

Welcome to **St LUKE'S** CROSBY

follow Christ — share his love — serve our community

Memory Verse Luke 8.21

But Jesus said to them, “My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it.

13th September 2020 - 14th Sunday after Trinity

Please visit www.stlukecrosby.org.uk for updates

Looking Forward:

As I returned from holiday last week, I re-started that conversation about how we were going to be able to do services for up to 200 people in church. I know, there are other local churches already running services, but they are smaller than us in terms of the number of people who are members there. I even had one vicar call me yesterday to ask when we would be opening as they were finding their church capacity starting to be taken by people from St Luke's. We are all struggling with capacity and safety, and unless you have a church where everyone can fit in the building with 2m spaces around them all then it's not easy. So, I've played with the furniture and we can do this as long as not everyone comes at once and people take turns week by week – see our newsletter piece for more details and please book in using My ChurchSuite once bookings are open. We also have Harvest, Remembrance and then Christmas coming, with all the services and social activity which they normally bring that we simply can't do as we always have any longer. It's a sad puzzle to be solving.

However, as I wrestle with the logistics, safety protocols, space and numbers and the desires we all have to be together again, I am reminded of Jeremiah 29 as the Lord spoke to his people in exile. It feels a little like we're in exile from the church building and from each other at the moment. The Lord said to his people through Jeremiah that he would bring them back to their place, when their exile was done, and he had plans, a future with hope to which he called them. He doesn't, though, promise to bring them back to life as they knew it before exile – they were changed by their experience and so life couldn't be the same. We, too, have a future with hope to walk back into, but it will look different from what we had before. How are you changed by the experiences of the last 6 months? and how do you think we need to be changed as a church family?

Amanda Bruce

Prayer

Please pray for : Michael Callaghan, Jeremiah Morgan and family, Glynis Dowson, Baby Ayla Joan Sutherland, Billy, Raechelle Maher, Paul, Lizzy Bentley, Lauren, Andrea and her family, Paul Lloyd, Mary Armitage, Charlotte Satarino, Tracey, and all those who are feeling vulnerable or self-isolating.

Also please pray for friends and family of Julia Westwell, Stuart McWilliam, Anne Eccles and Jacob Billington who have recently passed away.



Theme: Mental Health concerns
Bible Reading: Isaiah 43: 1-3

Prayer points :

For children and young people dealing with mental health issues, for parents, teachers and therapists who can help, comfort and provide reassurance.

For those caring for a family member who has dementia, for strength, compassion and moments of joy to lift their spirits.

For older people dealing with mental health issues, that they would receive the help and support they need.

For a better understanding of the pain of isolation, fear, depression and stigma around mental illness, which affects so many, and even sometimes leads to suicide. For greater investment and access to treatment and care, so more people can recover.

For health workers, who over many months gave so much in stressful circumstances caring for very sick patients with Covid-19.

For those experiencing mental health issues as a result of being isolated, that they are able to access counselling, medication and caring support.

For health professionals including GPs, Nurses and therapists, offering help and support to those living with mental health concerns.

Our Mission Focus for September is for

Alejandro Mesco of Peru



He is a voluntary Pastor Chaplain part of the medical mission international. Through generous donation, support and prayer he now has a puppet show which he hopes to use in the clinic with the children to explore and teach the Gospel.

Notices

Church Services in St Luke's Church: Yes, we really are starting up a service again! I was hoping that we may have started on the 20th September, but will defer the start to the 27th September, as we work out the ramifications on numbers due to the new Rule of Six. We think this does not directly affect Church worship, but we are waiting for the CofE guidance on this to be made clear. We hope to open bookings next weekend, and if you are unable to book using the link we will provide then please ring or email the office. I am aware that we won't be able to fit anything like our normal 50 (9am) or 120 (11am) people in church, so I do ask you to book and to come to only one service every month to start with, so that everyone can come once a month if they wish. We will monitor numbers and bookings and let you know as and when this can change. So that we can ensure the church is clean for use, we will only be running one service on a Sunday to start with and this will be at 10am. More details will follow next weekend, so watch this space.

Zoom Quiz September is our mission month for Alejandro Mesco, our link mission partner in Peru but for the first time in twenty years and because of the coronavirus, we will be unable to hold our Quiz night in St. Luke's Hall. The good news is that Jim Stewart has very kindly agreed to hold a zoom quiz on Saturday evening October 3rd, please earmark this date on your calendar and more details will follow in the Newsletter dated 20th. September 2020. Thank you, Joyce Fell (link Mission partner)

Halsall Educational Trust is a trust fund set-up by Catherine Halsall many years ago prior to her death. She was a campaigner for girls education and the trust administers the income to support young women going onto higher education. It is still administered by a committee mainly from St Luke's Church with a couple of people from the Council and Education as well. Last Monday we interviewed 8 young women from local secondary schools, all with inspiring stories and hopes and dreams for the future. We were able to award each of them £500 to help them as they start university, on courses varying from engineering to graphic design to teaching. Please pray for them and for all students starting university, especially in this strange season.

This Sunday

Sunday Service - St Luke's is streaming an 'Act of Worship' every Sunday at 10am on www.stlukecrosby.org.uk and our YouTube channel by searching for stlukeschurchcrosby. There are children's activities available each week on the website www.stlukecrosby.org.uk/resources/

St Luke's Dial-in Service. We have set up a new feature so that you can listen to the weekly Sunday service using your phone, using a freephone number **0800 501 5040** - it can take a few seconds to connect you to the audio file so please hold on in there!

Coffee Morning - we will be holding our Virtual Coffee Morning on Zoom again this Sunday at 10.45am. If you are not able to be online, you can also join in by ringing 02030512874 then 84676603954 # then # when prompted, followed by the passw ord. Please ring Paul 07855 727196 to get the passw ord

The Church of England has a free dial-in worship service which offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a free telephone line **0800 804 8044**.

Online Worship for Children - If you are looking for suitable worship material for your children, then we have come across Gas Street Church in Birmingham led by the writers of 'I am a city on a hill - Let your light shine' Nick & Becky Drake. Just search for Gas Street Kids on YouTube - weekly 15 min kids worship time with a Bible reading, songs and prayers or follow the link below www.gasstreet.church/kids

Church Donations

There are several ways in which you can give to church:

- Online stlukecrosby.org.uk/giving/
- Using the 'Donate' button for card payments or by ringing the office 931 3119 to donate over the phone (leave your name and phone number on the answer machine & Gaynor will phone you back to take your card details)
- Texting **stluke give 5 to 07380 307800** would donate £5



Where to find help! -

- For practical support; contact Helen 07596 667137 or Jan 07944 671454
- Newsletter (either posting out or emailed) or DVDs of services contact Paul comms@stlukecrosby.org.uk or 07855 727196
- Help with technology eg Zoom, Skype or WhatsApp groups contact Colin, Jim or Paul on 07855 727196
- Pastoral Care; contact Helen
- Parish Office Gaynor (0151) 931 3119 please leave a message.