



# St Luke's Newsletter

**NOVEMBER 2020 Edition**

As the days get darker and shorter, I think we are all finding the prospect of more restrictions for months to come even harder and certainly more confusing than when we first went into lockdown.

In the first pandemic wave many experienced loss in all sorts of ways. Now, after an emotionally draining eight months, the second wave is here. Apart from the medical impact, we have more job losses, more uncertainty, a very real lack of fun, and the disappointing reality that this is going to go on for a long time. We are in danger of running out of steam. As Psalm 42 says, 'all your waves and breakers have swept over me'. We need hope.

I love how the Bible book of Job and his experience of loss and pain are so relevant for us. We too are discovering that we are not always entitled to health, wealth, and happiness; and like Job our suffering inexplicably goes on and on. 'Like the irritating moralising of Job's comforters, the constant critique of the media only seems to make things worse.' I read and empathised with that earlier this week. And, like Job, our minds are incapable of totally grasping the meaning of all this suffering. We need hope.

Job was deprived of everything, yet even in his despair he never lost his belief that God was there. But the truly transformative moment for Job came when, instead of seeing his situation in front of God, he finally saw God in front of his situation. Then, even in the intensity of his suffering, the greatness of the Almighty eclipsed the problem. That is the revelation we need.

Lament is therapeutic, and we can be completely real with our Father in Heaven. Yet the path to rekindling true hope lies in focusing on the character and immensity of God. Greater is he that is in us than the pandemic that is in the world. Join in with the ancient words of Psalm 42:

***Why are you downcast O my soul?***

***Why so disturbed within me?***

***Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Saviour and my God.***

Let's be there for one another, on the phone, in person (masked and socially distanced of course!) and through our computer screens. Encouraging one another is key. It's God's way. And in him we hope.

*Rev Annie*

## **REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE**

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November  
10.30am**

**Outside by War Memorial at St Luke's  
BRING A CHAIR AND A BROLLY**



Rev Annie in her new cape kindly donated to her by Audrey Quinnell from her nursing days.

Contact Rev. Annie Kurk on 07563 499260, email: vicar@stlukeswhyteleaf.co.uk  
or contact the Parish Administrator Alison Pannett on 020 8763 8504, email: pa@stlukeswhyteleaf.co.uk

## St Luke's Services During November

Every Sunday at 9.30am Communion Service

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November  
at 6pm Prayers for Whyteleafe

All are welcome to come and pray for our church and our community

A recorded service will still be available to you all weekly on YouTube.

Links can be found on our website [www.stlukeswhyteleafe.co.uk](http://www.stlukeswhyteleafe.co.uk)

**Mid Month St Luke's  
Zoom Quiz Night  
Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm**

Join us as an individual or a team  
All Welcome

Invite your friends, bring a drink & nibbles..  
All proceeds to our St Luke's charities £1 per person to join in

Zoom Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86565195203?pwd=Q0N6QTNPbS93dXdOM05CMS9RRnJNZz09>

### Modernising Giving at St Luke's

*A note from the Treasurer*

This year we have had the opportunity to look at different ways people can give to the church both remotely and safely.

This has meant we have introduced a number of new ways people can give to the church.

**CONTACTLESS** in church using a card reader

By **TEXT** messaging

Text **5STLUKES** to **70460** to donate £5  
Texts cost £5 plus one standard rate message

Text **10STLUKES** to **70460** to donate £10  
Texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message

or donating **ONLINE** Please use the **DONATE** button on our website

[www.stlukeswhyteleafe.co.uk](http://www.stlukeswhyteleafe.co.uk)

People can of course still give by Cash, Cheque or, best of all, by Standing Order!

Please email Alison [pa@stlukeswhyteleafe.co.uk](mailto:pa@stlukeswhyteleafe.co.uk) for more information.



Please help the Caterham Foodbank during the pandemic. They currently are in need of

- **LONG LIFE SPONGE PUDDINGS**
- **LONG LIFE FRUIT JUICE**
- **INSTANT MASH POTATO**
- **HOUSEHOLD CLEANING ITEMS**
- **CHOCOLATE**
- **SOAP**

Items may be left in the hampers in the porch at church.

### Evening Prayer on Zoom

**Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays at 6.30pm**

Evening Prayer with music will be offered on Zoom on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays each week for 30 mins & will be hosted Rev Helen, Rev Sara or Leslie, our Lay Reader

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82053753781?>

The password is unchanged but if you require it please email [vicar@chaldonchurch.co.uk](mailto:vicar@chaldonchurch.co.uk)

### Caterham Churches Together

November's Wednesday Morning Prayer

8.30am at United Reform Church  
Caterham

St Luke's adheres to the Southwark Diocese policies, procedures and guidelines for safeguarding children and vulnerable adults which is contained within their document 'A Safe Church' which can be seen in full on their website at: [www.southwark.anglican.org/what/diocesan-policies-procedures](http://www.southwark.anglican.org/what/diocesan-policies-procedures) It is also published in the form of a manual, a copy of which is kept in the porch at the front of the church should you wish to view it.