

John 15.8 "My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples".

Sunday 12th November 2023

Remembrance Sunday

Bible Readings: Matthew 25.1-13, 1 Thessalonians 4.13-end

Reflection

So, I'm waiting. Are you waiting too? I'm waiting for an operation. I've been waiting for a while and have got used to waiting, to living my life in some kind of suspended animation, to managing pain and the side effects of pain medication. Then, last week I had the phone call!! I've been offered a date for an op in the next few weeks, and that's exciting and a relief. But then I've found myself thinking about the reality of someone cutting my back open and sticking sharp implements in the cavity through which my spinal cord runs, and that's a scary thought. Suddenly I want to back track, to say no, to live on pain meds for the rest of my life, although I don't want that either of course. All this has caused me to question who I trust.

Do I trust the surgeon? I did my research and chose him particularly. So yes, I trust him, but it's still scary.

Then, an even bigger question, do I trust God in the midst of this? Do I trust him whatever the outcome? Do I trust him if this operation means paralysis? Do I trust that he loves me, wants the best for me and wants me to become the best I can be for him in the context of a fallen world? I know that whatever befalls me I am made to be a light in darkness, even though that light stutters at times.

More importantly, I know that following Jesus is not a bless-fest of only loveliness, but that he walks with us in the good, bad, and ugly of life. That's what I trust him for, and why in all the scary processes and outcomes of my life I keep following him. In the end, 'All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well' (Julian of Norwich). Jesus is my Lord and saviour, but more than that he is my good Father and friend.

Amanda Bruce

Mission focus for November: Mary Bunn, Sierra Leone



We have just celebrated the first 5 years of Connaught Palliative Care Unit, on World Hospice and Palliative Care Day, October 14th, with a meeting for nearly 100 people. We were able to present our achievements and future plans to the deputy Chief Medical and Chief Nursing and

Midwifery Officers, as well as other senior healthcare staff. It was great to recognise the work and progress of the team, and the support of the hospital, the Ministry and other partners. We have treated and supported over 850 patients so far.

Please pray with us for our patients, avoiding compassion fatigue and discouragement; realisation of our dream to produce oral morphine and to be able to provide this for all who need it Thank you so much for your support, Love, Mary

Church services and events

Our Sunday Service meet in the building & live streamed at 10.00am every week; www.stlukecrosby.org.uk , church [YouTube channel](#) by searching for stlukeschurchcrosby & church [Facebook](#) **Archived services & talks** can be found [here](#).



Big Picnic Worship is taking place again **today Sunday 12th November in church**. 12.00pm start. This service is appropriate for the whole family and starts at 12.00 in time to eat a picnic lunch - please bring your picnic with you! We will have active songs, games, a story, time to think about Jesus and pray for ourselves and our world. We look forward to seeing you!

Weekly prayer meeting: 2 Chronicles 7:14. This verse has inspired a few of us to meet to pray on Tuesday mornings at **7.14am** in the Parish office. Please come & join us as we pray for half an hour & seek God's way forward for our church, our community & our land, all welcome.

Wednesday Holy Communion Service – next service is on **Wednesday 15th November at 10.30am in church**. All welcome!

Sunday 19th November at 1.00pm in church, there'll be an opportunity to "Come & worship" a relaxed, informal time of worshipping & listening to God. Feel free to bring your lunch, drinks available from 12.30. All welcome.

Dates for the Diary

'What's on at St Luke's?' please see the 'church news' section of the Noticeboard.

Churches together in Crosby Ecumenical Prayer: These short Services start at 9.45am followed by tea/coffee and biscuits. The next service is on **Thursday 16th November** here at St Luke's church. All welcome.

Liverpool Cathedral – forthcoming events –



From Darkness to Light- the First Sunday of Advent - Sunday 26th November 17:30-19:00 Be there by 17:20 on Sunday 26 November to enjoy the spectacular service that will mark the start of the Advent season. At the beginning of the service, the entire building is in total

darkness. A Procession led by the Cathedral Choir will move through the darkened building, by candlelight, into the light of the coming Christ. When the procession finally reaches the east end and the Altar; the Cathedral will be illuminated. More information [here](#)

The Light Before Christmas 1st – 8th December This year, award-winning artistic collaboration Luxmuralis are back with 'Light Before Christmas: The Manger', the second of The Light Before Christmas series. This beautiful, immersive experience will take visitors on an incredible journey through the Nativity story celebrating the true magic of Christmas. Sessions start from 4:30 pm and last for around 40 minutes. This year there will also be two sensory shows, where sound will be reduced, and each show lasts just 15 minutes. Book tickets [here](#)



Save the date! For fans of The Choir With No Name, CWNN's Big Christmas Gig will be taking place on the evening of **Friday 8th December** in Central Liverpool. It's always a lovely, uplifting occasion and tickets will be on sale very soon. Watch this space for further details about the time, venue and how to get tickets! Thanks, Diana

Notices



Foodbank Reverse Advent Calendars are at the back of church. Reverse advent calendars allow you to donate or give

Reverse
**ADVENT
CALENDAR**

something each day – thus giving instead of getting, and this is so needed this year to help people and families, so let's do our bit! **Please return all food boxes to church no later than 3rd December. Thankyou!**

News from Liz Molyneux via Lyn Newsham

I am now the link for Liz in Malawi, so we have been in touch via email. Just to keep her in our prayers.

Liz has just returned from Uganda where she visited 3 smallish district hospitals. again, it is children who need urgent giving treatment especially for sickle cell anaemia...there is a big project about to start to try and treat them with a single simple oral medicine. Then on to Malawi ...tired and stressed medical stafffuel is unpredictable with long queues just adds to their worries. There is so much more so if anyone needs to be updated even further, I am happy to chat. Family time also as Ben and family visited whilst she was out there. Liz is settling in, but change takes time, but Gods love for her is consistent. **Lyn Newsham**

Memory Books at St Luke's School

We have two Memory Books at St Luke's School for the late Mrs Lowe and Mrs Coates. We invite anyone who would like to write a message in either to come down to the school and the books can be found in our foyer.

Prayer

Prayer news –

Glenys Linford moved to a care home in Northampton last Tuesday.

Karen Boyd (niece of John & Vivien Lewis) would like to thank all who have prayed for her over the last year. Karen a very fit & healthy former nurse was unexpectedly diagnosed with ovarian cancer when she was 59 (Karen turned 60 in July) Initially the outlook was very concerning, but following surgery and intensive chemotherapy she has been declared in remission. She has been prescribed a new very expensive drug to delay the return of the disease. Please continue to pray that she will avoid any negative side-effects and will continue to recover. She is feeling fit & well. She will be forever grateful for all the positive thoughts & prayers both from folks in NI and here at St Luke's.

Please pray for... the family and friends of Chris Coates who has recently died.

Please pray for ... Julia, Margaret Austin (aunt of Mark Waters), Jean Besson, Frances Hargreaves, Shirley Sutcliffe's dad, Judith Page, Agnes Terry, Amanda, Pauline & Bob Lea, Peter Dobson, Lyndsey Moore, Glenys Linford, Alejandro and Doris Mesco, Dave Rogers, Peter Wilson (Jan's husband), Lisa (friend of Bev Seel), Peter Gilroy, Karen Boyd, Kenneth Harrison (Chris Parson's Brother in Law), Vicky Sutton, Mike, Ann Causer, June (Angelina's mum), Jackie (friend of Margaret Quayle), Dave Markham, Daniel Watson McCabe, Viv Pierce, Stan Roberts, Marg Houghton.

Please pray for ... the people of Ukraine as the war continues.


Prayer for Israel and Gaza from Tearfund "Dear God, We cry out to you on behalf of the people seriously affected by the conflict in Gaza and Israel. Our hearts break at the devastation and suffering that we see, and we know it breaks yours, too. We ask that you stretch out your mighty hand to bring an end to this war. We cry out for people who have been injured or traumatised, who have lost loved ones or their homes. Please provide everything they need and be their comfort, their hope, their healer, and their safe refuge. We pray for your peace to reign. We look to you as our Saviour and the hope of the world." Amen.

For more prayers from Tearfund for Israel and Gaza please visit [here](#)

Contact details:

Vicar: Rev. Amanda Bruce

 revamandabruce@gmail.com


 0151 932 9253

Newsletter email: news@stlukecrosby.org.uk

Charity No: 1128698

Parish Administrator: Gaynor Robertson

 office@stlukecrosby.org.uk

 0151 931 3119

Website www.stlukecrosby.org.uk