

ST LUKE'S & CHRIST CHURCH CHELSEA

The Parish of St Luke's & Christ Church
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The Triduum: The Great Three Days



It has been said that to attend the celebrations on Easter Sunday without experiencing the liturgies of the previous three days is like only turning up for the final act of a Shakespeare play.

If we attend the last scenes of such a play, we may enjoy being present for the climactic denouement. We may share with the rest of the audience in the celebration of the story's completion. But our appreciation would be all the greater if we had spent the previous three hours engrossed in the complexities of the developing plot, pondering the motivations of the many characters, and entering into the emotional states summoned up by the playwright. Reading the synopsis in the programme is no substitute. We need to take the time to enter into the world of the play.

The Triduum – the three days that lead up to Easter Day – are much like those acts in the centre of a great play. The first two-thirds of the gospel narratives have sketched the characters and outlined the tensions. The Triduum is the period during which the seminal action happens. During this time, we

see what happens when we humans are confronted by the love of God incarnate.

On Maundy Thursday, we travel with Jesus and the disciples from the Last Supper, during which time Jesus washes his disciples' feet, to his prayer and betrayal in the Garden of Gethsemane. On Good Friday, we are present in the darkness with Jesus as he faces questioning, torture and execution. During the Easter Vigil on Saturday night, we travel with the women to the tomb, and rejoice in Christ's resurrection. It is certainly possible to skip over all these and go straight to Easter Day. But we gain so much more of the Christian story – that is, the story of our own lives – if we allow ourselves to travel on the way of the cross.

Overleaf, some of our parishioners describe their experience of the Triduum services. This Holy Week, you are very welcome to join us for any or all of our services. Worship with us, as we walk with Christ through the pain and sorrow of desertion and death to the wonderful joy of Easter.

SAM HOLE

Parishioners' Personal Views on

To me, the Maundy Thursday service is a unique and reflective one. It commemorates The Last Supper and feet washing of the disciples by Christ. Members of the congregation are invited to come forward and their feet are washed. Thinking of Christ doing this for his disciples seems such a simple act and yet such a gentle and intimate one.

The Eucharist then seems to take on a special poignancy. How must it have been at The Last Supper?

The service ends with the stripping of the altar. Everything is cleared away and the altar is left bare. The lights are dimmed. All this is done in silence. The bareness and simplicity makes me think of the bareness of the cross.

The clergy then move to the side altar and begin a watch. This is symbolic of Jesus moving to the Garden of Gethsemane and inviting his disciples to stay with him while he prayed. The congregation can sit for as long as they wish to pray and reflect.

If you have never been to the Maundy Thursday service, do give it a try. It really is a service that stays with you.

JANET GOWER

On Good Friday at St Luke's, we recall the passion of Jesus and the final few hours of Jesus's earthly life: his execution alongside two common criminals at Golgotha.

I find the one-hour service, starting at 2pm at St Luke's, a helpful way of engaging with the intensely human and cruelly painful experience that Jesus suffered on behalf of us all. It takes place in 'real time', mirroring the final hour that He was on the cross and generally consists of several hymns, choir anthems, some silence and three brief reflections from the clergy.

In particular, the silence allows us to reflect on why Good Friday is 'good'. Perhaps the cross is a symbol of humankind's rejection of God, but Christ's death on it is a required pre-condition for us to receive the joy of Easter. That looking through our individual and collective rejection, and looking forward to Easter Day – and the message of forgiveness and salvation it brings – is what puts the good in Good Friday for me.

SIMON HILLS



Jesus Washing Peter's Feet by Ford Madox Brown

Each year, I tend to invite one or two non-churchgoing friends to join me for part of the Triduum. Typically, that might be Easter Eve, the Prosecco at the end being an easy draw. Once, however, a mate came along to Good Friday. When I greeted them afterwards, their face was a picture of disappointment: "Not enough going on."

It can seem a curiously minimalist service. Beginning with a long call-and-response sung litany, we process slowly from the back to the stripped altar, with all eyes on the bare wooden cross, the Crux Fidelis (the title of the exquisite motet sung during the Veneration, when one can kiss the cross), and this is the focus throughout. The whole service, full of repetition and silence, feels longer than it lasts, with an unyieldingly sombre affect, more concentrated than the other more varied liturgies.



Jesus Christ statue being taken out of Armenian Cathedral of Lviv, Ukraine, to be stored in a bunker for protection. The last time it was taken out was during WWII.

the Services During the Triduum

Good Friday, however, is not really ‘minimalist’. No self-contained aesthetic, it’s all about context. Its sense of lack anticipates what is to come, just like, in all music, a bar of silence aches for the notes that follow. This service’s desolate emptiness – so different from every other service – is Good, because its deficit attunes us to the deep yearning we share with all creation.

MATT INGLEBY

Good Friday is one of the most important dates in the Christian calendar. On Good Friday, Christians around the world mourn and reflect on the day that Jesus Christ was executed by the Jews. The story tells us that Judas betrayed Jesus and Christians believed that when Jesus was executed, he sacrificed his own life so that everyone (including us) can be forgiven for their sins. The word ‘good’ in Good Friday means that something was holy and special.

The Good Friday service at St Luke’s is an emotional and reflective service. The service is usually very quiet, and Father Brian tells us a short version of the Easter story and the resurrection of Jesus. We try to remember to bring our palms from the Palm Sunday service which we all hold up in memory of Jesus. The exciting bit at the end of this short family service is that we all get to have a hot cross bun.

MOLLY MCVEIGH (Year 6)

The Easter Vigil

It has always puzzled me why many of those who fill our churches on Palm Sunday and Easter morning tend to forget the bit in middle: the three days of the Triduum, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday, during which we journey with Christ from the desolation of the Cross to the great triumphal rebirth of Christian hope. It’s rather like starting a race and then celebrating victory without bothering to do the hard yards in between; except that, as night falls on Holy Saturday, attendance at the Great Easter Vigil is anything but hard.

Richer in symbolism and drama than the greatest theatre, it cannot fail to stir mind and soul to awe while guiding us, through ritual and readings, to a deeper understanding of our faith. And, especially at this time of present darkness and fear, it serves as a reminder of where light and hope really reside.



The drama begins with the church in darkness as the congregation listens to different voices reading key passages from Scripture, interspersed with psalms. These trace the great arc of salvation history from Genesis and humanity’s fall to prophecies of its redemption in Christ. Priest and congregation then move into the garden for the start of the Service of Light, the kindling of the Holy Fire and the lighting of the new Easter Candle, a sign of the presence of Christ as the light of the world. The candle is processed to the Sanctuary to the singing of the ancient hymn of triumph, the Exultet when suddenly darkness is banished, the church is bathed in light and the congregation invited to respond to the joyful Easter acclamation, ‘Christ is Risen!’

A Gospel reading proclaiming the fulfilment of Scripture, the blessing of the water in the newly filled Font and a communal renewal of our Baptismal vows all serve to remind us that we are re-born in Christ; for ‘He is Risen indeed’ – as he will be in the hearts of all who take part in this ancient liturgy, the greatest and most important in the Christian year.

FLEUR DE VILLIERS

Palm Sunday – 10 April 10.30am Sung Eucharist and Procession with Donkey from St Luke’s to Christ Church 6.00pm Passiontide Compline at All Saints Fulham with Choirs from St Luke’s and All Saints Fulham	Maundy Thursday – 14 April 8.00pm Sung Eucharist with Foot Washing and Vigil at Christ Church
Monday – 11 April 7.30am Eucharist at St Luke’s 9.00am Morning Prayer at St Luke’s 9.00pm Compline at St Luke’s	Good Friday – 15 April 10.00am Children’s Service at St Luke’s 12.00pm-1.00pm Veneration of the Cross at Christ Church 2.00pm-3.00pm Passion of Our Lord at St Luke’s
Tuesday – 12 April 7.30am Eucharist at Christ Church 9.00am Morning Prayer at St Luke’s 9.00pm Compline at St Luke’s	Holy Saturday – 16 April 3.00pm Pergolesi - Stabat Mater at St Luke’s 8.00pm Vigil Service at Christ Church with Lighting of the New Fire
Wednesday – 13 April 7.30am Eucharist at St Luke’s 9.00am Morning Prayer at St Luke’s 9.00pm Compline at St Luke’s with Choir	Easter Day – 17 April 8.00am Holy Communion at St Luke’s 10.30am Sung Eucharist at St Luke’s 11.00am Sung Eucharist at Christ Church 3.00pm Choral Evensong at St Luke’s

Meet the Parishioner

Felix Fardell: 'Playing the Savoy was really cool'

Growing up, St Luke's choral scholar Felix Fardell was immersed in music. He played the swanny whistle "before I even had teeth" and when he was young would join his father, a music teacher and conductor, on the dais and "I would take a bit of orchestra rehearsal, using a breadstick."

Given his background – "I had a lot of opportunity to sing and play things from a young age" – that the 22-year-old would choose to follow music was "sort of inevitable really."

As well as singing in the choir, he plays the trombone in orchestras, big bands and smaller jazz ensembles. Music has taken him from The Savoy Hotel to Fukushima; from touring Amy Winehouse songs to shortly playing with a legendary Brazilian musician at the Barbican.

He has, however, left the conducting behind – with or without the breadstick – bar one lesson with St Luke's director of music Jeremy Summerly. "It's wiser if I stick to singing and trombone."

In fact, Jeremy was his link to St Luke's, as he had been director of music at St Peter's College at the University of Oxford when Felix was there. After university, with his friend Finn Blakey, "we were looking for somewhere to sing and because we knew Jeremy we asked if we could audition and ended up at St Luke's. It feels very natural."

Felix finds singing at St Luke's "amazing," adding: "Obviously Jeremy is incredible, I don't think there's anyone I'd rather sing for in a choral setting." It was the music director who turned him from a tenor, which he had been at school, into a bass at university. "It's slightly easier. I think the tenors have it quite hard sometimes early on a Sunday morning; to sing some of those loud top As is a tall order. I'm happy to growl at the bottom."

He enjoys the variety of the repertoire, but particularly likes singing early work such as Renaissance polyphony. Both his younger brothers spent time as choristers at Westminster Cathedral and Felix would often go and listen to that early 16th century repertoire.

Felix "slightly rebelled" when he got to Oxford as he became involved in jazz and he is now studying for a post-graduate degree at Guildhall in jazz trombone. "It's my point of difference to the rest of the family, they are all choral and orchestral."

He has played the trombone for 12 years though isn't quite sure what drew him to the instrument, "It was just put in front of me. It had a slide and was quite fun."

His involvement in music at Oxford took him on amazing trips including to Thailand's foremost jazz clubs and, in 2019, to do workshops with children in Fukushima with music education programme El Sistema. "A lot of schools

there, with the 2011 earthquake, had all their instruments destroyed. We were going over and helping them a little, taking some workshops. They got to conduct us and we did some side-by-side things," Felix says.

While he does a lot of functions like weddings – "I've spent a lot of my life playing in the background" – he performs in a broad range of gigs, including recently playing The Savoy with a big band. "That was really cool, one to tick off the bucket list."

In recent months, he played with the National Youth Jazz Orchestra (NYJO) on its tour to celebrate Amy Winehouse's life and music on the 10th anniversary of her death. It revisited early works she sang with the orchestra as a 16-year-old.

When asked for what he enjoys best, he says: "There's a lot of pressure to do cutting edge, contemporary jazz. But I really like swing. I'm also interested in Brazilian music. Their pop music I find so much more interesting than the pop music over here. It's like advanced jazz harmony." When we speak, he is looking forward to a gig with NYJO in the Barbican with a Brazilian artist called Hermeto Pascoal, nicknamed 'O Bruxo', or the sorcerer, who Miles Davis once called "The most impressive musician in the world."

Beyond that, he says, "I'm doing every gig that I get at the moment. It's hard to say what I'm going to do after graduating." The aim is to be a freelance musician. "I wouldn't say no to a full-time job in an orchestra, but they come up very rarely. Once people get those jobs they stay in them. Understandably."

The jazz and the choral work are complementary, Felix adds. "Singing is the best practice for my trombone playing. Breath control, singing long phrases helps with trombone playing. I like the variety. The variety keeps it interesting. I couldn't be stuck in one thing."

NICK CLARK



Hand-Woven Palm Crosses

The palm crosses that will be given out to worshippers on Palm Sunday have made a journey of more than 7,000 miles.

They have been crafted by members of a project called African Palms that was started in 1965 by Fr Alan Talbot, an Anglican priest who served as a missionary for six years in the Diocese of Masasi in Tanzania.

The main aim of Fr Talbot's project was to give local villagers the opportunity to earn money to supplement their incomes, while retaining their dignity and the ability to continue with their farming work.

The palm crosses are made from dried branches of the dwarf palms that grow wild in the Masasi region. The



palms are not cultivated or chemically treated and no trees are cut down in collecting the leaves for plaiting and making into palm crosses.

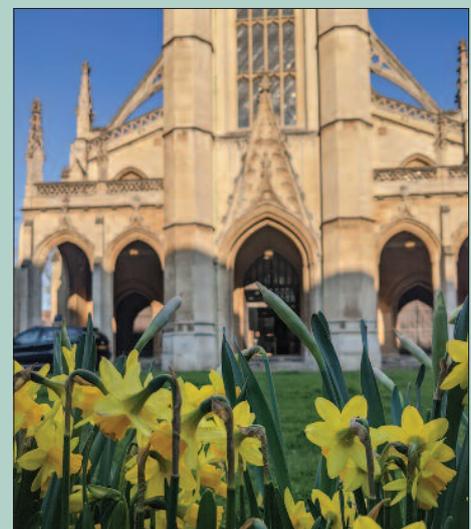
Annually, the number of palm crosses sold increased, and, in 1986, African Palms Ltd was formed. African Palms is owned by The African Palms Association charity and all profits are used for

education and healthcare projects.

Over the past five years, the trust has worked closely with the Diocese of Masasi on many projects, including clean water supplies for the villages in which the palm crosses are made, as well as hostels and safe houses. At present, work is in progress on the building of a maternity unit at Rondo hospital.



*Climate
Change
Daffies
Are Up!*



The daffodils the youth group planted in the autumn at St Luke's as part of their activities around the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) are now in full bloom.

YOUTH & CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.” 1 Peter 1:3



Easter or Ascension or Passover is a holiday from ancient times. The week before this day is called Holy Week and the decision on when to celebrate Easter was made in 325 at the Council of Nicaea: “Easter to be celebrated the first Sunday after the spring full moon.” Also, throughout religious traditions and legends, the painting of Easter eggs was born. In the 2nd century, Christians established the Feast of the Goddess of Spring, called Eastre, which coincided with the then Easter. And, according to distant legend, Eastre could be transformed into a rabbit or she could create an extraordinary rabbit that would lay an egg once a year.



The painting of Easter eggs can be traced back to the early Christians of Mesopotamia, and represents the blood of Christ shed at His crucifixion, with further symbolism being found in the shell of the egg signifying the sealed Tomb of Christ, the cracking of which conveys his resurrection from the dead. According to the religious tradition, when Jesus’s mother Mary went to Rome to welcome the emperor, she gave him a red egg, a sign of Christ’s blood. Since then, Christians paint eggs red and

give them to others. Another legend says that Mary Magdalene, one of Jesus’ followers, wandered the Roman Empire preaching the Resurrection, carrying eggs as a visual aid.



Today, painting eggs is a well-established tradition and the egg is a symbol of the Resurrection of Jesus. However, nowhere in the Bible is either the painted egg or the rabbit mentioned.

Christ is Risen! Alleluia!
Anna

Easter Holiday Activities For Children Reception and Over

Monday, 4 April, 10.00am-12.00noon

V&A Museum Visit. Meet at 9.45am in front of the museum and bring a packed lunch.

Wednesday, 6 April, 10.00am-1.00pm

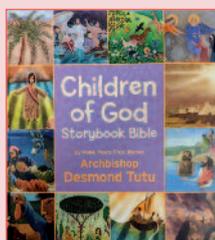
St Luke's Vestry, Art & Craft and Pancake-Making

For more information or to book a place, please email me on annastamenova@chelseaparish.org or call the parish office. Please note that we have limited places available.

Bible Books for Children

Children Of God

By Archbishop Desmond Tutu



Mummy and I read the bit at the front of the book that Archbishop Desmond Tutu wrote – he writes three important messages: do what is right, be kind to one another and be friends with God.

We loved the pictures in this book, they were really colourful. All the stories are short and easy to understand with really clear messages.

Joseph Feeds and Forgives was one of our favourites (my brother's name is Joseph!), and one of the messages at the beginning is, “God finds good in all things.” We also liked the mini prayer at the end of this story, “Dear God, let my love be stronger than my anger.” We talked about how that can be difficult sometimes.

We would definitely recommend this story book Bible from Archbishop Tutu, who was a Nobel Peace Prize winner and an amazing man. My Mummy says that one big lesson from this book, and from Sunday school and school in general, is to “treat other people how you would like to be treated.” What a simple lesson – imagine if every one did that?



Jessica and her Mummy enjoy reading the book

Jessica Barnes, Year 3

Eloise & The 25th World Scout Jamboree



My name is Eloise, and I am going to the World Scout Jamboree (WSJ) in August 2023, which takes place in South Korea. I joined the 9th Chelsea Scouts Group in 2015, first in the Cubs group and now I am in the 1st RBK&C Explorer scouts.

variety of activities and is an educational event to promote peace and understanding.

The jamboree takes place every four years in a different country. It was in 1920 when the first World Scout Jamboree was held in the Olympia Halls in London. The upcoming jamboree, the 25th edition, will be held from 1-12 August 2023 in SaeManGeum, Jeollabuk-do, South Korea. Every jamboree is given a theme and the theme of the 2023 jamboree is "Draw Your Dream."

To get into the jamboree, I filled in an application form and was then invited to a selection day with around 60 other children. I was interviewed and had to take part in teamwork activities. Wolf, the group scout leader, had to also write a reference for me and all the other Explorers and the scouts who applied.



Eloise in centre

I enjoy going camping with the scouts and helping the Cub and Beaver sections. My scout name is Bagheera and I have earned a lot of badges. I earn my badges by taking part in certain activities and through charity work like the bake

sale at church on Remembrance Sunday and sponsored walks. I am also a Ranger with the 10th Chelsea Guides. I joined Rainbows in 2012 and have been a member ever since.

The World Scout Jamboree is the largest regular event organised by the Scout Movement, gathering up to 40,000 people from all over the world. It includes a wide

I have to raise £4,000 to be able to go and will be raising money with my jamboree unit, the David Attenbro's, and my scout group. But I still need to raise much more outside of scouts and am writing to ask for your help in raising enough money to go on this adventure. I will be running a bake sale on Mothering Sunday after the 9.30am service, where there will be lots of delicious cakes! If you want to keep track of my journey then you can follow my Unit's instagram 25th WSJ-Unit 28.

ELOISE GEORGE-HILLIARD



Joan Holdsworth wonderful flowers for all occasions
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email: joanholdsworth@btinternet.com

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Zooming In On Jesus

As I sat at Rob Browning's funeral, I pondered not only the many geopolitical changes he had seen over his 94 years of life, but also the changes in our Church of England, in which his dad was a priest. More recently, for the first time, Rob would have been able to Zoom into our regular services, while various stages of lockdown prevented us worshipping together 'in real life'.

Covid has undoubtedly spurred innovation in our parish. Not only have our online services been well attended – with videos on YouTube averaging 75 viewings a week at a time and on a device to suit the viewer – but we have run online Lent groups, created a telephone-based buddying system and instituted 'getting back together' coffee mornings.

We have supported the wider community through homeless charity Glass Door, the weekly foodbank

and by providing a location for vaccine buses and a testing centre. As individuals, we celebrated acts of kindness and support, but we missed the immediacy and bodily presence of worshipping God together in a sacred space. Perhaps we became observers more than participants?

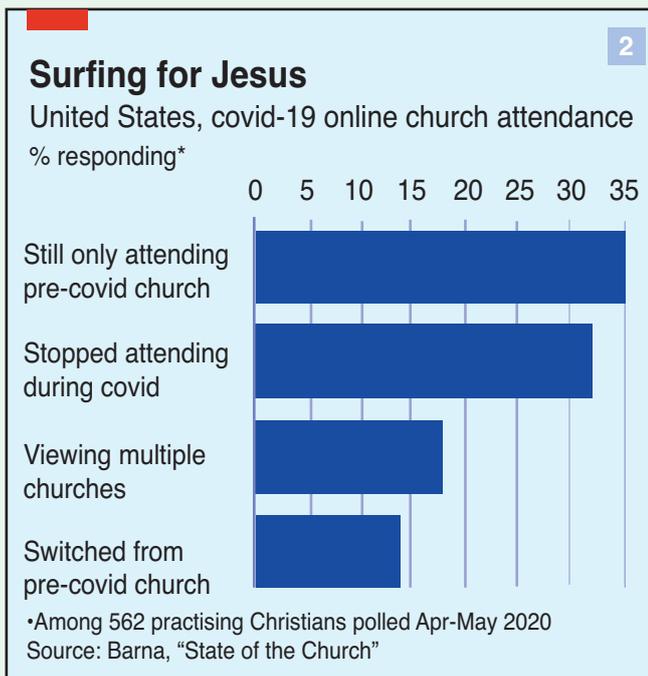
As the former treasurer, you'd expect me to encourage everyone to think about our financial commitment to our parish. Unlike so many other churches in our diocese, we have reserves we have been able to tap as hall hire, fair income and cash collections have diminished. And we have been lucky in that the income from the testing centre at St Luke's has shored up our cash balances. But these need rebuilding.

What might the longer-term effects of Covid be? Or to be more blunt, has the pandemic given us the excuse not to turn up, or even to church hop? A recent chart in The Economist newspaper highlighted this risk, with just a third of people in the US still only attending their pre-pandemic church – see table.

As the remaining coronavirus restrictions are lifted, we will have an opportunity to reflect as a church community on what has worked well, what we want to keep, what we want to return to and what can we let go of.

In doing so, we should think about how we can build on our community involvement, not just in a post-pandemic world but in the longer term too. As we prepare to celebrate the 200th anniversary of St Luke's consecration in 2024, the PCC is considering this vision for the future now so that our parish can look forward with confidence to the next 200 years. Please get involved in the debate.

SIMON HILLS



What the Clergy Have Been Reading



White Fang

As I mentioned in a recent Christ Church sermon, for Christmas my in-laws gave me a selection of classic American fiction. Jack London's great novel White Fang was among them. What a wonderful story for a dark winter's evening – I only hope I didn't spoil the ending for the young parishioner who, at the end of the service, showed me the copy that he's currently reading!

SAM HOLE

St Luke's Choir Sings At Canterbury

Canterbury Cathedral is a special place to sing. The Gothic building is stunning, and the Willis organ was beautifully restored within days of the start of the first lockdown two years ago. Our reception in Canterbury was exemplary – we were made to feel welcome and our music-making was much appreciated.



St Luke's Choir at Canterbury Cathedral (pictured below)



The Three Choirs

We took some music well known to the cathedral choir – by Vierne, Sigurbjörnsson, Dyson, and Elgar – but also Matthew Martin's Responses, Richard Lloyd's Hereford Service and Bob Chilcott's Be thou my vision, which are not normally sung in the cathedral.

Rupert Jeffcoat indulged himself at the 'new' organ, treating the congregation to some sounds that they had not heard before. The livestreams of our three services, two Evensongs and a Eucharist, were extremely professionally handled (in the most un-invasive way imaginable), and the flurry of compliments from viewers around the world was gratifying.

Watch at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gilXHC3mpUY&list=PLPWrcHf2bX_bLytjGasMGe48FNfeIDYT3&index=18

The Three Choirs (St Luke's, All Saints Fulham and St Matthew's, Kensington Olympia) service was held for the first time in St Matthew's, Kensington Olympia. St Matthew's is an Anglo-Catholic church and the evening

office is Vespers rather than Evensong. Tom Williams, formerly of St Martin in the Fields, is director of music at St Matthew's and served up a rich feast of polychoral music by Victoria and Gabrieli.

There is nothing quite like the sound of 50 voices swamping a relatively small church with wall-to-wall polyphony, and at the Magnificat, the assembled singers divided themselves into three spaced choirs. The next Three Choirs event will be at home in St Luke's in July.

JEREMY SUMMERLY



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brianleathard@chelseaparish.org

Associate Vicar: The Revd Dr Sam Hole
samhole@chelseaparish.org

Curate: The Revd Samuel Rylands
samuelrylands@chelseaparish.org

Operations Manager and Bursar: John McVeigh
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(Direct Line: 020 7351 6133)
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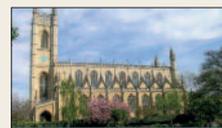
Children's Administrator: Anna Stamenova
annastamenova@chelseaparish.org

For enquiries regarding baptism, confirmation (adults and children), marriages, funerals and home communion visits, please contact the clergy via the Parish Office. Also for the Planned Giving Schemes for both churches.

Follow us on   

ST LUKE'S

Sydney Street,
London SW3 6NH



Churchwardens: Jamie Gibbs and Liz Brutus
Director of Music: Jeremy Summerly 07956 801 223
Organist: Rupert Jeffcoat

CHRIST CHURCH

Christchurch Street,
London SW3 4AS



Churchwardens: Jonathan and Louisa Price
Nick Smith
Director of Music: Gareth Wilson 07939 378 759
Organist: Samuel Ali

Safeguarding Officers:

(for any safeguarding issues in the Parish)

Guy Tobin (Mob: 07979 596 009)

Lizzie Watson-Steele (Mob: 07855 455559)

SUNDAY SERVICES

0800 Holy Communion	St Luke's
1030 Sung Eucharist	St Luke's
1100 Sung Eucharist	Christ Church
1500 Choral Evensong	St Luke's

MORNING PRAYER

Monday	0900	Christ Church
Tuesday - Friday	0900	St Luke's

YOUTH & CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

Children's Ministry Administrator Anna Stamenova:
Please contact Anna for any enquiries about children's groups, registrations and schools via the parish office, or annastamenova@chelseaparish.org

Children's Groups During Sunday Services

Sunday School at St Luke's (10.30am) and Christ Church (11.00am).

A crèche is available at both churches.

Youth Events for 11 + please contact Samuel Rylands for more details: 020 7351 7365, samuelrylands@chelseaparish.org

ABC Club During Term Time

Thursdays 1000-1130

Parent, carer and toddler group.

Uniformed Organisations all at St Luke's Hall

The Rainbows contact is 10thchelsea.rainbows@gmail.com.

They meet at 5pm to 6 pm on Tuesdays.

Brownies contact is 10thchelsea.brownies@gmail.com.

They meet at 6pm to 7.30pm on Tuesdays.

Guides for girls 10 years to 14 years and

Rangers 14 years to 18 years

Their contact is 10thchelseaguides@gmail.com.

They meet at 6pm to 7.30pm on Tuesdays.

Beavers are the youngest part of the Scout movement.

For 6 to 8 year olds it gives them a taste of what it means to be a scout, preparing them for the move to becoming a cub when they turn eight. They meet between 5.00pm-6.30pm on Thursdays.

Cubs are for boys and girls aged 8 to 10½. They meet between 7.00pm-8.30pm on Thursday evenings.

Scouts are for boys and girls aged 10½ to 14. They meet between 7.00pm-9.00pm on Friday.

Explorers are for boys and girls aged 14 to 18. They meet between 7.00pm-9.00pm on Monday.

Contact for Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers is wolf2872@gmail.com

All events take place in St Luke's Hall

PARTY VENUES FOR HIRE

The Hall of Remembrance, Flood Street, St Luke's Hall, St Luke's Street, and The Hut, Alpha Place. All are available to hire for children's parties, workshops, rehearsals and public or private meetings. All halls are light and airy, on the ground floor with high ceilings. For more information contact tel: 020 7351 6133.

OPEN FOR PRAYER

St Luke's is open for prayer from
0900-1530 Monday to Saturday

The PCC of St Luke's and Christ Church is a Registered Charity, No 1133092

FROM OUR REGISTERS



Bear Biddle with his parents Ami & Charles at his baptism in Christ Church



On left, the baptism at St Luke's of Felix Kaufman with his mother Lydia. On right, the baptism at St Luke's of Lydia with her mother Mary Anne.



Milo Spink with his parents at his baptism at St Luke's

DATES FOR THE DIARY

APCM

Wednesday, 18 May, 7.00pm, St Luke's Hall

Summer Fair and Emergency Services Day
Saturday, 11 June, 12.00noon-3.00pm, St Luke's

Ordination to Priesthood for Deacons in the Kensington Area
Saturday, 25 June, 2.00pm, St Luke's

Confirmation
Sunday, 26 June, 10.30am, St Luke's

Christ Church Dedication
Sunday, 3 July, 11.00am
United Parish Service at Christ Church



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Teaching the Liturgy – Prayer

We continue our series exploring the various parts of our eucharistic liturgy

“In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.” With these words from the celebrant, we sit or kneel and prepare to pray. Except, of course, much of our service so far has already been an act of prayer and worship. We have already, for example, stood and prayerfully sung hymns in praise and adoration of God. We have probably prayed with thanksgiving for all we have been blessed with. We have certainly prayed in penitence for our sins, and been reminded of God’s forgiveness.

When the celebrant invites us to pray, he or she is inviting us to begin a very particular kind of prayer – the intercessions. Intercessory prayer is the kind of prayer in which we bring before God the needs of ourselves and others. The choice of prayers is up to the person leading the intercessions (though the clergy provide a framework if desired). It is that person’s role to ponder the week’s readings as well as all that is going on in the world, our local community and the church, so as to put into words our parish’s heartfelt prayers to God. We are always open to new volunteers putting themselves forward, and provide training: please speak to a member of the clergy if you would be interested in helping with this ministry.



‘The Lord’s Prayer. Pilgrim’. Drawn by the Ukrainian artist Piotr Stachiewicz (1858-1938).

What does intercessory prayer change? At the least, it changes us. When we intercede for the world, we are, in part, asking God to help us to see the world through God’s own eyes. And so, as we pray, we may sense a pull on ourselves to respond: to send money to those in need; to petition our government for a matter of justice; to forgive someone we believe has wronged us.

But we also hope that prayer does more than this. When we see the horrors in Ukraine and cry out in prayer, we cannot but hope that God will act to bring about peace and justice. The idea that God gets involved is, it must be said, fraught theological terrain. Why should God expect us to pray before God gets involved? Why would a loving God get involved in some horrifying situations and not others? We may never know the answers to these questions this side of heaven. We may always pray, not

knowing quite what is happening. But we trust that in prayer we are being bound in one community in love of God and love of one another. We ask that God’s kingdom come, and God’s will be done. We pray in hope.

SAM HOLE



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