

CHARLTON

ST LUKE AND ST THOMAS

Sunday 18 November 2018
Second Sunday before Advent

Today's Preacher and Celebrant:

St Thomas': Rev'd Liz Newman

St Luke's: Rev'd Bennett Spong

Today's Readings:

First Reading: Daniel 12 v 1 - 3

Second Reading: Hebrews 10 v 11 - 25

Gospel: Mark 13 v 1 - 8



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*The Parishes of St Thomas Old Charlton and St Luke
with Holy Trinity Charlton working together*

Diary this week:

Sun 18	10.00: Parish Eucharist at St Thomas' 10.00: Parish Eucharist at St Luke's <i>Followed by Bible Study</i> 14.30: Care Home Service at Charlton Park Care Home
Mon 19	08.30: Morning Prayer at St Luke's 17.30: Evening Prayer at St Thomas' 19.30: St Luke's PCC at St Luke's
Tue 20	08.30: Morning Prayer at St Luke's 10.00: Tuesday Group at St Thomas' <i>includes The Julian Corner</i> 17.30: Evening Prayer at St Thomas'
Wed 21	08.30: Morning Prayer at St Luke's 10.00: Coffee Morning at St Luke's 12.00: Holy Communion at St Luke's 17.30: Evening Prayer at St Thomas'
Thu 22	08.30: Morning Prayer at St Luke's 17.30: Evening Prayer at St Thomas' 19.30: Advent Study Group at 10 Mayhill Road
Sat 24	19.30: Quiz and Song night at St Thomas'
Sun 25	10.00: Parish Eucharist for Christ the King at St Thomas' 10.00: Parish Eucharist for Christ the King at St Luke's



Thought for the week

Today we pray about the epidemic of knife crime in our city. But prayer should always have an impact on who we are and what we do. 'What has happened is that the Church has prayed about it and not really focused on it, governments and successive governments haven't really addressed it.' *Revd Les Isaacs, founder of Street Pastors*

Thank you...

To everyone who helps in any way with Greenwich Winter Night Shelter at St Thomas' which starts this week. There are so many people involved that it's hard to name everyone, but each one of you plays a vital role in creating a place of refuge, hospitality, care and Christian love for people unfortunate enough to have nowhere to call home. One of the marks of mission is loving service – the Night Shelter is the absolute embodiment of the love Jesus has for marginalized and poor. So God is in and with our efforts, and those of you who help are all living out the gospel.

To our sidespeople, who are there to greet people Sunday by Sunday, to help newcomers who aren't familiar yet with our churches and to clear away after our worship is over. You help to make our churches friendly places and make it easier for anyone who has to pluck up courage to come through the door.

News and notices

DON'T FORGET NEXT WEEK: Make someone's Christmas!

Our churches have been contacted by Charlton Toy Library that meets at Charlton House. As well as lending toys to families with young children, they also support vulnerable families who may have no recourse to public funds, have children with disabilities, or have fled domestic abuse. Each Christmas they try to provide a hamper to each of these families but for the last few years they have struggled to fill them. They are delighted that we have agreed to help them fill those hampers. On Christ the King Sunday – November 25th, please bring to the service at St Luke's or St Thomas', tinned or packet food and goodies like chocolates and nice biscuits – things that will help to make Christmas a bit special for them. Thank you!

Quiz and Song night on Saturday 24th November 7.30pm at St Thomas'.

Tickets £5.00 available from 07989 740 252. Bring your own drink and nibbles. In aid of St Thomas' Church, Charlton

Stewardship Month...

... is now over. Please return your response forms as soon as you possibly can. Pop them in the black box in church. I will be writing to thank everyone who has pledged money, time or skills. Revd Liz

Tree planting

As part of the London Community Tree Packs Tree Planting initiative, we have ordered 50 saplings. These will be planted on the **1st December** along with hundreds of other tree planters across London, and will form a hedge along Charlton Church Lane, which will add to the attractiveness of the churchyard and stop people jumping on to the pavement from the road. We are looking for volunteers to help either (i) by digging the initial trench (hard work!) and/or (ii) planting the saplings in the trench and ensuring they are well established (not so hard!). The first stage will start at 11am, the second at 12 noon. If you are interested in helping, or know someone who is, can you please contact Deborah by e-mail deborah.m.jones@ntlworld.com or by phone 07732173601.

Advent Carol Service Sunday December 2nd 6.30pm at St Thomas'

We will be welcoming our friends from St Mary's, Leigh to mark with us the start of this important season of the church's year, when we prepare to celebrate again the birth of Jesus' and look forward to Christ's return.

Benefice Advent Study Group

Our Advent group began last week. It will continue on Thursday evenings until December 13th. We will be looking at the Christian classic by Dietrich Bonhoeffer "**The Cost of Discipleship**". Among other things Bonhoeffer challenges the use of Christianity for narrow political objectives - a contemporary concern with the rise of nationalistic ideologies emerging around the world. We will meet at 10 Mayhill Road, SE7 7JQ, at **7:30 - 9:00PM**. We are anticipating a few books to be available, but participants may wish to order their own from Amazon. For further information please speak to Bennett Spong, Rob Simson, or Deborah Jones.

From Bexley to Baghdad

Thursday 29th November 7.30pm at Charlton United Reformed Church. Hear the incredible story of Canon Andrew White; ministering in the chaos, of a turbulent Baghdad, meeting world leaders, enduring kidnap, meeting with Isil, living with MS. Nothing has halted the unstoppable Canon White. Today he continues to serve his displaced middle eastern congregation and speak for the persecuted church. Charlton URC, Bramshot Avenue, Charlton, London, SE7 7HX. Free; but donations to the persecuted Church. For further info 07828195831

St Richard's Prayer Group

Over the coming months and years, we need to make important decisions about St Richard's Church Centre, part of St Luke's parish in Swallowfield Road. We have committed to developing it as a centre for mission, of service to its community and where a new congregation can emerge. There will be many steps on the way, but all those steps need to be guided by God's Spirit.

So, starting in the new year, St Richard's Chapel will be open on the second and fourth Sunday of the month between 5pm and 5.45pm for prayer. How we use the time can vary, but the purpose of that time will be to listen to God, so the vision and plans that emerge for St Richard's will serve the community lovingly, make new disciples and proclaim the Good News.

Anyone and everyone is welcome to come to the prayer group. The first 2 meetings will be: Sunday January 13th & 27th 5.00 - 5.45pm
The Chapel entrance is in Sundorne Road.

Charlton Riverside – Let's influence what is built

The part of Charlton next to the river, stretching from Derrick and Atlas Gardens (near Makro) to the Maryon and Morris Walk estates right next to St Thomas', is going to be developed, with thousands of new dwellings. Plans for the first stage of development – Derick and Atlas Gardens – have been drawn up by a developer called Rockwell, but Greenwich Council Planning Committee threw out their proposals because they were not in keeping with the council's vision for the area: not enough social housing, not enough community provision, blocks too high and dense etc etc. It was felt the developers were trying to make as much money as they could at the expense of creating a place where a community could develop rather than just a place to live. Since RBG threw out Rockwell's proposal, the Mayor of London has 'called in' the decision, which means that he will make the final decision about whether Rockwell's proposals are acceptable or not.

If you care about the quality of this development – all of which will be in our parishes – and want the new community that will live there to have the best chance of flourishing and making it home, then you need to make your voice heard by writing to the Greater London Authority. Please speak to Rick or Liz Newman TODAY who can give you more information about how to do this.

A notice about the notices

In the interests of keeping our notices as brief and to the point as possible, please speak to the president or one of the churchwardens BEFORE the service if you have something to be announced and they will do it on your behalf. And please remember you can email notices to news@charlton.church by midday of the Wednesday before the Sunday.

KNIFE CRIME – A MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP OF SOUTHWARK

In the last few weeks we have seen an increase in the number of knife and gang related deaths amongst young people in the Diocese of Southwark and across London. As church communities across our Diocese we are seeking to find ways to work with others to combat the growing incidence of knife crime and other deaths. Please pray for an end to violence and crime both on Sunday 18th November and throughout the coming weeks. Andrew Nunn, the Dean of Southwark, has written a prayer for us to use.

A prayer for the victims of knife crime

Thus says the Lord:

A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her children; she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are no more. (Jeremiah 31.15)

*Compassionate God,
hear our cries, dry our tears,
heal our pain, and give us determination
to work for an end to the violence that takes our young
people from us.*

*Give peace in our communities,
peace in our cities
peace to those bereaved
and your everlasting peace
to those who have died.*

Amen.



Advent and Christmas services and activities

Please join in the activities and services that will help us share the Good News of Christ's coming with our community.

Delivering Postcards during week of 2 December

Advent activities

Our **Advent Carol Service** is at St Thomas' on Sunday 2 at 6.30pm, when we will be joined by our friends from Leigh.

The **Advent Study Course** continues each Thursday until 13 December at 10 Mayhill Road.

Carol Singing & Community Services

We'll be singing carols at the **Charlton Park Academy** fair on Saturday 1st December at noon.

Short **services with carols** will be taking place at:

- Time Court Care Home, Sunday 9, 2.30pm
- 40 Littleheath, Thursday 13, 2.30pm
- Charlton Park Care Home, Sunday 16, 2.30pm
- St Joseph's Court, Monday 17, 7.00pm
- Christmas Round the Tree, Charlton House, Wed. 12, 6.30pm

In our churches

Christmas Sing-a-long, St Thomas', Sunday 9th at 5.30pm

Christingle, St Thomas', Sunday 16th at 2.00pm

Community Carol Service, St Luke's, Wednesday 19th 7.00pm

Midnight Mass, St Luke's and St Thomas',

Christmas Eve at 11.00pm

Communion and Carols, St Luke's and St Thomas'

Christmas Day, 10.00am

Please sign up to join the group of Carol Singers and to help deliver postcards – and help share the Good News.

Please remember in your prayers this week:

The Church: Our friends at St Mary's, Leigh; Liz, Bennett, Joe & Jean our clergy; The mission of our own churches

The World: The Diocese of Manicaland; HM Queen; Our Prime Minister, Government and MP's determining the right way forward with Brexit, that they may act in the interests of all; The people of Yemen where war has killed thousands and millions are on the brink of starvation

Our local community: Our Lady of Grace School; Greenwich Foodbank; Queen Elizabeth Hospital; Charlton Triangle; For our guests at the Winter Night Shelter and all who volunteer; For the victims and all affected by the rise of knife crime in London

Those who have asked for our prayers or who are sick: Sue Burns; Elsie West; Paul Allen; Irene Page; Neil Teller; Marjorie Harvey; Daphne Woolner; Grace Reed; Sonny McKinson; Pat Martin; Rita Yardley; Rosemary Gill; Pat Lancaster; Kath Skinner; Annette Green; Grace Itoje; Edna Mckinson; Joan Bowman; Mariana Callen; Cecil Brown; Maureen Fordham; Alex Jeffrey; Dorothy Warder; Simon Bond; Pearl Senior; Victoria Adelega; Lily Carter; Shirley Tingay; Richard Kilmurry; Perline Brorros; Christine Henderson; Jackie Kent; Iris Ford; John Burton; Gladys Peart

R.I.P.: Edie Nuckey; Paul Crosby

Year's Mind: Margaret Massey; Jane Aylwin; Muriel West

Contacting the Rector

Liz's contact details: liz@charlton.church or 07922 587263

*Prayer requests and information for next week's notices:
news@charlton.church or call 020 8858 8175 by noon on Wednesday*