

“You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbour as yourself: I am the LORD.”
(Leviticus 19:18)

As Christians, we are aware that Jesus quotes the verse above to give us the second greatest commandment (the greatest is to love God). Yet, do we reflect on what it really means to ‘love your neighbour as yourself’?

In recent years many have emphasised that ‘loving yourself’ is an important part of this command. Now, it is true that we should love ourselves. If we believe that God loved us so much that he gave his only Son to die for us, then knowing that we are loved so much by God, helps us to see our own value and worth in a very powerful way.

Yet, I suspect loving ourselves is not so much the thrust of the command, but the assumption. Most people love themselves rather too much. They are too keen to look out for number 1 and don’t really care enough about others, especially if it turns out to be costly to them.

To love others as yourself, however, is to see that Jesus did not just die for you, but gave himself for them too. They are just as valuable in God’s sight as you.

But who is your neighbour, that you should love as yourself? The quote from Leviticus, shows that we should not devalue those who have hurt or upset us – they are still our neighbour and equally as valuable as us. Similarly, the parable of the Good Samaritan shows that even those from different cultures who we might count our enemies are our neighbours too. Like the Good Samaritan, we should be willing to put ourselves out to help anyone we come across in real need, no matter what the cost to ourselves.

Paul Worledge

This Sunday’s Services on livestream:

[Sunday 11th September – Who is my neighbour? \(Luke 10:29-37\)](#)

Click the above link to access the livestream for this week’s service. You can also use the link to watch the service at a later time.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday 10th September

Church open for Ride and Stride from 10am to 6pm.

Sunday 11th September

Family Service (St. Luke’s Church), Luke 10:29-37 - 11:00am-12:00pm

Monday 12th

Daily Prayer (St. Luke’s Church) - 9:30-10:00am

PCC Meeting (St Luke’s Church) - 7:30pm-9:30pm

Tuesday 13th

Daily Prayer (St. George’s Church) - 9:30-10:00am

Wednesday 14th

Thursday 15th

Daily Prayer (St. Luke's Church) - 9:30-10:00am

Cafe4All (St. Luke's Church), Coffee and Chat for all - 10:00-11:30am.

Friday 16th

Play and Praise (St. Luke's Church Hall) – 10:00-11:30am

Gather, Women's Drop-In (St. Luke's Church) - 12:30-2:30am

Saturday 17th

Daily Prayer (St. George's Church) - 9:30-10:00am

Sunday 18th

Family Communion (St. Luke's Church), Luke 12:13-21 - 11:00am-12:00pm

Prayer Requests

Be assured I will do my best to check that people are happy for the requests to be shared before including them. Please pray for...

- The queen's health.
- Liz Truss and her new cabinet as she starts out as Prime Minister.
- Alison's daughter Bethan recovering from an operation and a bad reaction to the anaesthetic.
- Alison's sister, Angela, who has ovarian cancer and has surgery for it next week.
- Mitch Styles struggling with anxiety.
- Collette Judge, Kate Page, Michelle (Terry De Vere's wife) and Emma (friend of Kelly) undergoing treatment for cancer.

Please also continue to pray for: Flo Baldock, Jean Hann, Shirley Crabb, Joy Smithers, Nathan Court, Pauline Emptage, Barb (Gloria's daughter's friend).

Sunday Club at St. Luke's

Sunday Club will be starting slightly later than normal this year on Sunday 18th September, due to lack of availability of leaders. This week's service will be an All Age with the children joining us throughout.

St. Lawrence, Community Service – Volunteer co-ordinator needed

Would anyone be willing to be available on **Thursdays, 4-5pm** during term time to direct volunteers from St. Lawrence College as they help tidy the church or church grounds? A teacher from the college will be with them. Please let Paul know if this is something you could do.

What's happening in the next few months?

We have some key events coming up in the next few months, please put them in your diary. More details to follow:

Growing Faith: Vision for Children and Youth, Monday, 7:30pm, St. Luke's

This is for all those with any interest in the growing faith of children or young people: parents, grandparents, Sunday Club leaders and helpers and so on. With a guest speaker.

Harvest Sunday: 2nd October, 11am

Our focus for Harvest this year will be Compassion, the charity that sponsors children around the world. There will be a guest speaker from Compassion.

Confirmation Service: Sunday 6th November, 11am, St. Luke's

For those who are new to faith and are ready to publicly say they are a follower of Jesus, in baptism and / or confirmation. Please see Paul asap, if you are interested in being baptised and / or confirmed.

Job Advert: Regeneration Officer, St. George's

Leading up to its 200th anniversary, St. George's is developing a five-year plan to redevelop its buildings to be a better resource for the local community. To help us achieve this, we are looking to appoint a Regeneration Officer, to explore the possibilities, help develop the vision and plan and apply for the funding. This is a part-time post £20,000 pa for 20 hours per week (FTE £36,000 pa). If you are interested or know of someone who might be interested then please see the [St. George's website](#).

The closing date for applications is 23rd September, with interviews on 6th October.

Book to see the vicar:

If you would like to arrange to see Paul the vicar about anything, then please use this following link to book an appointment: <https://calendly.com/worledge/meet-with-paul>

Links to Share:

Article: Who is my neighbour? Mental Health

Check out this article that explores how we as Christian should best relate to and support those who are struggling with mental health: [Word on the Streets : Mental health - see the person, not the problem](#)

Appeal: Who is my neighbour? Ukrainian Refugees

It's not too late to offer support to those fleeing the horror of the war in Ukraine. If you think you might be able to offer somewhere for refugees to stay, check out the [Sanctuary Foundation website](#).

Finally, let's pray that we will increasingly be those who value our neighbours – whoever they may be!

Yours in Christ,

Paul Worledge
(Vicar, St. Luke's Ramsgate)