

Church Family News

October 2023

St. Luke's Church, St Luke's Road T. Wells TN4 9JH www.stlukestw.co.uk



View from the Vicarage

Dear Friends

This is my last letter to you as your Vicar. Once I retire I shall join the ranks of the pensioners. It is going to be strange, because many of the routines of my life will disappear, and like many people entering retirement, I sometimes wonder what I shall do with my time. Of course, I have hobbies and interests, some of which have been sadly neglected in recent years, and it will be good to get back to them again. But it will be odd to have days when the phone does not ring, and the only folk who come to the door will be friends and neighbours or delivery staff.

My ministry as your Vicar has been for me a great source of joy, challenge, and fulfilment. It has taught me much about God's steadfast love and faithfulness. I have also been enriched by so many relationships that will always be a very important part of my life. What I have experienced here has become a part of me.

One of the privileges of being a parish priest is to be allowed to share in the joys and sorrows of other people's lives. Over the past thirteen years I have shared with many of you the joys of a new baby, the excitement of preparing for a wedding, the sorrows of illness or the death of someone very dear to you, and the anxieties and perplexities of all the troubles and disappointments that weave themselves into the fabric of our lives. It has been an enormous privilege for me to be able to share the tears and the laughter, and to walk alongside you in these major events in life.

Although there will be some months when St Lukes is without its own Vicar, the worship and ministry of the Church will continue, ably lead by our trusty churchwardens, Sue Peach and Stefan Gatward, and by the skilled ministry and commitment of Gerry Wenham and Jo Wheeler. I know you will all help and support them as much as you can.

It has been a very real honour to serve St Lukes over the years and I will miss it terribly. But I am excited about the new things that God is going to do in my ministry in the years to come and I trust Him with the future.

You will forever be in my prayers as I hope to be in yours. I hope St Lukes will continue to flourish and grow and each one of you will know the love of God deep within you, and this love will inspire you to live out the radical call of the Gospel in your own lives in the years to come.

So, it remains only for me to wish you all God's blessing and peace, and to thank you for your friendship and support over the past thirteen years.

Every Blessing Caroline



Sundays in October

Sunday 1st October

Trinity 17

10am Parish Communion

Sunday 8th October

Trinity 18

10am Morning Worship

Sunday 15th October

Trinity 19

10am Parish Communion for
Patronal Festival

Sunday 22nd October

Trinity 20

10am ATW Family Service

Sunday 29th October

Trinity 21

Parish Communion

followed by coffee and a Bring & Share
lunch

WEEK DAYS IN October

There is Holy Communion at 11am on
Wednesday mornings (not 25th Oct)



On Fridays between 2pm and 3pm the
church is open for Private Prayer
(not 27th Oct)

Kidzone



Mondays 3.30pm to 4.30pm
(not 23rd Oct)

BLEND



for school years 6, 7, 8 & 9

Tues 3.45pm to 5.15pm in the Church Hall
(not 24th Oct)

Caroline's Retirement

As many of you know, our Vicar Caroline is retiring this autumn. Her final service at St Luke's will be a celebration of Holy Communion on Sunday 29th October at 10am. This will be followed by a Bring & Share lunch in the Hall.

We do hope as many people as possible will come to wish Caroline farewell. There will be a presentation of gifts during lunch, and if you would like to contribute, please follow the link found under 'News & Events' tab on the church website

There will also be an opportunity for a cash collection in church as well as a section on the card payment machine. You can also give by BACS - See below for details of the account and please reference your gift 'retirement'



St Luke's Church will be open between 2 and 3pm on **Sunday November 12th 2023** for people to come and light a candle and remember their loved ones. Prayers will be said every quarter of an hour but you are welcome to come at any time during the hour. If you are unable to come, please be assured we will be lighting a large candle in memory of all those who have known and loved this church.



Saturday 25th November Christmas Fair



Please keep a look out on the pew sheet to see how you can help at this important fund raising event.

Who's Who

Vicar

Revd. Caroline Glass
01892521374 and 07910066837

Church Wardens

Sue Pearch 01892 538485
Stefan Gatward 01892 522765

Licensed Lay Minister – Jo Wheeler

Reader with PTO – Gerry Wenham

Parish Safeguarding Officer -Gerry Wenham

Email: gewenham@gmail.com tel. 07876164425

PCC Treasurer – Andrew Wenham

PCC Secretary – TBC

PCC Members 2023-2024

Jo Wheeler, Gerry Wenham, Patrick O'Brien,
Malcolm Gough, Philip Ashworth, Jo Utting, Nicola
Lowell & Melanie Wenham

Parish Administrator – Christine Stevens

Email: parish.admin@stlukestw.co.uk

Tel. 07964152140 - please call or text between 11am
and 6pm weekdays

Both the *Church Family News Sheet* and the *weekly Pew Sheet* can be found on the church web site www.stlukestw.co.uk

Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas Child

Please pick up a leaflet and join us in supporting this wonderful charity and ensuring every child has a magical Christmas.

Please return your filled boxes by
Sunday 12th November 2023.



Church Giving Information

If you would like to give online please note the following BACS details.

Account number 01395516 (PCC St Luke's)
sort code: 30-98-77 Please reference your

donation with your name/planned giving.
You can also donate using our card reader in church with either credit or debit cards.

THANK YOU

The November newsletter **deadline is Sunday 22nd Oct 2023**, items for inclusion please email: parish.admin@stlukestw.co.uk. For St Luke's newsletter queries phone the Parish Office tel 07964152140