



St Luke's Church
Whyteleafe

St Luke's Newsletter

www.stlukeswhyteleafe.co.uk



March 2026

Have You Signed Up To Our Weekly Email Newsletter?

If you would like to receive our emailed weekly newsletter/email please sign up to using the link below or scan the QR code.



<http://eepurl.com/jzfHgU>

My mum often says to me, “You study too much! You’re not practical!”

And that’s quite something — especially coming from a Taiwanese parent, where education is usually seen as the highest priority. What she really means, I suspect, is: *What was anthropology and sociology for? Why not study medicine instead?*

I do sometimes wonder if she’s right — especially when I move house and have to carry box after box of books. According to my catalogue, there are 1,030 books (not including reference works) sitting in the vicarage!

But I’ve always loved the reminder from John Henry Newman, who used to be Anglican but was canonised by Pope Francis as a saint in 2019:

Education is not preparation for life; it is life itself — the lifelong pursuit of truth in all its fullness.

We live in a world that constantly asks, “What is it for?” When the job market looks bleak and we hear stories of young people struggling to find work, the questions quickly follow: Did they study the right subject? Did they get a good degree? Was it useful?

Our culture is shaped by purpose and productivity. We measure things by outcomes. We value what seems practical. But Lent invites us into something different.

During Lent, we are encouraged to slow down — to pause, to reflect, to read Scripture, and to pay attention to our relationship with God. Reading the Bible is not about finding quick answers (many questions can be explored through science or other forms of knowledge). Nor is it about gaining something from God, as if God were there simply to grant our wishes.

We read the Bible to know the One who loves — the One who created and still loves this world, even when it feels as though everything is falling apart.

Reading Scripture may not seem “practical.” It may not seem to improve our CV or fix the economy — though, as a theologian, I suspect it shapes both more deeply than we realise. But it deepens a relationship. It shapes our hearts. It helps us become whole.

It is not about collecting information. It is about growing in love. This Lent, we’re invited to learn and journey together. There are three ways to take part (see the posters). Join as much or as little as you are able. Come not to achieve something — but simply to grow in relationship.

You are very welcome. **Rev. Yin-An**

Root and Branch Club

Open to all, come and meet with us
to tend the church grounds.

First Meeting in 2026

Saturday 21st March

10.00 am till lunch time

For more details please email Sara
sara.goatcher@btinternet.com



'Lent Courses at St Luke's'

This Lent, St Luke's and Chaldon are offering two Lent course options, both meeting in the Transept at St Luke's, Whyteleafe.

Bible Study & Reflection: A Christian Look at the Environment



This course explores environmental issues through a biblical and Christian lens.

Thursdays, 4 –6 pm, starting 26 February, for five weeks.

Exploring Our Land:

Digging Deep in Search of Common Ground

An in-depth look at our relationship with land, justice, and belonging, with a weekly online presentation followed by discussion.

Tuesdays at 7 pm, from 10 March to 14 April (Please note: no session on 7 April due to the Easter break.)

Both courses are free, and everyone is welcome to come along and take part in a way that feels comfortable. Come with curiosity.



✝ Services at St Luke's March 2026

Sunday Services

Sunday 1st March

9.30am Sung Eucharist Intergenerational

Sunday 8th March

9.30am Eucharist

Sunday 15th March

9.30am Mothering Sunday Eucharist

Sunday 22nd March

9.30am Eucharist

Sunday 29th March – Palm Sunday

9.30am Sung Eucharist Intergenerational

Tuesday Morning Prayer

9am – 9.30am Join Rev Yin-An and Rev Helen in morning prayer.

Wednesday Morning Prayer 8.30am

Caterham Churches Together at St Luke's.

To find out about upcoming services and special events, please check our website or subscribe to our email updates.

www.stlukeswhyteleafe.co.uk



Ladies Fellowship at St Luke's at 7.30pm

11th March Welcome Back
Sue's Quiz & Cake

25th March Rag Wreath
Making Helen
Wheelwright

Lent WhatsApp Group

Please join our Lent WhatsApp group for daily reflections during Lent. 2026

Please scan to sign up



St Luke's Relaxed Lunch Café

Wednesday 18th March

12.30pm – 2.30pm

All are welcome to come and enjoy a light lunch of sandwiches and cake followed by seated yoga and relaxation.



Corrinna is a Yoga Teacher and Sound Practitioner, and the founder of **Yoga Serenity** - www.yoga-serenity.org Known her for inclusive teaching style and her gift for creating spaces where everyone feels welcome, supported and at ease. As a certified sound healer working with crystal quartz and Himalayan singing bowls, she offers sound baths that invite profound rest and energetic release. At this event, Corrinna brings her signature blend of soothing sound, and heartfelt intention—an experience designed to ground the body, settle the mind, and leave you feeling restored from the inside out.

Pastoral Support

If you would like to enquire about pastoral support - including baptisms, weddings, funerals, or home visits, please contact Rev Yin-An (vicar@stlukeswhyteleafe.co.uk) or the Parish Administrator. We are here to support you at any stage of life.