster. Please do come along to support our 11 candidates if you can (their names are listed on the back page for your prayers). The service is not a Communion service so they will receive their first Holy Communion at the All Age service on 5th February.

Lent: There will be a leaflet shortly outlining Lenten possibilities, but please note particularly...

Quiet day with Bishop John: Bishop John has kindly agreed to lead a Lenten quiet day here on Saturday 31st March. Do put the date in your diaries. Details to come when we have them.

Westminster Abbey Annual day of Prayer: Saturday 17th March, 10.00 am - 4.00 pm in St. Margaret's church, with free admission to the abbey all day. A day called 'A Fragile Grace', led by Sister Meg Evening. I have been to a number of these and they are really helpful days. If you would like to come along, or like more details, please let me know. Sally

Prayer for St. Luke's Primary School: A reminder that we meet at school to pray at 12.15 pm on the first Wednesday each month (next, 1st Feb) and all are welcome, but please do also remember the school in your own prayers - and do read the fortnightly newsletter on the board by the church office.

Breaking Barriers: Poverty and Homelessness Action Week. Please pray during this week to an end to the barriers that trap people in poverty and homelessness. There is a list of daily prayer suggestions at the back of church on the office noticeboard.

Women's World Day of Prayer. This is being held at St. Mark's Methodist Church on Friday 2nd March at 2.00 pm with refreshments afterwards. This year's service has been prepared by the Christian Women of Malaysia. The theme is "Let Justice Prevail", echoing the present day concerns of the unjust actions endured even today by the women who are discriminated against in the fields of education and employment. All are welcome - women and men. There is limited parking at the church, so car sharing would be advisable. This is the first time the service has been held at St. Marks so your support would be appreciated. Ruth Sheppard.

Readings: If you are reading in church and would like a copy in advance to practice please let the office know

An Hour Out: Do you sometimes wish you could talk to someone about what you do and don't believe, how you feel about church services, how you try to pray, what you'd like to understand about the Bible but never dared ask? An our out is an opportunity to do just this. There are cards at the back of church explaining more. To take this offer up book your time with Sally.

INFORMATION

Open PCC Meeting: to follow up the PCC away morning we held in October we are having an extra PCC meeting from 9 am to 11 am on Saturday 4th February, starting with coffee and croissants. This meeting is open to anyone from the congregation who would like to join us.

Church Security: Would anyone locking the church please ensure that the outer gates are also padlocked every evening. Thank you.

Also, please take care of your own possessions in church, you may wish to bring handbags up to the communion rail with you. Please also be aware of not leaving property on show in cars.

Olympics traffic and parking: The council is urging local people to have their say.

LOCOG (the London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games) is organising a community engagement exercise to raise awareness about the arrangements so far and are setting up three drop-in sessions which will give everyone the opportunity to and ask questions and get more information.

The drop-in sessions are on: . Thursday 2 February - Windsor Racecourse (4pm-8pm) . Friday 3 February - Windsor Racecourse (4pm-8pm) . Saturday 4 February - Sainsbury's, Taplow (10am-2pm). Or you can put forward your views by: . email: parkingenquiry@london2012.com . post: Freepost Traffic and Parking Enquiry . telephone: 0800 0111 300 The closing date is Friday 10 February 2012.

Vestry Hour: The vicar will be in church from 11.00 am to midday on Friday's and therefore available for anyone who wishes to drop in to see her.

HELP NEEDED

Sparklers leaders: The Sparklers leaders would appreciate other adults to 'assist' in their sessions. This would not involve any preparation, just a presence as it is a requirement to have two adults present with all young people. If you think you could sometimes help please talk to Gill, Johanna, Fran, Serena or Roger.

Baby and Toddler group: This group meets in the Community Hall on Thursdays from 9.30 - 11.15 am (and comes into church sometimes) and would love to have folk from church come along to help out and just chat with mums / dads/ grandparents / carers. Please let Sally, Mary Pennington or Judith Edwards know if you can help out occasionally.

Sunday Mornings from Vansett: We need a small team of people to sit with the residents from Vansett during the Sunday morning worship. This is purely to help them follow the service and just to be on hand. Gerry Knight has very kindly volunteered to ensure that any resident who wants to attend our service is collected. If you think you can help, please speak to Sonya. Ideally I would like to draw up a rota so that no one feels that this is a duty every Sunday morning.

Palm Crosses: As usual Roger Clarke will be pleased to receive last years palm crosses as soon as possible in order to make the ash for this year.

SOCIAL and FUNDRAISING

Used Postage Stamps: I am still collecting used stamps for charities. Please collect all your stamps, particularly Christmas ones and leave in the box at the back of church. Chris Sawyers.

Saturday Ramble: Our next outing will be on Saturday 18th February when we intend to explore the countryside to the west of Reading. We will be walking a maximum of 8 miles over gentle terrain and as usual will finish the day with a pub meal. Meet at church for a 10.30 am depar-

ture. Bring a picnic lunch, drink, waterproofs, walking boots etc. For more information please call me on 01628 632626. Roger C.

Norfolk & The Broads: 5th - 7th May. We have now fully booked the hotel with 41 people coming on the holiday. However, if you would like your name to be put on a "waiting list" in case someone is not able to come at the last moment then please contact Richard or Ann Burdett on 01628 631486 for further information or a booking form.

Missions & Charities/Outward Giving: The 'Outward Giving' Sub Committee will be meeting on Thursday 9th February - 8.00pm at 5, Wentworth Crescent to discuss and consider which charitable organisations the church might look to support during 2012. Proposals will then be put before the PCC for final approval. If you have any thoughts on this matter, any charities which you feel are worthy of our support, would you please bring them to my attention, along with some supporting information, so that they may be included in our discussions. As always, thank you to all who continue to work tirelessly in the background to support various local and national organisations. May we all keep them and those they care for in our prayers. Roger Clarke

Bread and Cherries: Rhidian and I are presenting a recital of English music on Sunday 12th February at 3pm in church. Tickets at the door will be £6.00 and £5.00 concession, in aid of church funds. Please come along and support us if you can. We look forward to seeing you and your friends. Ruth Sheppard

Half term: Fun for youngsters, Norden farm are performing Peter and the Wolf with live music in the theatre. The event is suitable for anyone over 3 years old, so if you would like to hear a young person's guide to the orchestra and support Norden Farm, whatever your age come and join a group of St. Lukes Sunday clubbers on Monday 13th feb. Tickets are £7.25 each and may be bought from Ann Burdett. (cheques payable to St. Luke's PCC please)

New Videos: Watch new videos of the Christmas Tree Festival, St Luke's carol singing, the making of 250 Christingles, and the recent Youth Church Post-Christmas party online: <http://www.bitly.com/stlukesvideos>

Drinks, Coffee, Cake & Nibbles: After the service on Sunday 5th February please stay for refreshments to celebrate Richard Burdett's 50th birthday and to mark the first Communion for the newly confirmed members of our congregation.