



SUNDAY 25TH JANUARY 2026

THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

Jesus said: 'Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them.' (John 7:37-38)

Sunday 25th January	10.00am	Prayer Time in Side Chapel
	10.30am	Morning Worship with children's groups, in Church and on Zoom
Theme:		Our vision of God - The Spirit who empowers
Readings:		Isaiah 55:1-13 and John 7:37-39
Leader:		Stuart Cocksedge
Preacher:		John Coles

SERVICES AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

Monday 26 th	9.30am	Prayer Meeting in Side Chapel
Wednesday 28 th	9.30am	Holy Communion in Church Rooms, followed by coffee
	6.00pm	Youth Deeper in Church Rooms (until 7.30pm)
	7.30pm	PCC Meeting in Church Hall
Thursday 29 th	9.15am	Prayer Meeting in Side Chapel
	10.00am	St Luke's Toddlers in Church (until 11.30am)
Friday 30 th	3.30pm	Fab Friday in Church (until 4.45pm)
Saturday 31 st	6.30pm	Barn Dance in <u>Church</u> (please note change of venue!)
Sunday 1 st	9.00am	Holy Communion in Church
	10.00am	Prayer Time in Side Chapel
	10.30am	All Age Service in Church and on Zoom

Dear St Luke's family,

As we continue looking at our vision of who God is, in our service this Sunday with our guests John and Anne Coles, we focus on the Holy Spirit. Jesus stood up in the temple in Jerusalem and gave this wonderful invitation: 'Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them' (John 7:37-38). When Jesus said this, he was looking forward to the time, after his death, resurrection and ascension into heaven, when the Holy Spirit would be poured out on all those who believe in him. Jesus's words, echoing those of Isaiah 55, speak of abundance rather than scarcity. When we may feel tired and weary, struggling in our walk with God, this is an invitation to us all to come and receive the abundance, the 'rivers of living water' of the Holy Spirit - God's personal presence living and working in us. May we come to discover and know more of the reality of the Spirit at work in our lives today.

God bless, Stuart

PRAYERS

Prayer for the Third Sunday of Epiphany: God of all mercy, your Son proclaimed good news to the poor, release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed: anoint us with your Holy Spirit and set all your people free to praise you in Christ our Lord. Amen.

- Pray for peace in troubled parts of the world, especially the Middle East, Ukraine, and the Sudans.
- Pray especially for an end to the conflict in Sudan, which has been raging for over 1,000 days. Pray for protection of the innocent and vulnerable, and for a way to be found to end the fighting.
- Pray for St Luke's Finance Team who give their time to steward the resources that God has given us for the work of His kingdom in our church, our community, and beyond.
- Pray for God's healing and comfort for those who are unwell, including Jane Diggle, Margaret Holst, Louise, Cecile & Tim Lynes and wider family (following the death of Cecile's mother), Matthew, Julie Murphy, George Palmer, Geraldine Rodrigues, Sue Rushton, Sid Wells, Ian Wilson and Jake Wilson.

This week we are praying for OMF

Father, we thank you for the faithfulness of all the missionaries and local Christians in Japan. We ask a blessing on all practical arrangements that have to be made, but also that the message of the gospel may not get lost amongst the details. Thank you, Lord Jesus, that the Spirit of the Lord is present to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set the oppressed free and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour. May you be glorified in 2026 in Japan, we pray. In Jesus' name. Amen.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 8 th February 6pm	St Luke's Prayer Gathering in Church
Wednesday 18 th February 11.30am	Ash Wednesday Communion Service in Church Rooms
Sunday 1 st March 3.30pm	Welcome Tea at the Vicarage
Sunday 8 th March 6pm	St Luke's Prayer Gathering in Church
Sunday 15 th March 10.30am	Mothering Sunday Service in Church
Wednesday 25 th March 7.30pm	PCC Meeting at the Church Hall
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

NOTICES

Kids & Youth Registration at Sunday services

From this Sunday, we will be registering children and young people for their groups at the back of church as they arrive. If you have a child or young person, when you arrive please head to the 'kids and youth registration point' at the back of church and let the team know your child/young person's name and they will explain the rest! Thank you.

John & Anne Coles at St Luke's – Saturday 24th & Sunday 25th January

We are excited to be welcoming John and Anne Coles, former national leaders of New Wine, to St Luke's this weekend. On Saturday 24th January they are leading training for our prayer ministry team at 10am, and a session with the PCC at 1.30pm. Then on Sunday 25th January John is preaching at our 10.30am service. Please do join us!

Men's Curry Night – Thursday 29th January 7.30pm

This time we are heading to the Gate of India at Ashley Cross. Let Ben or Stuart know if you'd like to come, thanks!

Barn Dance in Church – Saturday 31st January 6.30pm

We are excited about our St Luke's Barn Dance on Saturday 31st January at 6.30pm. **This will now take place in church** rather than at the hall, to give us more space! There will be music, dancing and baked potatoes with fillings. Please bring your own drinks. Tickets available from the church office: adults £10, children £4. All are welcome!

Sunday Evening Prayer Gatherings – next one Sunday 8th February 6pm – 7.30pm

We have now held several Sunday evening times of worship and prayer since last summer. These are important times for the St Luke's family to come together to pray for our church and community. We feel it is right for these to now become a regular monthly event, usually on the second Sunday of the month. The next couple of dates are above.

Dementia Awareness Talk – Tuesday 17th February 2pm

Sue Warr, the Prama Life Manager, will give a talk on understanding and supporting people living with Dementia on Tuesday 17th February at 2pm in the Church Rooms. The talk will finish at 3.30pm with time to ask questions over tea and biscuits. This is open to anyone to attend. We are a Dementia Friendly church so please do support this event.

Welcome Tea – Sunday 1st March 3.30pm – 5pm

If you are new to St Luke's, we would love to invite you to join us for tea, coffee and cake at the vicarage at our next welcome tea, on Sunday 1st March at 3.30pm. There will be time to chat, answer your questions, and get to know you more. Please email yicar@stlukesparkstone.org.uk to let us know you're coming. We look forward to seeing you!

Good News – Church heating replacement and reducing our carbon footprint

The PCC have agreed to progress the replacement of the church heating system alongside upgrading the church lighting. We'll be applying for funds from grant-making trusts, and you can also contribute by donating using the bank details below (using payment ref 'Heating') or using the card machine in church. Thank you! More details to follow.

New Wine Festival 2026

Tickets are now available for the New Wine Festival which takes place from Tuesday 28th July until Sunday 2nd August. Follow this link for more info or to buy your tickets: www.festival.new-wine.org/book-now

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 26th January 2026: Mon 10am-12pm & 1.30pm-3.30pm, Wed & Fri 9.30am – 3pm

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