

# ST LUKE'S & CHRIST CHURCH CHELSEA

The Parish of St Luke's & Christ Church  
St Luke's Crypt  
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WWW.CHELSEAPARISH.ORG

## CONFIRMATION 2022

Becoming confirmed is an important time in ones life. On 26th June, 21 of our parishioners were confirmed at St Luke's. We asked some of the candidates to write their thoughts on confirmation and what it means to them.

"I want to be confirmed to affirm my Christian belief and receive the gifts of the Holy spirit. Being confirmed would make me feel like I'm living my life as a good Christian."

**Doris Borwick**

"Having our daughter baptised by Father Sam Hole, made me really consider my relationship with my faith and the Church. It became a place of hope, questioning, community and learning, this was something that brought peace within me and thought for the future.

I had begun to understand the importance and I have also become aware of the gravity of the role my faith has in my life.

Throughout the year Sundays have become a time for reflection, understanding the true meaning of patience and finding comfort in the safety of my future even when I have felt alone or uncertain.

When I decided to confirm my faith, it brought me joy and happiness in the knowledge that I had reached a place in my adult life where I had a deeper and further understanding of the need for a life within St Luke's and Christ Church and Christianity, as well as the abundance of support that it had to offer.

The Confirmation service brought a calm and a brightness to my way of seeing the world and has brought much comfort to my everyday life and a pride I didn't know I would have.

It has become an important aspect and a large role in our family's lives and I have seen much change in myself I was not expecting, and I will be forever grateful for this."

**Clementine McGaw**

"I can truly worship God." **Jack**



"It is starting a new journey in my Christian life." **Molly**

"I was baptised, and I would like to carry on my life as a Christian and show my believe of God." **Iris**

"I want to show my loyalty and love to God." **Grace and Ted**

"I show my love to God by receiving the Holy Spirit." **Clara**

"it is a good way to show your love and be proud of our Christian religion." **Bede and Alicia**

"I can remember God and He is teaching us to be kind to each other." **Alba**

"It means becoming fully part of the congregation of our parish and when I go to the secondary school my Christian faith will go deeper." **Rosie R.**

"I'm able to fully and expressively to give my worship and respect towards God." **Sofia**

"I want to feel that I'm always with God." **Olivia**

"It will help me to live good Christian life." **Mack**

"It makes me closer to God." **Violet**

"I am showing that I am one with God." **Harry**

# Meet the Parishioner

## Lizzie Watson-Steele

Lizzie Watson-Steele grew up toying with the idea of being an obstetrician like her grandfather: “I wanted to deliver babies – I probably still do!” Instead she took a different path, becoming a lawyer in the City.

When we speak on Zoom in May, Lizzie is not feeling like a high flyer, though. In fact, she is laid up with Covid in her house in Battersea, and looking, she jokes, like a “Victorian invalid”. She is on the mend despite a hospital visit earlier in the week. “I’ve been completely floored by it.”

Lizzie’s family – husband Jolyon, twins Hector and Ottie and youngest Beatrice – go to both St Luke’s and Christ Church – they started attending when the twins, nearly nine, were not yet a year old. “I like both churches, I think they’re brilliant. I’ve recently spent more time at St Luke’s because the timing of the service is better for us.”

Setting down roots in London, she wanted to find a church that was “us”; one that was “a bit like a village church. Someone said Christ Church. Then the school became a consideration, but we haven’t moved away from it. It continues to be a huge part of what we do.”

Early impressions were good: “We liked it and wanted to come back. I thought: ‘This is really fun – welcoming and a real sense of community - and no one is telling me off if the kids are screaming.’ And I love singing and you got to have a really good sing. It was really noisy and the crèche was active. We thought it was great.”

Lizzie has become ever more involved in the church, first as a sidesperson, and is now Safeguarding Officer at Christ Church and sits on the PCC and is on the Deanery Synod.

Her 17 years in law started after she applied for the last vacation scheme open at law firm Clifford Chance and she got it. That became a training contract offer and she qualified into structured finance. “I went from not knowing anything to going into an area that was quite technical.”

She started in the City in 2005. In the early years she was working 20-hour days. Though she says there is more pushback now from the younger generation these days and a better focus on mental health and well-being.



Then came the financial crash in 2008, when banks including Lehman Brothers went down. She was on secondment on the trading floor of a bank in Canary Wharf as the chaos started unfolding.

There was a lot of work for the lawyers “picking up the pieces” but it was tough. She became a professional support lawyer, teaching other lawyers to be better lawyers, and then moved into an area called corporate trust.

With two lawyers working all hours (Jolyon is also a lawyer), something had to give. “I had a candid discussion with myself about whether it was time for a change. And I think it probably was.” She left for Bank of New York Mellon to be an in-house lawyer where she has been for the past five years.

While the pandemic was “challenging” it brought the family closer together, and a highlight has been eating supper at the table each night. “All being around the table together was a complete joy.” Food and time spent together as a family outside or in water – and singing – are all things that make her very happy.

NICK CLARK

## Rest a while

Have you got some time off lined up soon? Perhaps you are heading off to sunnier climes. Perhaps you will be resting at home – spending time with a hobby or enjoying our local parks.

In a few weeks' time, the summer holidays will begin. Wherever and however we spend it, it's an important time. It's vital that we allow ourselves the space to step away from our usual routines and commitments. After months of the same work, we may well be feeling tired. And that tiredness can come in many forms. We might be physically tired. We might be emotionally tired, or psychologically worn out. We could even recognise a spiritual fatigue in ourselves – something that is quite likely bound up with tiredness in other areas of our life.

Each year I take a retreat of a few days away. I typically go to a monastery where I can join in with the rhythms of prayer of the

place. But it is not just this worship that I find spiritually restorative. It is the chance to change my pattern of life and identify the source of my own tiredness.

On the first morning of my retreat, I finish breakfast and consider what I will do with the time. One year I found myself longing to read; another time to write and reflect; once I headed on a long walk. I've realised that the period of free and unstructured time helps me to identify what has been lacking in my life.

I've noticed something similar as I return from a few weeks of Shared Parental Leave. It was a memorable time – wonderfully relaxing in some ways, surprisingly intense in others. But I have noticed how, even over that short time, some of my exhaustion was not the physical tiredness of looking after a child but rather



the sudden step away from some of the things I find most stimulating in my daily routine.

So it's crucial that as a society we preserve a shared pattern of rest and recharging. The ancient Israelites had a good idea – the weekly Sabbath set aside for God, and a regular array of feast days to take them away from the day-to-day and remind them of the true purpose of their lives. For us, today, that weekly moment of rest is squeezed by our relentless society. Even holidays like Christmas and Easter can end up feeling draining – perhaps depending on how many relatives we try to visit! In this light, the summer months matter as a time to take stock of our lives. It's a time when we can commit ourselves to the things – be that sport, or reading, or worship – that we all too often feel we can't commit to as much as we'd like.

So, enjoy the summer! And have fun with all that you do.



# Teaching the Liturgy – The Dismissal

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

When the celebrant begins to pray the words ‘Almighty God’, the congregation member who has forgotten where we are in the service might be rather confused. For there are three congregational prayers that begin with these two words: the Prayer of Preparation at the very start of the service (‘Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open...’); the Prayer of Penitence (‘Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you...’); and, finally, the Prayer after Communion (‘Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us...’). The prayers to ‘Almighty God’ bookend our service. Just as we have begun by acknowledging our need that God help us worship, so too at the end we use the same words to give thanks to God for the spiritual sustenance with which we have been provided in the eucharist.

This repetition of the ‘almighty’ character of God might seem to imply that the distinguishing characteristic of God is God’s power – as if by getting close to God we were cosying up to the largest child in the class, and so protecting ourselves from all the bullies. But look more closely: exactly what kind of power are we dealing with in God? Two clues present themselves in the final words of our service.

First, quoting Paul’s letter to the Romans (Rom 12.1) we pray that we offer God ‘our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice’. Being a ‘living sacrifice’ hardly seems like earthly power –

indeed, it surely reminds us of our calling to live like Christ, ‘who came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many’ (Mt 20.28).

Second, we pray for peace. As the celebrant asks God’s blessing on us, he or she prays for us to be filled with ‘the peace of God, which passes all understanding’. And in the final words of our service, we pray that we ‘go in peace to love and serve the Lord’.

Being a ‘living sacrifice’; experiencing and living out the ‘peace of God’. This is what it looks like to live in the power of the almighty God. And if you want to see what that kind of life looks like, just look around the congregation. For here we see people who are living out God’s call on their lives in a whole multitude of ways. We see parents and carers; people in all kinds of employment and volunteering; individuals offering acts of friendship, forgiveness and compassion; acts of mission and evangelism for God’s presence in the world.

As the prayer attributed to Teresa of Avila puts it, ‘Christ has no body now but yours, no hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes with which he looks compassion on this world. Christ has no body now on earth but yours.’ In the Dismissal we are sent out to be the people of God in the world, living and working to the praise and glory of God.

SAM HOLE

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We are so excited to be hosting our graduation for our 2022 graduates at St Luke's in July.

If you'd like to support us, visiting us at the cafe would be wonderful, and we also have a Justgiving



page. <https://justgiving.com/crowdfunding/fairshot>

BIANCA TRAVELLA

## Christ Church Garden Award



As many visitors to Christ Church's gardens will have noted, spring and early summer bring an explosion of flowers and greenery, peaking in late May and early June with a profusion of roses in both the north and south gardens.

Leading the way were an exceptionally good show of yellow and blue irises in the South Garden and the colourful rich pink rhododendron in the North Garden. Then came the peonies with their tall flowers opening above a mass of green leaves. Ground covering campanula with its many blue

flowers, pink pelargoniums, and the first blooming of some of the dahlias were followed by newly planted, burgundy-flowered astilbes, and scabious waving their blue flowers.

We are happy to report that the Chelsea Gardens Guild also thought our roses were outstanding, awarding us the prize for best roses in this year's summer garden competition.

We hope you will continue to visit and enjoy the garden this summer.



BILL MORROW & VICKY JACOBSEN



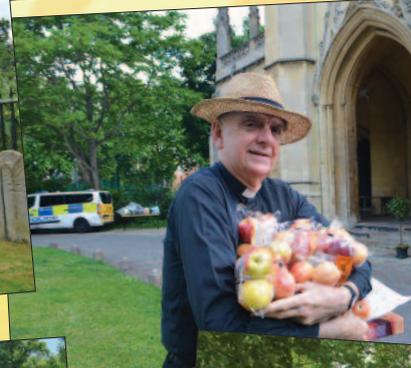
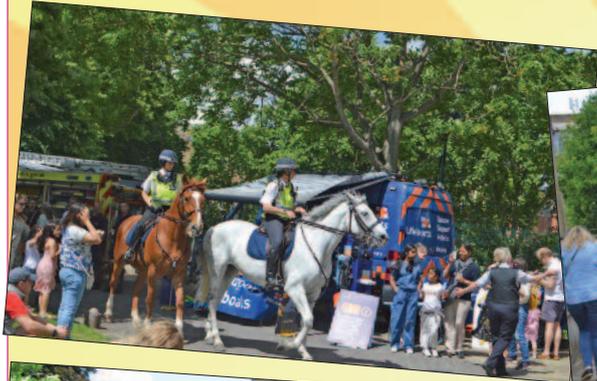
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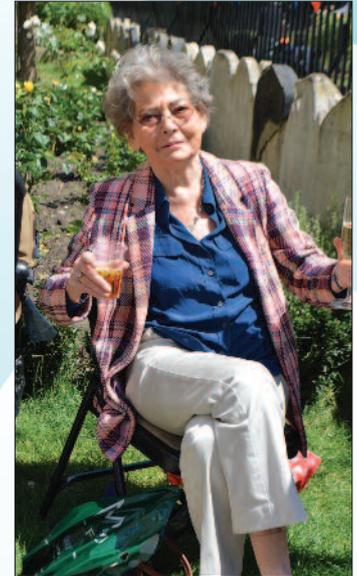
# Summer Fair and Emergency Services

*It has been a very busy month at the church! Here are some photos from the several events that have taken place; including the Church Jubilee Party and the Summer Fair and Emergency Services Day.*



# Day

## Christ Church Street Residents' Jubilee Street Party Celebration, 5 June 2022



# Ordinations at St Luke's

'Send down your Holy Spirit on your servant, for the office and work of a priest in your Church.' These words were spoken twelve times in St Luke's on 25 June. The event was the ordination of priests in Kensington Area, and – although none of those priested serves in our parish – we were pleased to be asked to host the service.

All twelve had been ordained deacon last year. As such, all were already ordained ministers, able to lead particular services and perform particular functions. But it is only after being priested that they would be able to preside at the celebration of the eucharist, and to bless people and places. (Regular congregation members may remember our very own Fr Samuel



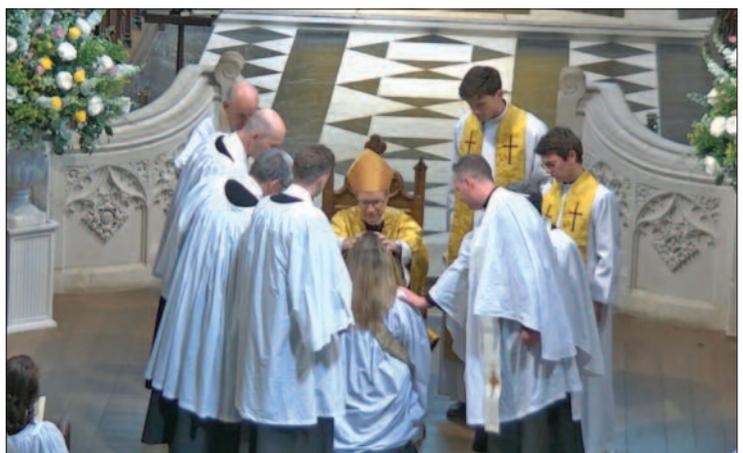
being ordained priest last year, and beginning in these responsibilities for the first time.)

Some of those being priested had had to come from the further reaches of west London to get to Chelsea. But seven of the dozen people ordained serve at Holy Trinity Brompton, and so had a rather easier journey! All, however, had spent the last three days on a pre-ordination retreat at the St Katharine Foundation in east London. That retreat was a chance for each to take stock of the last year of ministry since their ordination as a deacon, and to prepare for their new responsibilities as a priest.

It was also a service filled with emotion for the Bishop of Kensington, Graham Tomlin. St Luke's may well have been the venue for his last ordination

service. Over the summer he is moving to Lambeth Palace to set up a new Centre for Cultural Witness, which will seek to communicate Christian wisdom to a wider public audience. As such, he will no longer have responsibility for the training and ordination of new clergy.

The service went off in true St Luke's style, with the choir as ever in fine voice. Each newly ordained priest received, as is traditional, a Bible, to remind them of the Word they are to proclaim and live by in the years ahead. And, in a fitting light touch for such a joyous occasion, as the newly ordained processed out of the church at the end of the service, the organ



celebrated with Mendelssohn's War March of the Priests. Whether on the march or not, we give thanks for those ordained, and pray for them in this new stage of their ordained ministry.

SAM HOLE

# YOUTH & CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES



*"Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring a reward from him."*

Psalm 127:3



In half-term, during Jubilee week, the children started making a card for the Queen. When it is completed we will send it to her.



Sunday School art creation



Sunday School children celebrated Ascension Day.



Love your neighbour as yourself, says Jesus



Sunday school children created this beautiful art at Christ Church

Sunday school children of both churches were very excited and worked very hard this last term to learn about God's love for us and for others, Jesus's Ascension, the coming of the Holy Spirit upon us and more. They made beautiful crafts and talked about their learning

and experiences at the end of the seasons. The children worked in small groups and created the wonderful new art pieces, which are in the South wall at Christ Church. It's very lovely to see them coming to church and showing their creations to their friends and family. It is also important to remember that not only do we have our own families and our church family, we are also part of God's family. God's family is massive; it includes not just all the people in our two churches but everyone in all the churches all over the world – how amazing is that? We are all members of God's family and each and every one of us is equally as important as the other and we all have a special part to play.

The Bible stories in the Sunday school are presented in language understandable by children and they are

often engaged in the story telling. Their listening skills are improving as fewer parents are now coming to the Sunday school, which is more beneficial for the children and the same time parent/carers have a quiet time for themselves attending the church service. One happy parent shared with me "I send my daughter to the Sunday school, and we can enjoy the service and she is very excited when she comes back and wants to talk about the craft she made and the story behind it. So, after the service we actually talk about God." It is wonderful to hear that the children enjoy the Sunday school and looking forward to the next week.

Thank you to the leaders and helpers, parents and carers for their huge help, devotion and having time to make the Sunday school enjoyable for the children

to learn stories about God's love and working together as a team.

I would like to specially thank to our wonderful local artist Cornelia Hartman, who helped me to visualize our children's Sunday Bible stories by drawing the beautiful images displayed at Christ Church. The children from both churches are very excited that can be part of our amazing artwork, which will continue to explore the creativity of our children and learn that when we give what we have to Jesus, no matter how small or insignificant we think that may be, he can take it and bless it and do more with it than we can ever imagine, because in God's hands something very small can be turned into something AMAZING!

Two years after the Pandemic, the RideLondon cycling event returned and it was great fun riding across central London and it was wonderful to have a number of parents and their children join Yanna and me.



RideLondon cycling event

Thank you very much,  
Love, Anna

# God's Garden – Nature Trails

Since being awarded our Bronze Eco Church Award, we have been stepping up our efforts to consider how we can better care for God's creation. For instance, we have been working with the Recycled Candle Company who collect and reuse our wax candles each month. We also ensured that as much of the remaining items from the Summer Fair were dropped off at local charity stores to be reused, with anything else being collected by Junk Monkey who sell, recycle, or dispose in an environmentally friendly manner.

However, one of the major things we did in the last month was the Nature Trial, organised by Anna and our Eco Advocates. This was a major success with the Sunday Schools, and with a tailor-made session for the Youth Group too!

The Nature trail consisted of a week of "Celebrating All Things Bright and Beautiful in God's Garden". St Luke's and Christ Church participated in "Love your Burial Ground/Churches Count on Nature" for the first time.

The allocated week coincided with the Queen's 70th Jubilee Weekend so we aimed to find 70 varieties of God's creations. Being an inner city church with relatively small gardens and only the remnants of our graveyard left, we had limited sources. Plus, beginners' naivety and sometimes

over enthusiasm hindered results. Birds and most insects fled from Sunday School



*Taking Part in Treasure Trail*

children although bees on the lavender attracted tiny fingers. Gardeners mowed the grass two days before obliterating dandelions, daisies and buttercups. The Youth Group and guests at our Jubilee Tea, identified plants, did the Nature Count

and followed Treasure Trails. Racing to finish caused difficulties finding clues on gravestones or spying the clusters tiny orange flowers on Honeycomb Buddleia covered with insects. Prizes were packets of wildflower seeds - some of which were scattered on the lawn. A good reason for No Mow May next year!



*Counting species of "All things Bright and beautiful" in our church gardens to celebrate Her Majesty*

Our Nature Count results were more Ruby than Platinum. Creatures found included an inquisitive crow guarding the entry to the Office, a Limehawk Moth and a rat in the state of being recycled or up-cycled (Thank you to the Millie who removed it).

We now realise we have more to do to make our gardens eco-friendly, however we had lots of fun and are thankful to God for His wonderful gardens.

If you want to get involved in our eco projects or have any ideas for how we can better care for God's creation as a church, then please do get in touch with Fr Samuel or our Eco Advocates!

More information on this nature trail can be found at: [https://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/mission\\_county/london/](https://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/mission_county/london/)



*A Limehawk Moth*



*The Inquisitive Crow*

**THE ECO TEAM**

# FROM OUR REGISTERS



Felicity Hole-Kempson's baptism at St Luke's



Poppy, Jack and Baby Willow Greenall

## A BIG THANK YOU FOR THE SUMMER FAIR & EMERGENCY SERVICE DAY

We would like to thank the following for their amazing donations to the fair:

- |                            |                               |                           |                           |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Amelia's                   | Custom Golf Works             | Partridges                | London Fire Brigade       |
| Chelsea Arts Club          | Sunningdale                   | Paxton & Whitfield        | RNLI                      |
| Chelsea Creperie           | Finns Chelsea                 | Peter Jones               | Community Police Officers |
| Chelsea Funeral Directors  | Fourseason Boutique           | Phoebe Manners            | Dog Section               |
| Chelsea Green Shoe Repairs | Hari's Hair Salon             | Fragrances                | Wellbeing Dogs            |
| Chelsea Green Valet        | Hayes, Hanson & Clark         | The Fulham Bluebellles    | Metropolitan Police       |
| Chelsea Swim Spa           | Jago's                        | The NRA                   | Mounted Branch            |
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| Elystan Street             | Le Petit Beefbar              | The Surprise              | Parks Police              |
| Chestertons                | Lea & Sandeman                | Triyoga Chelsea           |                           |
| Cinquecento                | Lewis and Wayne Dry           | Villa Mamas               |                           |
| Nipa Thai                  | Cleaning and Laundry Services | Marissa & Donald Milligan |                           |

Also a big thank you to all the sponsors, volunteers and everyone who came to support. It is much appreciated and is going towards a great cause, our summer youth programme.

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**Golden Charter**

# CONTACT PARISH OFFICE : 020 7351 7365

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brianleathard@chelseaparish.org

**Associate Vicar: The Revd Dr Sam Hole**  
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**Curate: The Revd Samuel Rylands**  
samuelrylands@chelseaparish.org

**Operations Manager and Bursar: John McVeigh**  
johnmcveigh@chelseaparish.org

## General Enquiries

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parishoffice@chelseaparish.org

**Property Administrator: Alicia Hilliard**  
(Direct Line: 020 7351 6133)  
hallbookings@chelseaparish.org

**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: Liz Brutus and Barbara Schwepcke  
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](mailto: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 13 +** please contact Samuel Rylands for more details: 020 7351 7365, [samuelrylands@chelseaparish.org](mailto: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](mailto:10thchelsea.rainbows@gmail.com).  
They meet at 5pm to 6 pm on Tuesdays.

**Brownies** contact is [10thchelsea.brownies@gmail.com](mailto:10thchelsea.brownies@gmail.com).  
They meet at 6pm to 7.30pm pm on Tuesdays.

**Guides** for girls 10 years to 14 years and **Rangers** 14 years to 18 years  
Their contact is [10thchelseaguides@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:wolf2872@gmail.com)

## 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



This magazine has been printed on recycled paper.