



All Saints' weekly email - St Luke

Dear Friends,

St Luke, whom we celebrate this Sunday, was a Greek-speaking convert of pagan origins, not an eyewitness to the events of the Gospel and writing for a non-Jewish audience. In addition to the gospel that bears his name he wrote a sequel, the Acts of the Apostles. His emphases in reporting the Gospel are different from those in the other gospel texts which survive: he stresses Jesus' concern for marginal and outcast people and foregrounds the role of women, especially the Blessed Virgin Mary (most of the words of the Hail Mary are from Luke). The shepherds who come to meet the new-born Christ, the parables of the Good Samaritan and the Prodigal Son, the story of the rich man and Lazarus are all unique to his version. He also emphasises the importance of prayer, reporting Jesus himself going apart to pray at significant moments in his life and ministry.

As we approach the All Saints Festival we give thanks for the blessings of our life in Christ in this community during a testing year and we pray for our future together. We also pray, as part of the Festival, for the faithful departed on All Souls Day. As I write it looks as though we will still be able to offer our Requiem with a congregation in church, but one of this year's lessons has surely been that we can be connected in prayer however much others try to keep us away.

Our Festival this year would have been shorter than usual in any case because All Saints Day is a Sunday. The Sung Mass preacher is Fr Martin Browne OSB of Glenstal Abbey in Ireland: I have enjoyed and benefited from his skills as a retreat conductor and speaker and look forward to hearing him preach. I was also looking forward to having him to stay again, but the current situation precludes that: he will deliver his sermon from his Abbey Church, audibly to those in All Saints and visibly as well to those who join us online. I don't intend to repeat this method of bringing you visiting preachers in future, but didn't want us to miss out on his sermon, arranged many months ago. He very graciously says how disappointed he is to be missing out on our liturgies (he discovered Choral Benediction for the first time during a previous visit).

Other preachers are, happily, nearer to hand. Our friends and former Assistant Priests Fr Peter McGeary and Fr John Pritchard will preach for Evensong and Benediction on All Saints Day and for All Souls respectively.

A word about All Souls and the commemoration of the Faithful Departed. We are being urged by government and medical authorities not to make services over-long and the reading of long lists of *some* names is an odd way to mark a commemoration of *All* Souls. This year the spoken intercessions will be limited to reading the names of departed incumbents and benefactors and the names of those who have died in the past year. Our chantry book will be laid on the altar and I will commend all whose names appear there in my offering of the Mass.

We celebrate a monthly requiem every third Saturday: if you would particularly like the name of someone who has *not* died in the last year remembered aloud at Mass, could you kindly let me know: those names will be read at that Mass (21 November). If the number of these names is very



large, I will add extra requiems as needed: the whole of November is devoted to prayer for the Holy Souls, so additional requiems are especially appropriate then.

Also, this year the ceremonial at the empty catafalque will be restored to the end of this Mass: it is especially appropriate in a year when so many have been unable to have church funerals or to attend the funerals of loved ones that we can all commend them in this way, prayerfully placing them before God in the censuring and aspersing of the catafalque. This used to be called the Absolutions of the Dead, a slightly opaque title to people today: I think we should now re-name it the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed (the former title for the reading of the names). It represents our loving prayer for those who have gone before us much more powerfully than reading a list and is a genuinely *liturgical* act of commemoration (it also helpfully restores musical elements of requiem settings to their intended position).

Fr Michael

Click on the following links for mass on **SUNDAY**:

[Propers for St Luke](#)

[YouTube link for live stream](#)

Tomorrow's Mass (Saturday 17th October) is our **monthly requiem**: please let Fr Michael know the names of anyone you would like remembered.

Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting - Sunday 18th October 2020

Please refer to note From the Churchwardens in the October Parish Paper

The meetings will be held as soon as the organ voluntary ends after the 11am Sung Mass as there can be no mingling in the present circumstances; parishioners are asked to remain in their seats.

Please see [agenda and minutes](#) of the meetings in 2019.

Please see [various reports](#) originally published and circulated on 4th August 2020.

The following are standing for election:

Churchwardens: Christopher Self and John Forde; both proposed by Patrick Hartley Hon PCC Treasurer and seconded by John McWhinney Hon PCC Secretary.

Parochial Church Council: Judith Mather, John McWhinney, Keith Postance and Geoffrey Woodcock; all proposed by Christopher Self and seconded by John Forde.

Deanery Synod: Janet Drake, Cedric Stephens and Frances O'Neil.

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A Sung Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of **Fr Gerald Reddington** will be offered at the usual Saturday Mass time, 12 noon, on 31st October. It is a special joy, given Fr Gerald's long association with this parish, to be able to offer this Mass on All Saints' Eve.

There will be a fuller Memorial Requiem for him when all those who wish to attend can be present.

Evensong and Benediction will resume next Sunday, 25 October, at 3pm.



Face Masks. As you know, following new advice from the government, all worshippers should wear a mask while in the church building. The celebrant need not wear one except when administering communion; readers and cantors are not required to wear a mask as long as social distancing is observed.

Sunday's flowers have been given by Jackie Wesley in memory of her dear brother Colin.

Congratulations to **Colin Podmore** on being honoured with an **MBE** in the recent honours list, for services to the Church.

Prayer List

Prisoners and captives: Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe, Kylie Moore-Gilbert, Ismaeil Maghrebinejad, Nasrin Satoudeh, Ahmed Almour, Mayshee Eyob.

The work of the London Prisons Mission.

The sick:

David Fettke, Joan Cooper, Vallery Tchukov, Sara Vice, Fr Ron Swan, Katherine Lee, Chris Gudgeon, Nicky Yeo, Lorna Smith, Beth Klausning, Hilary Porter, Philip Hirsch, Keith Peers, Marg Ferguson, Abe Serafinowicz, Andrew Jukes, Lyudmila Nazarbekova, Emer O'Sullivan, Bruce Ross-Smith, James Shrimpton, Paul Brady, Fr David Vincent, Tony Rodger, Rachel Pereira, Benjamin Woolf, Victor Sharp, Fr Michael Gudgeon, Audrey Williams, Chris and Carole Radley, Fr Harry Hodgetts, Simon Little.

Those known to us recently departed:

Judith Hawkins
(Charles) Scott May *Pr*
David Vincent *Pr*
Philip Oakeshott

Anniversaries of death:

18th - Lilian Geddes, John Williams, Christopher Rawll, Wilfred Bevan
19th - John Hillaby, Colin Wesley
20th -
21st - Dora Bull
22nd -
23rd - Roy Prince
24th - Eva Dean, Ron Keating, Peter Laister *Pr*



Supporting All Saints

Please consider joining the **Parish Giving** scheme (details in the letter at the beginning of this email) even if you already give by Standing Order. It is a huge help administratively.

Donations for general Church purposes: To give by BACS please use the following details, advising the Administrator to collect Gift Aid:

PCC All Saints (Charity # 1132895)

Sort Code 60-09-15

A/C # 04559452

Parish Legacy Policy We are always delighted to hear from anyone who wants to support us with a donation. Our PCC Legacy Policy encourages people to leave bequests specifically to one of our two related charities to be used for purposes of lasting value (rather than day to day costs):

All Saints Choir & Music Trust (Charity # 802994) or

The All Saints Foundation (Charity # 273390).