

SUNDAY 1ST DECEMBER 2024

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

God himself was pleased to live fully in his Son. And God was pleased for him to make peace by sacrificing his blood on the cross, so that all beings in heaven and on earth would be brought back to God. (Colossians 1:19-20)

Sunday 1st December	10.00am	Pre-Service Prayers in the Side Chapel
	10.30am	All Age Service in Church and on Zoom
		Theme: Advent Christingle Service
		Reading: Colossians 1:15-23
		Leader: Stuart Cocksedge
		Preachers: Anna Counsell & Dan Washbrook
	6.00pm	Youth Deeper at the Vicarage
	6.00pm	Rehearsal for Joseph Production in the Church Hall

SERVICES AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

Monday 2 nd	9.30am	Prayer Meeting in Side Chapel
	12.15pm	Poole-Wau Prayer Meeting in Church Rooms
Wednesday 4 th	9.30am	Holy Communion in Church Rooms
Thursday 5 th	9.15am	Prayer Meeting in Side Chapel
	10.00am	St Luke's Toddlers in Church
Friday 6 th	3.30pm	Fab Friday in Church Rooms (until 4.45pm) – Reception to Year 6
	6.00pm	Carols Around the Firepit at St Edward's School (No Youth Club this week – join us for Carols at St Edward's instead)
Saturday 7 th	9.30am	Prayer Meeting in Side Chapel
	10.00am	Work Party
	3.30pm	Families First Christmas Party in the Church Hall
Sunday 8 th	10.00am	Pre-service Prayers in Side Chapel
	10.30am	Morning Worship with children's groups, in Church and on Zoom
	6.00pm	Youth Deeper at the Vicarage
	6.00pm	Rehearsal for Joseph Production in the Church Hall

Dear St Luke's family,

"But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from every sin" (1 John 1:7). This Sunday, we have the joy of celebrating Christingle – a candle in an orange, so simple yet so profound. A glimpse of Jesus: the vastness of God made human; love made immediate. In Jesus, God, no longer distant, calls us to know Him. So, as I hold the Christingle, I wonder: who am I called to share His love with, and how can I show it simply?

God bless, Dan

PRAYERS

Special Prayer for the First Sunday of Advent: Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Please:

- Pray for all peace in those parts of our world affected by war and conflict, including Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, Lebanon and Sudan. Pray for strength and comfort for those who have lost loved ones, homes and livelihoods.
- Pray for God's healing, strength and comfort for those who are unwell including Jane Diggle, Margaret Holst, Marian Laird, Wendy Lockwood, George Palmer, Geraldine Rodrigues, Virginia Stacey, Sara Turnbull's mother Alix and Lorna Warburton.

This week we are praying for Mothers' Union

Every year the Mothers' Union supports the United Nations 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence. MU works alongside communities to help end domestic abuse and gender-based violence and support those affected by it. God of refuge, create safe environments where all people, especially the vulnerable and marginalised, can live without fear. Help us to be vigilant and proactive in ensuring safety in our homes, schools, workplaces and communities. God of justice, we pray today for those who have suffered at the hands of those perpetuating gender-based violence. God of reconciliation and forgiveness, bring healing to relationships broken by violence. Where possible, bring reconciliation and peace. Where it is not, grant peace and the strength to move forward. Amen.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 6 th December 6pm	Carols Around The Firepit – at St Edward's School
Saturday 14 th December 2pm – 5pm	A Taste of Christmas – a fun, family-friendly Christmas event
Sunday 15 th December 6.30pm	Cantabile Christmas Concert – tickets £10 (concessions £5)
Saturday 21 st December 4pm	Campfire Carols
Sunday 22 nd December 6.30pm	Carols by Candlelight
Tuesday 24 th December 3pm	Nativity Service
Tuesday 24 th December 11.15pm	Midnight Communion
Wednesday 25 th December 10.30am	Christmas Day All Age Communion

NOTICES

Christmas Toy appeal for SMILE

At Christmas, SMILE give gifts to lone parent families they support. As a church we're helping to provide some gifts. This Sunday at our Christingle service, we'd like to encourage you to bring in a toy or a monetary gift.

Reverse Advent Calendar – Supporting the Foodbank

To donate to this very important cause, please bring food items to Church from Sunday 17th November until Sunday 15th December. Donations will be distributed to needy people and families. Any queries contact Linda or Roger Jones.

Winter Clothing Project

We are supporting the Winter Clothing Project for the homeless run by Parkstone URC. Men's socks, hats, gloves, jumpers, etc are required. Please place any items in the plastic box at the back of church for collection. Many thanks.

A Taste of Christmas – Volunteers Needed!

This family-friendly Christmas event is happening on Saturday 14th December, 2pm – 5pm. If you are able to help on the day, Anna would love to hear from you. Thank you!

Tearfund Big Quiz Night

Thank you to everyone who took part in the recent Tearfund Big Quiz Night, raising £315. If you would still like to make a donation, please do so here: <https://www.justgiving.com/page/stlukesparkstone-1731674650044>

Christmas Leaflets – Thank You!

A big thank you to everyone who has helped deliver our Christmas leaflets around the parish – just a few still to go!

Daily Devotional Emails based on our Sunday Sermons

To deepen your relationship with God and your prayer life. Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/StLukesdailydevotion>

Poole-Wau Prayer Meeting

The next prayer meeting is at St Luke's on Monday 2nd December at 12.30pm. Tea and coffee served from 12.15pm.

Pigeonholes

Please check the pigeonholes at the back of church for Mother's Union Christmas Party invites!

Church Locking Up Rota for 2025

We are looking for additional volunteers to join the small team who lock the church at around 5pm each day from Monday to Saturday. There may also be limited occasions when you are asked to unlock the church by 9am each day. For further info please speak to Richard Hudson (01202 721919) or any member of the current team. Thank you.

Choir for Carols by Candlelight

Rehearsals are taking place in the Church Rooms on Fridays at 6.30pm. Join us if you would like to be in the choir.

Joseph and his Technicolour Dreamcoat – Performance dates: 7th – 9th March 2025

For further details please contact Claire Storey at clairestorey0204@gmail.com or 01202 733669.

Giving to support the work of St Luke's Parkstone



Bank details: CAF Bank Limited, Name: St Luke's Church, Parkstone PCC Account No: 00008836 Sort Code: 40-52-40

or please send a cheque to St Luke's Church Parkstone PCC to the Church Office Wellington Road Parkstone BH14 9LF

Week commencing 2nd December

Cover in the office: Monday 9.30am – 4.30pm, Wednesday 10.30am-4.30pm & Friday 12.30pm – 4.30pm.

Tel: 01202 717268 Email: office@stlukesparkstone.org.uk Website: www.stlukesparkstone.org.uk