

The Parish of Cannock and Huntington

Building Community with Christ at the Centre

Parish News

Sunday 21st December 2025

- 4th Jan 2026

Contact Information

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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 21st December

God our redeemer,
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of your Son:
grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour,
so we may be ready to greet him
when he comes again as our judge;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

28th December

Almighty God,
who wonderfully created us in your own image
and yet more wonderfully restored us
through your Son Jesus Christ:
grant that, as he came to share in our humanity,
so we may share the life of his divinity;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

4th January 2026

O God,
who by the leading of a star
manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth:
mercifully grant that we,
who know you now by faith,
may at last behold your glory face to face;
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.

Post Communion 21st December

Heavenly Father,
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of the promised saviour:
fill us your servants with your grace,
that in all things we may embrace your holy will
and with her rejoice in your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

28th December

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home:
help your Church to live as one family,
united in love and obedience,
and bring us all at last to our home in heaven;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

4th January 2026

Lord God,
the bright splendour whom the nations seek:
may we who with the wise men have been drawn by your light
discern the glory of your presence in your Son,
the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Readings - 21st December

⁷I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD,
the praiseworthy acts of the LORD,
because of all that the LORD has done for us,
and the great favour to the house of Israel
that he has shown them according to his mercy,
according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

⁸**For he said, 'Surely they are my people,
children who will not deal falsely';**

and he became their saviour
in all their distress.
It was no messenger or angel
but his presence that saved them;
in his love and in his pity he redeemed them;
he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

Matthew 2.13-18

When the Magi had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. **“Get up,” he said, “take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.” So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called my son.” When Herod realised that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: “A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more.”**

Isaiah 63.7-9

I will tell of the kindnesses of the LORD, the deeds for which he is to be praised, according to all the LORD has done for us –yes, the many good things he has done for the house of Israel, according to his compassion and many kindnesses. **He said, “Surely they are my people, sons who will not be false to me”; and so he became their Saviour. In all their distress he too was distressed, and the angel of his presence saved them. In his love and mercy he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.**

Isaiah 60.1-6 “Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look about you: All assemble and come to you; your sons come from afar, and your daughters are carried on the arm. Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy; the wealth on the seas will be brought to you, to you the riches of the nations will come. Herds of camels will cover your land, young camels of Midian and Ephah. And all from Sheba will come, bearing gold and incense and proclaiming the praise of the LORD.”

Matthew 2.1-12 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him.” When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born. “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written: “But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel.” Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.” After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

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 13th January
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.



Diary

Tue 23rd	12.30pm	Funeral	St Luke's
Wed 24th	10.00am	Holy Communion	St Luke's
	11.00am	Christmas Communion	St Saviours
	4.30pm	Crib Service	St Luke's
	11.00pm	Christmas Communion	St Thomas'
	11.30pm	Christmas Communion	St Luke's
Christmas Day			
	9.30am	Family Communion	St Luke's
Sun 28th	8.00am	Holy Communion	St Luke's
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St Luke's
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Thomas'
	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Saviours
Wed 31st	10.00am	Cancelled No Service	

Everyone Welcome

St Thomas' Church

We collect used postage stamps to raise money for Kathryn House Hospice, Stafford. The stamps are taken to the charity shop in Hednesford.

Thank you
Sandra Davis



Future Services

St. Luke's

Wednesday 31st

No service

Sunday 4th January 2026

9.30am Holy Communion

St Thomas'

11.00am Together in Worship

St Saviours

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****

