

# ST LUKE'S & CHRIST CHURCH CHELSEA

The Parish of St Luke's & Christ Church  
St Luke's Crypt  
Sydney Street  
London  
SW3 6NH  
Tel: 020 7351 7365  
parishoffice@chelseaparish.org

NOVEMBER 2022 PARISH MAGAZINE ISSUE NO. 209

WWW.CHELSEAPARISH.ORG

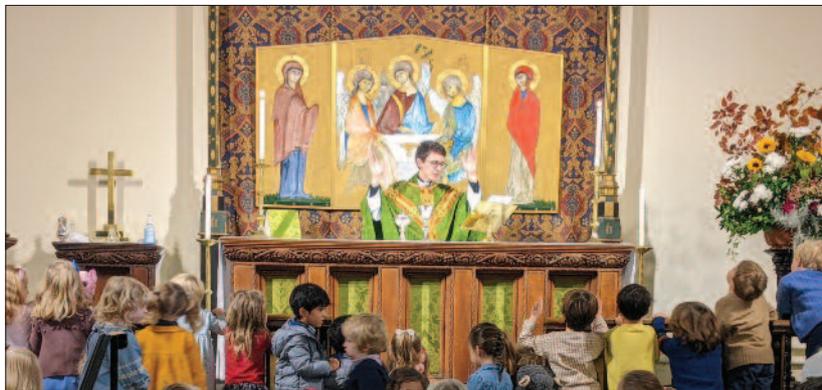
## St Luke's Community Foodbank

Marking two years of service and support for our local community

It was on Tuesday 24th November 2020. The UK was under restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Limits were set on going out and getting shopping or supplies. Many of us were concerned about our jobs, working environment and the 'Kent Variant' was emerging as the latest Covid strain to be worried about.

On that day St Luke's Vestry opened its doors for the first time as a local community foodbank. With a small group of volunteers, coordinated by Albina and Sue, and support from the local council, we welcomed a grand total of 22 guests on our first day of operation. One of our first local donations came from Andreas, who runs a small fruit and veg shop, nearby in Cale Street. Since then our volunteer group has grown, also we have welcomed donations from our local Marks & Spencer, Waitrose, Co-op as well as from City Harvest and The Felix Project charities.

In our first months of operation we also shared our donations with other foodbanks and charities nearby, and were able to deliver to locals in need, as it was difficult back then to go out. Also, a number of refugees were finding it difficult to eat, with their accommodation restrictions. With over 50 guests coming through the door and about 100 others receiving deliveries, we grew. With thanks to both Andrew and Dorinda for coordinating operations during 2021 and 2022.



*Thank to you all who donated to the Foodbank at our Harvest Festival – here shown with the Family Service in full swing!*

Two years on, and we have slightly adjusted operations, some of the original volunteers still with us and we are all very committed and proud of the warm community spirit that has grown. With our new uniforms and mission:

**To provide emergency food,**

**including fresh fruit and vegetables as far as possible, to support people in need in our local area.**

As we enter our third year of operation, we thank all those who donated, volunteered and supported our community project.

We open every Tuesday, 12pm – 2pm.

We very much

welcome help, either

financially, by donations of clothes, non-perishable food items or time given to volunteer. Please contact the church office with any offers of help.

With the cost of living crisis and a difficult winter ahead, we look forward to supporting local people in need, with a friendly smile and a warm welcome at the Vestry every Tuesday afternoon.



CLLR LLOYD NORTH  
One of the original volunteers

# A Season of Remembrance

*November is a time in the church's calendar when we are called to remember. This is reflected in the various services and events we have on this month:*

- All Souls, the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed: Choral Evensong at St Luke's Sunday 30th October at 3pm and Requiem Eucharist at Christ Church, Wednesday 2nd November at 8pm. These services offer an opportunity to remember loved ones who have recently died, to acknowledge the pain of their loss and to give thanks for their lives before God. If you would like to add names of loved ones departed, please contact [parishoffice@chelseaparish.org](mailto:parishoffice@chelseaparish.org)



setting death within the context of Christian hope.

- Chelsea Funeral Directors memorial service, 9th November at 7pm at St Luke's Church.

For many who attend it will be the first time they have been in church since the death of their loved one, so it would be good

if people can attend from across our congregations to offer pastoral support.

- Ending Well: Thinking about death and dying, Monday 7th November, 7.15-9pm, St Luke's vestry. We invite people to join us for this evening of reflection on death and dying. We will hear from a range of speakers including a hospital chaplain, a funeral director, and a lawyer speaking on wills and estates. As well as providing practical information around this topic, we will also consider how we might think theologically about death and dying,

- Remembrance Sunday, 11th November: 10.30am at St Luke's and 10.55am at Christ Church.

Please do join us at these services and events across this season of remembrance. And in our remembrance, as we face the reality and pain of death, let us do so trusting in the promise of Jesus Christ, who has already faced death and leads us into life everlasting.

SAMUEL RYLANDS

## You may no longer believe in Santa Claus....but you can believe in the St Nicholas Fair.

Of course, they are one and the same, Santa Claus being a pet name for St Nicholas. He was a Bishop of Myra (now in southern Turkey) in the fourth century and his reputation as a worker of wonders was much boosted by his biographer, a mere 500 years after his death! As a healer, feeder and carer, Nicholas' reputation was strong, but it was particularly in regard to his love for children that his saintly fame really took flight. Saving girls from slavery, boys from being pickled alive and other extraordinary feats enhance his place as the giver of gifts supreme. His Feast Day is 6th December, so we are celebrating a day of fun and gifting around St Nicholas on Saturday 10th December 2022, 1pm-3.30pm at Christ Church, both in church and school.

Come and show your belief in St Nicholas, eat and drink, have fun with family and friends and you just may also bump into Santa Claus!

BRIAN LEATHARD

ST. LUKE'S & CHRIST CHURCH CHELSEA

## ST NICHOLAS FAIR

**Saturday 10 December 2022**  
1.00pm - 3.30pm

Venue: Christ Church and Christ Church School

**Activities**

- Raffle with Star Prizes to include Xbox, Hamper from Fortnum & Mason, Barry Bros. & Rudd Wine, Big Teddy, Earphones and Headphones
- Father Christmas' Grotto
- Horse & Trap Rides
- Tombolas
- Children's Games
- Face Painting
- Plant Sale
- Festive Christmas Tree Display
- Stalls offering cakes, mince pies, jams and other homemade festive treats
- Band & Choir
- Online Christmas Shop

All proceeds from the fair to be paid in to the Christ Church DCC account as this is where the charity number is registered.

\*Christ Church DCC\*  
Nat West Bank,  
Sort code 60-05-14, Account number 29616891  
Cheques are payable to 'Christ Church DCC'

[www.chelseaparish.org](http://www.chelseaparish.org)

Follow us on St Luke's & Christ Church Chelsea @SLCCChelsea @SLCCChelsea

The PCC of St Luke and Christ Church Chelsea is a registered Charity, no. 1133092

## Hope amidst homelessness

“I’m suddenly on the streets on my own. The people I was close to couldn’t help. I was hurt.” This is how Frank describes his experience of becoming homeless. After the breakdown of a relationship, Frank was no longer able to live in the flat he had called home for years. Eventually he found himself living on the streets.

Thankfully, Frank’s story is one of hope. A friend put him into contact with Glass Door, who gave him a place in their hostel project. This gave him the time and security to access consistent advice and support, save money, establish a healthy routine, and rebuild his confidence. He now has his own flat, and has recently fulfilled a lifelong dream of travelling to Rwanda.

Frank’s story is one of many offered by Glass Door as examples of the support they offer to people experiencing and at risk of homelessness. That might be, as in Frank’s case, a matter of helping someone rebuild their life after a particularly difficult period. But it might equally involve, say, supporting someone who is vulnerably housed, to help them avoid becoming homeless.

Glass Door grew out of an association of churches concerned about issues around housing and homelessness in West London, and its work continues to be shaped by a deep Christian concern for those in need.

Jesus, of course, had no home of his own (‘the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head’, he once commented). That was by choice, but the gospels tell many stories of Jesus’s encounters with figures who had been cast out of their community, and were presumably living without much shelter or companionship. Just think of the man Jesus met when he travelled to the far side of the Sea of Galilee, who ‘lived among the tombs’. That man was an outcast from society, someone with whom no one wanted or dared to live. Jesus saw him, and, without being asked, Jesus healed him and sent him home to his friends (Mark 5.1-20).

What does it look like to follow in Christ’s example today? That is where you come in. This winter, after a break in 2020 and 2021 due to Covid, Glass Door is reopening its winter night shelters, offering support to many people experiencing temporary



homelessness. These shelters rotate round multiple church halls in West London, with the volunteers for each night being found by the hosting church. Our parish will host guests in the Hall of Remembrance every Friday night between November and March.

Our support of those in great need this winter cannot happen without the help of parishioners. We need volunteers to help – to set up, cook, clean, and offer a warm welcome to guests. It need not be a weekly commitment, and you need not have helped before. If you can wield a washing-up sponge, you can help. The Parish Office ([parishoffice@chelseaparish.org](mailto:parishoffice@chelseaparish.org)) is the place to contact. Can you offer your support, in this crucial part of our church’s service of those around us?

## Praise the Lord! Autumn Talks explore worship

Have you spotted the kissing that takes place during the eucharist? This was the opening question posed to the 30 people gathered in the St Luke's vestry for the second of our very stimulating set of autumn talks. This year the theme was 'Praise the Lord! Getting the most out of worship', with a series of speakers who helped us think through the meaning of what we do when we gather each Sunday for worship.

The question about kissing was posed by Simon Cuff, who used his talk to consider the significance of the eucharist. There are, as he pointed out, three moments when kissing happens. As the priest arrives at the altar at the very start of the service, he or she kisses it to acknowledge the holiness of what we are about to celebrate on that space. At the end of the reading of the gospel in the middle of the congregation, the book is kissed to acknowledge the holiness of the words contained therein. And the tradition of offering a sign of peace to one another originates from Paul's instruction to offer one another a 'kiss of peace' – though nowadays this is a tradition only maintained in some parishes where the clergy give a symbolic kiss to one another. Our celebration of the eucharist, Simon argued, is formed of many layers. These many symbols, which we may not even notice, help to remind us of the deeper meaning of what we are celebrating.

Simon's focus on these specific details of the eucharist was an excellent complement to our



first talk. Rámond Mitchell introduced us to the concept of liturgy (which means, literally, 'work of the people'). When we gather we use our words, posture, minds and hearts to worship together. Our worship is shaped by the space we meet in. And when we gather for the eucharist, those of us in the pews are not onlookers, but participants in what is happening. We celebrate the eucharist together.

As ever, our evenings together were not just a feast for the mind but also for the heart, stomach and soul too. We are grateful to Julie for her excellent catering of two course dinners each evening. And as we ended each session with compline, a brief service of night prayer, we remembered that worship is not just an object of study but the heart and purpose of our life together, as we enjoy God together.

Our next series of talks will take place in Lent – look out nearer the time for more details.

  
**BROMPTON**  
**VETERINARY CLINIC**  
90 Fulham Road  
London SW3 6HR  
Tel : 020 7225 2915

Kevin Clifford and his team have been providing a personal and caring service for the pets of Chelsea since 1993. The new clinic has been completely refurbished to offer spacious and comprehensive facilities for all your pets' needs. Do pop in and visit us!



# Meet the Parishioner: Gareth Wilson

## ‘Art prevents each day from being the same’

When Gareth Wilson first joined Christ Church, he had to be on his toes. For the initial three months as Director of Music, he was the organist and choir director and “I would run up and down the stairs” to do both during services. Sometimes he would even conduct the choir from the organ console, playing the keys at the same time.

September marked Gareth’s 20th anniversary as Director of Music, and fortunately only the first three months necessitated him bringing trainers to Sunday service. The church appointed Joe McHardy as organist and for 15 years, the pair formed a fruitful partnership overseeing the wonderful compositions, arrangements and performances that so lift each service.

Joe left five years ago, soon to be replaced by current organist Samuel Ali, and Gareth continues to mastermind the music that is so vital to the services. He says, “Church music has to do a lot of things, and if it brings some comfort to people, and some familiarity with something people know, that’s terrific. But it has to do other things too. It has to provoke from time to time.” He adds, “One of art’s most valuable things is preventing each day from being the same.”

Each week, he decides the music a few days before the Sunday service and then he has to gather a choir and direct them on the day. The choristers turn up an hour before, without knowing what the music is going to be, and Gareth prepares them for the service.

There is a professional core – a quartet – in the choir. The others are either students or former students. He calls the choir “basically my family in London” adding the standard is probably higher than most university chapel choirs.

Gareth composes too. “You’ll probably hear my work more often than you think because it’s not necessarily written down.” In fact, one of his arrangements, of a Welsh carol, was played at the Christening of Prince Louis.

The Director of Music, who is from Scotland, first came to London in 1998 to study choral conducting and church music as a post-graduate student at the Royal Academy of Music. He was the first to take the course, and the sole student that year.

Soon after, he began playing the organ at churches including Christ Church, which had “what many thought was the worst organ in London”. Along with Joe – now Director of His Majesty’s Chapel Royal – Gareth set about solving the problem of the organ, putting the case for it to be restored. The church agreed, and by 2010 it was restored with the

instrument designed around the historic pipework, which dates to 1779. It was clearly worth the effort.

He mixes the role at Christ Church with his job as Director of Music at Girton College, Cambridge, which he took up seven years ago. Previously he had taught at King’s College London and the Royal Academy of Music.

Gareth, who did a Masters in theology and philosophy and a doctorate in theological aesthetics, has long explored the connection between music and the divine. “The analogy is they’re both things that communicate with us in a way that

language doesn’t adequately capture. That’s why the words we sing aren’t the most important thing about what we’re singing. It’s reaching you in a way words can’t, and in a way you can’t control.”

He adds, “Art chooses us. Sometimes you’re really knocked for six by something, a piece of music, say, and you never know when that’s going to happen. Some would say that’s an analogy for grace. You don’t choose the divine,

the divine, creation, chose us.”

Gareth is the son of a Church of Scotland minister brought up in a council house in south-east Glasgow, so he grew up with religion. He discovered music through the Boys Brigade and joined the brass band.

He played the cornet, then learned the guitar, and realised he had a flair for music. “I was very lucky; I had this ear with which I could reproduce things. I could hear a song and play it back. I was always able to do that,” he says. That included songs by his favourite bands at the time including Deacon Blue – “Scotland’s finest!” – Queen and Iron Maiden.

He is passionate about ensuring that young people today have the opportunities to learn music that he had. “I meet other people who can play by ear and they could do this if they had a year of proper tuition, and we’ve realised we have to do this now. We have to slow down our output and bring people on board, and part of that is create new things with targeted training on the abilities they have.”

Gareth is also passionate about widening the canon and bringing more work by women and people of colour into the repertoire – especially after the killing of George Floyd and the Black Lives Matter movement, there were questions about the way music was taught in universities and a lack of representation. So Gareth has set out to change that. It’s simple really, he says, “I just can’t stand the idea that people are still being shut out.”

NICK CLARK





## 9th Chelsea Cubs



### AWARDS WINNERS 29th September 2022

The Cub Scout section is based on a points system for good scouting behaviour throughout the previous year and awards are presented at our AGM each year. We have 7 awards (certificates and prizes) in total:

1. Outstanding Achievement won by Filippo (aka "Pin")
2. Outstanding Commitment won by Maxim (nickname yet to be determined)
3. Outstanding Improvement won by Rufus (aka "TG")
4. 3rd Place highest points won by Oscar (aka "Riddler")
5. 2nd Place highest points won by Bailey (aka "Pigeon")
6. 1st Place WINNER won by Grace (aka "Tim") and receives the Akela Wolf

The seventh, the Cornelia Leonard Award, is a special shield. This is in honour of my late mum who gave her support, in many different ways, to our group and is for 'Helping Others outside of Scouting' and always goes to a worthy recipient.

Grace joined the Cubs some 16 months ago (20.05.21) and is a lovely, polite and hard working girl who has proved to be an asset to the Cub Section. She gets on with all the tasks required and has earned quite a few badges as her uniform can attest. She attended Murder Mystery Camp where she was in the Miss Marple team and dressed up as a mini version of her hence her nickname MMM (Mini Miss Marple ie: Triple M which turned into "Tim"). She gets on really well with her peers and has been promoted through the ranks to become the Sixer of the 'Sun' 6 (yellow). She has the potential to become the Senior Sixer.

We found out that she has a charity box at home and donates money to various charities such as: Lifeboat and Glass Door without telling us - so she is 'helping others outside of scouting'. We are very proud of her.

The Cornelia Leonard Award Shield and the Akela Wolf are held at home by the recipient for one year until the next AGM where they are presented to the next worthy winner.



CHIL, CSL  
9th Chelsea Cubs

## Hidden Histories

You would be forgiven for assuming Flood Street and Flood Walk were named after metrological events, but they are in fact tributes to a former St Luke's parishioner and generous benefactor of the local area, Luke Thomas Flood (1775-1860). Flood was a local resident, a deputy lieutenant and magistrate. He was for many years the Treasurer of Chelsea's Charity Schools and responsible for doubling the size of the parish schools (this included the former St Luke's School which opened in 1824, and Christ Church in 1843). Endowments after his death are still used to support modern scholars. The gratitude felt towards Flood meant that up until the 1930s, January 13 was celebrated as 'Flood's Day' at the church. If dates and streets weren't enough, you can also find a beautiful monument to Flood to the left of the altar at St Luke's. Designed by W Pepper the Younger of Brighton, it features figural sculpture in high relief. Flood is shown reclined on a chaise longue, his wife mourning at his feet and angels calling him to heaven.



The memorial to Thomas Flood, located beside the high altar at St Luke's

LOUISA PRICE

## The Posada returns

It may not have happened since Christmas 2019 ... but it's back! A treasured part of our parish life is the journey of the Posada that takes place every December.

Posada is an advent tradition originating from Mexico. During this time, figures from the Nativity scene are brought from house to house each evening. The tradition recalls the long journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem, and so helps us mark this time of anticipation for the celebrations of Christmas Day.

We have two sets of figures for this purpose, and invite parishioners of all generations to get involved and share the story of the journey to Bethlehem



together this Advent. The Posada figures will leave from each church after the morning Eucharist service on Advent Sunday November 27, returning for the crib services in both churches on Christmas Eve. During the days in-between, the Posada travels from home to home within the



parish. We leave the co-ordinating of this to you – but some memorable moments of parish life happen when people who would not normally interact come together over a cup of tea and a mince pie to hand over the Posada. Why not invite the person passing on the Posada round to your house, and have them show you how to set it up?

Watch out for details in the coming weeks on how to sign up to host Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus as they journey towards Bethlehem this Advent!

## Violet Melchett nursery to close

The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea has announced that the nursery at Violet Melchett, on Flood Street, is to close with effect from December 31. This marks the end of an era: the Violet Melchett building was built in 1931, is Grade II listed, and has been a centre for infant welfare for the last ninety years.

Asked for comment on their response to the news, the councillors in Royal Hospital Ward sent through a statement from the council's Communications Officer, which read:

'The Council decided that the increase in the rent required by the landlord for Violet Melchett would have been too high. The Council had rent-free use of Violet Melchett until 2018 and the landlord introduced commercial rates when this arrangement came to an end. Paying the required rent on an ongoing basis would have increased the childcare costs significantly in order for the nursery to remain viable. Our priority was to ensure that affordable, flexible and high quality provision was going to continue to be available in

the south of the borough, which is the reason we decided to work in partnership with local primary schools to offer the provision across two new sites in the south of the borough. This approach will also enable the schools to offer more places in the south, as both schools can increase their capacity, if there is demand from families. With regard to the future use of the building, this decision lies with the current landlord (Cadogan) and the Council has not been informed at this stage of their plans.'

From January, there will be new nursery provision at Park Walk Primary School near the World's End estate. Additionally, the existing provision for 2½ - 4 year olds at Marlborough Primary School will be expanded, and a new room for 0-2½ year olds created there.



## “Tell me the old, old story...”: Joseph

Eastenders, Neighbours, West Wing or even Coronation Street - all have their themes in the Old Testament sagas. These are fantastic old, old stories. If this were the Eurovision saga contest, then I'd be inclined to think that the Joseph saga ranks pretty highly and gets my 'douze points'.

Just take a moment to think of the story - not just the 'Technicolour Dreamcoat', but the whole story - what is foremost in your mind? Could it be the

favouritism shown by the father Jacob to this 'son of his old age'? Or perhaps the jealousy of the brothers, or their plot to rid themselves of Joseph - a jape gone too far? Their trafficking of their brother, their deceit and cover-up. The years of servitude, his rising through the ranks of Egyptian society, his refusal to have an affair with Potiphar's wife. Her vindictive lies. Joseph's skills as an interpreter of Pharaoh's dreams. The famine which sent his brothers to Egypt to buy food. Joseph's playing with them and giving them a taste of their own medicine, testing them by hiding silver in their luggage. The secret listening to his own language spoken by his brothers, his longing to know of his father's health, the mutual tears when truth is revealed and the resolution as his father re-joins him and the family settles anew. Just fabulous storytelling.

But what does it do, what is it for, why is it there?

Apart from its length, the other noticeable feature of this saga is that it seems to be all of a piece. Many of the biblical stories are like tapestries woven together, edited, strands from different sources combined into what we now possess, but, unusually, the Joseph story

seems to be a single, long, and complex narrative. Each of the elements of the saga, as I've outlined above, come to their own mini-climax and then the story picks up and moves on, each climax being merely a temporary resting-place.

Yet, the whole saga surely acts as a bridge. Remember that Joseph's father Jacob (Israel) had stolen his brother's birth right, deceiving his father and robbing his brother who his father loved the most. So now in the Joseph story this old man Jacob is also deceived by his sons who have sold off their brother, the 'favourite'. Yet as a bridge the story moves us on to see that despite the repetition of human folly and greed, God is consistently to be found in right living, truth, justice, and reconciliation. Fascinatingly the Joseph story rarely speaks of God in any direct sense, but only in indirect terms.



*Joseph flees the seduction of Potiphar's wife*

We learn, for example, that only through sticking to his principles of living with humility, decency, and honour, personal development comes to Joseph, and we learn of his true charisma. It is indeed striking that, when he has his brothers in his hands, there is no hint of retribution in Joseph's words or actions - there is a learned holiness about Joseph, learned through the hard blows of his experiences.

And perhaps on an even bigger stage, the Joseph saga teaches us of the purpose of God as it prepares us for the Exodus narrative, itself, for us as Christians a prefiguring of the life death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. God and humanity, creator and creation endlessly bound together.

BRIAN LEATHARD

OPEN NOW

AT ST LUKE'S CHURCH, SYDNEY STREET



CAFÉ PORTICO

SERVING A SELECTION OF SANDWICHES, BAGUETTES AND SNACKS, CAKES AND ICE CREAM, TEAS, COFFEES, CHILLED DRINKS

SIT-DOWN & TAKE AWAY FOOD



Joan Holdsworth wonderful flowers for all occasions  
Tel: 0207 351 5932  
email: joanholdsworth@btinternet.com

# History in plain sight: the PFFA chapel at St Luke's

*At this time of Remembrance we pay particular attention to the memorials in our churches to those who have offered themselves in military service. The most prominent memorial is the PFFA chapel at St Luke's. Rav Singh, who regularly visits the chapel as he leads group tours exploring Sikh history in Chelsea, has kindly revised for us an article he first published in our November 2019 magazine.*

St Luke's Church houses a remarkable monument in memory of the Punjab Frontier Force (PFF): The Piffer Chapel. This chapel includes a repository of



memorabilia commemorating one of the great fighting units of the Indian Army.

Having faced the Sikh armies on the battlefield, the British recognised the stalwart Sikh and Panjabi soldiers as formidable warriors and began to raise military units, to protect the province after the Second

Anglo-Sikh War in 1848-49. The PFF comprised regiments of different races: Sikhs, Panjabi Muslims, Pathans, Dogras and Gurkhas, organised in specialised units of all arms (Mountain, Artillery, Cavalry, Infantry



and the Corps of Guides). The PFF fought with distinction not only on the North-West Frontier but also during the Indian Mutiny (1857), the Second Afghan

War (1878 – 1880), the Boxer Rebellion in China (1900), the First World War (1914-1918) and the Third Afghan War (1919).



With the Partition in 1947, and the subsequent creation of modern-day India, Pakistan and West Pakistan (now Bangladesh), there was some anxiety about the preservation of the

memorials that had been set up in the garrison churches of the North West Frontier of the Punjab region. The rector and wardens of St Luke's Church agreed to receive the memorial brasses, stone plaques and memorabilia from India. A sanctum was created in the crypt of the Church, and the Piffer Chapel was designed in the main church. Both the sanctum and the chapel were dedicated on 3 June 1951 by the Bishop of



London in the presence of Field Marshall Sir William Slim and General Lord Ismay.

All the regiments that made up the PFF are commemorated in the chapel. The badges of the 14 units are carved on glass screens, the wooden walls and on the chapel chairs. Other items narrate the story of the force, including a plaque detailing the origins of the chapel, and the altar frontal is presented in the colours of the regiment.

Since 2014, I have been visiting St Luke's Church with small groups as part of

Sikh History Walking Tours on the streets of Chelsea. Over the past eight years, the Chapel has always provided a deep emotive experience for many attendees.



Visitors often reflect on the last days of the Sikh Empire and the once powerful Kingdom of Lahore, think of their family connections to the Indian Army in the 20th century, or just take a step back in time surrounded by those very objects that served the same purpose in their original settings in Punjab in the 19th century. For all our groups, this is usually their first experience accessing Sikh and Punjab history within a Church, which always proves to be a solemn and reflective experience.



We thank the St Luke's Church community for preserving this history since 1951 and for the warm welcome our various groups receive during our visits.

RAV SINGH

*A little History of the Sikhs*  
([www.alittlehistoryofthesikhs.org](http://www.alittlehistoryofthesikhs.org))

## Guides and Rangers

This summer the Guides and Rangers had a fantastic opportunity to join together with members from all over the UK and attend Wellies and Wristbands, a festival style event held in the wonderful (sunny!) countryside near the New Forest!



The adventure started with us meeting up with two other London units at Waterloo and travelling there together. Once there tents were pitched, food was eaten, and we were ready to have fun! By day there were activities such as wall climbing, raft building, fun fair rides like a Ferris wheel, and a few more relaxing ones like hot tubs and a pamper zone. Then there was live music every night from bands like Channy and (eventually) some sleeping in tents under the stars.



For some of the Guides it was their first camp and they loved the opportunity to try new things! A highlight was Ivy saying "I didn't know I could do that!". Some of the Rangers have been to lots of camps but

still found something new to try such as completing their 'Festival Goers' badge, as well as making and strengthening friendships. We'd all like to say a big thank you to St Luke's and Christ Church, who paid for some of the spaces, ensuring that everyone in the unit had the opportunity to go.



We are now about to start our new term for Brownies (7-10 year old), Guides (10-14 year olds) and Rangers (14-18 year olds). Lots of exciting stuff is planned including, crafts, cooking, earning badges, celebrating Parliament week, designing apps, and we might have time to squeeze in a few games and surprises as well! We do still have some spaces if anyone else would like to join us please see contact details in the Youth and Children's activity section. Or you can message us at: [10thChelseaguides@gmail.com](mailto:10thChelseaguides@gmail.com)

## Glass Door Sleep Out – A Huge Thank You!

I'm thrilled and delighted that you were able to show such generosity in sponsoring me at the Glass Door's SleepOut on Friday 7th October. It was cool and windy but remained dry. Amazingly, you have so far raised some £5,700 (before Gift Aid) in my name and I'm humbled by your kindness. The scandal of homelessness reaches deep into the Christian story as we move towards Christmas and the birth of Christ into homelessness. Your generosity, however, is making it possible for Glass Door, London's church-based homelessness agency, to get people off the streets and keep them off this winter. Our emergency night shelters open on December 4 and our casework continues all year round. Thank you once again.

As ever, Brian.



# FROM OUR REGISTERS



Jack Barnett's baptism at Christ Church - with his parents Charlotte & James



Nina & Beatrice Banbury's baptism at Christ Church - with their parents and big sister Rose



The baptism of Liam Ceraso at Christ Church



The marriage of Miranda Pottinger and Ed Savage (with some familiar faces from St Luke's choir)




**THE SYDNEY ARMS**  
*Pub & Brasserie*



"THE PERFECT SPOT FOR DRINKS, SNACKS AND LUNCHES FOR 10 TO 100 PEOPLE, JUST A STONES THROW FROM ST LUKE'S"

**70 SYDNEY STREET, CHELSEA, SW3 6NJ**

**WWW.SYDNEYARMSCHELSEA.COM**

**TEL : 0207 352 7924**



**CHELSEA**  
INDEPENDENT FAMILY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

One of London's few remaining Independent Funeral Directors, owned and run by Alex Jones and family.

- 24 HOURS A DAY, 365 DAYS A YEAR
- PRE-PAID FUNERAL PLAN SPECIALISTS
- WORLD-WIDE REPATRIATION
- MEMORIAL MASONRY SERVICE
- CARING ADVICE, NO OBLIGATION
- HOME ARRANGEMENTS AVAILABLE
- PROUDLY INDEPENDENT



<b>CHELSEA</b> 260b Fulham Road London SW10 9EJ Tel: 020 7352 0008	<b>WESTMINSTER</b> 91 Rochester Row London SW1P 1LJ Tel: 020 7834 3281	<b>FULHAM</b> 235 Munster Road London SW6 6BT Tel: 020 7385 0866
--	--	--

**Golden Charter**   
Smart Planning for Later Life



# CONTACT PARISH OFFICE : 020 7351 7365

**Rector: The Revd Prebendary Dr Brian Leathard**  
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**  
johnmcveigh@chelseaparish.org

## General Enquiries

**Parish Administrator/Receptionist: Tracy Best**  
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 j.summerly@icloud.com  
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)**

Duncan Kennedy (Mob: 07548705667)

Lizzie Watson-Steele (Mob: 07855455559)

## 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

## WEEKDAY SERVICES

0900	Monday	Morning Prayer at Christ Church
0900	Tuesday-Friday	Morning Prayer at St Luke's
1230	Thursday	Holy Communion at 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, at Christ Church  
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 [10thcheseaguides@gmail.com](mailto:10thcheseaguides@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.