

St. Luke's & St. John's

Proclaiming Christ in Devon

Dearest friends,

Next Sunday we celebrate the great feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

John Calvin once said that if you added up all the genuine relics of the True Cross you'd have enough to fill a ship.

People have always laughed at those of us 'stupid' enough to sit and pray in front of so-called relics of the True Cross (there is one in Walsingham in the Holy Cross Chapel which I shall be praying in front of this week).

'How stupid!' they decry. But, as ever the story is far more complex.

In about 324AD St. Helena (mother of Constantine the Great) travelled to the Holy Land and returned with several relics of Jesus - amongst them parts of the True Cross.

Small parts of the Cross were already circulating in Christian lands and St. Helena's discovery added to this already large number.

So then, was Calvin right? A few years ago a historian set about charting all known relics of the True Cross. He included those whose provenance was unknown and couldn't be traced back to either St. Helena or some of those earlier pieces.

He hugely over estimated how many pieces there were.

Then he set about measuring them all and comparing the combined volume of wood with a Roman Crucifix of the time. And you know what? He discovered that if you add them all together you still only end up with about a third of a crucifix - not a ship full.

So, perhaps we're not so silly after all, and perhaps those small pieces of wood can transport us back to the foot of the Cross.

Fr. Matthew

Notices

Glastonbury Pilgrimage

Thanks to everyone who has given me money and signed up. We still have places if you'd like to come. We'll be leaving St. Luke's at 9:am on Saturday 6th. **We will meet in Glastonbury at 11am outside the Roman Catholic Church - we must enter the Abbey Grounds together as a parish.**

Choice Words

Come visit Choice Words, the largest second-hand Christian bookshop in the southwest! We are open 9.30am-4.30pm Monday through to Saturday. You can find us at 71 Queen St. Newton Abbot, or call us on 01626 334 027, or email us at, shop@choicewords.co.uk

Service Times

From this Sunday service times will move to 9am and St. John's and 11:15am at St. Luke's. I continue to work on a solution that would allow both churches to return to a 10am mass. Thank you for your support in making this work.

St. John's Joint Service & BBQ

Thank you to everyone who helped make last Sunday such a wonderful success! Wonderful worship and singing and wonderful food alongside wonderful fellowship. What a joy it was to be together! A particular thanks must go to Linda, Janice, and Elizabeth for organising the food so beautifully.

Autumn / Christmas Meeting

On the 25th September at 7pm in Wickham Hall we'll hold our termly planning meeting for the Autumn Term and for Christmas services. If you would like to see something happen over the Autumn or have ideas of what kind of services you'd like over Christmas, this is a must attend meeting.

Upcoming Events

Autumn / Christmas Term
25th September, 7pm
Wickham Hall

1st Explorers
Sunday 5th October, 3pm
St. Catherine's School

Today

Sunday 7th September

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time ●

9am - Sung Parish Mass [SJ]

11:15am - Sung Parish Mass [SL]

Divine Office Psalter Week 3, C(I), Trinity 12, Proper 18

Upcoming Dates

September

3rd - St. Luke's PCC Meeting, 7pm [SL]

6th - Pilgrimage to Glastonbury, leave SL at 9am

8th - 12th - Diocese Pilgrimage to Walsingham

25th - Autumn / Christmas Planning Meeting, 7pm, [WH]

October

1st - SL Ladies Group, 2pm

SL PCC, 7pm

5th - 1st Explorers, 3pm, St. Catherine's School, Heathfield

10th - Bingo [SL], 7pm

St. Luke's Men's Group meets every Friday for mass at 10am and discussion afterwards. [SL]

Explorers

Thank you to everyone who has come forward to help with Explorers. We have a solid core team who will help put up tables, arrange the craft, help teach and lead, and talk to the parents and families who come in. We now have a group of five people who have agreed to pray for the church each month via a WhatsApp Group. **If you'd like to join that prayer group please do let me know.**

The week ahead:

Monday 8th September

The Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary ●

[prayers offered at home]

Prayer focus: Our Clergy

Tuesday 9th September

Tuesday of week 23 in Ordinary Time ●

9:45am - Morning Prayer [SJ]

10am - Mattins [SJ]

Prayer focus: The Parish of St. Luke's

Wednesday 10th September

Wednesday of week 23 in Ordinary Time ●

10am - Said Mass [SL]

7pm - St. Luke's PCC Meeting [SL]

Prayer focus: The Parish of St. John's

Thursday 11th September

Thursday of week 23 in Ordinary Time ●

[prayers offered at home]

Prayer focus: The Mission of St. Luke's and St. John's

Friday 12th September

Friday of week 23 in Ordinary Time ●

[prayers offered at home]

Prayer focus: Children in hospital

Saturday 13th September

Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop, Doctor ●

[prayers offered at home]

Prayer focus: All Families

Sunday 14th September

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross ●

9am - Sung Parish Mass [SJ]

11:15am - Sung Parish Mass [SL]

Divine Office Psalter Week 4, C(I), Trinity 13, Proper 19

[SJ] St. John's | [SL] St. Luke's | [WH] Wickham Hall

Please pray for:

Carol & Sophie, Pam, Sue King, Marilyn, Arthur Pengelly and all those who have asked for our prayers.

Pray for the souls of:

Catherine Fraser, Laurence Moore, Sister Elizabeth C.E., Emily Wilby, Monica Wills, David Bounds, Andrew Silbsy, Philip Jeremy Brown, HM Queen Elizabeth II, Florrie Newbury, Ivan Kerslake, Margaret Woodson, Pamela Amery, and all those whose anniversary of death falls this week.

Father Matthew Cashmore

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Churchwardens

[SJ] Tyler Smith - tyler@slsj.co.uk

[SL] Mr Graham Whittle - graham@slsj.co.uk

[SL] Mr David Dunn - david@slsj.co.uk

Associate Clergy

Fr Christopher Robins, Fr Robin Eastoe SSC

Fr Alan White and Deacon David Rogers

Lay Minister: Mr Graham Whittle (01626) 212339