



SUNDAY 15TH MARCH 2026

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT & MOTHERING SUNDAY

One thing I ask from the Lord, and this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple. (Psalm 27:4)

Sunday 15th March	9.00am	Breakfast Church in Church
	10.00am	Prayer Time in Side Chapel
	10.30am	Holy Communion with children's groups, in Church and on Zoom
	Theme:	Lent series - With Jesus in the home
	Readings:	Psalm 27 & Luke 10:38-42
	Leader:	Stuart Cocksedge
Preacher:	Lis Cullis	

SERVICES AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

Monday 16 th	9.30am	Prayer Meeting in Side Chapel
Wednesday 18 th	11.30am	Holy Communion in Church Rooms, followed by light lunch
	6.00pm	Youth Deeper in Church Rooms (until 7.30pm)
Thursday 19 th	9.15am	Prayer Meeting in Side Chapel
	10.00am	St Luke's Toddlers in Church (until 11.30am)
Friday 20 th	3.30pm	Fab Friday in Church (until 5.00pm)
Sunday 22 nd	10.00am	Prayer Time in Side Chapel
	10.30am	Morning Worship with children's groups, in Church and on Zoom

Dear St Luke's family,

Mothering Sunday is a time to give thanks for all those who have supported, cared for, and nurtured us in our Christian faith, both now and in the past. We will all have different experiences of home and family life – some positive, some negative. The domestic scene at Martha and Mary's home in Luke 10 involves a tension between the two sisters, just as we sometimes experience tensions amongst family members. Martha's work around the house is valuable and important, but Jesus is clear that Mary 'has chosen what is better' (Luke 10:42). In busy or difficult times, may we also find grace to focus on Jesus and seek him in the midst of all the demands and distractions.

God bless, Stuart

PRAYERS

Prayer for Mothering Sunday: God of love, passionate and strong, tender and careful: watch over us and hold us all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

- Pray for peace and de-escalation of the conflict in the Middle East, for protection for the vulnerable, comfort for the bereaved, and wisdom for world leaders in how to respond.
- Pray for our church vision process, that we will be guided by God in discerning his vision for St Luke's.
- Pray for the St Luke's Fabric Team who give their time and skills to care for our church building.
- Pray for God's healing and comfort for those who are unwell, including Tina Bacon, Jane Diggle and Julie Murphy.

To add a name to this prayer list, please let the church office know and we will add it for four weeks. At the end of this time, please let us know if you would like the name to stay on the list, otherwise we will take it off. Thank you.

This week we are praying for Mothers' Union

Dear Lord, this Mothering Sunday, we thank you for mothers and caregivers in our own lives, and in the lives of all those we love. We thank you for their strength and dignity, for their attentiveness and care, and for the love that underpins all they do. We pray for the safety of mothers around the world. We ask for your protection for mothers trying to raise their children in places of conflict, food insecurity, or abuse. We pray for all who work to support mothers in their duties, including the staff and volunteers furthering the work of Mothers' Union. Please equip them with strength and wisdom to persevere in carrying out their good work. Please equip mothers, in our own lives and around the world, with grace and fortitude to meet the challenges of each day. We pray that you would protect them, strengthen them, and heal them. Grant them the peace that surpasses all understanding, this day and always. Amen.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 25 th March 7.30pm	PCC Meeting at the Church Hall
Monday 30 th March 6.30pm	'Like a Lamb to the Slaughter': Prayers for the Persecuted Church in Church
Thursday 2 nd April 6.30pm (Maundy Th.)	Maundy Thursday Holy Communion in Church
Friday 3 rd April 10am (Good Friday)	Messy Easter in Church
Friday 3 rd April 2pm (Good Friday)	Last Hour at the Cross Reflective Service in Church
Sunday 5 th April 9am (Easter Day)	Easter Holy Communion in Church
Sunday 5 th April 10.30am (Easter Day)	Easter All Age Communion in Church
Sunday 5 th April 6pm (Easter Day)	Prayer & Worship Gathering (Easter Prayer & Worship)
Sunday 12 th April 6.30pm	Spring Cantabile Concert in Church
Sunday 26 th April 10.30am	Annual Meeting (APCM) in Church as part of morning service
Wednesday 3 rd June 7pm	Watoto Concert in Church (see below)

NOTICES

Holy Week & Easter Services

Details are shown above and on posters around church. We'll begin Holy Week with an evening to pray for the persecuted church, 6.30pm – 7.30pm on 30th March. We'll share Holy Communion on Maundy Thursday at 6.30pm. On Good Friday, we have Messy Easter at St Luke's, whilst the Churches Together Walk of Witness takes place in Poole. We then have a quiet, reflective service at 2pm. On Easter Day we'll celebrate that Jesus is alive with Holy Communion at 9am, All Age Communion at 10.30am, and our monthly prayer and worship evening at 6pm. Do join us over Easter!

Good Friday Messy Easter – Friday 3rd April 10am

At Messy Easter there will be crafts, refreshments, worship and an Easter Egg hunt. All are welcome, so invite friends and family to this great morning celebrating Easter. If you are available to help, please let Anna know.

Good Friday Walk of Witness – Friday 3rd April 10am

This takes place in Poole town, organized by Churches Together in Poole. The event includes a service in the town square near Sainsbury's, with processions starting from St George's Oakdale and Parkstone URC. All are welcome.

Upcoming PCC vacancies

Our Annual Meeting (APCM) takes place on Sunday 26th April, and this year we will have 4 vacancies on the PCC and 3 vacancies for Deanery Synod reps. Please prayerfully consider if God may be calling you to stand. Do speak to Stuart or the wardens if you'd like to discuss this further. Nomination forms available from the office. Thank you.

Revision of Electoral Roll

This year's revision enables those who are not currently on our roll to join. The current list is on the noticeboard in the north aisle. Forms and the box for their return are at the back of church. All forms need to be received by Monday 6th April. If you have any questions, please ask Roger Jones or contact the office. Thank you.

Pure Gold at the church library

Free for you to take are copies of 'Pure Gold' booklets on the shelf below the creche. With Scripture alone, these beautiful, tiny booklets give the hope of the gospel. Take one for yourself and why not give a copy to someone this Easter? Also, your library has many great books to read. Do browse the catalogue and choose a book to read this Lent.

Temporary closure of Sandecotes Road

Please note: Sandecotes Road will be closed in its entirety for roadworks for the period 17th – 20th March.

Watoto Children's Choir coming to St Luke's – host families wanted please!

We are very excited to have the Watoto Children's Choir from Uganda coming to St Luke's on Wednesday 3rd June. A great opportunity to invite friends to. **If you would be able to help by providing accommodation for choir members** for two nights (3rd & 4th June) please let the church office know. Thank you!

Storage space needed

If you have some storage space at home, such as a garage or spare room, which you might be able to make available to help a member of our church family, please let Stuart know. Thank you in advance.

Open Garden at 24A Western Avenue, Branksome Park – Sunday 26th April 2pm - 5pm

The garden at 24A Western Avenue will be open on Sunday 26th April, 2pm to 5pm, with refreshments during the afternoon and Judy selling her preserves. All proceeds from refreshments and sales go to the Poole-Wau Partnership. Admission charge payable. If you are able to help please speak to Richard or Judy Hudson or phone 01202 721919.

Watoto Children's Choir – click on the link below to book your tickets for Wednesday 3rd June!

www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/watoto-childrens-choir-in-better-days-2026-tickets-1979974652485?aff=oddtcreator

Giving to support the work of St Luke's Parkstone

To set up regular giving, please go www.parishgiving.org.uk and search for St Luke's Parkstone or scan this QR code:

Bank details CAF Bank Limited Name St Lukes Church Account No 00008836 Sort Code 40-52-40

Office opening hours week commencing 16th March 2026: **Mon 10am-12pm & 1.30pm-3.30pm, Wed & Fri 9.30am – 3pm**

Tel Office **01202 717268** Vicarage **01202 790987** Email office@stlukesparkstone.org.uk Website stlukesparkstone.org.uk

