

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 15 December 2019  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

*Today's Preacher and Celebrant:*

**St Luke's:** Revd Bennett Spong

**St Thomas':** Revd Liz Newman

*Today's Readings:*

**First Reading:** Isaiah 35.1-10

**Second Reading:** James 5.7-10

**Gospel:** Matthew 11.2-11



[www.charlton.church](http://www.charlton.church)



[news@charlton.church](mailto:news@charlton.church)



[@churchcharlton](https://twitter.com/churchcharlton)

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

## Diary this week:

<b>Sun 15</b>	10.00: <b>Parish Eucharist for Advent 3</b> at St Thomas' 10.00: <b>Parish Eucharist for Advent 3</b> at St Luke's 11.15: <b>Bible Study</b> at St Luke's
<b>Mon 16</b>	08.30: <b>Morning Prayer</b> at St Luke's 17.30: <b>Evening Prayer</b> at St Thomas' 19.30: <b>Joint PCC Social</b> at St Thomas'
<b>Tue 17</b>	08.30: <b>Morning Prayer</b> at St Luke's 09.30: <b>Diddy Disciples</b> at St Richard's 10.00: <b>Tuesday Group</b> at St Thomas' <i>includes The Julian Corner</i> 17.30: <b>Evening Prayer</b> at St Thomas'
<b>Wed 18</b>	08.30: <b>Morning Prayer</b> at St Luke's 10.30: <b>Midweek Coffee Morning</b> at St Luke's 12.00: <b>Holy Communion</b> at St Luke's 17.30: <b>Evening Prayer</b> at St Thomas' 19.00: <b>Community Carol Service</b> at St Luke's
<b>Thu 19</b>	08.30: <b>Morning Prayer</b> at St Luke's 17.30: <b>Evening Prayer</b> at St Thomas' 18.00: <b>TOMS Youth Café</b> at St Thomas' 19.30: <b>Advent Study Group</b> at 10 Mayhill Road... <i>...studying 'The Problem of Pain' by CS Lewis</i>
<b>Sat 21</b>	11.30: <b>Messy Church</b> at St Richard's
<b>Sun 22</b>	10.00: <b>Parish Eucharist for Advent 4</b> at St Thomas' 10.00: <b>Parish Eucharist for Advent 4</b> at St Luke's 11.15: <b>Bible Study</b> at St Luke's



### Thought for the week

What I can do, you cannot. What you can do, I cannot. But together we can do something beautiful for God.

*Mother Teresa of Calcutta*

# Follow the Star this Advent & Christmas



## Community Christmas Carol Service

We will be welcoming friends from across the community of Charlton on Wednesday to our annual Carol Service. Representatives from local community groups will give the readings, and our choir will sing the anthems. There'll be plenty of familiar carols for us all to join in.

Please join this important service and provide a warm welcome for those visiting. After the service we'll all be welcome to stay for mulled wine and mince pies.

*Ali Edney adds:* Mulled wine & mince pies needed plus a hot team of people to serve them! It will be fun!

We would love the following too:-

- Mince pies
- Inexpensive bottles of red wine to mull
- White wine
- Two bags of ice
- Bottles of beer / lager
- Fresh juice / lemonade / sparkling water for non drinkers
- Fresh oranges, lemons, limes, clementines, grapes
- Kettle crisps, Pretzels
- Christmassy biscuits / cake for people who don't like mince pies

*Please leave fabulous donations in the kitchen at St Luke's and ring or text Ali on 07973219495 if you are able to join our Christmassy servers*

## Messy Church

Our second session of Messy Church is on Saturday, 11.30am – 2.00pm at St Richard's. There will be creative Christmas activities and worship for everyone.



# Advent & Christmas diary



Sun 15	<b>Advent 3 Eucharist</b> at St Luke's & St Thomas' 10.00am
Sun 15	<b>Carol Service</b> at Charlton Park Care Home <i>(residents and care home group only)</i>
Sun 15	<b>Carol Service</b> at Beecham Close <i>(invitation only)</i>
Mon 16	<b>Joint PCC Christmas Social</b> at St Thomas' <i>(PCC members only)</i>
Wed 18	<b>Community Carol Service</b> at St Luke's, 7.00pm <i>A service for the whole community. Readings will be given by local community members, anthems from the choir and carols for us all to join in. Followed by mulled wine and mince pies.</i>
Sat 21	<b>Messy Church</b> at St Richard's 11.30-2.00 <i>Everyone welcome for creative Christmas activities &amp; worship</i>
Sun 22	<b>Advent 4 Eucharist</b> at St Luke's & St Thomas' 10.00am
Mon 23	<b>Christingle</b> at St Thomas', 2.00pm <i>Everyone is welcome</i> <i>Creative activities at 2pm, Worship at 3pm</i>
Tue 24	<b>Midnight Mass</b> at St Luke's and St Thomas' 11.00pm <i>Everyone is welcome at this First Mass of Christmas</i>
Wed 25	<b>Christmas Day Eucharist</b> at St Luke's and St Thomas <i>Everyone is welcome to this family Eucharist</i>
Sun 29	<b>Christmas 1 Eucharist</b> at St Thomas' & St Luke's 10.00am

## News and notices

### Thank you...

... to everyone who has delivered postcards inviting neighbours to church this Christmas (or will do so in the next couple of days!). A special thank you to Mike and Jill Hurley for organizing the St Luke's delivery so well and for providing us with such a lovely breakfast.

... to Jim, Sheila, Edna, Tim, Ali, Pat and members of the Tuesday group who did so much to make the Christmas Singalong at St Thomas' such a brilliant success. And thanks to Dominic for his wonderful playing.

Contacting Revd Liz: Liz, our Rector, can be contacted by email [liz@charlton.church](mailto:liz@charlton.church) or by phoning 07922 587263.

## **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.*

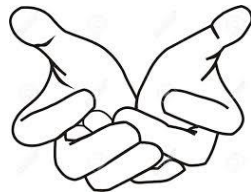
*We all have a responsibility to make our churches safe places for all. If you have any concerns, please bring them to the attention of the Rector, Parish Safeguarding Officer, Churchwardens or a PCC member without delay.*

Newsletter copy deadline: News and prayer requests to be included in next week's newsletter can be sent to [news@charlton.church](mailto:news@charlton.church) or phoning 020 8858 8175 by 12 noon on Wednesday.

## **Prayer Zone**

*God of hope,  
in these times of change,  
unite our nation  
and guide our leaders with your  
wisdom.*

*Give us courage to overcome our fears,  
and help us to build a future  
in which all may prosper and share;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.*



## **Please remember in your prayers this week:**

**The Church:** Our friends at St Mary's, Leigh; Inclusive Church; We pray for plans to develop a social justice project at St Luke's, so disadvantaged people can experience God's care.; From our Deanery we pray for Christ Church East Greenwich; We pray for Messy Christmas to be held at St Richard's on 21<sup>st</sup> December and for the Christingle service at St Thomas' at 2pm on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup>. We pray that through this ministry, many will grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Jesus Christ.

**The World:** The Diocese of Manicaland; All attending COP25 (Conference of the Parties) in Madrid, that governments around the world will take urgent action to tackle Climate Change; Len Duvall, our London Assembly Member; The work of Christian Aid; Our new government and Prime Minister and all newly elected MP's, that they will work to heal the divisions and inequality in our country; We pray for the lands in which we were born - today we remember especially Sierra Leone, praying that peace and justice will reign there and that your church there will thrive

**Our local community:** The staff and pupils at Cherry Orchard School; All living at St Joseph's Court; CGL Aspire; Charlton Together; All working for the Royal Borough of Greenwich; Our guests at the Greenwich Winter Night Shelter, and our volunteers who welcome them

**Those celebrating their birthday last week:**

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

**R.I.P.:** Winifred Tofts; Mary Tutor

**Year's Mind:** George Griffiths; Vic Skinner Snr.

***Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.***