

# Parish News

**Sunday 12th December 2021**

**3rd Sunday of Advent**

## Parish Clergy

Revd Vicky Fleming 01543 502857 (Not Fridays)

Revd Gill Joynson 01543 502131

Revd George Fleming 01543 502857 (Not Fridays)

Revd. Marie Meredith 01543 741588 (Not Monday's)

Parish Office 01543 502131—Mon to Wed 9.00—3.00

Our administrator will be working from home in line with government guidelines please phone, leave messages or speak to Mike Heeley if he is available in the office

Email: [stlukesparish@btconnect.com](mailto:stlukesparish@btconnect.com)[http://](http://www.stlukescannock.org.uk)

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## **Wearing face masks in Church is mandatory.**



Full Church of England advice on wearing face masks is available on our website it includes details about how to treat them and how to make them if you so wish.

There are some hand made masks available at the back of St. Luke's for you to buy.

## Collect

O Lord Jesus Christ,  
who at your first coming sent your messenger  
to prepare your way before you:  
grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries  
may likewise so prepare and make ready your way  
by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just,  
that at your second coming to judge the world  
we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;  
for you are alive and reign with the Father  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## **First Reading** *Zephaniah 3.14-20*

Sing, O Daughter of Zion; shout aloud, O Israel! Be glad and rejoice with all your heart, O Daughter of Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away your punishment, he has turned back your enemy. The LORD, the King of Israel, is with you; never again will you fear any harm. On that day they will **say to Jerusalem, “Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands hang limp. The LORD your God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice over you with singing.” “The sorrows for the appointed feasts I will remove from you; they are a burden and a reproach to you. At that time I will deal with all who oppressed you; I will rescue the lame and gather those who have been scattered. I will give them praise and honour in every land where they were put to shame. At that time I will gather you; at that time I will bring you home. I will give you honour and praise among all the peoples of the earth when I restore your fortunes before your very eyes,” says the LORD.**

## **Second Reading** *Luke 3.7-18*

John said to the crowds coming out to be baptised by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. **And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. The axe is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.**” “What should we do then?” the crowd asked.

John answered, “The man with two tunics should share with him who has none, and the one who has food should do the same.” Tax collectors also came to be baptised. “Teacher,” they asked, “what should we do?”

“Don’t collect any more than you are required to,” he told them. Then some soldiers asked him, “And what should we do?” He replied, “Don’t extort money and don’t accuse people falsely – be content with your pay.”

The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts **if John might possibly be the Christ.** John answered them all, “I baptise you with water. But one more powerful than I will come, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with **unquenchable fire.**” **And with many other words John exhorted the people and preached the good news to them.**

## **Post Communion Prayer**

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;  
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit  
that when your Christ comes again  
we may shine as lights before his face;  
who is alive and reigns now and for ever.

# Opportunities for Prayer

Every Tuesday and Thursday Morning Prayer at 9am  
in St. Luke's unless otherwise announced



A Prayer Group Meeting takes place on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month at 3pm at 13 Park Road. Join us as **we pray together for God's blessing and empowerment for the ministry and witness in our communities.**

## **Everyone is important and everyone has a part to play**

Let's give thanks for our Licensed Ministry Team We pray for them:

Heavenly Father thank you for Rev. Gill, David Gethin, Di Holt, Rev. Marie and Rev George and Rev. Vicky. We pray that you will bless them. Fill them with your Holy Spirit, guide and protect them as serve you in this busy season. Amen

## WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF

- SOUP
- BEANS
- PASTA



## WEEKLY NEEDED FOOD ITEMS:

- TINNED MEAT
  - TINNED RICE PUDDING
  - TINNED FRUIT
    - JAM
    - SQUASH
- UHT MILK CARRIER BAGS



**Urgent Appeal** We remember at this time that Jesus, Mary and Joseph became a refugees when Herod set out to kill all the young boys in order to end Jesus' life.

We have received a request from Support Staffordshire for winter clothing and shoes for the asylum seekers who are housed at the hotel in Bridgtown. If you can help please drop items off at the Church Centre.

Oh no it isn't! Oh yes it is!

Pantomime time

St. Luke's Friendship Group are taking bookings for the 2022 Trip to the Pantomime—The Wizard of Oz performed by Cannock Chase Drama Society

On Saturday 22nd January at 2.30pm in the Prince of Wales Theatre. Tickets £12.50

Please book with Margaret or Linda by the end of December.



**Birthdays and Anniversaries** We want to thank God for you, and ask him to bless you as you celebrate the milestones of life. Why not give permission to the Parish Office to publicize your special days? Just send a note or an email.

The Church takes the safety of everyone within the church very seriously and expects that everyone will work within the church safeguarding policy. In particular, the Church expects anyone who becomes aware of a safeguarding risk or of actual abuse, to report it immediately to our Safeguarding Coordinator.—Teresa Atherton

## What's on

**Sunday 19th December –6pm Carols by Candlelight**

**24th December –4.30pm Crib service**

**11.30pm –First Communion of Christmas**

**\*\*Booking Essential for these services\*\***

### **St. Thomas**

**24th December 11pm First Communion of Christmas**

### **Christmas Day St. Luke's**

**9.30am Family Communion**

### Parish Magazine 2022

If you are a subscriber to the Parish Magazine you will receive an envelope with the December issue.

Cost for the year 12 issues is £10 (Jan – Dec).

Please put cash or cheque (made payable to

**St Luke's Church) in the brown envelope which** should be returned to the distributor or the Parish Office.

If you have not subscribed before and wish to do so please contact Janet Bailey (01543 574624)

PLEASE NOTE

remember HANDS, FACE AND SPACE

If you take risks you are not caring for others!

### **St Luke's**

Wednesday 15th 10.00 am Morning Prayer

Sunday 19th December

9.30 am Holy Communion

6.00pm Carols by Candlelight

### **St Thomas'**

Sunday 19th December 11.00am Carol Service

Both churches are closed on 26th December

Morning Services and Wednesday Morning Prayer will continue to be on our website, Facebook page and on our YouTube Channel but later in the day on a Sunday.



A free phone line of hymns,  
reflections and prayers



**CONNECTIONS**