



St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead

www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

[This sheet is also available on the above website]

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Week Commencing: 14th January, Epiphany 2

This week there is an 8.00am Holy Communion, followed by a 10.00am Parish Communion. All are warmly welcome. There will be an activity for children available during the service.

Do look at the information below about the Alpha course starting on 31st January – you may like to sign up to it; or join the leading team. Please do pray for all who are involved in it.

The Collect

Almighty God,
in Christ you make all things new:
transform the poverty of our
nature by the riches of your grace,
and in the renewal of our lives
make known your heavenly glory;
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.

Post Communion Prayer

God of glory,
you nourish us with your Word
who is the bread of life:
fill us with your Holy Spirit
that through us the light of your glory
may shine in all the world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our
Lord.

First Reading

¹Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the LORD called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' and he said, 'Here I am!' ⁵and ran to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call; lie down again.' So he went and lay down. ⁶The LORD called again, 'Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call, my son; lie down again.' ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, 'Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, "Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' And Samuel said, 'Speak, for your servant is listening.' ¹¹Then the LORD said to Samuel, 'See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. ¹²On that day I will fulfil against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. ¹³For I have told him that I am about to punish his house for ever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God,

and he did not restrain them. ¹⁴Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering for ever.'

¹⁵Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. ¹⁶But Eli called Samuel and said, 'Samuel, my son.' He said, 'Here I am.'
¹⁷Eli said, 'What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you.'
¹⁸So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, 'It is the LORD; let him do what seems good to him.'

¹⁹As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. ²⁰And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the LORD.

1 Sam. 3.1-10

Gospel Reading

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, 'Follow me.'
⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, 'We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.'
⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, 'Can anything good come out of Nazareth?' Philip said to him, 'Come and see.'
⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!'
⁴⁸Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.'
⁴⁹Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!'
⁵⁰Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.'
⁵¹And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

John 1.43-end

Sunday's Hymns:

494	I the Lord of sea and sky	754	O Worship the King
453	Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour	451(ii)	Just as I am
476	Forth in thy name O Lord I go		

Thought for the week:

One of the joys of our Christmas services here at church was seeing the number of families who attended our Crib services, and school carol services. As we engaged with children in thinking about the story of Jesus' birth, they each had their own unique way of expressing what it was about. The same was true at our All Age service last week – thanks for your insights, Alex!

Today's first reading is about a child – Samuel – who was so a gift to his other that she gave him back to God to serve in the Temple alongside the aged priest Eli.

Eli was experienced and wise. He had served God for many many years. But when it came to being open and alert to God's call it was the child Samuel whom God chose to speak to, and through whom Eli learned.

As we leave the story of the infant Jesus behind and look, all too soon, towards Lent, let's not throw the baby out with the bathwater (so to speak!) – it is good to stop and think about what we can learn from the children around us, and maybe even hear God speaking to us through them. We can only do that if we are alert and awake – as Samuel was.



Prayer suggestions for this week:

- For those who are living on the breadline and on our streets, for shelter and support
- For the people of Israel and Palestine, for an end to the violence there and for strength for all those who are suffering loss and fear. For our sisters and brothers in the Jewish and Muslim communities of our own town, especially those worried for loved ones.
- For peace in Ukraine and Russia, and of Sudan, and also in Armenia and Ethiopia.
- For our schools as they return to work, and for Mrs Sam Stevenson as she takes up the role of Headteacher at St. Luke's.
- For a new church music leader.
- For our growth in faith and for the developing Alpha team. For God to be moving guests to join the course.
- For all those whose anniversary of baptism falls in January: Otilie Beresford Jones, Grace Mondal, Ryan Westbury, Ritchie Westbury, Jonas Lanyon, Sebastian Lanyon, Arthur Smith
- For all those who live and work in College Road.
- The sick and their carers : Monica Olley, Ann Hockham, Valerie Bosley, Pat Botting, Phyllis Sigsworth, Jean Jackson, Iris Brown, Lorraine, Emily Holmes.
- Those who have died recently, and those who mourn them: Josephine Colton, Beryl Sankey (née Brereton)
- Those whose anniversary of death falls in January: Clifford Collier, David Bateman, Peter Joyce, Roger Martin, Alice Wellman, Ann Hancock, Charles Woodman, Julie Brazenor, Florence Hampton, Derek Jones, Eileen Gulrayani, Edward Hylton Jones, Dawn Crampin, Nora Searle, Michael Marriner, Christine Bowyer, Phyllis Boshier, Trevor Tilbury, Tony Boaks, Dorothy Nicks, Florence Woodruff.

Readings for Morning Prayer for the week beginning Sunday 14th January 2024:

Sunday	P145.1-13	Isaiah 49.1-13	Luke 4.16-30
Monday	Psalm 146	Genesis 6.11-7.10	Matthew 24.1-14
Tuesday	Psalm 132	Genesis 7.11-end	Matthew 24.15-28
Wednesday	Psalm 81	Genesis 8.1-14	Matthew 24.29-end
Thursday	Psalm 76	Genesis 8.15-9.7	Matthew 25.1-13
Friday	Psalm 27	Genesis 9.8-19	Matthew 25.14-30
Saturday	Psalm 122	Genesis 11.1-9	Matthew 25.31-end

Rotas for next week

Sunday 21st January: Parish Communion

Read: Faith Powley

Intercede: Ruth Sheppard

Welcomers: Rachel, Helen and Carl

Coffee: Marc and Paul

Our church is floodlit at night.

The floodlighting has not been sponsored this week

To sponsor the floodlighting please fill in the form at the back of church or email:

admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

Given rising fuel prices, it is suggested the minimum donation for weekly sponsorship is now £15.

There are lots of weeks available.



What's on.... This week:

Sunday 14th	8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am, Parish Communion 11.30am, Fabric meeting
Tuesday 16th	8.30am, Morning prayer on zoom 12.00pm, Funeral of Josephine Colton
Wednesday 17th	8.30am, Morning prayer on zoom 10.00am, Holy Communion 7.00pm, Alpha Course training, in Church
Thursday 18th	8.30am, Morning prayer on zoom 9.30am, Baby and Toddler Group 3.00pm, Keeping Company
Friday 19th	8.30am, Morning prayer on zoom 5.00pm, Evening prayer on zoom
Saturday 20th	9.00am, Morning prayer on zoom 2.00pm, Marlow Choir rehearsal 7.00-9.30pm, Marlow Choir concert
Sunday 21st	10.00am, Parish Communion 6.00pm, Night Prayer with reflection, Led by the Church of the Good Shepherd, on zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2050342877?pwd=eGRyd1VQZmNZL2E4SXpCUW1RQmlkZz09>

Sundays at Six: All Services are at 6.00pm Zoom link: use Sunday morning or as specified above

21 st January	Night Prayer with reflection, on zoom Led by the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green
4 th February	Taizé service for Candlemas, in church at St Luke's
18 th February	Evensong and Benediction, in church at All Saints
3 rd March	Eucharist for St. David, in church at All Saints
17 th March	Stations of the Cross, in church at St. Luke's (Passion Sunday)
24 th March	Taizé service at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green (Palm Sunday)
7 th April	Stations of the Resurrection, on zoom Led by the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green
21 st April	Eucharist of Wholeness and Healing, in church, at All Saints

Coming up..

Messy Church our Messy church will re-start in the new year, dates are as follows: 2nd February, 1st March, 30th March, 3rd May, 7th June, 5th July, 6th September, 4th October, 1st November, 29th November

Alpha course: we have committed to running an Alpha course next year and are now recruiting the team to run it. If you feel called to help in leading small group discussion, catering or prayer ministry please speak to Revd Sally asap. And, of course, we will all be able to pray for the Alpha course – team and guests. Our first training session will be on Wednesday 17th January at 7pm.

The course will start on Wednesday 31st January. Please speak to Revd. Sally if you think you would like to join the course.

The Children's Society: Did you know that you can sign up to receive The Children's Society's monthly prayer email which has prayers for each week that support their work? See here: <https://bit.ly/48reRun>. You can, of course, unsubscribe at any time. Terrie, who is a volunteer speaker for The Children's Society, has written the prayers for January. You can find them here: <https://bit.ly/48IfMGI>. If you would like to know more about The Children's Society's vital work among children and young people, have a word with Terrie at any time.

Refugees and Rough Sleepers / homeless in town:

A group is working on what can be done to support these people over the winter months. Thanks to Jeanette for attending on behalf of Street Angels and keeping us updated too. Nigel Cohen offers this summary:

We are establishing three streams. One is a temporary homeless shelter for rough sleepers, ideally every night for the three months from Jan to March if we can get enough support. The second is temporary hosting for refugees through the Gift-a-Room scheme. The third is a Drop-in Centre to provide basic support for people living on the streets, such as food and shower facilities. We are planning for the Drop-in Centre to be a much more significant centre for community support, one of its roles being to provide basic support for rough sleepers. For ease, I have started to refer to the three streams as the Homeless Project (in Maidenhead, where it needs to be explained).

It seems (hot off the press) that the Council may be able to offer some support, but in the meantime, volunteers are being sought for:

- Offers of a room for a refugee for up to two months
- Volunteers to help with the homeless shelter for rough sleepers for a variety of tasks, such as cooking, cleaning up, welcoming people and/or occasional overnight stays either once a week or once a month.
- Volunteers at the Drop-in Centre for tasks such as making teas/coffees and making guests feel welcome either once a week or once a month.

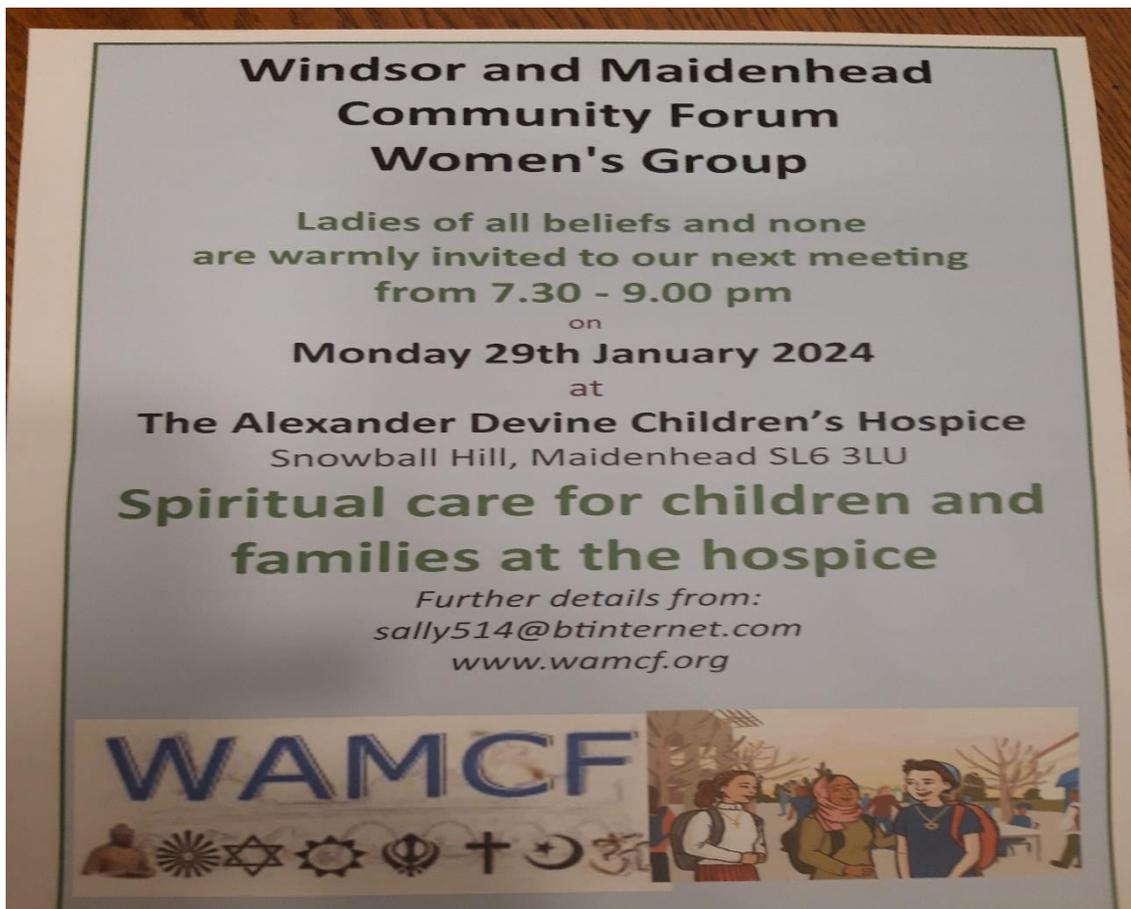
Further information can be found at:

- The Brett Foundation website: there is a full page devoted to each of the streams, as well as an introductory page with links to each of the streams: <https://www.brettfoundation.charity/homeless-project>
- Flyers (attached): one for each of the schemes. The flyers are also available to download from the respective pages on the Brett Foundation website.

For anyone who wants it, this is a link directly to the Gift-a-Room scheme:

<https://www.brettfoundation.charity/homeless-project/gift-a-room-scheme>

Or have a word with Jeanette or Revd. Sally.



Our Regular activities:

The 8.00 Holy Communion service will continue to be monthly, on the 2nd Sunday.

Midweek Holy Communion is at 10 am weekly, followed by coffee

Baby and Toddler group meets on Thursdays, 9.30 – 11.00 am term time only. We meet in church.

Messy Church continues on the first (usually) Friday, monthly, 4-5.30pm. Next is 2nd February 2024
admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk to book a place.

Keeping Company is our monthly meeting for those bereaved (at any time). Third Thursday at 3pm, in church. The next is 18th January

Thursday Teas meets in the community hall offering tea, cake and conversation. Second Thursdays monthly. Next is 8th February

Gaynor's Gift is a prayer shawl knitting ministry that anyone can take part in at home. We meet together monthly to pray, knit and drink tea. 4th Thursdays monthly. Next is 25th January

Please note that for all Zoom services the links below are being used:

Sunday Morning Worship:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87358197400?pwd=MTFhVjNad1R6NEl6cVZ6TVJ5bGlzdz09>

Meeting ID: 873 5819 7400 Passcode: 526076

Zoom Morning Prayer at 8.30 am Tuesday – Friday, 9 am Saturday

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81459090925?pwd=Y2hKZkFYZ04zbGZBd1BHcmllldU5Hdz09>

Meeting ID: 814 5909 0925 Passcode: 180609

Zoom Evening Prayer at 5pm on Fridays (except first Friday)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85378796960?pwd=dUNTTnRZVFJBY2xiS3QyVHlYz1BaZz09> Meeting ID:

853 7879 6960 Passcode: 386635