

St. Luke's & St. John's

Proclaiming Christ in Devon

Dearest friends,

It has been a terrific week in both churches as we have had an early taste of Easter Sunday with the celebration of school Easter services.

At St. Luke's we welcomed Haytor View Primary School - who sang us songs, read scripture, and explained why Easter was so important.

At St. John's we travelled the short distance to St. Catherine's school in Heathfield, where once again the children sang, gave readings (and even some poetry), and explained why they were excited about Easter.

The joy and hope in both of those services echoed the huge energy and love we saw at our first joint Messy Easter at St. Catherine's last Sunday. The 11 children (and 18 adults) who came were welcomed by a team of people who demonstrated Christian love in action as crafts were explored, food was devoured, songs were sung (10,000 Reasons if you're interested!) and tables and chairs were erected and then put away again.

The injection of the sheer beauty and enthusiasm of the children in our various schools and parishes really does give me a great deal of hope for our future.

Without exception the reaction of parents and family has been one of welcome; they are keen to see us doing more of these kind of events and I was very happy to share with them that we'd have another Messy Church over the Summer Term.

The fact there is such a positive welcome when we go into schools (or they come to us) should enthuse us all and encourage us in our mission over 2025 to welcome more

families into our congregation.

A huge thank you must go to all of you who have volunteered to carry out the various roles and responsibilities of making these events happen. They are new events and there was much uncertainty as we figured out what we needed to do where - but both churches have pulled together and walked out in faith - what an inspiring example!

This Sunday we celebrate Mothering Sunday - an opportunity to return to your 'mother church' and to your church family. If you've not been to church for a little while, this is a perfect time to reconnect and be welcomed home.

Fr. Matthew

Notices

Summer Term Planning

As in previous terms we'll meet together as two churches and plan the term ahead. The Summer Term will be based out of St. Luke's and our planning



meeting will happen there on the **30th April at 6:30pm**. We'll do a short review of the Easter term and then plan for the term ahead.

Summer Lectures

Over the summer term I don't plan to run what you may call a traditional 'course'. Instead I'm going to offer a series of Sunday afternoon lectures, perhaps once a fortnight. These lectures will range from 'What is the Christian perspective on Assisted Dying', to 'Why was Devon so central to the Anglo-Catholic movement in England'. If you have a topic you'd like me to talk on, or invite someone to talk on, please do be in touch.

Ladies Group

Wednesday 2nd April
2pm - 3:30pm, St. Luke's

Our first monthly meeting to be held on the first Wednesday of each month. We will discuss future activities and chat about anything that is on your mind. All suggestions of activities and topics of conversation welcome.

Prayer Focus

Please pray for all of those in hospital, under the care of various doctors, nurses, or other medical professionals. Pray for peace, for healing, and for hope.

Guide the hands of our doctor and nurses that they may bring that peace, that healing, and that hope.

Today

Sunday 30th March

4th Sunday of Lent, Laetare Sunday

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

11am - Sung Mass, St. Luke's

Divine Office Psalter Week 4, C(I), Lent 4 3

March

30th - Mothering Sunday

April

2nd - St. Luke's PCC, 7pm

6th - Poppins Nursery Easter Bonnet Parade 11am [SL]

10th - Oswestry Chrism Festival (Exeter Cathedral, 11am)

13th April - Palm Sunday

9am - Sung Mass & Procession [SJ]

11am - Sung Mass & Procession [SL]

17th April - Maundy Thursday

7pm - Joint Mass with Washing of Feet & Watch, [SJ]

(Watch to continue at SL from 8:30pm)

18th April - Good Friday

3pm - Mass of The Lord's Passion [SJ & SL]

19th April - Holy Saturday

8pm - Vigil Mass of Easter [SJ]

20th April - Easter Sunday

6am - Dawn Mass [SL]

9:15am - Mass of Easter Sunday [SJ]

11am - Mass of Easter Sunday [SL]

30th April - Summer Term Planning Meeting, 6:30pm [SL]

St. John's Table Top Sale - Every 3rd Saturday at Wickham Hall

The week ahead:

Monday 31st March

Monday of the 3rd week in Lent

[prayers offered at home]

Prayer focus: Our Clergy

Tuesday 1st April

The Annunciation of the Lord

10am - BCP Morning Prayer [SJ]

Prayer focus: The Parish of St. Luke's

Wednesday 2nd April

Wednesday of the 3rd week in Lent

10am - BCP Morning Prayer [SJ]

2pm - Ladies Group [SL]

Prayer focus: All Children

Thursday 3rd April

Thursday of week 3rd week in Lent

[prayers offered at home]

Prayer focus: The Mission of St. Luke's and St. John's

Friday 4th April

Friday of week 3rd week in Lent

[prayers offered at home]

Prayer focus: Children in hospital

Saturday 5th April

Saturday of week 3rd week in Lent

Stations of the Cross, 4pm [SL] 6pm [SJ]

Prayer focus: All Families

Sunday 6th April

5th Sunday of Lent

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

11am - Sung Mass, St. Luke's

Divine Office Psalter Week 1, C(I), Lent 4

[SJ] St. John's | [SL] St. Luke's | [WH] Wickham Hall

Please pray for:

Edmund, Tom, Jude, Lydia, Viv and Linda, Rosemary, Diana, Phil and Jean, Alan, Marilyn, Roy, Anne-Marie, Simon, Liz, Melville and Jean, David, Hannah, Kathryn, Jenny, Eileen.

Pray for the souls of:

Eddie Byrd, Colin Jarman, Molly Sheffield, Les Haines, Gertie Steer, Peter Steer, May Moir, Edna Davie, David Leach, Elizabeth Leach, and all whose anniversary of death fall this week.

Father Matthew Cashmore

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Churchwardens

[SJ] Tyler Smith - tyler@slsj.co.uk

[SL] Mr Graham Whittle - graham@slsj.co.uk

[SL] Mr David Dunn - david@slsj.co.uk

Associate Clergy

Fr Christopher Robins, Fr Robin Eastoe SSC

Fr Alan White and Deacon David Rogers

Lay Minister: Mr Graham Whittle (01626) 212339