



Living and Sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ

SUNDAY 10th DECEMBER 2023

ADVENT 2

"Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power." (Ephesians 6:10)

9.00 am	Messy Church		
10.00 am	Pre-Service Prayers in the Prayer Room		
10.30 am	Morning Worship in Church and on Zoom with children’s groups		
	Theme: Prioritising Prayer	Leader:	John Pattison
	Reading: Isaiah 62:1-12 Ephesians 6:10-20	Talk:	Stuart Cocksedge
6.30 pm	Cantabilé Concert - “A Christmas Festivity”		

FORTHCOMING EVENTS AND SERVICES

Monday 11 th	9.30 am	Prayer meeting
Wednesday 13 th	9.30 am	Midweek Worship on Zoom
	10.30 am	BCS Carol Service
Thursday 14 th	9.15 am	Prayer meeting
	10.00 am	St Luke's Toddlers in Church
	5.00 pm	Cantabilé Rehearsal (until 5.45 pm)
Friday 15 th	5.45 pm	Kids' Club in Hall (until 7.00 pm) – Reception to Year 6
	7.30 pm	Youth Club in Hall (until 9.00 pm) – Year 7 and up
Saturday 16 th	9.30 am	St Luke's Prayers
	2.00 pm	A Taste of Christmas – Family Christmas event
Sunday 17 th	10.30 am	Holy Communion
	6.30 pm	Carol Service

PRAYERS

Special Prayer for the 2nd Sunday of Advent: Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God. Amen.

Please:

- Pray for peace in the Holy Land.
- Pray for the Cables in Israel. Updates and prayer points available at the CMS noticeboard and the back of church.
- Pray for our forthcoming Christmas services, that many from our local community may be welcomed in to celebrate Christmas together and to hear the good news of Jesus.
- Pray for God's healing and strength for Margaret and Martin Holst.
- Pray for Christine Gilbert's recovery, following her operation.
- Pray for all those within our church family who are unwell and unable to worship with us in person, especially Virginia, Andy Hogg and Claire Storey's sister, Gina.

This week we are praying for Routes to Roots

Please pray that the vulnerable and homeless, will see the Lord's love in action through the work of the staff, providing breakfast, lunches and access to showers and washing machines at the 'Drop-in'. Pray for healing through support given for people with alcohol, drugs and mental health and other issues.

"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen." (1 Peter 4:10-11)

NOTICES

Christmas Services

See the posters and cards in Church for details of all our Christmas services. A big thank you to everyone who has helped deliver Christmas cards around the parish recently. Do invite your friends along to celebrate Christmas with us!

Prayer meetings at St Luke's

Today we are focusing on the importance of prayer in the life of the church, and we have now introduced some new weekly times of prayer on Monday and Thursday mornings, in addition to the existing fortnightly Saturday prayer meetings. (Prayer at 5pm on Zoom on Wednesdays is no longer taking place.) All are welcome to join us to pray at any of the following times:

- Mondays 9.30 am – 10.00 am (weekly)
- Thursdays 9.15 am - 9.45 am (weekly)
- Saturdays 9.30 am – 10.00 am (fortnightly)

This will be our new regular pattern of prayer meetings (although these meetings will not take place in the week between Christmas and New Year).

A Christmas Festivity

Cantabilé choir will be performing their Christmas celebration at St Luke's Church on Sunday 10th December at 6.30 pm. Tickets at the door (cash or card) or from the Church Office. Adults £10, concessions for students £5.

A taste of Christmas - Moving chairs!

Our taste of Christmas event is on Saturday 16th December from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm - please do come along, take part and see what's happening. In order to make this event happen we need to move all of the chairs into the chancel, if you feel able to help move chairs, we will be doing this on Wednesday 13th December 12.30 pm. Thank you in advance.

Carol singing at Pennant House

We will be carol singing at Pennant House on Wednesday 20th December at 4.30 pm. All are invited and will be very welcome, to join us to sing at this festive event.

Alpha Course

Alpha is great for exploring the Christian faith and asking questions in a friendly, informal setting. Our first session will be on Thursday 11th January at 8.00 pm in the Church Rooms. To find out more please speak to Stuart.

Christmas cards for church members

We are not having a table out for Christmas cards this year as many do not get collected and we are not able to deliver cards on your behalf. If you wish to give cards to friends, please give them individually. Alternatively, in lieu of cards please make a donation either to St Luke's Church or to one of the missions we support. Thank you, Kate and Glenda.

St Aldhelm's Christmas tree festival

St Aldhelm's Church in Branksome is asking for help with their Christmas tree festival, which runs in December. If you feel able to help out with this request, please contact Helen in the St Luke's office. Thank you.

Reverse Advent Calendar

Produce donated will be split between the Food Bank and Poole Waste Not Want Not, who also make up food parcels as a satellite of the Food Bank. A list is available at the back of the church. Thank you for all of your donations which are gratefully received and very much appreciated, Linda and Roger Jones.

Domestic Abuse Refuge

Families First are giving a box of biscuits and Christmas Leaflet to families in the Domestic Abuse Refuge again this year. If you would like to give towards the cost of a box (£4) please give money to Anne Roberts or Glenda. Thank you.

Winter Clothing Project

As the colder weather commences, Liz Howes is collecting for the Winter Clothing Project for the Homeless in Parkstone, supported by the United Reformed Church. Donations of Men's clothing, socks, hats, gloves, jumpers etc. would be very appreciated. Please place any items in the plastic box at the back of the Church. Many thanks.

Church Locking up Rota for 2024

This will be drawn up soon. We are looking for additional volunteers for the small team who lock the church at around 5.00 pm every day from Monday to Saturday. There may also be limited occasions when you are asked to unlock the church by 9.00 am each day. Please speak to Richard Hudson for details. Thank you, Richard Hudson (01202 721919).

Church Finances and Giving

Thank you for your commitment to maintain and grow our church life. **Our bank details are: 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 11th Dec - Cover in the office: Mon 9.30 am - 4.30 pm, Wed 10.30 am – 4.30 pm and Fri 12.30 pm - 4.30 pm
Tel: 01202 717268 Email: office@stlukesparkstone.org.uk Website: www.stlukesparkstone.org.uk