



St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead



www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

[This sheet is also available on the above website]

Church Office: 01628 622733

admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

Vicar: sally514@btinternet.com

Week commencing: 13th December 2020 Third Sunday of Advent

As we walk the Christmas Tree Trail and see the lights on them, and all around us, we are reminded of the *Comfort and Joy* of this season, and the light of Jesus bringing hope to the world – which the darkness cannot destroy.

We are half-way through Advent, and our service this Sunday is a service of Parish Communion at 10 am in church and on Zoom. The usual social distancing rules apply still, and as we are on tier 2 we should not be mixing to talk outside of our own bubbles – inside or outside the church building. Morning Prayer (on Zoom only) will be said at 9 am and the church will be open for private prayer from 9.30 am. The link to join the main Communion Service is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85097790796?pwd=NUIBZE5PL3hIOFEyUm11OTNxc0lnUT09>

Meeting ID: 850 9779 0796

Password: 900393

Please do bring your own order of service and RHP sheet with you, if you possibly can. That leaves the few in church to welcome visitors.

We continue to offer a Zoom Morning Prayer daily at 9am (except Mondays) and Evening Prayer at 5pm on Fridays. The order of service can be found on our website or the Daily Prayer App. Just ask if you need help finding it.

The links are:

Zoom Morning Prayer,

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84140066083?pwd=ZlZ0bXgvQ0t1UTlZcW10YlFNSnpPZz09>

Meeting ID: 841 4006 6083

Passcode: 544130

Zoom Evening Prayer at 5pm on Fridays:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83350227277?pwd=QnhoTOE1YXFid09BeDZTUFFxa2JCQT09>

Meeting ID: 833 5022 7277

Passcode: 262906

Morning Prayer, daily (except Monday, and Sunday at present) on Zoom

Readings for the week beginning Sunday 13th December are:

Sunday	Psalm 50.1-6	Luke 1.57-66	
Monday	Psalm 40	Isaiah 49. 14-25	1 Thessalonians 5. 1-11
Tuesday	Psalm 70	Isaiah 50	1 Thessalonians 5. 12-end
Wednesday	Psalm 75	Isaiah 51.1-8	2 Thessalonians 1
Thursday	Psalm 76	Isaiah 51. 9-176	2 Thessalonians 2
Friday	Psalm 98	Isaiah 5. 17-end	2 Thessalonians 3
Saturday	Psalm 146	Isaiah 52.1-121	Jude
Sunday	Psalm 144	Romans 1.1-7	

Evening Prayer at 5pm on Fridays, on Zoom

The readings for the coming week are: Psalm 49

Matthew 18. 1-20

Sundays at Six: Night Prayer on Zoom on the first and third Sundays of each month, use the little blue book: 'Prayers for the use of the Church during the coronavirus outbreak'.

Next: **TODAY 13th December**, then 3rd January, and the first and third Sundays in the new year.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82362755135?pwd=bmZYRkdIbW1SUjhtaHINMnBDTzF1QT09>

Meeting ID: 823 6275 5135

Passcode: 737489

There will be a **Wednesday** 10 am Holy Communion service on 23rd December, with (fully covid - secure) anointing for wholeness and healing for those who would like it.

As we are in tier 2 it is important to remember that while we may worship together, ***we should not be gathering to chat face to face before or after the services.***

Prayer suggestions for this week:

- Give thanks that churches can meet for worship, and pray for our keeping of Advent and Christmas, and for those who will come into church at this time
- For our Christmas Tree Trail and all those who walk it
- Give thanks for a vaccine for Covid19 and pray for those rolling it out
- That we might be kind to each other – in 'thought, word and deed'
- That all national and local leaders might work together for the health and wellbeing of our nation and all people
- For all NHS staff, carers, Care Home staff and those caring for the sick
- For those who feel alone
- For all the issues surrounding Brexit
- For our brothers and sisters of faith at the Synagogue, Mosques, Gurdwara and elsewhere, particularly for our Jewish friends keeping the festival of Chanukah
- For the people of Armenia and Azerbaijan, that fighting may cease and ordinary people and their homes might be protected
- For the church in Ethiopia and the people of that country, Egypt and the Horn of Africa
- Those whose anniversary of baptism falls in December: Lily Edmonds, Luke Hulks, Carys Cox, Herbie Prater
- For all those who live and work in Green close
- The sick and those who care for them: John Francis, Tony Lucas, Monica Olley, Stan Swansborough, Tony Boaks, and Mick Curley
- Those who have died recently, and those who mourn them: Sister Margaret Mary, Wayne Smith, Martin.
- Those whose anniversary of death falls in December: David Sawyers, Robert Gardener, Eileen Pond, Max Neale, Peggy Swansborough, John Norris, John Sheppard, Dennis Rayfield, Peter Brown, John Dickson, Anne Seagrove, Dorothy Scott, Penelope Hutchings, Joan Parker, Evelyn Rose, Roy Horsham, Peggy Harris, Colin Bowerman, Robert Gill, Pamela Barber, Sheila Mayers, Joyce Bryant, Isabella Monk, David Jones, Bernard Bowdery

Rotas for next week: 20th December

Read: Ruth Sheppard Intercede: Jacqueline Lewis

Antibac after service: Jeanette Lock

Welcomers: Sue Hinchliffe, Laura and Aaron

Our church is floodlit at night.

This week the floodlighting has been sponsored this week by

Bill Bowyer,

to remember the birthday of Chris Bowyer on 14th December



To sponsor the floodlighting just call or email Revd. Sally.

What's on... and other news...

Christmas Tree Trail

Our trail launched on Wednesday evening – see a recording of this on our church website - under recorded services on the home page.

We have 54 trees booked into our trail. Please continue to pray for the success of the trail and that the lights of the trees may bring comfort, joy and hope to all who see them.

Although there will be no trees inside the church, we will still have a Memory Tree and Prayer Tree in the church for people to leave prayers and memorials – tags will be available in church for this – in a socially distanced way.

Do look at the dedicated CTT website:

<https://stlukeschristmastreetrail.co.uk/>

The church will be open for private prayer and for putting tags on the Memory Tree and Prayer Tree from Thursday 10th – 24th December, at these times each day:

Monday 3-4pm	Tuesday 10 – 11 am	Wednesday 11am – midday
Thursday 1-2pm	Friday 2-3 pm	Saturday 10-11 am
Sundays 11 am – midday (both weeks)	2-3 pm (20 th only)	Christmas Eve: 10 am – 4pm

Christmas services:

Carol services booking:

Sunday 20th December at 6.00 pm (more suitable for adults)

Christmas Eve at 4.00 pm (more suitable for families)

Please note that in order to comply with the current restrictions:

- *it will not be possible for small children (or, indeed adults!!) to wander about the church;*
- *the congregation will be expected to wear face coverings throughout the service, and will not be able to sing;*
- *places are very limited and MUST be booked in advance.*

To book your place please email: admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk OR

phone: 01628 622733 (to leave a message)

please state your name and email address (or phone number if no email) and the number of adult and child seats that you would like.

We will assume that all bookings made in one name will be seated together – please make a separate booking for each individual or 'bubble'.

Please comply with government regulations on social distancing. These will be different on Sunday and Christmas Eve.

We will confirm your place – ideally by email (or phone). Please print and bring your email confirmation with you.

Please do not come to church if you are unwell at all.

Should you be unable to take up your booked place please do contact the vicar to cancel so that another person / family can benefit from the place.

Other services: no need to book

Sunday 20th December: 10.00 am, Parish Communion (Church and Zoom, recorded)

Christmas Eve, Thursday 24th December: 9.00 pm, Midnight Mass (Church)

Christmas Day, Friday 25th December: 10.00 am Parish Christmas Communion (Church and Zoom – not recorded)

NB: there is NO service at all on 27th December – the diocese is streaming a service. Details at oxford.anglican.org/livestream

The **Parish office** will be closed from 21st December – 5th January.

Advent resources: do look at: <https://adventonline.faith/> for loads of resources and ideas.

Roots on the web for this week: www.rootsontheweb.com/athome13dec

Weekly video for children and young people: do check our website, where you will find a new video each week. In Advent we are working through the season using Godly Play.

Comfort and Joy is a little video from the Church of England: <https://youtu.be/5jucc-YrGJA?t=12>
Why not look – and share it with friend and family.

Christmas cards: if you need help to deliver your cards this year because you can't get out, please let Revd. Sally know. Please do not leave cards in church for friends to pick up – we are trying to keep touch to a minimum. Thank you.

Church Quiz: Thanks to James and Louisa for another super evening... and congratulations to reigning champions Colin and Terrie on another win. Look out for another quiz in the new year.

Some musical suggestions from Adam that may like to tap into:

1. RSCM Big Christmas Carol Service Saturday 12th at 6pm [RSCM Centre - YouTube](https://youtu.be/mVp_K1Okh5s) or https://youtu.be/mVp_K1Okh5s
2. Peterborough Cathedral Christmas Organ Spectacular online – Saturday at midday - [Peterborough Cathedral - YouTube](https://youtu.be/mVp_K1Okh5s)

Congratulations to our friends at Maidenhead Mosque who have been commended for their work in community support in the pandemic – and thank you to them for their care.

The WAMCF Joy of Movement sessions continue into 2021 – Tuesdays 12th January – 16th February, 6-7pm totally free. Sign up details to come in the new year. A fun way to keep fit.

Telephone and email scams: Be alert

Some telephone scammers pretend to represent providers of internet and other services. Please also be wary of emails purporting to be from clergy if they raise the subject of gift cards. The scammers are attempting to introduce Christian language into their communications and we see several of these each week. The warning signs of any scam (phishing) email are:

- Address not tallying with content.
- Spelling mistakes.
- Pressure to act urgently or negative consequences.

And of course our clergy and senior leaders would never ask for money or gift vouchers unsolicited. If you are ever in doubt about the veracity of an email from the Diocese, our Bishops and senior clergy then please email communications@oxford.anglican.org and we will be happy to confirm whether the email is genuine.

If you have received a fraudulent communication, please help others by reporting it to the National Fraud and Cybercrime Centre: [Report a phishing attempt | Action Fraud](#)

Do take care – I received one of these – purportedly from myself! Revd. Sally

From Richard Poad, Chairman, Maidenhead Heritage Centre www.maidenheadheritage.org.uk

Christmas in Stained Glass The Nativity windows in 9 churches in and around Maidenhead (including Cookham Dean, Bisham, Stubbings, Bray and White Waltham) feature in this exhibition at the Heritage Centre at 18 Park Street (open 1000-1600 Tuesday-Saturday until 19 December) AND online. We invite you and your congregation to visit the exhibition in person or online and perhaps enjoy some calming, even soothing moments in these topsy-turvy times. You are welcome to reproduce the online images in your newsheets or on your website.

Light up a Life. News from the Thames Valley Hospice: This year we are doing our in memory service a little different as you will see from this link <https://www.thameshospice.org.uk/lual/>

And finally...

A little musical hope and cheer: thanks to Sue and Neil..

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Be_uftY9EX4

... and from a friend...



If you know of someone who would like to receive this update and does not have access to the internet, please do print a copy for them. Please note that the church office is open on reduced hours so urgent communication should be to the vicarage telephone and my email. Vicar: The Reverend Sally Lynch (01628) 783033
The Annual Year Book with contact details for key parish personally can be accessed on the church website