

# St. Luke's & St. John's

## Proclaiming Christ in Devon

Dearest friends,

This week we collected your palm crosses and burnt them to make the ash for Ash Wednesday (thank you Mark!)

There are never quite as many collected back as there are given out. We are reticent to give up those beautiful palm crosses that we took home from church last Palm Sunday.

They adorn our halls, our studies, our offices, our bedrooms, and we become used to their reassuring presence. Each time we walk past them we feel safe and soothed.

This is a wonderful and good thing. But, they are transitory. They are given to us so that we may return them. We must pick up our crosses and bring them to church so that they may be burnt and may act as a sign of our sin.

They must be burnt so that we can start Lent with our focus on the cross of our own sins. It is uncomfortable. We don't want to remove them from our homes. They are OURS.

Sin is much the same. It is hard to put down, it is hard to put away, it is OURS and if we're not careful we start to hold onto sin in much the same way as we hold onto our palm crosses. But sin must be put down, it must be put away.

Don't keep it at home, bring it to church. Lay it down at the altar, lay it down in confession, lay it down in prayer, that it may be taken from you, that you may be forgiven, that you may know the full and awesome mercy and love of OUR God.

Fr. Matthew

## Notices

### Messy Easter & Explorers

Messy Easter will be held at St. Catherine's on the 23rd March, 3pm-5pm. We are in need of volunteers to help us run it. Sitting with the children doing crafts, serving food, setting up and putting away. If you're interested please be in touch.

Explorers is a small seed that is going to grow into a new church to be planted into St. Catherine's School in September. I'm looking for volunteers to help with children's crafts, serving coffee & tea (and almost certainly donuts!) and welcoming people into church.

### The Bible Course

*Thursday evenings, 7pm, WH*  
On Thursday evening we will be joined by +Mike (Exeter) who will be sharing with us his thoughts and teachings on Acts and the early church in scripture.

**Even if you've never been to the Bible Course so far, come along to this session to understand why we're so passionate about planting new churches.**

### 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.

### Table Top Sale, 15th March

The Table Top Sale at Wickham Hall will now take place inside St. John's Church due to a double booking.

### Torfaen Male Voice Choir

This Saturday!

Don't miss your chance to hear the amazing Torfaen Male Voice Choir at St. Luke's, 7pm, this Saturday (8th March)

A wonderful celebration of music and Welsh hwyl. Tickets £5 on the door in aid of the Vicar's Discretionary Fund.

### Prayer Focus

Grant, O Lord, that we may begin with holy fasting this campaign of Christian service, so that as we take up battle against spiritual evils, we may be armed with weapons of self-restraint. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever, Amen.

## Today

### Sunday 9th March

#### 1st Sunday of Lent

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

11am - Sung Mass, St. Luke's

1pm - St. Luke's Parish Lunch

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

#### March

6th - The Bible Course, 7pm, WH

8th - Torfaen Male Voice Choir Concert 7pm [SL]

9th - St. Luke's Parish Lunch

12th - St. Luke's PCC, 7pm

13th - The Bible Course with +Mike, 7pm WH

15th, 22nd, 29th - Stations of the Cross [4pm SL, 6pm SJ]

15th - Rosary Group, 10:30am [SL]

16th - St. John's APCM 3pm

Music & Meditation 4pm [SJ]

23rd - St. Luke's APCM after Mass

Messy Easter at St. Catherine's, 3-5pm

30th - Mothering Sunday

#### April

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

10th - Oswestry Christm 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]

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

#### 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

Lay Minister: Mr Graham Whittle (01626) 212339

## The week ahead:

### Monday 10th March

Monday of week 1st week in Lent

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

*Prayer focus: Our Clergy*

### Tuesday 11th March

Tuesday of week 1st week in Lent

9:30am - Morning Prayer [SJ]

10am - Said Mass [SJ]

*Prayer focus: The Parish of St. Luke's*

### Wednesday 12th March

Wednesday of week 1st week in Lent

10am - Said Mass [SL]

7pm - St. Luke's PCC

*Prayer focus: All Children*

### Thursday 13th March

Thursday of week 1st week in Lent y

10am - Said Mass [SJ]

7pm - The Bible Course [WH]

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

### Friday 14th March

Friday of week 1st week in Lent

10am - Said Mass [SL]

*Prayer focus: The Parish of St. John's*

### Saturday 15th March

Saturday of week 1st week in Lent y

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

*Prayer focus: All Families*

### Sunday 16th March

#### 2nd Sunday of Lent

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

11am - Sung Mass, St. Luke's

*Divine Office Psalter Week 2, C(I), Lent 2*

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

## Please pray for:

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

## Pray for the souls of:

Bill Jarman, Mary Newton, Jean Richards, Douglas Mugford, and all those whose anniversary of death fall this week.