



Langton Green Church

nourishing spirit and soul

www.langtongreenchurch.com

January 2024 Newsletter



Happy New Year

A quote from Nido Qubein

Your present circumstances don't determine where you can go. They merely determine where you start.

On the first of January there are many hopes and dreams put in place by people the world over and I think that the quote above is a very good place to start.

As A Brownie Guide at the age of seven I very proudly made my Brownie Promise, part of which is to keep the Brownie Guide Law. Throughout my life I have tried very hard to keep this at the forefront of my actions.

"A Brownie Guide thinks of others before herself and does a Good Turn everyday" So simple and completely achievable for everyone. It works for every faith, every perspective and every problem that life may bring, it also works for every opportunity too. If we all look out for each other and help others we can't really go wrong.

As a church, a congregation and parish we are standing tall with hopeful expectations of how our church life will pan out during this year. I believe that we have much to look forward to, working with others and building on our faith. We do not know with certainty what our future will look like in a year's time but I do believe that we have huge potential and opportunity to create a fabulous faith filled path to a very positive village church in the future.

I wish you all a Very Happy New Year

Sally-Anne (Church Warden)

Worship Services in church for **January**



8.00 am Contemplative Communion
every Sunday



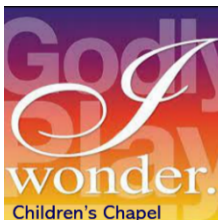
9. 00 am Chocolate Church: We look forward to seeing you on 28th January, 4th and 25th February

Book through Eventbrite

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/d/united-kingdom--kent/all-saints-langton-green-chocolate-church/>



10.30 am Eucharist with
congregational singing:



10.30 Childrens' Chapel:

We look forward to seeing you on 21st January



10.30 Intergenerational Worship:
All welcome everyone to our Christingle service.



9am Community Chocolate Choir.

We meet on 21st January

Everyone is more than welcome to enjoy singing together



Afternoon Tea:

1st Wednesday in the Month

2.30 – 3.30, next tea

3rd January and 7th February

No cost involved but donations welcome

Upkeep of our Church Garden

We have a beautiful churchyard and over many years our flower beds have been maintained by various people and families but circumstances change and we have got to the stage where we really want to review our list of helpers. If you have been on our flower bed maintenance team and would like to continue we would be delighted but we would also like to encourage new helper on board. Please let Sally-Anne Gathern know if you would like to be on our new list. Thank you.





Prayer Patch Update January 2024

Please keep this prayer list close by so we create a loving, supportive community in Langton.

As our new year starts please keep our PCC and our church close to your hearts in prayer, as we forge new links and prepare our way out of our interregnum to our positive new future.

For our church groups Little Saints, Afternoon tea, Chocolate Choir, mindfulness groups, knit and natter, crochet group, children's learning activities, and all that is offered in GraceSpace, that these may be times of friendship and joy in the community.

THRIVE whose events we support, through hosting and promoting their well-being activities; that this developing charity will be granted longevity and grow from strength to strength as it seeks to help all in the village recover a strong sense of wellbeing. We also ask God's blessing for the community garden project.

For increased financial support and stability for our church so that we may in turn nurture and support our wider community.

For those whose family members are struggling with significant mental health issues; please pray for the children, their siblings and parents; for those who play key roles in their lives, like teachers, social workers and their friends.

Please also keep the listed people below in your prayers; you may like to pray for one person each day or a column a week. Many thanks.

Colin Crisp
Clara and Hugh
Fiona
Frank
Grace

Louisa Nelson
Mark
Marion and John
Millicent
Harry & Family

Pam Bulmer
Pamela Pitcher
Pat Edwards
Robert
Andy

Sarah
Wendy
Carolyn
Derek
Geoff



Christingle

Sunday 14th January

10.30am service

We have Christingle family service.

The service last about 45mins normally.

Our collection will be going to support the amazing work of
The Children's Society



The following extract was kindly sent to me from Sally who writes ... I have attached a piece I have written for the village magazine of Doddington, Cambs for your interest.

Our village historian writes something for the Diary every month and the November issue carried the picture of the William Morris window that was installed in 1923. As you will see, a few days later I was visiting relatives and for some unknown reason the connection between Langton Green and Doddington churches was mentioned. I then visited your church and did a follow up piece for the December Diary and I thought you might like to include it in your Newsletter.

Having spoken to Peter Batts, our local church historian, he believes that the window was given to Doddington Church by the late Rev Douglas who was vicar here at that time.

100 Years ago... William Morris Window

I love a coincidence and only days after the November Diary was published, I was visiting family in Langton Green near Tunbridge Wells. I was told that there was a connection between All Saints' Church, Langton Green and St Mary's Church, Doddington, although the relative didn't know what the connection was.

Compared to St Mary's (which dates back to 1200) All Saints' Church is a new church (with the foundation stone dating back to 1862). The stained glass was designed by pre-Raphaelites including William Morris and installed in the Victorian church.



In 1904, All Saints' underwent some alterations and the stained glass was removed (and put in store), the window opening enlarged and a new five-light window (right) by C E Kempe was installed.



The William Morris window remained in storage until the Rev Richard Ridge moved from St Matthew's Church, Stepney, East London to Doddington when his previous parishioners presented it as a gift. It was installed in St Mary's in November 1923.

The parishioners of All Saints' had supposed that the Morris window had been destroyed, as apparently happened elsewhere. It was only in recent years that they learnt that it was enjoying a new home in the safety of St Mary's Church, Doddington.

There is still an unanswered question -- "How did the parishioners of Stepney know of the window? ... It is thought that the window was probably sold sometime between being removed and 1922 when it was purchased by a dealer or put up for auction....."





Children's Chapel

Epiphany & New Term

We look forward to seeing you at
Children's Chapel and Chocolate Church
in January.

We will be looking at the Old Testament
series of Godly Play

Children's Chapel on 21st January and
Chocolate Church on 28th January

Hope to see you soon. Love Sally-Anne

