

The parish of St André de la Pommeraye

www.standrewschurchguernsey.org



Newsletter for the feast of St Luke the Evangelist, 18 October 2020

The Rector writes ...



We interrupt the sequence of the Sundays after Trinity today, because this Sunday coincides with the feast of St Luke the Evangelist.

I like this icon of St Luke. St Luke is, of course the author of both the gospel which bears his name and the Acts of the Apostles. Luke begins his gospel with an explanation: 'I decided, after investigating everything carefully from the very first, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed.' Theophilus is addressed also in the opening words of the Acts of the Apostles.

Icons are a traditional form of Christian art. Originally a feature of Orthodox spirituality, sometimes covering every surface in an Orthodox church, icons have become much

more widely known and valued in the Western Church. Although at one level, icons are pictures, they have a much deeper significance for many Christians, in that they draw the observer more deeply into the spiritual message that is depicted. It is said that icons are 'written' rather than painted. The Orthodox consider making icons more a form of prayer than art, and they believe the iconographer's hand is guided by God.

Hence the charm of this icon. Luke, the writer of two of the books of the New Testament, is depicted in the icon 'writing' an icon of the Blessed Virgin Mary with the child Jesus. This icon, like the gospel that bears his name, is designed to draw us closer to Jesus, to know him and to understand his significance as the Son of God.

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There was some confusion last Sunday about the identity of one of the items on sale from the harvest display of the previous week. Was it a fruit, or a vegetable, or (as a former Guernsey deputy suggested) a baby hedgehog? So I posted a picture on Twitter. Less than five minutes later, I had responses from the other side of the world, including the Bishop of Grafton in New South Wales, telling me that it is a choko. It's proper name is 'chayote'; it is a type of gourd. So now we know! Joyce Tonkinson is wondering whether any more are available. I understand that they have been on sale at Forest Stores – but are they grown locally?



Notices

- Thank you for donations of £43 for **Guernsey Welfare**, from the sale of the harvest produce - £56, with the addition of the sale of surplus apples.
- The Polygon Group, Martin Belcher's company, has produced some **pin badges**, with the Guernsey flag and the rainbow, to raise money for good causes in Guernsey, including the Social Investment Fund's Covid-19 Community Appeal. The badges, costing £3 each, are on sale in the church. We have raised £79 from sales so far.
- **Fairtrade** goods can be ordered from Monomundi in Guernsey. Please email any orders to philsoulsby@gmail.com or stevemauger@cwgsy.net



This week at St Andrew's church

St Andrew's church is open daily, without restriction, from around 10 am until the late afternoon or early evening.

Thursday 7 pm, Choir practice (augmented choir)

Dates for the diary

Please let me know about events to be included under this heading.

Holy Communion, and laying on of hands and prayers for healing at the **Monnaie Chapel** on Wednesday at 10.30 am. The Monnaie Chapel is a remarkable place – accessed off the Rue du Monnaie (halfway up the road, on the left, when approaching from Les Poidevins).

The next **Parish Prayers** will be on Friday 30 October at 9.30 am.

Christmas crackers, Friday, 30 October, 2:30pm at the Rectory. Sue McGregor is going to teach some of us how to make Christmas crackers. Please add your name to the list at the back of the church. Please bring along bits of ribbon and collect little gifts to go inside your crackers. Everything else will be provided.

Church Coffee Morning, Saturday 14 November, 10:00 am – 12 noon. Please put this date in your diary. We will also be setting up at 3:00 pm, Friday 13 November. You could get ahead by making some jam, marmalade or chutney. We also need bottles: wine, cordial, shampoo, etc. Vanessa is collecting books, CDs and DVDs.

Prayers for the week

Our **parish 'prayer for the month'** for October:

"I'll forgive but I'll *never* forget." How often have we heard those words uttered? Here's a thought to ponder: if God can forgive us our offences but we cannot forgive others, does that mean we have higher morals than God?

Heavenly Father,
when others fail us, remind us that we often fail you.
Help us to forgive in our hearts
so that we may forget all hurts
and seek peace and reconciliation,
through Christ who is our peace. Amen.

Please pray

- for friends and family from whom we are separated;
- for Deputy Peter Ferbrache, elected as President of the Policy & Resources Committee, for those elected to serve with him on that Committee and for the elections to other committees of the States of Guernsey in the coming week;

- for those who live in places in the world where there is war and violence;
- for those living under the increasing restrictions imposed to prevent the spread of Covid-19 infection in the UK and elsewhere.



We pray in the Guernsey churches cycle of prayer for St Mary & St Joseph Roman Catholic Church (and for Fr Chris Rutledge, the parish priest).

And for the parishes of Castel and Cobo – and for the Revd Bev Hervé, ordained in Salisbury at the end of September, who presided at the Holy Communion for the first time last Thursday (*pictured, with Scott Lamb the Rector*).

We pray for all who live in the parish of St Andrew and for our church community.

And, by name, for Stella Machon, Audrey Gollop, Jean Walpole, Chris & Cindy Kennedy, Georgina, Chris Lesbirel, Ann Nicholson, Fletch O'Hara, Elisa Wales, Caley Allen and Eileen Jones.

We pray for those who have died, including Gretl Davies (Chris Claxton's sister) and Tony Gilbert.

Finally ...

The Bible readings for today are printed on the next page. Please print them, or bring a mobile device, if you wish to follow the readings during the Sunday services.

With best wishes and my prayers,

Tim

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Collect and readings for today ...

The Collect

Almighty God,
you called Luke the physician,
whose praise is in the gospel,
to be an evangelist and physician of the soul:
by the grace of the Spirit
and through the wholesome medicine of the gospel,
give your Church the same love and power to heal;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.



The Liturgy of the Word

New Testament reading: Acts of the Apostles 16 vv 6-12a

They went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. When they had come opposite Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them; so, passing by Mysia, they went down to Troas. During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.



We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days.

Gospel: Luke 10 vv 1-9

After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest. Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, "Peace to this house!" And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the labourer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, "The kingdom of God has come near to you."

Prayer after Communion

Lord God, the source of truth and love,
keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.



Sunrise over Sark last Sunday morning, on the way back from an interview at Radio Guernsey