

CHARLTON

ST LUKE AND ST THOMAS

Sunday 13 January 2019

The Baptism of Christ

Today's Preacher and Celebrant:

St Thomas': Rev'd Bennett Spong

St Luke's: Rev'd Liz Newman

Today's Readings:

First Reading: Isaiah 43.1-7

Second Reading: Acts 8.14-17

Gospel: Luke 3.15-17,21,22



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

Diary this week:

Sun 13	10.00: Parish Eucharist at St Thomas' 10.00: All Age Eucharist at St Luke's 14.30: Care Home Service at Time Court 17.00: Prayer meeting at St Richard's
Mon 14	08.30: Morning Prayer at St Luke's 17.30: Evening Prayer at St Thomas'
Tue 15	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' 19.30: Choir Practice at St Luke's
Wed 16	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 17	08.30: Morning Prayer at St Luke's 17.30: Evening Prayer at St Thomas' 18.00: Tom's Youth Café starts at St Thomas' 19.30: The Cost of Discipleship Study Group at 10 Mayhill Road
Sun 20	10.00: Parish Eucharist at St Thomas' 10.00: Parish Eucharist at St Luke's 14.30: Care Home Service at Charlton Park Care Home



Thought for the week

The fifth Mark of Mission as understood by the Church of England is to 'strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth'. As churches we have a responsibility to do this and as individual Christians we do too. Why not find out the steps you can take to reduce your carbon footprint...

Thank you...

To Barbara, our accountant at St Luke's. Barbara works quietly, efficiently and carefully in the background, making sure our accounts are perfectly presented when we come to the end of year, claiming Gift Aid on donations so we maximise our income and doing all the work necessary through the year to make those things happen. She is a real friend to our church. Thank you Barbara.

And thank you to Iris and Jim, who manage the hall bookings at St Thomas'. Our attractive hall at St Thomas' means we're much in demand as a venue for parties, concerts, receptions and meetings. The revenue raised is very important to the life of the church and it's essential that hall hirers receive a reliable and friendly service. Iris and Jim do a wonderful job in overseeing the bookings and making sure there is someone to open and lock up afterwards. We are very grateful for all you do.

News and notices

St Richard's Prayer Group – this evening at 5.00pm

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.

Concert to support the Winter Night Shelter

The Charlton Ensemble return to St Thomas' church on Sunday 27th January at 7pm.

The ensemble includes some of our own members: Joseph Spooner (Cello), Nicholas Bosworth (Piano), Dominic Barlow (Piano), James Kinsella (Tenor) as well as Helen Whittington (Soprano) and Sarah Ince (Mezzo).

Tickets are £10.00. Call 07989 740252 or 020 8854 0841.

The Cost of Discipleship Study Group

The study group that started in Advent is continuing with the intention of completing the book, The Cost of Discipleship. It will continue to meet at 10 Mayhill Road from 7:30 - 9:00 on Thursday evenings. New participants are welcome.

Walk Through the Bible – Old Testament Seminar:

Saturday 23rd February 2019 10.00 – 4.30pm – Walworth, St Peter Bishop Karwei is hosting this day in conjunction with the Walk Through the Bible Team. The day will follow the pattern of a traditional seminar. The Diocese are subsidising the day by 50% for those living and worshipping in Woolwich so the cost will be £7.00. You will need to book through www.bible.org.uk, it will show as £14 but when you come to purchase tickets you need to put in the discount code Liverpool-Grove-OT. For those who are not aware, the ticket then becomes a life-time ticket for any Old Testament Seminar at any venue of your choice.

Lunch is provided for all attendees. If you are not able to attend on this day but are interested in experience Walk Through the Bible, then the following Woolwich Area Churches are hosting events early in 2019 and invite you and your Church communities to join them:

Saturday 9th February (Day): Walk Through the Bible – New Testament Seminar – Deptford, St John's

Lent evenings commencing Wednesday 13th March (7.30pm): Walk Through the Bible – Old Testament Walk Seminar – Greenwich, St Alfege

Mission Action Plan Update

Tom's Youth Café launches this week – on Thursday 17th January. Setting it up and getting it running is one of the goals for the Benefice Mission Action Plan and we're excited that we're almost there!

Tom's Youth Café is open access: that means young people of secondary age can come along on Thursdays between 6pm and 7.30pm and be welcome to chill, play games and make friends. As we go along there will be a chance for them to think about, talk about and learn about what it means to follow Jesus.

It's a chance for our churches to serve the young people of our area and also to walk alongside those who want to become disciples of Jesus. Judith Clark and her team have been ordering equipment, getting other resources together, completing risk assessments, sorting out publicity, vetting volunteers, working out a programme and, most importantly PRAYING. We're being supported by Greenwich Youth For Christ who help run similar groups at St Michael's Blackheath, OneSpace Kidbrooke and Christ Church East Greenwich.

Please pray for Tom's Café, our volunteers and especially the young people who come along.

Choir Practice

The choir at St Luke's resumes its practice this week on Tuesday 15th January at 7.30pm. We meet in St Luke's Church and new members are welcome.

Regular fellowship - invite a friend

Why not invite a friend to join you at one of our weekly social activities?

Tuesday's at St Thomas, 10.00am the Tuesday Group meets.

Refreshments, chat and activities for all. The Julian Corner is available for those who would like time for private prayer

Wednesday's at St Luke's, 10.00am is the Midweek Coffee Morning

A time for refreshments, chat and to make new friends.

Holy Communion follows at 12 noon.

What have our PPC's been up to?

In 2018, among many other things, our PCCs did the following...

St Thomas' PCC established the following sub-committees:

Finance and Risk – Chaired by Judith Clark, this committee helps the PCC to set and monitor a budget to enable the missional activities of St Thomas Church and address routine financial issues.

Social and Fundraising – Chaired by Claire Hennings, this committee proposes social events and fundraising activities that contribute to the Church Mission Action Plan and ensure that church services requiring refreshments are adequately advertised and catered for.

Buildings – Chaired by Jim Kinsella, this committee's job is to make recommendations to the PCC on matters relating to the Church building and grounds, to ensure safety, maintenance and development of the church building, grounds, and facilities to inspire a sense of Christian presence in the local community.

St Luke's PCC established:

A Masterplan Group – Convened by Joseph Spooner, this group's task is make recommendations to the PCC about restoring and developing St Luke's building so that it is fit for mission in the 21st century.

A Grants Committee – Chaired by Judith Barlow. Its role is to apply for grants which will restore, maintain and develop both St Luke's Church and St Richard's Church Centre and enable funding of the ongoing mission and ministry of the parish church.

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

Prayer Extra

Prayer of St Richard of Chichester

Thanks be to thee, my Lord Jesus Christ
For all the benefits Thou hast given me,
For all the pains and insults Thou hast borne for me.
O most merciful Redeemer, friend and brother,
May I know Thee more clearly,
Love thee more dearly,
Follow thee more nearly.
Amen.

Prayer of St Francis of Assisi

Lord make me an instrument of your peace
Where there is hatred let me sow love
Where there is injury, pardon
Where there is doubt, faith
Where there is despair, hope
Where there is darkness, light
And where there is sadness, joy

O divine master grant that I may not so much seek to
be consoled as to console
to be understood as to understand
To be loved as to love
For it is in giving that we receive
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned
And it's in dying that we are born to eternal life
Amen.

Please remember in your prayers this week:

The Church: Our friends at St Mary's, Leigh; Bishop Christopher; Bible Society; For our Mission Action Plan and Tom's Café (our new youth café) starting on Thursday 17th January. That good relationships will be made with many young people and that we will discover God's love together.

The World: The Diocese of Manicaland; HM The Queen; Our Government and all MP's debating our withdrawal from the EU; The people of the Democratic Republic of Congo following their election for a new government

Our local community: Pound Park Early Years and Children's Centre; Doctor & Dental Surgeries in our Benefice; G51 Scout Group; For our guests at the Winter Night Shelter and all who volunteer

Baptism: We pray for Claris to be baptized on 27th January at the 10am eucharist at St Luke's, for her mum and dad, sisters and godparents. Pray that Claris's christening will be a marker on the way of her lifelong journey with Jesus.

Those celebrating a birthday or anniversary last week

Those who have asked for our prayers or who are sick

R.I.P.: Christine Crabby; Michael Bengé; Benny Hazlehurst; Val May; Mark Withers

Year's Mind: David Holmes; Jean Orton; Denis West; George Zammit