

SUNDAY 9TH MARCH 2025

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God – this is your true and proper worship. (Romans 12:1)

Sunday 9th March	10.00am	Pre-Service Prayers in Side Chapel
	10.30am	Morning Worship with children's groups, in Church and on Zoom
	Theme:	A church using our gifts in obedience to God
	Readings:	Romans 12:1-8 & Mark 6:38-40
	Leader:	Stuart Cocksedge
	Talk:	Andrew Cullis

SERVICES AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

Monday 10 th	9.30am	Prayer Meeting in Side Chapel
Tuesday 11 th	10.10am	Families First in Church Rooms
	1.00pm	Spring Courses: The Prayer Course in Church Rooms
	7.30pm	Spring Courses: Mission Minded Living in Church Rooms
Wednesday 12 th	9.30am	Holy Communion in Church Rooms
	7.30pm	PCC Meeting in Church Rooms
Thursday 13 th	9.15am	Prayer Meeting in Side Chapel
	10.00am	St Luke's Toddlers in Church (until 11.30am)
	1.00pm	Spring Courses: The Belonging Course in Church Rooms
Friday 14 th	8.00pm	Spring Courses: Parenting for Faith on Zoom
	3.30pm	Fab Friday in Church Rooms (until 4.45pm) – Reception to Year 6
Saturday 15 th	7.30pm	Youth Club in Church Hall (until 9pm) – Years 7 to 13
	9.30am	Prayer Meeting in Side Chapel
Sunday 16 th	9.00am	Breakfast Church in Church
	10.00am	Pre-service Prayers in Side Chapel
	10.30am	Holy Communion with children's groups, in Church and on Zoom
	6.00pm	Youth Deeper in Church Rooms

Dear St Luke's family,

We are now in the season of Lent, preparing and looking ahead to Easter when we will celebrate and give thanks for death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Jesus gave up his life – the most amazing sacrifice on the cross where he died in our place, because of his great love for us. This Lent, what does it mean for us to offer our bodies 'as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God' (Romans 12:1) in response to all that he has done for us? One aspect of this is to use the gifts God graciously gives us, and this is our focus this Sunday as we continue our sermon series based on the feeding of the 5,000. What gifts has God given you, and how is he calling you to put them into practice?

God bless, Stuart

PRAYERS

Prayer for the First Sunday of Lent: Heavenly Father, your Son battled with the powers of darkness, and grew closer to you in the desert: help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Please:

- Pray for peace in all places devastated by war, conflict and natural disasters, for strength and comfort for all affected.
- Pray for God's healing and comfort for those who are unwell, including Jane Diggle, Toby Hill and his family (grandson of Jean & Richard Snow), Margaret Holst, Olivia Norris, George Palmer, Geraldine Rodrigues, Sue Rushton (whose husband Bob has died recently), Sara Turnbull's mother Alix, Lorna Warburton and Colin West.

This week we are praying for Routes to Roots

Please pray for Routes to Roots as they support people in the local area experiencing homelessness. Give thanks for the basic necessities of life that they are able to provide, including hot meals, showers, laundry, clothing and access to computers. Pray that their social inclusion work will be effective in reducing the risk of repeated homelessness. Bless their team as they show God's love by offering practical help and support to the most vulnerable in our community.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 23 rd March	St Luke's Gift Day
Sunday 23 rd March 3.30pm	Welcome Tea at the Vicarage
Saturday 29 th March	Youth sponsored walk to raise money for SPREE (see below)
Sunday 30 th March 10.30am	Mothering Sunday All Age Service
Mon 14 th – Wed 16 th April 7.30pm	Holy Week Reflections
Thursday 17 th April 7.30pm	Maundy Thursday Holy Communion
Friday 18 th April 10am	Messy Easter
Friday 18 th April 2pm	Good Friday Reflective Service – Last Hour at the Cross
Sunday 20 th April 10.30am	Easter Sunday All Age Communion Service
Sunday 20 th April 6pm	Easter Sunday Evening Celebration Service
Sunday 27 th April 10.30am	Annual Meeting (APCM) during Morning Worship, then bring and share lunch

NOTICES

Preparation of new Electoral Roll

This year we are required to prepare a completely new Electoral Roll. **Every person** who wishes to have his or her name entered on the new Roll, whether it is on the present Roll or not, is required to apply for enrolment. Forms are available at the back of the Church, or from the Church Office. Completed forms must be received by 30th March 2025.

Welcome Tea – Sunday 23rd March

If you are new to St Luke's, or haven't been to a welcome tea before, we would love to invite you to tea and cake at the Vicarage on Sunday 23rd March, 3.30pm – 5pm. Please speak to Stuart or Rachel – we would love to welcome you!

Families First (Mothers Union)

Families First are meeting on Tuesday 11th March at 10.10am in the Church Rooms. This month there will be Easter crafts led by Janine Newman. All are welcome.

Cantabile Spring Concert

The concert will be held at St Luke's Church on Sunday 6th April at 6.30pm. Tickets available on the door or from the Church Office for £10 (student concession £5).

SPREE Youth Weekend!

Last year a group of our young people had a great time at the SPREE Christian youth weekend in Devon, so Anna will be taking a group again this year on 27th – 29th June. In advance of this, the young people are doing a sponsored walk to raise money towards their trip to SPREE, aiming to walk 10km from Branksome Chine to Boscombe and back again, on Saturday 29th March. If you would like to sponsor them, please speak to Anna. Thank you!

New Wine Festival

The New Wine summer festival takes place at Shepton Mallet on 30th July – 4th August this year. Stuart, Rachel and family will be going again. If you would like to join them, or to come for a day, please do speak to them. For more info visit: www.new-wine.org/events/new-wine-festival/

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>

Lecture on Threats to Religious Freedom

This is advance notice of a talk to be given by Julia Doxat-Purser, the European Evangelical Alliance's socio-political co-ordinator, on Wednesday 8th October at 7pm at St Edward's School. Places are limited. To reserve your place please email: jpmclmartin@googlemail.com

Giving to support the work of St Luke's Parkstone

Bank details: CAF Bank Limited, Name: St Lukes Church 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 10th March 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