



Sunday 28th April 2024
Fifth Sunday of Easter



8:30am Prayer meeting On Zoom

10:30am

Family Communion

Discipleship – Creating Community

In the Church and Online

Readings: Psalm 133, 1 John 4:7-5:4

Leading and Presiding: Rev Michael Norman

Preaching: Wendy Somerville (Reader)

5:30pm

Encounter

Silence and Solitude

In the Church

Reading: Mark 1:9-13 and 32-39

Leading: Tolu George (ordinand)

Preaching: Dave Clarke (Reader)

Coming Up This Week

Tuesday 30th

10am **Holy Communion**
6:15-7:30 **Urban Saints** (School Years 3-6) in the Hall
7:45-9pm **K2 Youth** (school years 8-10) in the Hall
8pm **Focus Prayers** on Zoom

Wednesday 1st May

8.30am **Staff meeting**
8pm **Cassiobury and Nearby Community Choir** in the Church

Thursday 2nd

All Day **Polling Day** in the Hall
6:15-7:30pm **Base Youth** (school years 7-9) upstairs
7:30pm **Alpha Course week 2** in the Lounge

Friday 3rd

10-11am **Hour of Prayer** in the Chapel

Sunday 5th

8:30am **Sixth Sunday of Easter**
10:30am **Pre-Service Prayer meeting** on Zoom
5:30pm **All-age Family Communion** in Church and online
 Encounter in Church

Other events happening through the week organised by external groups

Church News/ Get involved

Celebrations: Happy birthday this week to Ann T! Please let the office know of any celebrations you would like to share.

Congratulations to Jeremy H for completing the London Marathon last Sunday in aid of the Alzheimer's Society. If you would like to donate to this cause in honour of Jeremy, please go to [Justgiving.com](https://www.justgiving.com) and search for his name.

Partnership Fund Appeal: Our Partnership Fund appeal is ongoing (please see the appeal flyers for details).

Summer Alpha: Our Summer Alpha course continues on Thursday evenings. Please prayerfully consider if there is someone you could invite or bring along.

Fairtrade Rep: St Luke's is looking for a new Fairtrade representative as our status as a Fairtrade Church has lapsed – information available from the office.

Prayer Walk: There will be a prayer walk around the parish, starting from the church, in place of a Focus meeting on the **7th May**. This will start at 7pm to catch the sunlight.

Ascension Day Service: We are having a joint service at St Peter's on Thursday **9th May** at 7:30pm, with Michael preaching. Please put this in your diaries and come along to celebrate Ascension with us!

Men's Breakfast: we will be holding a Men's Breakfast with a guest speaker on the **11th May**, 9-10.30am. Please talk to Bill M or Michael to sign up.

APCM: Our APCM will be on the **12th May** after the morning service, please do attend to support the church and the PCC. Nominations are open for elections to the PCC – please see the forms in the Gathering Area.

Christian Aid week is fast approaching, **12th to 18th May**, and volunteers are needed to deliver and collect envelopes from the Cassiobury Estate. Look out for the list of streets which will be in the Gathering Area. See Pamela W for details.

Big Parenting Questions Event: As our children approach adolescence, it can be a minefield to try and negotiate the everchanging landscape of their lives as they want more independence and are beginning to ask complex questions that can leave us, as parents, feeling bewildered.

Big Parenting Questions is a brand-new event from Care for the Family designed to offer mums, dads and carers hope through this transitional time in a child's life. It's packed with practical advice and strategies to help parents feel better equipped to come alongside their child as they try and establish their identity, assert their independence and find their place in the world.

At St Luke's on the **19th June 7:30pm** – see posters/ flyers for how to get tickets.

St Luke's Summer Holiday Club: the sign-ups are open for the Holiday club. We welcome all 5–11-year-olds and we are open Tuesday 6th-Friday 9th August 2024 10am-1pm with lunch included. Children can come for as many days as they want out of the four.

We also need volunteers to help with Holiday Club – working with groups, helping with art projects, catering or any support you can offer. Volunteers will need to have a DBS registered with St Luke's and to have done the Church of England Safeguarding Training within the last 3 years (it takes about 2 hours and can be done online). All volunteers welcome, for one day or for the whole week, or anything in between! Contact Lydia (children@stlukeswatford.org) to offer help.

We may be asking for help with preparing resources or collecting supplies before August as well – keep an eye out!

For your Information:

✂ **If you are new to St Luke's Church (online too!) – welcome.** Please email your details to office@stlukeswatford.org and we will email back a welcome form for you to complete.

✂ **St Luke's Church Office** ☎ 01923 246161

✂ **Weekly updates** by email. Please send your email details to the Church Office at office@stlukeswatford.org if you would like to receive them.

✂ **Church Website:** www.stlukeswatford.org

✂ **Find us on Facebook or Instagram**

Prayer

Collect

Almighty God,
who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ
have overcome death and opened to us
the gate of everlasting life:
grant that, as by your grace going before us
you put into our minds good desires,
so by your continual help
we may bring them to good effect;
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.



Suggestions for prayer this week

Let us pray for the world, for the church, and let us thank God for his goodness.

Let us encourage one another to go deeper into prayer and to persevere.

Immediate needs: Peace in Israel and Gaza; Sudan; Ukraine; those struggling with rising costs; repercussions of climate change.

St Luke's Outreach: the Alpha Course, school visits this term.

World Watch List: Christians in India (*world's 11th highest area of religious persecution*)

Deanery Cycle of Prayer: St Mary's, Watford and the Town Centre Chaplaincy.

Those with on-going needs.

St Luke's family in need.

Our wider family and friends in need.

Those in mourning: all those we know mourning loved ones at this time.

Giving Thanks: answers to prayer this week.

Please update the office regarding any prayer needs or answered prayer.
This week's prayer list is a **blue** slip. Please do take one home to pray over.