

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 8 March 2020 Second Sunday of Lent

Today's Preacher and Celebrants:

St Luke's: Revd Liz Newman

St Thomas': Revd Joe Lee

Today's Readings:

First Reading: Genesis 12 v 1 - 4a
Second Reading: Romans 4 v 1 - 5, 13 - 17
Gospel: John 3 v 1 - 17



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

Diary this week:

Sun 8	<p>10.00: Parish Eucharist at St Thomas'</p> <p>10.00: All Age Eucharist at St Luke's <i>Followed by Bible Study</i></p> <p>11.45: Lent Group at St Thomas'</p> <p>14.30: Service at Time Court Care Home</p>
Mon 9	<p>08.30: Morning Prayer at St Luke's</p>
Tue 10	<p>08.30: Morning Prayer at St Luke's</p> <p>10.00: Tuesday Group at St Thomas' <i>includes The Julian Corner</i></p> <p>15.00: Lent Group at 32 Weyman Road</p>
Wed 11	<p>08.30: Morning Prayer at St Luke's</p> <p>10.30: Midweek Coffee Morning at St Luke's</p> <p>12.00: Holy Communion at St Luke's</p> <p>19.30: Spiritual not Religious learning session upstairs at The White Swan</p>
Thu 12	<p>08.30: Morning Prayer at St Luke's</p> <p>19.30: Lent Study Group at 10 Mayhill Road... <i>...studying Screwtape Letters by CS Lewis</i></p>
Sat 14	<p>10.00: Deanery Forum at St Richard's</p>
Sun 15	<p>10.00: Parish Eucharist at St Thomas'</p> <p>10.00: Parish Eucharist at St Luke's <i>Followed by Bible Study</i></p> <p>11.45: Lent Group at St Thomas'</p> <p>14.30: Service at Charlton Park Care Home</p>



Thought for the week

'I need to worship because without it I lose a sense of wonder and gratitude and plod through life with blinkers on' *John Ortberg*

News and notices

Thank you to...

... Joe Lee, Ally Warder and Miriam Kakembo for leading a very successful Y Course at St Thomas' and to Amelia Cortez for helping with the refreshments.

Rev'd Irene Page RIP

It is with great sadness that we have learned of the death of Revd Irene Page, former Rector of St Thomas', who died last Saturday morning. Her funeral will be held on 24th March 1.45pm at Lodge Hill Crematorium, Birmingham.

May Irene rest in peace and rise in glory

Discussion Groups with those who see themselves as Spiritual not

Religious

It is part of our MAP to run these groups and those of us who have committed to helping out are invited to a planning session on Wednesday 11th at 7.30pm at the White Swan (upstairs room). If you haven't heard about these groups before and might be interested in helping run them, please ring Liz on 07922587263 before Wednesday so we can discuss further and arrange for you to come along if appropriate.

Lent Courses

It's not too late to join in our Lent groups this year:

- Tuesday afternoons, 3.00-4.00pm at the home of Jean and Peter Griffiths, 32 Weyman Road SE3 8RY. We will be following Paula Gooder's Lentwise – Spiritual Essentials for Real Life
- Thursday, 7.30pm at the home of Bennett Spong, 10 Mayhill Road SE7 7JQ. We will be reading The Screwtape Letters by CS Lewis
- Sunday's 11.30am-1pm at St Thomas'. Led by Sheila Kinsella and Ally Warder, this course will also be based on the book Lentwise – Spiritual Essentials for Life by Paula Gooder.



News from our PCC's

In January and February, both our PCCs:

- Heard about submission of a grant application to Greenwich Neighbourhood Growth Fund to improve access to the upper hall
- Reviewed Advent and Christmas
- Agreed a job description for a Benefice Administrator and a process for recruitment

St Thomas' PCC also:

- Received the Quinquennial report
- Discussed plans for a Leadership team

St Luke's PCC also:

- Agreed a budget for 2020 and how we would keep track of it at PCC meetings
- To reschedule the APCM to Monday 18th May
- Heard about a grant received from Allchurches towards the new lighting system
- Agreed to put together a fundraising strategy
- Heard about submission of a grant application to Greenwich Neighbourhood Growth Fund to improve the chapel, garden and den at St Richard's
- To wind up the SRCC Working Group and to establish a building Maintenance Group and Worshipping Community group
- Agreed to Royal Greenwich Heritage Trust archiving documents held by St Luke's that pre-date WW2.
- Approved a job description for the Music Director and a process for recruitment

Keep up to date with our news

You can keep up with news from our churches, even when you are unable to get to church. This newsletter is added to the website each weekend at www.charlton.church.

You can also receive an email with a link to the newsletter each week. Request a copy from news@charlton.church.

Hygiene in our churches

This statement from the Church of England has been read out in our churches for the last two weeks. Please be aware of its contents:

As you'll be aware, there has been much concern about the coronavirus since the start of this year. We want to reassure everyone that, at present, there is no Government advice that suggests the use of the Common Cup should be suspended. So we will continue to administer the wine from silver chalices.

However, it is best practice for churches to have hand-sanitisers available for use. You will find anti-bacterial soap in the toilets here.

We will also be following good practice guidelines that say priests presiding at the Eucharist, communion administrators and servers should use hand sanitiser before administration.

Members of the congregation with coughs and sneezes should refrain from handshaking during the peace. If you don't want to receive wine directly from the chalice, we ask that you receive in one kind only i.e. the bread. The practice of intinction (dipping) the wafer is not recommended (even by celebrants or communion-administrators) as it's a route by which infection can be transmitted.

These precautions are for the benefit of everyone and to protect the most vulnerable among us.

Rev'd Liz adds:

Hand washing is the most effective way to cut down the risk of transmitting viruses. We need to do so often, thoroughly and for the length of time recommended by the government (20 seconds, or the length of time it takes to sing 'Happy Birthday to you' twice!)

For the foreseeable future, we will not be sharing The Peace by shaking hands. We can of course share The Peace verbally and hope people will do so.

Donors who have already signed a 'lasting declaration' for Gift Aid

We're always grateful to have your donations but often miss out on Gift Aid due to lack of written information at the time of giving.

If you make a donation for any purpose (cheque or cash) and are a UK tax payer, please put your donation into an envelope and put the following information on the outside -

- Date
- Name and address
- Purpose of donation
- 'cash' or 'cheque'

Hand your donation into the vestry office after the service or to one of the wardens or Rector. This will enable us to collect Gift Aid owed to us.

Liz Buck

Advance notice:

Two dates for the diary:

- Monday 16th March, 7.30pm – St Luke's PCC
- Saturday 21st March, 11.00am – Messy Church at St Richard's

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 or phoning 020 8858 8175 by 12 noon on Wednesday.

Prayer Zone



*Bless, O Lord, us thy servants,
who minister in thy temple.
Grant that what we sing with our lips,
we may believe in our hearts,
and what we believe in our hearts,
we may show forth in our lives.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

*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,
and follow thee more nearly, day by day. Amen.*

Please remember in your prayers this week:

The Church: Our friends at St Mary's, Leigh; All working for the Diocese of Southwark; From our Deanery we pray for St George's Westcombe Park; We pray for plans to develop a social justice project at St Luke's, so disadvantaged people can experience God's care

The World: The Diocese of Manicaland; The work of The Children's Society; For authorities talking the spread of Covid-19; Refugees around the world; Prime Minister Boris Johnson and our Government; We pray for the lands in which we were born - today we remember especially New Zealand, praying that peace and justice will reign there and that your church there will thrive

Our local community: The staff and pupils at Woodhill School; All living and working at 40 Littleheath; Guiding Groups in Charlton; St Peter's Boxing Club; Our guests at the Greenwich Winter Night Shelter, and our volunteers who welcome them

To be baptised: We pray for those to be baptised today: Kian, Michaela and Jeremy, their families and godparents.

Those who celebrated a birthday last week:

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

R.I.P.: Michael Hanson; Muriel Garriques; Revd Irene Page; Vera O'Brien

Year's Mind: Betty Baker; Cliff May

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.