

St Luke's Lent Giving: The Little Edi Foundation

This Lent we are going to be supporting The Little Edi Foundation. Watch out for more information about how you can support

The Little Edi Foundation is an Essex based non-profit where children and young people are at the heart of the organisation. They believe all children should have equal access to education and learning development, enabling them to reach their full potential. To achieve this, they focus on creating development opportunities for disadvantaged young people from local areas this may include giving aid including fresh food, toys, school equipment and uniform, chances to volunteer distributing aid or offering grants to volunteer overseas in Europe's poorest country, Moldova.

Birthdays

If it's your birthday this week, even though we're not together physically, we would like to sing:

"Happy Birthday to you: to Jesus be true.
May God's richest blessing rest today upon you."

Daily Hope

Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full Worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line.

The line – available 24 hrs a day on **0800 804 8044** – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind.

Contacts

Priest in charge Revd Gemma Fraser (not Fridays)
07540 152561 moulshamrev@gmail.com

Curate Revd Suzanne McAllister 07780 442317
rev_suzanne_mcallister@outlook.com

Churchwardens - Vacancy

Deputy Churchwardens
Sue Davies 07708 296804 David Millward 07749 359971

Newsletter Content If you have any items for the Newsletter (including requests for prayer) please contact Janette Tadman - janettetadman@gmail.com or 01245 469124 **Deadline** Wednesday evening

Sunday 28th February

2nd Sunday of Lent

8am: Holy Communion
Revd Suzanne McAllister
(online)

10am: Morning Worship
Stephen Hogben
Rex Broad
(online)

10.45am: Zoom Coffee

Next week
Morning Prayer - 9.15am online
Mon 1st, Tues 2nd, Fri 5th March

Sunday 7th March

10am: Morning Worship
(online)

10.45am: Zoom Coffee

Collect

Almighty God,
you show to those who are in error the light of your truth, that they may return to the way of righteousness;
grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same;
through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty God,
you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves;
keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls;
that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body,
and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Regular Giving

Please do support St Luke's using one of the options below:

- Regular giving by standing order - for more information contact Dave Chambers at simplydavec@aol.com
- Online giving (one-off donations) accessed via the St Luke's website homepage

Reopening Church

We are delighted that, after the Government's announcement on Monday, we can plan for reopening the church.

The 'Stay at Home' rule remains in place until Monday 29th March so our services will be online only until that time. Morning Prayer will continue on Monday, Tuesday and Fridays, there will be an 8am service of Holy Communion (with prayer of Spiritual Communion) on the 14th and 28th March and a 10am Morning Worship every Sunday.

The Stay Home rule is eased on Monday 29th March, which is Holy Week, we are going to have a gentle transition back into the building whilst maintaining online worship and the community that has been built there. This is what it will look like:

* The church will be open for private prayer all week, times will be confirmed soon. The Stations of the Cross will be available as an aid for reflection and prayer.

* There will be daily meditation sessions on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. These will remain online only to allow us to talk and pray together more easily and to worship with St John's.

* On Good Friday there will be a last hour at the cross meditation in church at 2pm.

* Easter Sunday (4th April) will be our first service back in church. We will be joining together at St John's for a Dawn Service at 5.45am. This is one of my favourite services of the year, we start in darkness representing the darkness of Jesus' death on the cross and welcome Jesus, the light of the world, as we welcome the sunrise. This service will take place outside unless the weather has other plans. At 10am we will be celebrating Easter Holy Communion in church.

From this point on we will be worshipping in church every Sunday. Restrictions are still in place and our primary commitment is to wellbeing so we will need to continue wearing face coverings and social distancing. We can't serve refreshments just yet but the rule of 6 comes back into play on the 29th March so we can catch up with people outside of church. We will follow the government advice on easing other restrictions as we go. The church will go back to being open for private prayer. Morning Prayer in church will not be resuming just yet but we will let you know when it can. We know that there are some people may still be uncomfortable returning to the building and so pastoral care, online worship and home resources will continue.

All of the above is subject to the phases being implemented on the date the government has set, if they don't we will adjust accordingly. We are looking forward to life easing a little in the coming weeks.

Lent Group We met for our first Lent group on Zoom last week. We looked at John 14 and what it means to be in turmoil and to trust. There were some powerful discussions and it's wonderful that we are able to be honest about what we are facing and wrestle with what faith has to say about big life issues. There was a lovely mix of people from across the two churches. We're meeting again next Thursday, 7.30pm on Zoom and we'd love you to join us. Details have come out on Connect but let us know if you need them sent again.

Please Pray This Week

For Brian, Joan, Bob, Anna, Doug, Greta, Carmen and Peter.

For the people of Myanmar, especially our Christian brothers and sisters.

For Christine Shillaker and family as they hold a memorial service for Revd John on Friday 5th March at 11am.

This week we remember: Marion Harris (01.03.2011)

Jim Jellicoe (02.03.1988)

Malcolm Wade (02.03.2015)

Julie Wade (04.03.1984)

Mothering Sunday - 14th March

Mothering Sunday is a time to say thank you to all mothers and caregivers for the selflessness with which they nurture, love and help us to grow.

This year, why not celebrate or remember someone special by giving an ethical gift?

<https://makeamothersday.org/shop/Default.aspx>

Key Messages from your PCC

- Plans are in hand for re-opening the church, hopefully by Easter. Watch this space, and St. Luke's Connect, for up to date information on this.
- Date for your diary - a Work Day is being planned for Saturday 27th March to prepare the church for re-opening. A schedule will be produced and social distancing will be maintained. All cleaning materials provided! Sign up sheet available soon.
- Electoral Roll - Revision of the ER will take place from 21st-27th March, prior to the APCM. If you know of any changes or if you would like to join the ER, please contact Mike Tadman, Electoral Roll Officer.

If anyone would like to read the PCC Minutes, please contact Helen Field, PCC Secretary (helenfield16@yahoo.co.uk or tel. 07873721813). Please be aware they will only be available after approval by the PCC, usually the following month.

Fairtrade Fortnight: 22nd February - 7th March 2021

What can you do?

- Buy Fairtrade products to support the right for farmers to be paid fairly for their work, meaning they have the chance to fight the challenges of the climate crisis right now. Look for the Fairtrade symbol.
- Support the Fairtrade movement to work with policy makers, businesses and government to influence change that will protect the most vulnerable.
- You can join the 'Choose the World You Want' online festival with your friends and family on the link : <https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/choose-the-world-you-want/>