

**St Patrick's Day**

**Lent 2– Neighbours on the Road to Glory**

Welcome to St Thomas's Parish Church, working in unity with other local churches, with a care and love for the whole community. Please say hello and we'd love you to stay for refreshments in our hall after the service.

You are welcome to use one of the blue church bibles; page numbers for the readings will be given out & will be on the screen too.



**Usual Sunday Service times:**

8.30am Communion + 10.00am Family Service + 11.30am Informal Service

Wednesday: 9.45am Communion

Occasional Sunday Evening services (please see church diary)

Morning Prayers: 9.15am Monday, Tuesday (with communion,) Thursday

**Collect Prayer This Week:**

Almighty God, by the prayer and discipline of Lent may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings, and by following in his Way come to share in his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sunday 8.30am & 10:00 am	Sunday 11:30 am	Wednesday 9:45am
Philippians 3:17 to 4:1 p1180	Luke 10:25-37 p1041	Jeremiah 22:1-9, 13-17 p780
Luke 10:25-37 p1041		Luke 14:27-33 p1048

**Prayers for our community:** If you would like to be added to the prayer list, please let Rev's David or Ruth know. We would also like to receive 'thanksgiving' prayers.

**The sick, including:** Pat Whiting, Bob Gunn, Peter Pullan, Schweta, Lorraine Pinnock, Marilyn Wheeler

**Cycle of those needing ongoing prayer:** Joyce Burgess, Dorothy Kilsby, Seyan Tills, Mike Clark

**Those who are grieving for:** Justin Robertson, Clinton Elliott, John Dew, June Tearle, Guy Dyer, Helena Cloonan

**Thanks for:** Healing of Janette Duck's sister, Veronica after prayer.

**Inspirational Quotes:** "Spread love everywhere you go. Let no-one ever come to you without leaving happier" Mother Teresa

**Upcoming Church News:**

**Parish Nursing:** We welcome Barbara Griffiths from Parish Nursing UK to our services this Sunday. From May 12<sup>th</sup> we will have a Parish Nurse in our church. Debbie Newbound has almost completed her training and will be Commissioned on that Sunday at the 10am service. Find out more today what a Parish Nurse does. From May 12<sup>th</sup> you will be able to ring to make an appointment 07879073060 (but note the number does not go live until May 12<sup>th</sup>.)

**Christianity Explored:** Tuesday evenings 7.15 for tea/coffee then starting at 7.30, with finish time of 8.30pm. Please join us in the church Hall as we get to know more of the Christian faith and why & how we share our faith. We all get one life to live and deep down we're all asking the same question – what's it all about? We have a one week break then will restart on Tues 26<sup>th</sup> March. See Rev's David or Ruth if you have any questions.

**Lent Lunches:** Will be held each Wednesday of Lent from 6th March through to Easter. Join us on March 20, 27 and April 3, 10, 17. Let David Newbound know if you wish to attend one or more. A sign-up sheet is in the porch or call 07885 605977 or email david.newbound@btinternet.com

**Lent Course:** Thurs evenings 8pm. From 7<sup>th</sup> March to 11<sup>th</sup> April. If you would like to explore various issues surrounding Lent, Good Friday, Maundy Thursday and, of course, Easter Day in a comfortable home environment, join Ruth and Ian M at 125 Stockingstone Road. Feel free to call 07968131997 for more info.

**Concert and Cream Tea:** Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 3pm in the Hall, to raise vital funds for Hands of Mercy. Short concert performed by our choir/resident musicians; Cream Tea; Craft stall; Cakes for sale. You are invited to join us for a pleasant afternoon whilst supporting our Brothers and Sisters in the Philippines with our 'Children's Education Sponsorship'. Entry on donation and collections accepted throughout the event.

**Parade Services** The next Parade will be Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March preparing for Mothering Sunday.

**After Parade Youth event** -. Sunday March 24<sup>th</sup> is the St T's 4th after-Parade party. The theme is Mother Earth; a combination of honouring our Mothers; outdoor games (weather permitting); snacks and refreshments. In addition, there will be a competition for our Youth to name the group with a prize for the person providing the winning name. For

further information contact Deborah Bachini or the church office. Free for Youth, & adults only £2.50. Invite your friends.

**Level Trust Uniform Collection** – Please bring new or good quality second hand uniform for Luton school children to wear with pride and helping families in hardship to save money. Please also ask your friends with school-age children if they have any. Collection in pink bin in porch by March 24<sup>th</sup> please. Let's fill the container.

**Lady Day Service:** Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March. All are welcome at St Augustine's church, Icknield Way, LU3 2JR for the annual service at 10.15am with refreshments served after.

**Luton Food Bank charity run:** Sat 30<sup>th</sup> March - Donna Alexander is running a charity 5k run. If anyone wishes to support the charity via Donna whether through monetary donations or prayers, please either directly see her or alternatively leave with the church office. FAO Donna re Foodbank. Many thanks

**Church AGM:** Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April. To ensure as many people as possible are able to attend our annual general meeting, we will have a combined morning service starting at 10.30am. Bring a packed lunch to have in between. The AGM meeting will start just after Noon.

**Fundraising coffee morning & cake:** Sat 13<sup>th</sup> April, 10-12 midday in St Thomas's church hall, raising funds for the Haven which supports people all over the country with Breast Cancer. Please come and support Val Wellsman and others who are using the services at The Haven at the moment. – see Debbie Newbound for more info

Sermon Series this Spring – Luke's Gospel		
Mar-17	Luke 10v25-37	Neighbours on the Road to Glory
Mar-24	Luke 10v38-42	Choosing What is Better
Mar-31	Luke 11v1-13	Our Parent (Mothering Sunday)

**Regular Dates for the Diary (some may be provisional)**

1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday	12:30pm Parish Lunch - Hall
1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday	10 –12 noon Coffee Morning - Hall
Mon afternoon	1.00pm – 4pm Craftanoon - Hall
Tues evening	7.15 – 9pm Christianity Explored - Hall
Thurs morning	10am Scrabble Club – Hall
Thurs afternoon	2pm – 4pm Tent Project – Hall
Thurs evening	8pm Homegroup. Marshall's Home

**Upcoming Dates for the Diary**

Sat 23 Mar	3pm Concert and Cream Tea (Hall)
Sun 24 Mar	10am Parade Service
Sun 24 Mar	After Parade Youth Event
Wed 3 April	Burial of Ashes Leslie Turner 11.15am Church
Sat 6 April	10am Coffee Morning
<b>Sun 7 April</b>	<b>Church AGM After Combined Service</b>
Sat 13 April	Coffee & Cake fundraiser 10am-12 noon
Mon 15 Apr	7:30pm Holy Week Service led by Bishop
Thur 18 Apr	7:30pm Maundy Thurs Service
Fri 19 April	Good Friday Services
Sun 21 Apr	Easter Day Services

**CONTACT US:**

**Parish Office:** 01582 729194; office@stopsleyparish.org.uk **Address:** 585a Hitchin Rd, Stopsley, Luton LU2 7UL  
Reg Charity No 1175152

**Vicar:** Rev David Alexander 01582 721911 or 07796 334300, vicar@stopsleyparish.org.uk

**Curate:** Rev Ruth Barr 07447 458526 curate@stopsleyparish.org.uk


**Director of Pastoral Care:** David Newbound 07885 605977 david.newbound@btinternet.com

**Parish Nurse (from May 12<sup>th</sup>):** Debbie Newbound. To make an appointment phone 07879073060 (number does not go live until May 12<sup>th</sup>)

**Churchwardens:** Ian Marshall 07968131997 ian.marshall125@gmail.com ; Steve Dolby 07954 056187 steven.dolby@outlook.com

Webpage [www.stopsleyparish.org.uk](http://www.stopsleyparish.org.uk)

 Twitter: @stopsleyvicar

 Facebook: Stopsley-Parish-Church

We have a trained **Counsellor**, based at St Thomas's., by appointment. Please contact Parish office on 01582-729194.

**Safeguarding** concerns, please contact Judi Kingham 01582-619432 or Linda Clitheroe 01582-729194.

**Loop** Please switch your hearing aid to 'T.' If you need the service sheet made larger, please let us know.

**Photos/videos** are sometimes taken in services please let us know if you would rather not be in any church publicity

Please join the Parish Giving Scheme and Electoral Roll. Bank Sort Code 20-53-97 Acct. 10792063