



St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead

www.stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

[This sheet is also available on the above website]

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Week Commencing: 24th March, Palm Sunday

As Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday, our 10.00 am service will start with a procession holding palm crosses from the vicarage to Church. The service will include a dramatic reading of the story of Jesus' passion, and there will be activities for children. All are welcome to worship.

The 6.00pm service will be a Taizé service at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green.

During this coming Holy Week, the church will be open for quiet between 6.00-7.00pm Monday – Wednesday. On each of those nights Compline (Night Prayer) will be said on Zoom (only) at 8.00pm (9.15pm on Wednesday). Please do join in using the Morning Prayer link.

You are warmly encouraged to participate in as much as you can as we immerse ourselves in journeying through Holy Week with Jesus

The Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
who in your tender love
towards the human race
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to take upon him our flesh
and to suffer death upon the cross:
grant that we may follow
the example of his patience and humility,
and also be made partakers
of his resurrection;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord...

First Reading

Let the same mind be in you
that was in Christ Jesus,
who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of
death—

Post Communion Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,
you humbled yourself
in taking the form of a servant,
and in obedience died on the cross
for our salvation:
give us the mind to follow you
and to proclaim you as Lord and King,
to the glory of God the Father.

even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2.5-11

Gospel Reading (The Palm Gospel)

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, "Why are you doing this?" just say this, "The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately."' They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, 'What are you doing, untying the colt?' They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,
'Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!

Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

Mark 11.1-11

Sunday's Hymns:

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| | Make way, make way |
| 159 | All glory, laud and honour |
| 747 | O God you search me and you know me |
| 666 | I cannot tell |
| 129(i) | Ride on, ride on, in majesty |



Thought for the week (well, a plea, really!):

We enter Holy Week again – perhaps the seven most important days in the church's year. And how will we keep them? Will we enter fully into the drama and go through the events of the week with Jesus? Or will we go home on Sunday and not come back to church until next Sunday – celebrating Jesus' resurrection without keeping watch with him at his death?

This year may I suggest that we all try to enter as fully into the drama as we can... because holy week is a participative drama. We live through the events with Jesus in – at very least - a four act drama

- Sunday - Thursday
- Friday - Sunday

Really this is one service that lasts all week.. and we are invited to be part of it.

Archbishop Steven Cottrell makes four suggestions for keeping Holy Week:

- Attend everything
- Go for broke
- Punctuate the liturgy with other voices
- Pay attention to the space between the notes

At St. Luke's we try to engage our of our senses in the unfolding drama.

On Sunday, we will process into church behind a 'donkey' – in public – demonstrating who we believe Jesus to be – just as those first crowds did. We will wave palm branches for flags – as they did – sniff your palm – what can you smell?

On Thursday we start the triduum – a three part service with no blessing, no ending, until Easter Sunday.

There is so much movement in this night – from the upper room, to the garden, to Caiphas House, Herod's Palace, to Pilate's prison... and to calvary.

So we will have movement and involve our taste and touch and smell, as we start with a simple 'meal' of coffee and cake. The debris of the meal is deliberately left at the back of church as we move from the table to the service, a reminder that Jesus left the comfort of friends for something altogether different.

We move from table to garden – but first we are invited to have our feet or hands washed – warm water and gentle touch reminding us of Jesus' cleansing touch on our lives. I try to add herbs or perfume to the bowl – the scent released by the warm water.

At the end of the formal part of the service the altars are stripped as Jesus is stripped of all dignity and we bare all in every sense before him.

And we are invited to keep watch – before the Altar of repose - the poor light speaking into our hearts.

At eleven pm we consume the remains of the communion loaf – there will be no communion on Friday – Jesus will die.

The service continues on Friday as we keep watch at the cross. You are invited to keep quiet. To reflect with music, words and silence, to kneel or stand at the foot of a cross. Here was also place flowers on the cross – our tokens of love.

And at the end of the Good Friday liturgy, after an Evening Prayer with no *glorias*, we lock and seal the church, just as Jesus' tomb was sealed. We don't come back until... well actually not Sunday because we need to decorate for Sunday!

But we begin Easter Sunday not in church but outside – with the birds singing, surrounded by flowers and blossom and hope. At 8 am we light a fire in the churchyard and light the new Easter candle – processing it into church singing of Jesus' resurrection. At 10am we are splashed with water from the font as we renew our baptismal promises – and bless our Easter garden and shout out our Alleluias – having been through holy week we can have our own resurrection too.

For seven days we don't rest, we join in the unfolding drama and even though we may think we know it inside out, the drama makes it fresh each year.

Please do join in all you can.

Prayer suggestions for this week:

- For our participation in the events of Holy week
- That all may know themselves loved by God
- 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, and for all who are keeping Ramadan.
- For a de-escalation of the situation in the Middle East.
- For peace in Ukraine and Russia, and of Sudan, and also in Armenia and Ethiopia.
- For our ministry with children and families.
- For a new church music leader.
- For our growth in faith and for the Alpha team and guests.

- For all those whose anniversary of baptism falls in March: Henry Weber, Olivia Carter, Robyn Nash, Faith Porro, Lola-Rose Watkins
- For all those who live and work in Craufurd Rise.
- The sick and their carers : Monica Olley, Ann Hockham, Valerie Bosley, Pat Botting, Phyllis Sigsworth, Iris Brown, Lorraine, Ken Young, Olu Rowe, Bridget Morris, Janet Whitlock.
- Those who have died recently, and those who mourn them: Leslie Timmins.
- Those whose anniversary of death falls in March: Anthony Wright, Lilian Vizard, Edgar Walford, Christine Sawyers, Caroline Wood, Robert Russell, Jacqueline Mundy, Alan Moss, Francis (Jack) Garnett, Jillian Sinclair-Hill, Eileen Herbert, Stella Lee, Andrew Curtis, Susan Robinson, Jill Cotterill, John Marshall, John Cox, Christopher Druce.

Readings for Morning Prayer for the week beginning Sunday 24th March 2024:

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| Sunday | Psalm 61 | Isaiah 52.13-end of 53 | Matthew 26 |
| Monday | Psalm 41 | Lamentations 1.1-12a | Luke 22.1-23 |
| Tuesday | Psalm 27 | Lamentations 3.1-18 | Luke 22.(24-38) 39-53 |
| Wednesday | Psalm 102 | Wisdom 1.16-2.1, 12-22 | Luke 22.54-end |
| Thursday | Psalm 42 | Leviticus 16.2-24 | Luke 23.1-25 |
| Friday | Psalm 69 | Genesis 22.1-18 | John 18 |
| Saturday | Psalm 142 | Hosea 6.1-6 | John 2.18-22 |

Rotas for next week Sunday 31st March: Easter Day: Festal Parish Communion

Read: Charlotte Sloan

Intercede: n/a

Welcomers: Ralph, Sue and Shula

Coffee: Helen and Carl

Our church is floodlit at night.

The flood lighting 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.



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

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| 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 |

Easter flowers: we have a team who will be decorating the church for Easter, if you would like to join them please let Joan Harnby, Rita Salter or Revd Sally know – all very welcome.

Donations towards the cost of Easter flowers and lilies are now invited. Please give your cash donations directly to Rita Salter, who is collecting them again this year. There will NOT be a box in church. If you prefer to give by card please note ‘flowers’ on the machine before making the payment. Thank you very much.

You may wish to give to the flowers in memory of loved ones. There is a sheet at the back of church on which you are invited to write their names. These will be displayed in church as usual at Easter. The list will be removed at the end of Palm Sunday.

Holy Week and Easter

Palm Sunday, 24th March

10.00 am, Holy Communion, with procession of palms from vicarage to church, children's activities during the service

6.00 pm, Sundays at Six: Taize service at Cox Green

Monday – Saturday

Morning Prayer (8.30 am daily) on zoom or in church

Evening Prayer (5.00 pm – not Friday & Saturday) on zoom

Monday 25th, Tuesday 26th, Wednesday 27th March

Church open for quiet, daily, 6.00 - 7.00 pm

Compline (Night Prayer) daily on Zoom only (use MP link), 8.00pm Mon and Tue, **9.15 pm Weds** (Choir practice before hand).

Maundy Thursday, 28th March

8.00 pm, Holy Communion (also on zoom) followed by Watch until 10.45 pm, 10.45 pm, Compline

Good Friday, 29th March

11.00 am, CTiM Walk of Witness, meet outside Sainsburys

1.00 pm, An hour at the cross – quiet service of music, meditation and silence

2.00 pm, The Liturgy of the Last Hour

3.15 pm, Evening Prayer and church 'sealed'

Holy Saturday, 30th March

9.00 am, Morning Prayer in church and on zoom, Church decorating

4.00 pm, Messy Church: All Age Saving Stories service

Easter Day, 31st March

8.00 am, Holy Communion and lighting of the paschal candle, followed by coffee and croissants

10.00 am, Festal Holy Communion (also on zoom)

Easter egg hunt for children during the service.

Followed by refreshments for all

Coming up..

Messy Church our Messy church dates are as follows: 30th March, 3rd May, 7th June, 5th July, 6th September, 4th October, 1st November, 29th November

Defibrillator training, now Saturday 20th April (NB changed date). Following the installation of the defibrillator outside the church, it would be good to have as many people, as possible trained to use it (or any other that you may pass when needed). Please book two hours in the morning of 20th April in your diary to come along if you can.

Schubert and all that Jazz Concert. Please see details below about the forthcoming concert taking place at St Luke's Church on the 27th April. Tickets are now available to buy after services or from the office.

Thursday Lunches. Our next monthly lunch at the Toby Carvery, Stafferton Road, will be on Thursday, 28th March, and it would be lovely to see you there. We meet at 12.00, and any further information can be obtained from Jean Tyrwhitt-Drake on 626671.

APCM (Church Annual Business Meeting)

Our annual meeting this year is on Sunday 21st April at around 11.30 and following the main Sunday service. Do please note this in your diaries and aim to be there.

Church Electoral Roll: If you are not on the Electoral Roll, please ensure that you register asap – there are now forms at the back of church for this purpose, a welcomer can find one for you if you fail!. Please return the form directly to the parish office, the PCC secretary or one of the ministers. Anyone wishing to stand for PCC or to vote at the APCM must be on the Electoral Roll. There is a copy of the current Roll on the table at the back of church if anyone wishes to check it. The Roll will close on 6th April, and then be published (names only) in church before the APCM.

CCJ Talk: You are invited to meet TV presenter, Sean Fletcher, at a Berkshire Council of Christians and Jews (CCJ) event in Maidenhead on Wednesday 1st May at 8.00 pm.

Well-known for his deep Christian faith, he has been or continues to be presenter of *Rebound*, *Countryfile*, *Sunday Morning Live*, *Songs of Praise* as well as ambassador for both *Beating Bowel Cancer* and *Young Minds UK*. He will be talking about his life, religious journey, passionate causes and media roles.



Numbers will have to be limited, so please book in advance by emailing admin@maidshul.org with your name and postal address if you wish to attend. There is no charge, but there will be an optional donation for the work of CCJ.

It will be held at Grenfell Lodge, Ray Park Road, Maidenhead, SL6 8QX (please do not park on the road, there is ample parking inside the Synagogue car park)

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 30th March 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 21st March

Thursday Teas meets in the community hall offering tea, cake and conversation. Second Thursdays monthly. Next is 11th April

Thursday Lunches meets fourth Thursday of the month, usually at the Toby Carvery but please contact Jean Tyrwhitt-Drake on Jeant-d2@outlook.com for further details.

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 28th March

A St Luke's Church Concert in aid of Thames Hospice

Schubert and all that Jazz



Saturday 27th April at 7.30pm

St Luke's Church

Norfolk Road, Maidenhead SL6 7AX

This will be a wonderful concert to delight all musical tastes and is guaranteed to put a smile on your face

Featuring

| | | | |
|----------------|-------|-----------------|----------|
| Peter De Souza | Piano | Geneviève Usher | Soprano |
| Chris Crocker | Piano | Andrew Smith | Clarinet |

Tickets £10 with all proceeds to be given to

Thames hospice

For more information or to purchase tickets please

call 01628 62273 or

admin@stlukeschurchmaidenhead.org.uk

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

Sunday Morning Worship:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87358197400?pwd=MTFxVINad1R6NEl6cVZ6TVJ5bGlzd09>

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=dUNTnRZVFjBY2xiS3QyVHIYz1BaZz09> Meeting ID: 853 7879

6960 Passcode: 386635