

St. Luke's & St. John's

Proclaiming Christ in Devon

Dearest friends,

I write this from the clergy conference in Walsingham with the Bishop of Oswestry and my brother deacons and Priests.

It has been a week of 'hope'. It's been encouraging to see so many parishes that are flourishing and growing, and speak to so many Priests who see so much to be thankful about.

I am thankful for you. I am thankful for the energy and enthusiasm, for the love you show me and my family, and for the positive ways in which you show the gospel to the world and call others to join us.

Bishop Paul described a church as a scrum. Being Welsh, he of course uses rugby examples... and this one really works!

The front row of the scrum has to pull together. If they don't, the front collapses, and they have to try again. If it collapses too many times the other side gets a free kick.

If the second row doesn't hold the front row up then it can't advance, it can't get the ball and play the game. If the players at the back and down the line are not ready to receive the ball then we are lost.

At St. John's and St. Luke's we are a scrum. I am the hooker in

the middle and St. John's and St. Luke's stand on either side of me. One can't pull me to one side and say I'm theirs without the whole scrum collapsing.

But, if we stand together, if we push in the same direction and pull each other closer - then we're ready for those behind us to push and we can advance!

Bishop Paul is often quoted for his battle cry of 'Advance Oswestria!'. We must advance. We must move forward with our ball - the Gospel - we must eject it from the scrum and get it out to the wings so it can be carried forward and over the try line. Then, we can convert the try... see where I'm going?

By advancing together, in unity and purpose, we convert the souls of those most in need of the saving love of Jesus Christ.

Let's pull together. Let's put aside petty grumbling and gossip, let's decide here and now not to pull each other



down - but to present a strong front row, ready to defeat the enemy.

In love,

Fr. Matthew

Notices

Joint Mass next week

Advent 1 is a joint mass (as it's the 5th Sunday) at St. John's at 11:15am.

Christingle and Crib Service

I am in need of volunteers for the Christingle and Crib Service at St. Luke's on the 21st December - not least to buy the oranges and help put them together! A poster will be available next week and we'll be going into Haytor and the nursery to advertise it, but before I do, I need help!

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

Christmas Lights Turn On in Newton Abbot & Bovey Tracey

Please take posters and leaflets to the Christian Together stands at both events and help hand them out!

Today

Sunday 23rd November

Christ The King ●

9am - Sung Parish Mass [SJ]

11:15am - Sung Parish Mass [SL]

Psalter Week 2, C(I), Sunday next before Advent

Upcoming Dates

November

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

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

30th - Joint Mass, St. Luke's, 11am [SL]

Advent Carols, 3pm [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]

Solemn Evensong with Benediction, 7pm [SJ]

24th - Live Nativity, 4pm [SJ]

Midnight Mass, 8pm [SJ]

Midnight Mass, 11:30pm [SL]

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

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

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

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

[SC] St. Catherine's School

The week ahead:

Monday 24th November

Ss Andrew Dũng-Lạc and his Companions, Martyrs ●

[prayers offered at home]

Prayer focus: Our Clergy

Tuesday 25th November

Tuesday of week 34 in Ordinary Time ●

9:30am - Morning Prayer [SJ]

10am - Said Mass [SJ]

Prayer focus: The Parish of St. Luke's

Wednesday 26th November

Wednesday of week 34 in Ordinary Time ●

10am - Said Mass [SL]

Prayer focus: The Parish of St. John's

Thursday 27th November

Thursday of week 34 in Ordinary Time ●

10am - Said Mass [SL]

7pm - Advent Course, Week 1 Lecture [WH]

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

Friday 28th November

Friday of week 34 in Ordinary Time ●

[prayers offered at home]

Prayer focus: Children in hospital

Saturday 29th November

Saturday of week 34 in Ordinary Time ●

[prayers offered at home]

Prayer focus: All Families

Sunday 30th November

1st Sunday of Advent ●

11:15am - Joint Sung Parish Mass [SL]

4pm - Said Evensong with Adoration & Benediction [SJ]

Psalter Week 1, A(II), Advent 1

Please pray for:

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

Pray for the souls of:

The souls of 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

[SJ] Elizabeth Brooks - elizabethbrookso86@gmail.com

Associate Clergy

Fr Christopher Robins, Fr Robin Eastoe SSC

Fr Alan White and Deacon David Rogers

Lay Minister: Mr Graham Whittle (01626) 212339