



# St Luke's Newsletter

November 2021



Letter from Revd Annie

## Psalm 138 Thanksgiving and Praise

*I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise;  
I bow down towards your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness;  
for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.*

*On the day I called, you answered me, you increased my strength of soul.*

*All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O LORD, for they have heard the words of your mouth.*

*They shall sing of the ways of the LORD, for great is the glory of the LORD.*

*For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly; but the haughty he perceives from far away.*

*Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies;  
you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.*

*The LORD will fulfil his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O LORD, endures for ever.*

*Do not forsake the work of your hands.*

In these days of Covid 19, of seemingly endless demands on our disposable income, of energy company crashes, of more people on the breadline, of the cold winter weather setting in it may seem odd to be asked to remember to thank God for our blessings every day. But that is exactly what we must do – right now!

Back in 1988, a Polish railway worker named Jan Grzebski was hit by a train. He lived ... but only barely. For the next 19 years Grzebski was in a coma.

He awoke in 2007 to a whole new world. Nineteen years earlier, Poland was a communist state. Grzebski noted that back then meat was rationed and there were huge lines at nearly every gas station. And, "there was only tea and vinegar in the shops."

But 19 years later, he awoke to a free nation where he said there were "people on the streets with cell phones and there are so many goods in the shops it makes my head spin."

But something puzzled him. "What amazes me is all these people who walk around with their mobile phones and yet they never stop moaning." These people had freedom, and food and wealth greater than Poland had had for decades ... and yet Grzebski woke from his coma to find that ALL they seemed to want to do was grumble!

If you don't get into the habit of thanking God for what you DO have, you'll soon become ungrateful because of what you DON'T have.

Here at St Luke's we have so much in terms of potential for growth and it rests within each of us. We are a community that listens and acts. Over the time I have been here I have listened to so many of you wanting to encourage more young people and families into our church – I hesitate to call it grumbling! It can happen. Children will come. It will take a step out in faith and some positive thinking, plenty of prayer and vocal support for the changes that need to be made, the plans that we have, but it can happen. Let's not be grumblers but encouragers.

As Christmas approaches and especially during Advent, let's make a promise to ourselves to wake up each morning and thank God for something He is doing in our lives before we do anything else. Christmas is coming!! And the birth of Jesus Christ the Son of God is well worth a prayerful thank you each day...

## Services at St Luke's in November

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November**

**9.30am Outdoor Pet Blessing Service**  
followed by Holy Communion in church

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November**

**10.30am Remembrance Day Service**

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November**

**9.30am Café Service inc Communion**

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November**

**9.30am Taize Communion Service**

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December**

**9.30am All Age Christingle Service**

*See overleaf for more details*

**Conversation & Communion  
Tuesday Evenings 7.00pm  
at St Luke's Church**

9<sup>th</sup> Nov      The Prosperity System  
16<sup>th</sup> Nov     The Equity System  
23<sup>rd</sup> Nov     A Revolution of Hope

**Remembrance Day Service**

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November 10.30am**

The service will begin  
outside at the memorial.



**St Luke's Ladies Fellowship**

All are welcome to come & listen to this month's  
speakers at 8pm in the transept

**Wed 10<sup>th</sup> Nov** Lyrics for Musicals with Ann Lovelace

**Wed 24<sup>th</sup> Nov** The Asian Tsunami with David Tadd

Entrance £2.00 to non-members



**TAIZE Communion Service  
28<sup>th</sup> November  
at 9.30am**

In response to requests from our congregation  
for more Taize style worship, our Communion  
service on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month will be  
exactly that!

Taize means a more contemplative service that  
includes chants and silence and focuses on  
peace and justice in the world.

So please join us at the usual time of 9.30am on  
Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November for a Communion  
service in this style.

After the service Rev Annie will welcome your  
thoughts on the service.

**THANK YOU**

**Well done** to all those who took part in this year's  
Ride and Stride and thank you to all those who  
sponsored them. **We raised £470 in total.**  
Half of this will be given back to St Luke's. Thank you

**CAFÉ CHURCH**

**including Communion  
Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November at 9.30am**

This month we will be holding a new type of service  
on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November at 9.30am.

It's a Café style service, where you will enter via the  
transept and will be offered tea/coffee and  
pastries and then sit in the transept for the service.

We will be having a guest speaker from the  
Children's Society and there will be a collection for  
the Children's Society to enable you to support  
their work.

We hope you will come and support the new style  
service which may offer an informal way to  
worship on a Sunday.

Rev Annie will welcome feedback on  
the service.

Donations for the refreshments will  
be welcome.



**Caterham Church Together  
Wednesday Morning Prayer  
in November 8.30am**

at Caterham Community Church, Caterham, CR3 5NF

**Churchyard Clearance**

The far end of the churchyard in Church Road has now  
been cleared of shrubs and brambles. This will enable  
us to enlarge the churchyard.

*More details in the new year.*



**Evening Prayer postponed till 18<sup>th</sup> November**

**Zoom at 6.30pm on Thursdays & Fridays**

Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82053753781> Please  
email [vicar@chaldonchurch.co.uk](mailto:vicar@chaldonchurch.co.uk) for password



# Join us for Christmas at St Luke's

**Sun 5<sup>th</sup> Dec 9.30am**  
**Christingle Service – All age**  
**Build your own Christingle!**

**Mon 6<sup>th</sup> Dec 7.00pm**  
**Lukes Larks present**  
***“Welcome Back Christmastide”***

**Sun 19<sup>th</sup> Dec 7.00pm**  
**Carols By Candlelight**

**Fri 24<sup>th</sup> Dec 4.00pm**  
**All Age Nativity Service**

**Fri 24<sup>th</sup> Dec 11.30pm**  
**Midnight Communion Service**

**Sat 25<sup>th</sup> Dec 10.00am**  
**Christmas Day Communion - All age**

**Sun 26<sup>th</sup> Dec 9.30am**  
**Boxing Day Communion**

**Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan 9.30am**  
**Epiphany Service – All age**

For more details see our website  
[www.stlukeswhyteleafe.co.uk](http://www.stlukeswhyteleafe.co.uk)  
St Luke's Church, Whyteleafe Hill, CR3 0AA



# BEER & CAROLS AT THE PORTCULLIS

## Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December

**Everyone is welcome  
to come and enjoy  
carol singing with Luke's Larks**

**Gates open at 4pm**

**Singing at 5pm**

**Location RAFA Portcullis Club  
Victor Beamish Avenue  
CR3 5FX**



*Drinks available from the bar*

*Baked potatoes, toasties & burgers from the van*



**St Luke's Church, Whyteleafe and The RAFA Portcullis Club**