

St. Luke's & St. John's

Praising God in Devon

Dearest friends,

As we approach the end of the calendar year we also approach the beginning of the greatest story ever told.

I've always enjoyed the dichotomy of the start of something new and wonderful in the birth of Jesus, and in the ending of something in the calendar year.

It provokes thoughts of new beginnings and new starts, it encourages us to consider how we live our lives and where we may look to re-direct our lives in the coming year - we are, in essence, born anew each time we chose to repent (turn towards God).

I wonder what you will consider changing in this coming year? One way to help put behind you the things that need to change is to take them to confession.

St. John's has a wonderful old confessional stall that will be put to use on Friday 27th December from 9am for two hours. Confession is a hard thing, but I'll be on hand to guide you and pray for you.

After confession we'll have an opportunity to celebrate and receive the sacrament of Jesus in the Mass at 11am and to

pray for the parish of St. John's on the feast of St. John the Apostle. I pray you'll be able to join me.

Finally, as I sign off this final pew sheet ahead of Christmas - may I wish you a very blessed Christmas and a beautiful New Year.

My family and I feel very much at home with you all and we look forward to many more Christmas' together, who knows - next year I may have a better idea of what I'm doing and where I'm supposed to be when!

With all my love and in continuous prayer,

Fr. Matthew

Notices

Christmas Services

The usual pattern of worship will shift at both churches over Christmas & the New Year so it's important to check the pew sheet to keep up to date.

The Bible Course

After the success of Holy Habits and the lecture on St. Mark's Gospel by Rev'd Dr. Chris Moore, I'm

pleased to share we'll be doing another course in the new year heading into Lent. The Course is 'The Bible Course' and will run on Thursday evenings in Wickham Hall at 7pm for 8 weeks starting 23rd January. The final session (13th March) will be taught by the Bishop of Exeter, The Rev'd Dr. Mike Harrison. You'll be able to sign up to come along in the new year.

Spring Term (and Easter) Planning Meeting

As we look ahead to the next term and to Easter there'll be another open planning meeting (as we did for Christmas) early in the new year. This is for everyone at both parishes to come along and share your ideas on what you think the parish should be doing - both in terms of social activities as well as our services. We'll be meeting at Wickham Hall at 7pm on the 9th January.

Please pray for:

Lydia, Mary, Viv and Linda, Rosemary, Diana, Phil and Jean, Alan, Sophie, Bill, Marilyn, Roy, Anne-Marie, Simon, Liz, Melville and Jean, David, Hannah, Kathryn, Jenny, Dan.

Pray for the souls of:

Maureen, John Willbourne, Bob Wellington, Kenneth Martin, Elizabeth Christie and all those listed in the Lady Chapel of St. Luke's.

Today

Sunday 22nd December

4th Sunday of Advent

9:15am - Sung Parish Mass [SJ]

11am - Sung Parish Mass [SL]

4pm - Carol Service [SL]

7pm - Nine Lessons and Carols [SJ]

Divine Office Psalter Week 4, C(I), Advent 4

December

19th - Cantemos Carol Concert [SJ] 7pm

22nd - Christmas Carols [SL] 4pm

Nine Lessons and Carols [SJ] 7pm

24th - Live Nativity [SL] 4pm

1st Mass of Christmas [SJ] 8pm

Midnight Mass [SL] 11:30pm

25th - Christmas Day Mass [SL & SJ] 10am

29th - Joint Mass at St. John's 10am with dedication of Holy Family Chapel

January

8th - St. Luke's PCC

9th - Spring (& Easter) term planning meeting [all] 7pm WH

12th - St. Luke's Parish Lunch

16th - St. John's PCC, 5pm

Susanna Crow YWAM talk, 7pm [SJ]

23rd - The Bible Course (every Thursday), 7pm WH

25th - Jesus, This Is Your Life & Burns Night Supper [SJ]

February

12th - St. Luke's PCC



Father Matthew Cashmore

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Churchwardens

[SJ] Mark Richards (01626) 830063

[SL] Mr Robert (Bob) Julian 07487 653854

[SL] Mr Michael (Mick) Regan (01626) 366559

Associate Clergy

Fr Christopher Robins, Fr Robin Eastoe SSC

Fr Alan White and Deacon David Rogers

Licensed Lay Minister: Mr Graham Whittle

(01626) 212339

The week ahead:

Monday 23rd December

O Emmánuel!

[prayers offered at home, Fr. Matthew's rest day]

Prayer focus: Our Clergy

Tuesday 24th December

Christmas Eve

4pm - Live Nativity, St. Luke's

8pm - First Mass of Christmas, St. John's

11:30pm - Midnight Mass, St. Luke's

Prayer focus: The Parish of St. Luke's

Wednesday 25th December

Christmas Day

10am - Sung Mass at both Churches

Prayer focus: All Children

Thursday 26th December

St. Stephen

[prayers offered at home]

Prayer focus: Deacons in the Church of England

Friday 27th December

St. John, Apostle

9am - Confessions heard at St. John's

11am - Said Mass, St. John's

Prayer focus: The Parish of St. John's

Saturday 28th December

Holy Innocents

[prayers offered at home]

Prayer focus: All children in care

Sunday 29th December

The Holy Family

10am - Joint Service at St. John's

Divine Office Psalter Week 1, C(I), Christmas 1

Monday 30th December - Saturday 4th December

[prayers offered at home this week]

Tuesday 31st, Coffee & Fellowship at St. John's, 10am

Sunday 5th December

Epiphany

9:15am - Sung Mass, St. John's

11am - Sung Mass, St. Luke's

Divine Office Psalter Week 2, C(I), Christmas 2