

The Parish of Cannock and Huntington

Building Community with Christ at the Centre

Parish News

Sunday 22nd March 2026

5th Sunday of Lent

Contact Information

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Office hours

Monday—Wednesday 9.30am—3pm

Thursday—Friday 9.30am—12.30pm

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

Most merciful God,
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ
delivered and saved the world:
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross
we may triumph in the power of his victory;
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

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have taught us
that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters
we do also for you:
give us the will to be the servant of others
as you were the servant of all,
and gave up your life and died for us,
but are alive and reign, now and for ever.

First Reading Ezekiel 37.1-14

¹The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³**He said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones live?'** I answered, 'O Lord GOD, you know.' ⁴Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD.'

⁷So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, **‘Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.’** ¹⁰I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. ¹¹Then he said to me, **‘Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, “Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.”** ¹²Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.’

Second Reading John 11.1-45

¹A certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, **‘Lord, he whom you love is ill.’** ⁴But when Jesus heard it, he said, **‘This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God’s glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.’** ⁵Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

⁷Then after this he said to the disciples, **‘Let us go to Judea again.’** ⁸The disciples said to him, **‘Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?’** ⁹Jesus answered, **‘Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰But those who walk at night stumble, because the light**

is not in them.’ ¹¹After saying this, he told them, ‘Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.’ ¹²The disciples said to him, ‘Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.’ ¹³Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴**Then Jesus told them plainly, ‘Lazarus is dead.’** ¹⁵For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.’ ¹⁶Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow-disciples, ‘Let us also go, that we may die with him.’

¹⁷When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹**Martha said to Jesus, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.’** ²²But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.’ ²³Jesus said to her, ‘Your brother will rise again.’ ²⁴Martha said to him, ‘I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.’ ²⁵Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?’ ²⁷She said to him, ‘Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.’

²⁸When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, ‘The Teacher is here and is calling for you.’ ²⁹And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³²When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, ‘Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.’ ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴**He said, ‘Where have you laid him?’**

They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' ³⁷But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?'

³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.' ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.' ⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.'⁴⁵Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

A Walk Down The Aisle Through Time

Thank you to everyone who has already offered to loan photographs. The plan is to scan them and put them on a loop on the screens during the event. To this end, please send in via email any photos you can supply for the event. Anyone unable to send via email can bring them into the office. Please ensure they are labelled with your name so they can be returned to you. As we wish to show the changes in wedding attire over time, any photos are greatly appreciated. Many thanks.

If you would like to donate a lily in memory of a loved one, please place your donation and name of your loved one(s)

in an envelope and pass it to one of the Wardens,

or hand it in to the Parish Office.

The name of your loved one(s) will be displayed on the

noticeboard at Easter. Many thanks, Janice



YOUR CHURCH NEEDS YOU!!

As some of you may know, Janet and I are standing down as Wardens at the APCM in May – Janice after 15 years as Deputy and Warden and Janet after 6 years as Warden. Therefore, there will be two vacancies for the post of Warden.

If you feel called to undertake this important post for St. Luke's Church, please speak to me or Janet. If you feel that you would be prepared to become part of a larger team to share the responsibilities of Warden, we would also love to hear from you. Many thanks, Janice Middleton

Madeline would like to thank everyone for their messages, cards and those that attended Ivan's funeral on the 9th March.

£480 was raised which will be split between Ashmore Cat rescue and PSDA. Thank You all.

Chris Broadhurst has advised the office that sadly, Alan Jones (Warden for a number of years) passed away yesterday after a long illness. The family are arranging the funeral which will be at Cannock Crem, and Chris has asked that we have a memorial service for Alan shortly afterwards at St Luke's, details to follow once booked.



St Thomas' Church - Easter Lilies

There will be a collection tin at the back of Church if you would like to donate towards the flowers for Easter. With thanks, Doreen Shaw.



This weeks diary

Tue 24th	9.30am	Morning Prayer	Centre
	1.30pm	Sherbrook School	St Luke's
Wed 25th	10.00am	Holy Communion	St Luke's
	1.30pm	Place of Welcome	St Thomas'
	7.30pm	Bell Practice	St Luke's
Thur 26th	10.00am	St Luke's School	St Luke's
Fri 27th	10.00am	St Luke's School	St Luke's
Sun 29th	11.00am	Joint Service	St Saviours
	6.30pm	Evensong	St Luke's

Everyone Welcome



St Thomas' coffee Morning
Saturday 11th April 10.00am
(later date due to Easter)
Everyone Welcome!



St Saviours Coffee Morning
Saturday 28th March 10.30am-12.30pm
Everyone Welcome!



Well we cracked open Easter again this year with St Luke's school and Littleton Green school. A big thank you to all our volunteers without whom it would not happen; the table shifters; the palm wavers; the stone rollers; the cross scratchers; the meal partakes; the face makers; the travellers ~ We had a blast !

**Thank
You**

Future Services

St. Luke's

Tuesday 31st

9.30am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 1st April

10.00am Holy Communion

Thursday 2nd April

7.30pm Maundy Thursday Service

Good Friday

2.00pm Hour round the Cross

Easter Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion

9.30am Holy Communion

St Thomas'

11.00am Holy Communion

St Saviours

11.00am Holy Communion

We look forward to welcoming you

