

St. Luke's & St. John's

Proclaiming Christ in Devon

Dearest friends,

What a terrific Sunday we shared last week. A beautiful mass at St. Luke's with +Paul, celebrating our Patronal feast. And what a feast it was! A brilliant array of food and conversation after mass that lifted the heart and reminded us of the lovely community of Christ we are.

Then, in the evening, a gentle celebration of Evensong - although gentle is the last word I'd use for the singing! We lifted the roof off with our wonderful voices - what a way to warm our hearts - united in song and prayer.

Finally we worked through our planning meeting. Identifying our strengths, our weaknesses, and opportunities that are ahead.

I was so impressed with the calibre of conversation and the 'yes, and' language. Rather than criticise and snipe, there was a great deal of conversations along the lines of, 'that's a good idea, and we could also....' it's a real indication of the health of a community when that kind of language is used.

Both the Archdeacon and the Bishop were impressed with the way the parishes engaged with the questions and the ideas that have come out of it.

You may think, 'that was nice, but nothing much will come of it'. Well, you'd be wrong.

The list of weaknesses will now be addressed by the PCCs as matters of urgency, our strengths will form part of our new advertising push (a weakness both parishes noted) and the opportunities will now form the agenda of the planning meetings for the coming year. We'll be focusing on making as many of those opportunities come to life as possible. Those that work will flourish, and those that don't will be cut from the vine.

We've already had our first outcome... there'll be a new A4 periodical magazine for the parish of St. John's coming out in Lent, advertising and encouraging those who live in the parish with stories of life in church and of Jesus and letting them know what services that can join over Easter.

The 'we need a curate' was heard loud and clear by the Archdeacon and Bishop, so we'll also be chasing that idea



down. I'll be working towards finding a way to bring in a house for duty priest to support me across the two parishes - meaning we may be able to return to 10am masses.

There is much to be thankful for, and much to look forward to. Thank you for engaging with such love, generosity, and gentleness. I know it wasn't always easy to hear what was going on, but the vast majority of you engaged in a spirit of love and care for one another. Carry that attitude forward into the rest of what we do in the parish. If you do, we can't go far wrong.

Fr. Matthew

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

Upcoming Events

24th October
Last Night of the Proms
Concert at St. Luke's, 7pm

Harvest Festival at St. John's
This Sunday (26th) followed by
bring and share brunch.

Today

Sunday 26th October

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time ●

9am - Sung Parish Mass [SJ]

11:15am - Sung Parish Mass (Harvest Festival)

Followed by bring and share brunch [SL]

Divine Office Psalter Week 2, C(I),

Last After Trinity, Proper 25

Upcoming Dates

October

24th - Last Night of the Proms Concert, St. Luke's, 7pm

26th - Harvest Festival, St. John's, Bring and Share Brunch

November

9th - Explorers [SC]

15th - Table Top Sale, 10am [WH]

Quiz Night with Fish & Chips, St. Luke's, 7pm

22nd - Christmas Lights Turn On, stalls at both events

27th - Advent Course, 1st lecture, 7pm, [WH]

30th - Advent Carols by Candlelight, 6pm [SL]

December

7th - Explorers & Christingle, 3-5pm [SC]

13th - Bay Brass Band Concert, 7pm [SL]

20th - 9 Lessons & Carols, 6pm, both churches

21st - Christingle & Crib Service, 3-5pm [SL]

24th - Live Nativity, 4pm [SJ]

Midnight Mass, 8pm [SJ]

Midnight Mass, 11:30pm [SL]

25th - Christmas Day Mass, 10am [SL & SJ]

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

Table Top Sale at Wickham Hall every 3rd Saturday at 10am.

St. Luke's Women's Group meets first Wednesday of every month.

The week ahead:

Monday 27th October

Monday of the 30th week in Ordinary Time ●

[prayers offered at home]

Prayer focus: Our Clergy

Tuesday 28th October

Saints Simon and Jude, Apostles ●

[prayers offered at home]

Prayer focus: The Parish of St. Luke's

Wednesday 29th October

Wednesday of the 30th week in Ordinary Time ●

10am - Said Mass [SL]

Prayer focus: The Parish of St. John's

Thursday 30th October

Thursday of the 30th week in Ordinary Time ●

[prayers offered at home]

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

Friday 31st October

Friday of the 30th week in Ordinary Time ●

[prayers offered at home]

Prayer focus: Children in hospital

Saturday 1st November

Saturday of the 30th week in Ordinary Time ●

[prayers offered at home]

Prayer focus: All Families

Sunday 2nd November

All Saints, Solemnity ●

9am - Sung Parish Mass [SJ]

11:15am - Sung Parish Mas [SL]

Divine Office Psalter Week 3, C(I),

4 before Advent, Proper 26

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

[SC] St. Catherine's School

Fr. Matthew is away on annual leave from the evening of Sunday 26th October to the morning of Tuesday 4th November

Please pray for:

Malcom Potbury, Simon Stevenette, Alan Randall, Peter Thompson, Steve Jefferson, Eileen Skinner, Bryan, Glad & Stan, Carol & Sophie, Pam, Sue King, Marilyn, Arthur Pengelly, Jennifer Benney, Viv & Lyn, Bob, David, Cliff and all those who have asked for our prayers.

Pray for the souls of:

Enid Mugford, Charles Courtney, and all those whose anniversary of death falls this week.

Father Matthew Cashmore

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Churchwardens

[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