
WELCOME TO THE PARISH NEWS FOR ST LUKE'S CHURCH
SUNDAY 22nd March 2026



Dear Friends,

In a world that can sometimes feel overwhelmed by difficult headlines and troubling events, it is important for us, as a parish community, to pause and remember that there is also an abundance of joy, kindness, and hope all around us. Moments of compassion, quiet acts of generosity, shared laughter, and the beauty of everyday life often go unnoticed, yet they are just as real and powerful as the challenges we face. Let us make a conscious effort to seek out and celebrate these signs of light, holding onto the truth that even in uncertain times, goodness is alive and present in our world.

Love and prayers,

Sara

Worship

Sunday 22nd March 2026

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Lent Morning Service

*From Wilderness to Resurrection Life
Jesus weeps before he resurrects
Romans 8: 6-11
John 11: 1-45*

9.30am Informal Service

Leader Lizzy Smith, Speaker Sue Cornwell

11am Lent Morning Worship

Leader Ian Burnham, Speaker Sue Cornwell

10.30am Coffee in the Church - thank you to our coffee team this week Sheila, Sara and Sally

Thursday morning online prayers

A reflection on the bible passage for the coming Sunday and prayers using the church monthly prayer guide for the Parish.

[CLICK HERE to join online prayers](#)

CLICK HERE to see all of March 2026 Worship

CLICK HERE to see all of April 2026 Worship

Paper copies for all services are available at the back of church.

Please note that all Friday morning services at 10am are postponed until further notice.



March 2026 Worship at St Luke's Sway

- Sunday 1st March**
9.30am Informal Service
11am Lent Holy Communion
- Friday 6th March**
10am Friday Morning Worship
- Sunday 8th March**
8am Holy Communion
9.30am Informal Service
11am Lent Morning Service
- Monday 9th March**
3.30pm Messy Church
- Sunday 15th March**
9.30am Informal Service
11am Lent Holy Communion
4pm Evensong
- Friday 20th March**
10am Friday Morning Worship
- Sunday 22nd March**
9.30am Informal Service
11am Lent Morning Service
- Sunday 29th March**
9.30am Informal Service
11am Palm Sunday Service

st luke's church, sway



APRIL WORSHIP AT ST LUKE'S CHURCH

- THURSDAY 2ND APRIL**
7PM MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE
- FRIDAY 3RD APRIL**
10AM GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
- SUNDAY 5TH APRIL - EASTER SUNDAY**
8AM HOLY COMMUNION
10AM EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE
- SUNDAY 12TH APRIL**
8AM HOLY COMMUNION
9.30AM INFORMAL SERVICE
11AM MORNING SERVICE
- MONDAY 13TH APRIL**
3.30PM MESSY CHURCH
- FRIDAY 17TH APRIL**
10AM FRIDAY MORNING SERVICE
- SUNDAY 19TH APRIL**
9.30AM INFORMAL SERVICE
11AM FAMILY COMMUNION
4PM EVENSONG
- SUNDAY 26TH APRIL**
9.30AM INFORMAL SERVICE
11AM MORNING SERVICE

st luke's church, sway

Prayers

The Fifth Sunday of Lent

*Gracious Father,
you gave up your Son
out of love for the world:
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,
that we may know eternal peace
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,
Jesus Christ our Lord.*

This week from our monthly prayer diary (copies available in church)

For Christians in the workplace: We pray for Christians in the workplace, in business, in the home or in the community. For the love of Jesus to speak through them. For those in the positions of leadership to make Godly decisions influencing others.

Please pray for;

*Kevin, he would very much like your prayers as he is unwell at the moment
Family of Valerie Ann May
Family of Noreen Pettit
Gillian Colsell
Lydia and family
Anne Johnson*

Church News

Please note that all Friday morning services at 10am are postponed until further notice. Kevin is unwell at the moment, please keep him in your prayers.

Easter Services at St Luke's 2026



St Luke's Easter Cards 2026

Our Easter cards are now ready to be delivered and are waiting to be collected from the back of church. As before, cards are in bundles labelled with their road names and the person who has kindly volunteered to deliver them. Some bundles are labelled VACANT, these bundles do not have a volunteer assigned to them, so if you are able to take any of these bundles and deliver them then please do, your help is greatly appreciated. Ideally we would like all cards delivered by Friday 27th March. Thank you to all of you that help deliver the Easter cards.

SWAG LUNCH CLUB CHANGE OF DATE

Please note that the SWAG Lunch Club which was scheduled for Wednesday 1st April at 12pm has now been moved to Thursday 2nd April at 12pm - this is due to a power cut on the 1st April affecting the church and church rooms. We hope that you can still all make it. We look forward to seeing you all at the next Lunch Club on Wednesday 18th March at 12pm.

Creative Space - Friday 27th March 2pm



This month, as we meet just before the start of Holy Week, we could perhaps design and make Easter cards for family and friends. Some plain cards with envelopes, paper to fold into cards, paint, crayons, pastels, will be available – and possibly templates, and magazine images for collage. You may wish to bring your own card, as well as your own drawing/ colouring/ other materials.

As always, there is no obligation to produce something creatively – you are very welcome to join us for fellowship and refreshments and we look forward to seeing you.

[CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP FOR CREATIVE SPACE](#)

Ukraine Donations - new drop off at Church Office

**You can drop off
donations
for Ukraine at
the church
office**



Monday to Friday
between 10:00
AM – 12:00 PM
term time only

Thank you for your
support and generosity.

[CLICK HERE to read the New Forest for Ukraine March Newsletter.](#)
[This also gives suggest items to donate.](#)

Church Land/Youth Centre

Joint Working Group update

The joint working group met on 12th March for another productive session where they explored the options on governance models that have successfully supported community buildings. The group built a consensus around a new CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) similar to the model successfully used by Sway Village Hall and the WI.

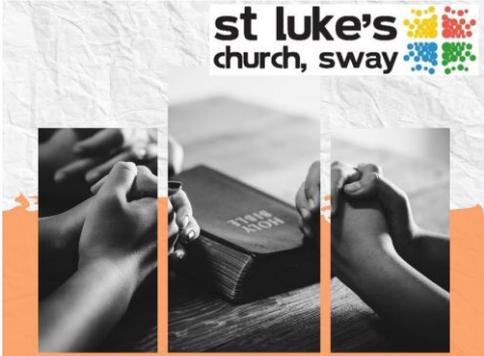
Discussion also focused on the purpose and objectives of the CIO, which would be to secure the building, and continue and enhance community use into the future. Those present agreed an objective to negotiate a new lease and develop a renewed vision for the Youth Centre before the end of 2026 to avoid unnecessary immediate expense due to building legislation changes in 2027.

The next meetings of the working group will be at 2pm on Wednesday 25th March and 2pm on Wednesday 15th April.

Pastoral Support

If you require pastoral support, in the first instance please contact Sandra Clarke or Janet Kirk via Sara in the church office, who will be happy to assist you. 01590 682358.

Urgent Prayer Requests



st luke's
church, sway

URGENT PRAYER CIRCLE

If you are in need of urgent prayer please contact Revd. Jane on **07885505532** or the church office on **01590 682358** or email Jennie on **mcnaughthome@protonmail.com**

We will arrange for our urgent prayer circle to pray for those in need.

If you, or someone you know is in need of urgent prayer then please contact Jane on 07885505532 or the church office on 01590 682358, or if you are unable to make contact with Jane or the office then please email Jennie McNaught on mcnaughthome@protonmail.com.

Church Rooms Available for Hire



Our church rooms are available to hire for parties, meetings, events and community gatherings of all kinds. The spaces are welcoming, well-maintained, and ideal for both one-off events and regular bookings. For rates, availability, and further details, please enquire at the Church Office on 01590 682358 or

email office@swaychurch.com

Volunteers

Needed!



Our church life thrives thanks to the generosity of those who give their time and gifts, and we would love to welcome more volunteers. If you would like to help with reading or leading prayers during services, serving on the Sunday coffee team, or assisting at the sound desk on Sundays, please do come forward. No experience is necessary just a willingness to be involved and support will be given. If you are interested or would like to find out more, please contact the Church Office on 01590 682358 or email office@swaychurch.com

Children and Families

An Easter-themed invitation card for St Luke's Church, Sway. The card features a white bunny rabbit peeking over a red archway. The background is pink with white clouds, crosses, and colorful Easter eggs. The text is as follows:

st luke's church, sway
St Luke's Toddler Group
You're invited to our
Easter Praise Party

Join Bump, Baby & Toddler Group for a special Easter celebration

- Singing & praise
- Easter story
- Simple crafts
- Easter egg hunt

Monday 23rd March
9:30am – 11:00am
St Luke's Church Rooms

• Light refreshments only •

We'd love to see you there!

Easter events for the family....

Easter Egg Hunt!

Oasis is holding our first ever Easter Egg Hunt! Come in with your primary school aged children during the Easter school holidays, hunt for the eggs, learn about the true Easter story and win a prize!

Oasis Christian Centre
25 Church Street
Romsey
Hampshire, SO51 8BT
Telephone 01794 512194
Email: shop@oasisromsey.co.uk
www.oasisromsey.co.uk

The Real Easter Egg!

Out of the 80 million Easter eggs sold in this part of the world every year, The Real Easter Egg is the only one which has an Easter story book in the box, is made of Fairtrade chocolate and supports charitable projects. All our eggs are Palm Oil free and the Original and Dark eggs are plastic free.

Available now at Oasis. Please continue to support your local Christian Bookshop.

Bubble Church COMING SOON!



The PCC are delighted to support STARTING BUBBLE CHURCH and have given the go ahead for a trial period of 18 months. After appropriate training BUBBLE CHURCH is likely to start after Easter. Watch this space for more information!

The next Messy Church is on Monday 13th April at 3.30pm!

Mission News

Pastor Vinney has sent over his latest news - please click on the link below to read it.

[CLICK HERE to read Pastor Vianney's Newsletter March 2026](#)



Food for Thought Lunch: Life in Rwanda – Saturday 25 April, 12 noon

We're delighted to welcome David Moynagh as our speaker for this Food for Thought Lunch in the Church Rooms at 12 noon on Saturday 25th April.

David grew up in Rwanda as the son of a missionary, and he brings with him a lifetime of stories, insight, and lived experience of a country that continues to inspire and challenge in equal measure. His reflections on everyday life, faith, and community in Rwanda promise to be both eye-opening and deeply encouraging.

As part of our ongoing friendship with our link parish in Kibirizi, there will be a collection in support of their church building project—a practical way for us to stand alongside them as they strengthen their ministry and create space for their growing congregation.

A simple lunch will be provided, and all are warmly invited to come, listen, learn, and enjoy good company.

Tickets are available from the church office, on Church Suite or click on the link below.

[SIGN UP HERE for Mission Lunch 25th April 12pm](#)

Dates for the Diary

Next Week:

Please note the church office will be closed on Monday 30th March for the Easter Holidays, and reopens on Monday 13th April.

Monday 23rd March	9.30am Baby Bump and Toddler Easter Party 10.30am Funeral of Valerie Ann May
Tuesday 24th March	9am St Luke's Sch Easter Service Rehearsal 10.30am SWAG Cafe 7pm PCC Meeting
Wednesday 25th March	9am Parish Morning Prayers 9.30am St Luke's School Easter Service KS1 2pm St Luke's School Easter Service KS2
Thursday 26th March	9am Online Prayers 9.30am Easter Experience St Luke's School 1.30pm SWAG Thursday Afternoon Club 7pm Band Practise
Friday 27th March	9.30am Baby Bump and Toddler 2pm Creative Space

Future Dates:

Sunday 29th March Palm Sunday	9.30m Informal Service 11am Palm Sunday Service
Monday 30th March	Office Closed - School Easter Holidays begins
Tuesday 31st March	10.30am SWAG Cafe
Wednesday 1st April	9am Parish Morning Prayers
Thursday 2nd April Maundy Thursday	9am Online Prayers 12pm SWAG Lunch Club - rescheduled date 7pm Maundy Thursday Service

Friday 3rd April Good Friday	10am Good Friday Service
Saturday 4th April	
Sunday 5th April Easter Sunday	8am Holy Communion 10am Easter Day Service
Monday 6th April	
Tuesday 7th April	10.30am SWAG Cafe
Wednesday 8th April	9am Parish Morning Prayers 2.30pm Christian Meditation
Thursday 9th April	9am Online Prayers 1.30pm SWAG Thursday Afternoon Club 7pm Band Practise
Friday 10th April	2pm Thanksgiving Service for Noreen Pettit
Saturday 11th April	
Sunday 12th April	8am Holy Communion 9.30am Informal Service 11am Morning Service

Please check the website or churchsuite for all other events and dates.

Contact Information

VICAR: REVD JANE MITCHELL (Rest day: Friday) vicar@swaychurch.com | 07885 505532

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR: SARA WILLIS office@swaychurch.com | 01590 682358

Family and Community Support Worker: Lizzy Smith - Wednesday mornings
01590 682358

