



St Luke's Newsletter

www.stlukeswhyteleafe.co.uk

NOVEMBER 2023



Blessings from Revd Annie

Following the attacks on Israel by Hamas last month, Israel's Defence Minister ordered a 'complete siege' of the Gaza strip and the cutting off of food, fuel, electricity and water supplies.

Speaking to officials from Southern Israel, the Israeli Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, said 'what Hamas will experience will be difficult and terrible... this is only the beginning... we are all with you and we will defeat them with force, enormous force.'

The world today looks very different from the way it appeared thirty years ago. Most of you will remember September 1993 when the then Israeli Prime Minister, Yitzhak Rabin, and the PLO leader, Yasser Arafat, shook hands before cheering crowds on the White House lawn. The handshake – the first ever in public between the two former enemies – marked the signing of a Declaration of Principles for peace between the Israelis and Palestinians.

Since then, peace moves have stalled and more moderate voices who seemed open to compromise have been replaced by more extreme ones. How should we respond to the events of the last few weeks?

First and foremost, we must unequivocally condemn the Hamas attacks for what they are – evil acts of terror, including the rape, kidnapping, and murder of women, men, and children. Any attempt to justify these actions is morally indefensible, and we must firmly oppose the arguments of those who seek to rationalise them. Contrary to what one academic at a British University has said, the events in the East are not the 'consequence' for 'partying on stolen land'.

Secondly, we should grieve. The land flowing with milk and honey is instead a land of blood and tears. We should grieve with those who are suffering in the Bible lands, as elsewhere around the world. In the face of injustice, we should weep.

Thirdly, we should pray for those who are suffering, for a de-escalation of violence, and for peace. We should pray that Israel acts justly and proportionately, even as it fulfils its duty to protect its citizens. In waging war on terror, governments should always act to promote good and prevent evil (Romans 13:4). The line between punishing evil and revenge can be a fine one, but it's an important one.

Finally, we should examine ourselves and work for peace and justice in our everyday lives. We might not think of ourselves as powerful, but, every day, we have opportunities, big and small, to create a better world – in our workplaces and communities, through political campaigning and our shopping choices, and even with our contributions to social media. In the words of Isaiah 1:17, we must 'learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.'

Henri Nouwen encourages us to give visibility to Jesus' love for the poor and the weak. He says, 'In a world so hungry for healing, forgiveness, reconciliation, and most of all unconditional love, the Church must alleviate that hunger through its ministry!'

Let's all pray this month and into the future that God will give us a vision for the part in his ministry of peace and reconciliation that we are to play – as his church of St Luke Whyteleafe and as his people.

St Luke's Church
Whyteleafe Hill
CR3 0AA

Remembrance Service



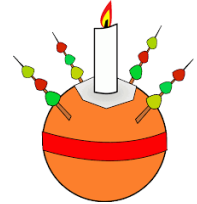
Sunday
12th November
10.30am

November Services at St Luke's Church

Sunday Services

- 5th November** 9.30am Bubble Church in the Transept
10.30am All Age Eucharist Service
11.30am All Souls Memorial Service
- 12th November** 9.30am Short Holy Communion Service
10.30am Remembrance Service
- 19th November** 9.30am Café Church
- 26th November** 9.30am Holy Communion Service & Sunday School
- 3rd December** 9.30am Bubble Church in the Transept
10.30am Christingle Service

**BUBBLE
CHURCH**



Online Evening Prayer Thursdays at 6.30pm

Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88685317538?pwd=eUtHLzFiMzk3Z2lON0tpREZrdEVjdz09>

Caterham Churches Together Wednesday Morning Prayer 8.30am

In November it will be held at
Westway Community Centre

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83624569869?pwd=d3ROTxBQYyR1pyUXN0aUlqVmZnQT09>

luke's lounge



**Wednesday
29th November
1pm – 3pm
Christmas Wreath
Making**

Come and try your
hand at
wreath making.

All are welcome to have a go

Ladies Fellowship 7.30pm at St Luke's Church

- Wed 8th Nov Milliner to the Queen
Speaker: Amanda Keitch
- Wed 22nd Nov Pam Ayres
Speaker: Jill Clark

**St Luke's Church
Whyteleafe Hill, CR3 0AA**

*St Luke's and
The Whyteleafe Community Hub
invites you all to*

*Welcome to
Christmastide
with refreshments*

**Wednesday
13th December
from 1.00pm**

**Enjoy Christmas Songs, Readings
Poems and Carols**

www.stlukeswhyteleafe.co.uk

St Luke's Diary

- Bubble Church:** 9.30am 1st Sunday of the month in the transept
- Luke's Lounge:** Every Wednesday 1pm -3pm with The Whyteleafe Community Hub see Facebook and Website for events
- Knitting Ninjas:** 1st Thursday of the Month 9am – 12pm
- Little Lukes:** Fridays 9am – 11am
- Lions and Lambs:** Friday 3pm – 4.30pm

Wednesday 6th December

Walk-In Clinics at St Lukes Whyteleafe



Covid Vaccination Walk-In Clinics

No appointment needed.

Ages 65+ or those immunosuppressed or a carer, if you are pregnant or frontline health and social care worker.

1st Dose also available for 12years plus

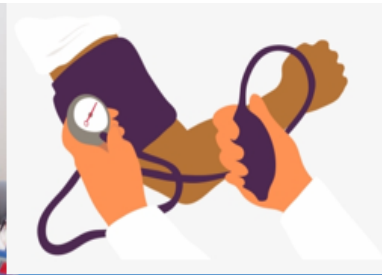
Wednesday 6th December 10.30 am till 3pm

St Lukes Church, Whyteleafe Hill CR3 0AA

Black or South Asian and over 25?

Then you are more at risk of developing Type 2 diabetes.

HEALTHIER YOU
NHS DIABETES PREVENTION PROGRAMME



NHS COMMUNITY HEALTH CHECKS



For those aged 40 - 74 who are Surrey residents or registered to a GP in Surrey, or for those under 40 will receive a wellbeing check

The team can talk to you about:

- Blood pressure
- Body Mass Index
- Cholesterol and weight management
- Diabetes
- Local GP services
- Wellbeing and mental health



SCAN ME

**St Lukes Church,
Whyteleafe
Wednesday
06/12/23
11am till 3pm
FREE
Healthchecks**



To access this service, you must not currently be on medication for cholesterol, blood pressure, kidney disease or an existing heart condition, or previously had a heart attack, stroke or TIA. You must not have had an NHS Health Check in the last 5 years.

No ID or appointment needed. Please speak to the team if you have any questions, or email abccic.equityhcc@nhs.net

