

Dear Friends,

This Tuesday is the feast of Luke the Evangelist. As we come to a new church year in Advent, and go from hearing Luke's Gospel on Sundays to Matthew's, it is a good opportunity to consider what Luke has given us.

Luke is widely believed to be the author of both the Gospel named after him and the Acts of the Apostles, more than a quarter of the New Testament. We know little about his life – it is possible he was a non-Jewish physician – but we do encounter his distinctive voice. The person of Luke serves the Good News of the person of Christ, inviting us to do the same. Luke is a gifted storyteller weaving together parable, teaching and shorter vignettes into a compelling narrative of God with us as Jesus and the early Church. Luke's narration aims to transform our imaginations and open our hearts to the beauty and promise of God's Kingdom as it shines in our world.

Some of the most well-known parables are unique to Luke, e.g., the Good Samaritan and the Prodigal Son. Luke's account of Jesus's infancy is the bedrock of Christmas. He gives us three Canticles – the Benedictus, the Magnificat and the Nunc Dimittis – which, throughout the ages, have formed the core of Christian prayer in the morning, evening and at night. His words ring out in the Gloria in Excelsis in the Eucharist when our voices echo the song of the angels at Christ's birth.

Driving Luke's glory-filled narrative is his unmistakable conviction that God upturns the structures of human power so that the mighty and rich are cast down and the poor and lowly raised up. Indeed, Luke shows a breath-taking concern for the poor, the sick, the abused, the socially excluded. He champions children and women. Words of woe and warning call those in power to account. Through this vision of joy-filled salvation, restoration and justice, Luke affirms the basic integrity of creation, human culture and intellectual life. He extols the value of sacred space and ritual but also the profound simplicity of faith and prayer that often escapes those who claim to speak for God.

As we live out our Christian vocation at St George's, let us be inspired by Luke's generous Gospel and work towards building up the kingdom of God that appears in unexpected and often overlooked ways, not least in the childlike wonder of our hearts and in the faces of any in need.

With my prayers and blessings,
Fr Angus

Dates - October

Monday 17th – 10:30 am – 12:00 pm - St George's Tots in the Centre
7.30pm – PCC Meeting preceded by Mass in the Lady Chapel at 7.00pm
Tuesday 18th – WRAP Community Choir - 7.30pm to 9.00pm
Wednesday 19th - Said Mass - 11.30am in the Lady Chapel.
Thursday 20th – Said Mass - 9.30am in the Lady Chapel
Friday 21st – 10.00am Pop-up-Pantry in the Centre [see note below]
Sunday 23rd - Family Eucharist with Baptism 10.00am
Extraordinary Parochial Church Meeting- see note below.

All Souls Day Service – this annual service commemorating the faithful departed will be held on Wednesday 2nd November at 7.30pm – a list is available in church to add names to be read out, or if you cannot get to church, they can be sent by email [stgeorges@whyke.info] or leave a message on the office 'phone 01243 782885 before Friday 28 October 2022

Extraordinary PCM on Sunday 23 October. Everyone on the electoral roll is invited to attend an extraordinary parochial church meeting to discuss and approve St George's annual accounts which have now been signed off by the independent examiner. The meeting will take place after the main service. Copies of the accounts are now available in both electronic format [attached] and hard copies for everyone's perusal prior to the meeting.

Please note, there are letters for all those who give regularly to St George's available in alphabetical order at the back of church on Sunday.

UK Harvest are changing the name of their 'Pop-Up Pantries' to 'Fed and Nourished'. They will continue to be the community food hubs you know and love, the new name captures the education, support and signposting they now offer.

Last Friday in the Month Concert - Come and enjoy vibrant guitar ensemble music, at our next concert on October 28th presented by the **West Sussex Guitar Club Orchestra**, directed by Linda Kelsall-Barnett and exploring a wide range of repertoire. Refreshments will be available during the interval.

Our Christmas Fair will be taking place on **Saturday 10th December**. Please put the date in your diary. Sue Bainbridge is appealing for items for the craft table. If you are into craft making, of whatever type or perhaps you have items to donate already Sue would love to hear from you. Perhaps you have an idea for running a stall, please do have a word with Sue. Tel. 784424 or in church. Ask one of the greeters if you would like an introduction.

Tickets for the always popular **St George's Quiz with Fish and Chips** event on Friday November 11th will be on sale from next Sunday 23rd October. £10 to include Fish and Chips. A selection of alternative dishes is available

New pilot project at St George's: Food For Friends. From 1 November a community-based project for refugees is being run out of St George's Centre. The project allows various refugee groups to access the Centre kitchen and eating space, to be together with befrienders, to shop for and cook their own dishes. A creche will also be provided. The project is run by Jenny Cole in partnership with St George's, Transition Chichester and the Quakers. Funding has been awarded by the Church Urban Fund and additional financial support is being sought from the Co-op. If anyone is interested in volunteering, please contact Jenny on 01243 699843 or by email at jenny.music@lycos.com. The project will run fortnightly every other Tuesday between 10:30 and 13:30 until the end of February 2023 when it will be reviewed. A poster and fliers with more information are coming soon.

This time last year, September - October 2021 During September we were able to announce the return of the popular Friday Evening concerts, the first taking place on Friday 10th with organ music provided by local organ scholars, introduced by Tim Ravalde. The October concert was the ever-popular Luc Family. On 11th September Jenny Harding and husband John organised the annual Sussex Churches Historic Trust, Ride & Stride event, and on 12th September the children's J-Team returned. Great fun and bargains galore at the autumn Jumble Sale raising just under £550 for church funds.

Father John Hall took the majority of the Sunday services, including the celebrating of our Dedication Festival. Bishop Martin led us in worship for Harvest Festival, with Fr John in attendance and Father Philip Meader ministered for two weeks during October. The Harvest Supper was much enjoyed, ending with an informative and thought-provoking talk given by Joanne Kondabeka, founder and CEO of the Chichester Foodbank.

On 27th September Fr John blessed the outdoor furniture the church had purchased for the Rumboldswyke Primary School in celebration of changing from an infant to a primary school, part of the Bishop Luffa Academy. The table and benches were given in memory of Kay & Vince Glover.

With the removal of the very large tree behind the war memorial the agreed Golden Alder was planted as a replacement on 8th October, again, in memory of Kay & Vince Glover. A plaque was fixed to the gate of the churchyard at St Mary's in recognition of the six Commonwealth War Graves within. On 24th October Fr Philip baptised Dexter Snewin and on 30th September Canon Paul Seaman returned to conduct the marriage between Tom Anderson and Rosie Harvey

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Thanks. I would like to thank all of you who helped me celebrate my 90th birthday last Sunday. Your cards and good wishes were greatly valued and make me realize how blessed I am to have lasted so long and to really appreciate my many friends at St George's. Ken