



Living and Sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ

SUNDAY 5TH JANUARY 2025 SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. (1 Corinthians 12:27)

Sunday 5th January	10.00am	Pre-Service Prayers in the Side Chapel
	10.30am	All Age Service in Church and on Zoom
	Theme:	We are all part of the body of Christ
	Reading:	1 Corinthians 12:12-27
	Leaders:	Anna Counsell & Dan Washbrook
	Preacher:	Stuart Cocksedge
	6.00pm	Rehearsal for Joseph Production in the Church Hall

SERVICES AND EVENTS

Monday 6 th	9.30am	Prayer Meeting in Side Chapel
Wednesday 8 th	7.30pm	Spring Term Course Leaders Meeting in Church Rooms
Thursday 9 th	9.15am	Prayer Meeting in Side Chapel
Friday 10 th	3.30pm	Fab Friday in Church Rooms (until 4.45pm) – Reception to Year 6
	7.30pm	Youth Club in Church Hall (until 9pm) – Years 7 to 13
Sunday 12 th	10.00am	Pre-service Prayers in Side Chapel
	10.30am	Morning Worship with children's groups, in Church and on Zoom (Including the licencing of Stuart as incumbent of St Luke's Parkstone)
	6.00pm	Rehearsal for Joseph Production in the Church Hall

Dear St Luke's family,

In our world and in our lives, we experience both joys and sorrows. The good news of Christmas is that God has entered the messiness of our world and therefore he is with us in all these things. As we begin a new year, I pray that we will know a sense of God's peace in our lives, and a fresh sense of vision for all that God has for us in the year ahead.

At this Sunday's all age service we'll be exploring our Bible verse for 2025 (see above). In 1 Corinthians 12, the apostle Paul reminds us that we are all part of the body of Christ, all called to use our gifts and play our part. This is a beautiful picture of a healthy church. As we begin a new year, how is God encouraging each of us to play our part in the life of the church, the body of Christ?

God bless, Stuart

PRAYERS

Special Prayer for the Second Sunday of Christmas: God our Father, in love you sent your Son that the world may have life: lead us to seek him among the outcast and to find him in those in need, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Please:

- Pray for peace in all places devastated by war and conflict, and for strength and comfort for all those affected.
- Pray for the family and friends of Marian Laird, who has died this week.
- Pray for God's healing and comfort for those who are unwell, including Jane Diggle, Margaret Holst, George Palmer, Geraldine Rodrigues, Virginia Stacey, Sara Turnbull's mother Alix, Lorna Warburton and Colin West.

This week we are praying for Tearfund

Please pray for Tearfund in their work supporting and partnering with local churches around the world as they provide practical and spiritual support to people in need. Pray for peace, comfort and strength for church leaders, staff and volunteers who are giving so much of themselves to the needs of their communities. In particular, please pray for Tearfund partners working in areas affected by war, conflict and natural disasters, that in these challenging and uncertain times they may continue to share God's love and hope in tangible ways.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Week beginning Monday 13 th January	Small group courses begin (see below)
Tuesday 21 st January 7.00pm	Churches Together in Poole Christian Unity Event at St Edward's School
Saturday 25 th January 10.00am	Safeguarding Training Course in Church Rooms
Saturday 1 st February 10.00am	St Luke's Community Fun Day (until 2pm)
Sunday 23 rd March	St Luke's Gift Day

NOTICES

Plans for 2025

"Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it." (1 Corinthians 12:27)

This will be our Bible verse for 2025, and we'll begin the year by unpacking this verse in an all age service on Sunday 5th January. Then on 12th January Bishop Karen and Archdeacon Penny will be with us to licence Stuart as incumbent of St Luke's, following the lifting of the suspension of the patron's right to present an incumbent to the parish. This means that Stuart will be Vicar rather than Priest in Charge. On 19th January, we'll begin a sermon series based on the account of Jesus feeding the five thousand in Mark's gospel, drawing out what this has to teach us about being church and growing as disciples, and learning from other relevant passages in the Old and New Testaments. Alongside this, please do sign up for one of our Spring Term short courses, more details below!

Sign up for a Spring Term Courses at St Luke's

We are running six different small group courses starting in mid January, in place of our usual Connect Groups during the Spring Term, all designed to help us deepen and grow in our faith in God. Themes include: seeing life through the lens of Jesus, growing in prayer, sharing our faith, growing on our frontlines, building a culture of belonging, and parenting for faith. All are welcome to join a course, whether or not you are already in a Connect Group. **Find out more and sign up for a course at: <https://stlukesparkstone.org.uk/788/Spring-Short-Courses> (or contact the office).**

Church Heating

Unfortunately we are having problems with the church heating system, so please wrap up warm on Sunday!

St Luke's Men's Walk

The next walk is on Thursday 9th January and we will be travelling on the 50 bus at 10.03am from Canford Cliffs, to walk along the Purbeck ridge to Old Harry and Studland. Weather permitting! If you would like to join us, and/or join our WhatsApp group, please speak to Duncan or Steve.

Parking on Wellington Road

We realise it can sometimes be difficult to park near to church, but please be mindful of our neighbours and other road users when you park for services at St Luke's. In particular, please try not to park too close to the junction of Wellington Road and Sandecotes Road, and do not block driveways. Thank you for your understanding.

Quiet Day at the Greenhouse Christian Centre

A Quiet Day will be held on Monday 6th January, 10am – 4pm with a sandwich lunch. £10 per head. Please see John Pattison for details. All welcome!

New Church Bibles!

The PCC recently agreed to purchase 80 new Bibles for use in church. The new Bibles are the NIV (New International Version) 2011 Edition, incorporating advances in biblical scholarship and the use of inclusive language, and is in widespread use in many churches. These Bibles are being funded from a surplus in the St Luke's bookstall fund, rather than from general church funds, and will be available for use soon after Christmas. We will be giving the old church Bibles away, but if anyone would like to keep one for themselves, please contact the office.

Church Office opening hours have changed!

Our new church office opening hours are now as follows: 9.30am – 3pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

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>

Safeguarding Training Course

Julie Murphy, our Parish Safeguarding Officer, will be running another safeguarding training course on Saturday 25th January 2025 in the Church Rooms. Coffee from 9.30am, for a 10am start. We'd like to encourage as many people as possible to attend. Please contact Helen in the office to book your place.

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, Poole BH14 9LF

Cover in the Church Office week commencing 6th January 2025 – Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9.30am – 3pm.

Tel (Office): 01202 717268 Tel (Vicarage): 01202 790987 Email: office@stlukesparkstone.org.uk Website: www.stlukesparkstone.org.uk