

Our
Mission
Priorities

Nurturing
children and
young people

Sharing our faith
confidently

Reaching
isolated groups

Engaging with
our community

CHARLTON

ST LUKE AND ST THOMAS

Sunday 29 September 2019

At St Thomas':

Harvest Festival

At St Luke's:

15th Sunday after Trinity

Today's Preacher and Celebrant:

St Luke's: Revd Bennett Spong

St Thomas': Revd Liz Newman

Today's Readings:

St Thomas':

Genesis 1.9-13

1 Corinthians 9.6-14

Matthew 6.25-end

St Luke's:

Jeremiah 32.1-3a,6-15

1 Timothy 6.6-19

Luke 16.19-31



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

Diary this week:

Sun 29	10.00: Harvest Festival Eucharist at St Thomas' 10.00: Parish Eucharist at St Luke's 11.15: Bible Study at St Luke's
Mon 30	08.30: Morning Prayer at St Luke's 17.30: Evening Prayer at St Thomas'
Tue 1	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' 19.00: Choir Practice at St Luke's
Wed 2	08.30: Morning Prayer at St Luke's 10.30: Midweek Coffee Morning at St Luke's 12.00: Holy Communion at St Luke's 17.30: Evening Prayer at St Thomas'
Thu 3	08.30: Morning Prayer at St Luke's 17.30: Evening Prayer at St Thomas' 19.30: Study Group at 10 Mayhill Road... <i>...studying 'Mere Christianity' by CS Lewis</i>
Sun 6	10.00: Stewardship Sunday Eucharist at St Thomas' 10.00: Stewardship Sunday Eucharist at St Luke's 11.15: Bible Study at St Luke's 12.00: St Luke's Standing Committee at St Luke's



Thought for the week

'Disagreement should be a matter of debate, of rational examination of different views, even of passionate and robust argument. But it should not be a cause of hatred, the incitement of violence, and the denigration of the humanity of the other person.'
Archbishop Justin Welby

News and notices

Welcome...

It's lovely to be joined by members of the 38th Woolwich Scout Group for our Harvest Service at St Thomas' this morning. We hope you'll come again!

Thank you...

... Pat MAYHEW whose name we got wrong in the newsletter last week. Thanks Pat for all your hard work in helping make Iris's surprise birthday party such a lovely afternoon. To everyone who helped with the clear up of the Ann Flinders grave area in St Thomas' churchyard on Saturday 14th. ... to everyone at St Luke's who contributed their time to welcome visitors during Open House Weekend last Saturday and Sunday

St Luke's Day and launch of Friends of St Luke's

On Sunday October 20th we'll be celebrating the festival of our patron, Saint Luke, and as usual will all worship together as one congregation at the usual time of 10am. Therefore there will be NO Sunday eucharist at St Thomas's that morning. We will be launching THE FRIENDS OF ST LUKE'S that day and after the service there will be brunch and a celebratory cake to share. Please make sure you're there so we can all be together on such a special day!

Horn Fair – Sunday October 13th

The Horn Fair is on Sunday October 13th, the week before St Luke's Patronal Festival and we'll be advertising the friends of St Luke's there. If you can help by staffing our 'stall', please speak to Judith Barlow lukesfriends@charlton.church or Rick Newman rick@charlton.church

Stewardship Sundays – Invest in Hope

The first and last Sunday in October (6th and 27th) will be kept as Stewardship Sundays in both our churches. We'll all be asked how we can INVEST IN HOPE by making decisions about what we can give to the Mission of God here in Charlton – financially and through skills and gifts. Please start praying about how you can be generous givers back to the God who gives us all good things.

Concert for Welcare

The Kidbrooke Operatic Society's Annual Concert in aid of Greenwich Welcare will be held on Friday 11th October in St Mary's Church, Welling at 7.30pm. Tickets are available from Joan Lake - see poster for details. Your support for our local Christian based charity will be appreciated.

Helping on Wednesday's

We need YOU! To help with the coffee morning at St Luke's 10 - 12 and with hospitality at Rucksack Music at St Richard's 1 - 3. Both on Wednesdays. Speak to Revd Liz.

This doesn't have to be a weekly commitment, but please ask yourself if you can do this for your church.

Wanted for work with young people

Liz Buck would like your help as she prepares for two events:

For the next Schools project: We need 27 plastic milk cartons (empty and clean!) by the 1st November. We're collecting the pint size/500 ml ONLY. Please give to Liz Buck (bagged, preferably).

For 'Just about...': Postcard Memories. If you lived in Charlton during World War 2, I would very much value any memory (personal or otherwise) you have, written on a postcard for our School's event 'Just About the Poppies...' Please ask me for a postcard! 'Just About the Poppies...' is in November in the week leading up to Remembrance Day.

Choir Practice at St Luke's

Following a Summer break, St Luke's Choir is starting rehearsals again to prepare music for Christmas. The next choir practice is Tuesday 1st October and the meetings will probably then be on a weekly basis.

John Dawson, our organist at St Thomas', has once again agreed to accompany the choir for the Carol Service (date TBC). If you would like to join the choir this term then you would be most welcome provided you are willing to audition, i.e. give us a tune. We need all parts (soprano, alto, bass and tenor). We have lots of fun as well as trying to take our music seriously, so please give us a try. You might like to join for just this term – and help us make our Christmas special.

Greenwich Winter Night Shelter (GWNS)

Would you like to join a team that makes a big difference to people's lives? GWNS is recruiting more volunteers for this winter's shelter that opens mid November. St Thomas Friday night's venue and St Richard's on Saturday. St Richard's particularly needs more volunteers. Could you get involved in this rewarding opportunity? www.gwns.org.uk to register your interest. New volunteers MUST attend training, dates of which are listed on the website.

Black History Month

Southwark's 2019 Black History Month Celebration will take place at Southwark Cathedral on Saturday 5th October. It starts at 10:30am with a celebration Eucharist. Bishop Christopher will preside and Southwark's MU president Comfort Idowu-Fearon will be giving the address. Music will be provided by the Amies Freedom Choir, a choir made up of previously trafficked women who are using music as part of their healing journey. After the service there are workshops on offer: BAME women and Social Justice; BAME women in lay leadership and BAME women in ordained leadership. If you plan to attend, please register through the Eventbrite page <https://southwarkbhm2019.eventbrite.co.uk> For more information e-mail marlene.collins@southwark.anglican.org or call 020 7939 9412.

The Southwark Diocese Spirituality Day – To Be A Pilgrim

Saturday 19th October 2019 10.00 - 4.00 at Southwark Cathedral
Join us in Southwark Cathedral for a day conference of prayer and reflection. We will consider what it means to be a pilgrim on the Christian journey – in your heart, in your head or on your feet.

Keynote speakers: Dr Meg Warner, Old Testament scholar and Bishop Christopher, who has been Bishop of Southwark since 2011

With Workshops on - Meeting God through hospitality, using your daily commute as a time of encounter with God, Walking the labyrinth, Danced prayer, The experience of pilgrimage, Hearing God's call, Spiritual direction; a companion for the journey, , Walking the Camino, Stories about Spain's much-travelled Camino de Santiago de Compestela, How lovely on the mountains, A Bible exploration about feet and walking

All this will take place in the context of uplifting worship.

Prayer stations and a marketplace of stalls will be open throughout the day.

Tickets £8 in advance £10 on the door. Search the Southwark Diocese website or speak to Revd Liz

Bishop Roy Williamson RIP

It is with sadness that we learned Bishop Roy Williamson died last week.

+Roy was Bishop of Southwark between 1991 and 1998 and was a warm, gentle pastor, a real father-in-God to many, a great preacher, a shepherd to his flock, and a good friend to our churches. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

St George's Community Lecture Series

Our friends and neighbours at St George's Church, Westcombe Park, have an interesting series of talks coming up. Later in the year Revd Canon Dr Robert Reiss will talk on the subject 'What can we really believe about Jesus Christ' and Very Revd Jeffrey John on Thank God for Equal Marriage.

The series starts on 26th September at 8.00pm with Revd Canon Dr Rosemarie Mallett, Director of Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation at Diocese of Southwark. Rosemarie's subject is What's the point of the parish church?

Deanery Forum

The Deanery is the group of Church of England churches in this area, stretching from Woolwich in the east to Greenwich in the west, Charlton in the north and Kidbrooke and Blackheath in the south. Every 3 years our churches elect representatives to Deanery Synod, who then attend 3 meetings per year. Charlton Deanery is going to experiment with these meetings. They will become Deanery Forums, open to any members of our churches who may want to come along. The next Deanery Forum is Tuesday 15th October 8pm, venue to be confirmed, and the subject will be Eco Church. If you are interested / passionate about the environment and the positive contribution our churches can make to the climate emergency, please come along.

Safeguarding

Our churches take safeguarding extremely seriously and have adopted and implement our Diocesan procedures and guidelines contained in A Safe Church. These are in line with those agreed by the House of Bishops. For further information please see the Safeguarding noticeboard at St Thomas', St Luke's and St Richard's, or visit the website. The Parish Safeguarding Officers and Rector would be very happy to answer any questions you may have.

We all have a responsibility to make our churches safe places for all. If you have any concerns, please bring them to the attention of the Rector, Parish Safeguarding Officer, Churchwardens or a PCC member without delay.

News from our PCC's

In September our PCCs:

- Agreed dates for Advent and Christmas services, ordering of banners and publicity
- Adopted a leaflet 'Invest in Hope' for use in October's Stewardship Campaign
- Agreed to increase our focus on our churches being members of Inclusive Church, with Joe Lee, Rick Newman and Amelia Cortez forming a group to facilitate this
- Agreed a role description for those serving refreshments in church
- Considered a scenario around the safeguarding of unaccompanied children
- Received the Rector's report
- Received reports on July's Deanery Synod meeting

St Luke's PCC also:

- Appointed Sharon Cullis as PCC Secretary
- Agreed in principle to recruit a Director of Music and to delay choice of a new hymn book until after Christmas
- Heard about agreement to re-use a Fresh Expressions grant from the diocese to fund Diddy Disciples and Messy Church at St Richard's
- Received a building report including our Quinquennial findings

St Thomas' PCC also:

- Received reports from the Finance, Buildings and Risks sub-committee
- Adopted a Space Hire Policy for the church
- Heard about the Y Course, for those sceptical or enquiring about the Christian faith, to be run at St Thomas' in October and November
- Agreed to develop a monthly All Age Eucharist

News and prayer requests to be included in next week's newsletter can be sent to news@charlton.church or phoning 020 8858 8175 by 12 noon on Wednesday.

Please remember in your prayers this week:

The Church: Our friends at St Mary's, Leigh; All working for the Diocese of Southwark; We pray for plans to develop a mental wellbeing project at St Luke's, that through it people will find refreshment, belonging, purpose and hope; From our Deanery we pray for St Mary's Woolwich

The World: The Diocese of Minaland; For all fleeing their homes in fear of safety, that they may find safe places of welcome and refuge; Our Prime Minister, government and all politicians, that God's love and healing power will help heal the divisions in our country; We pray for the lands in which we were born - today we remember especially Denmark, praying that peace and justice will reign there and that your church there will thrive.

Our local community: Thorntree School; Queen Elizabeth Hospital; Charlton Champion; CGL Aspire; Greenwich Foodbank

Those celebrating their birthday last week:

Those who have asked for our prayers or who are sick:

R.I.P.: Allan Nettleingham; Finn Nielsen; Bishop Roy Williamson

Year's Mind: George Philips; Pam Norris; Atty Gnanaseelan

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.