



**SUNDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> 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)**

<b>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Prayer Time</b> in Side Chapel
	<b>10.30am</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b> 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 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Prayer Meeting in Side Chapel
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	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 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am	Prayer Meeting in Side Chapel
	10.00am	St Luke's Toddlers in Church (until 11.30am)
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup>	3.30pm	Fab Friday in Church (until 4.45pm)
Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup>	6.30pm	Barn Dance in <u>Church</u> (please note change of venue!)
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup>	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 <sup>th</sup> February 6pm	<b>St Luke's Prayer Gathering</b> in Church
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> February 11.30am	<b>Ash Wednesday Communion Service</b> in Church Rooms
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> March 3.30pm	<b>Welcome Tea</b> at the Vicarage
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> March 6pm	<b>St Luke's Prayer Gathering</b> in Church
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> March 10.30am	<b>Mothering Sunday Service</b> in Church
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March 7.30pm	<b>PCC Meeting</b> at the Church Hall
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 10am (Good Friday)	<b>Messy Easter</b> in Church
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2pm (Good Friday)	<b>Last Hour at the Cross Reflective Service</b> in Church
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> April 9am (Easter Day)	<b>Easter Holy Communion</b> in Church
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> April 10.30am (Easter Day)	<b>Easter All Age Communion</b> 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 24<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup> January they are leading training for our prayer ministry team at 10am, and a session with the PCC at 1.30pm. Then on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January John is preaching at our 10.30am service. Please do join us!

#### Men's Curry Night – Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> 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 31<sup>st</sup> January 6.30pm

We are excited about our St Luke's Barn Dance on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> February 2pm

Sue Warr, the Prama Life Manager, will give a talk on understanding and supporting people living with Dementia on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> March at 3.30pm. There will be time to chat, answer your questions, and get to know you more. Please email [vicar@stlukesparkstone.org.uk](mailto:vicar@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 28<sup>th</sup> July until Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August. Follow this link for more info or to buy your tickets: [www.festival.new-wine.org/book-now](http://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](http://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 26<sup>th</sup> January 2026: Mon 10am-12pm & 1.30pm-3.30pm, Wed & Fri 9.30am – 3pm

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