

# Parish News

**Sunday 9th January 2022**

## **Baptism of Christ**

### **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

leave message on machine we will call you back

Email: [stlukesparish@btconnect.com](mailto:stlukesparish@btconnect.com)

<http://www.stlukescannock.org.uk>



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

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.

## Collect

Eternal Father,  
who at the baptism of Jesus  
revealed him to be your Son,  
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:  
grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit,  
that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## **First Reading** *Isaiah 43.1-7*

<sup>1</sup>Thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. <sup>2</sup>When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

<sup>3</sup>For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

<sup>4</sup>Because you are precious in my sight, and honoured, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. <sup>5</sup>Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; <sup>6</sup>**I will say to the north, 'Give them up', and to the south, 'Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth –** <sup>7</sup>everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed **and made.'**

**Second Reading** *Luke 3.15-17,21-22*

(In the wilderness John proclaimed a baptism of repentance.) <sup>15</sup>As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup>John **answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'**

<sup>21</sup>Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, <sup>22</sup>and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a **voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'**

Post Communion

Lord of all time and eternity,  
you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father  
in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son:  
by the power of your Spirit  
complete the heavenly work of our rebirth  
through the waters of the new creation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## 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.**

As we have seen on the news, people are starving in Afghanistan, with more than 8 million on the brink of famine. Drought, conflict and the Covid-19 pandemic are causing a catastrophic rise in hunger. We need to act now to **save lives. Afghanistan's health care system has reached the brink of collapse. If we don't act now, many lives could be lost. More than 22 million** people face going hungry as the freezing winter sets in, with children amongst those most vulnerable. Your support will help Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) charities who are already on the ground scaling up their operations, and are able to reach the people most in need. With your support, they and their local partners can: · provide emergency food and nutrition support for children · support healthcare facilities · provide winter kits to help displaced families stay warm · supply clean drinking water · protect women and girls People need help now.

## Prayer for Afghanistan

**Come, Jesus... Come, our Saviour,**

come to all the people in Afghanistan,  
in this bleakest of winters.

Come, with food and water, to feed the hungry and refresh the  
thirsty ones.

Come, once a child yourself, come to the children and the babies,  
when so many cry with hunger pangs and parents would give  
everything to feed them.

Come, the peace bearer, come and bring your shalom to this land  
after forty years of brutal war.

Come to those displaced and uprooted,  
to a people fearful and vulnerable to violence.

Come, the light in our night, come to families cold and shivering,  
when infection passes from one to another, while the economy is  
broken, and creation groans in pain.

For all people, of all faiths, to all children of every family,  
in all the places where mothers weep and children cry,  
come, God made vulnerable flesh,  
to touch your world with true hope once more.

Turn our sorrow at the suffering of children, and our determination  
that hate will not win, into something we can do.

Take the money we give and the prayers we pray, and stir in us, and  
in all your people, whatever is needed for a new world to come.

From the depths of a bitter winter, may hope spring. Amen

From article by Rev Dr Susan Durber, Moderator, Faith and Order

Winter Bible Studies on James

led by Rev. George Fleming

Start on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 4pm

**in St. Luke's Church.**

Please bring your own Bibles.

Study material and a recording of the study will  
be posted on our Website.



Every family celebrates birthdays  
and Wedding Anniversaries—the  
Church family should be no  
different.

**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.

## What's on

Sunday 9th January 4pm the Winter Bible Study in St. Luke's Church lead by Rev. George Fleming

Monday 24th January 1.30pm—Friendship Group in Church Centre

**\*\*Please let the Parish Office know if you wish to advertise your group meeting\*\***

### 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**

Tuesday 11th January 9.00am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 12th January 2022 10.00am Holy Communion

Thursday 13th January 10am Morning Prayer

Sunday 16th January 9.30am Holy Communion

### **St Thomas'**

Sunday 16th January 2022 11.00am No Service

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**