

# **The Parish of Cannock and Huntington**

*Building Community with Christ at the Centre*

## **Parish News**

Sunday 14th December 2025

Third Sunday of Advent

### **Contact Information**

Parish Office 01543 229233

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<http://www.stlukescannock.org.uk>

### **Office hours**

**Monday—Wednesday 9.30am—3pm**

**Thursday—Friday 9.30am—12.30pm**

**Office will be closed from 23rd Dec - Monday 5th January**

**E mails will be checked periodically over this period**

The Church takes the safety of everyone within the church very seriously and expects that everyone will work within the church safeguarding policy. In particular, the Church expects anyone who becomes aware of a safeguarding risk or of actual abuse, to report it immediately to our Safeguarding Coordinator,

Teresa Atherton

## Collect

O Lord Jesus Christ,  
who at your first coming sent your messenger  
to prepare your way before you:  
grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries  
may likewise so prepare and make ready your way  
by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just,  
that at your second coming to judge the world  
we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;  
for you are alive and reign with the Father  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## Post Communion

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;  
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit  
that when your Christ comes again  
we may shine as lights before his face;  
who is alive and reigns now and for ever.

## **St Thomas' Carol Service**

Sunday 21st December 11.00am

Everyone Welcome



## *Reading 1 - Isaiah 35.1-10*

The desert and the parched land will be glad;  
the wilderness will rejoice and blossom.

Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom;  
it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy.

The glory of Lebanon will be given to it,  
the splendour of Carmel and Sharon;  
they will see the glory of the LORD,  
the splendour of our God.

Strengthen the feeble hands,  
steady the knees that give way;  
say to those with fearful hearts,

**“Be strong, do not fear;**

your God will come,  
he will come with vengeance;  
with divine retribution

**he will come to save you.”**

Then will the eyes of the blind be opened  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped.

Then will the lame leap like a deer,  
and the mute tongue shout for joy.

Water will gush forth in the wilderness  
and streams in the desert.

The burning sand will become a pool,  
the thirsty ground bubbling springs.

In the haunts where jackals once lay,  
grass and reeds and papyrus will grow.

And a highway will be there;  
it will be called the Way of Holiness.

The unclean will not journey on it;  
it will be for those who walk in that Way;  
wicked fools will not go about on it.

No lion will be there,  
nor will any ferocious beast get up on it;  
they will not be found there.  
But only the redeemed will walk there,  
and the ransomed of the LORD will return.  
They will enter Zion with singing;  
everlasting joy will crown their heads.  
Gladness and joy will overtake them,  
and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

### *Reading 2— Matthew 11.2-11*

When John heard in prison what Christ was doing, he sent his disciples to ask him, **“Are you the one who was to come, or should we expect someone else?”**

**Jesus replied, “Go back and report to John what you hear and see: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor. Blessed is the man who does not fall away on account of me.”**

**As John’s disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: “What did you go out into the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind? If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings’ palaces. Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written:**

**“ ‘I will send my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way before you.’**

I tell you the truth: Among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

THANK YOU !

On Monday St Luke's Friendship Group and guests enjoyed a Carol Service followed by afternoon tea.

We would like to thank Di for leading the service, Dougie for playing the organ and Teresa for opening the Church and welcoming us all.

Also many thanks to everyone who helped set up for the tea, sell raffle tickets, call the raffle and tackle the clearing away and washing up. You are all very much appreciated.

Margaret & Linda

Chase Choral Society Concert

**which is being held at St Thomas' on**

Friday 19th December 6.30pm for 7.00pm.

Entrance £1 payable at the door, with refreshments and raffle.



## PRAYER DURING A VACANCY

Almighty God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the church is governed and sanctified, hear our prayer for our parishes and the congregations of St. Luke, St. Thomas and St Saviour. Give us discernment to recognise the gifts and ministries you have given to us together with the grace to exercise them in harmony with one another and for the good of all. May we have patience in awaiting the appointment and arrival of a new leader for our parish, and give support to those responsible for choosing that person. Finally, may we trust you, the God of faithfulness and generosity, to guide us through this time of transition and change, so that we are ready to enter a new chapter in the life of our parish for the glory of your Name and the furtherance of your kingdom. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**An invitation to join us for prayer as we pray together for  
God's blessing and empowerment for ministry and  
witness in our communities.**

**Next Morning Prayer will be **Tuesday 16th December**  
at 9.30am. Please come along and join us**

**Every Tuesday Morning Prayer at 9.30am in the Centre unless  
otherwise announced. Next Prayer Group at  
85 Dartmouth Avenue will be on**

**TBC**

**Everyone Welcome.**



## **This weeks diary**

Tue 16th	10.00am	Sherbrook School	St Luke's
	7.00pm	Council Service	St Luke's
Wed 17th	10.00am	Holy Communion	St Luke's
	11.30am	Cannock Chase High	St Luke's
	7.30pm	Choir Practice	St Luke's
	7.30pm	Bell Ringers	St Luke's
Thur 18th	10.00am	St Luke's School	St Luke's
Fri 19th	10.00am	St Luke's School	St Luke's
Sun 21st	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Luke's
	6.00pm	Carols by Candlelight	St Luke's
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Thomas'
	11.00am	Christingle	St Saviours

**Everyone Welcome**

**Thank  
You**

Anne and Tina would like to thank every one who helped set up and take down the Christmas Tree Festival in the Church.

Especially the Ladies who are not members of this Church.

We were visited by 217 people on Thursday, 241 on Friday, and 1021 on Saturday !

A heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers for giving up their time.

Anne and Tina would like to wish all members of the Church a Happy and Healthy Christmas and New Year!!

## **Future Services**

### **St. Luke's**

**Wednesday 24th December**

**10.00 am Holy Communion**

**4.30pm Crib Service**

**11.30pm First Communion of Christmas**

**Christmas Day 9.30am Family Communion**

### **St Thomas'**

**Wednesday 24th December**

**11.00pm First Communion of Christmas**

### **St Saviours**

**Wednesday 24th December**

**11.00am Holy Communion**

***We look forward to welcoming you***

*Please be generous and help those who have  
less than yourself*

**WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF: SOUP, BEANS AND PASTA.**

**WEEKLY REQUIRED FOOD ITEMS: TINNED MEAT, RICE  
PUDING, TINNED FRUIT, JAM, SQUASH AND UHT MILK.**

**\*\*NB: THE FOOD BANK ARE DESPERATE FOR CARRIER  
BAGS\*\***

