



Join in on...

15-22 October 2017



How to run Thank Your Vicar Week: for parishes

Please
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1. Sunday service celebration: Sunday 15 or 22 October

Celebrate Thank Your Vicar Week in your church with a service that says thank you for your clergy's work for the church and community.

You could include:

- special prayers of thanks
- an interview with your vicar as part of the service, to find out more about everything he or she does for the community
- thank you from... one-sentence thanks from a few church members for one way in which they are grateful for your vicar's work
- in a family service, play our short film on the role of a vicar, designed to appeal to primary school age and upwards – find it at www.stlukeshealthcare.org.uk/events

Help St Luke's
look after vicars

As part of Thank Your Vicar Week, we're asking churches **to run a simple fundraiser**, which will help us to support the health and wellbeing of Anglican clergy and their families.



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2. Donate to Thank Your Vicar Week

Giving is a tangible expression of your thanks and support for your vicar.

How can you give?

- Make a parish offering to Thank Your Vicar Week's organisers St Luke's Healthcare for the Clergy, on St Luke's Day, Wednesday 18 October. Your gift will help us to continue to care for the health and wellbeing of Anglican clergy and their families, including your clergy when they need support.
- Hold a simple fundraising event, with proceeds going to St Luke's. You could:
 - Hold a bake sale
 - Run a coffee morning or tea party for your vicar or curate, with donations to Thank Your Vicar Week
- Organise a raffle
- Invite people to 'give it up' for a week/month – alcohol, chocolate, crisps and snacks – and donate what they would have spent
- Hold an auction of promises

Where do you send the money you've raised?

Please send money to Thank Your Vicar Week by:

- Visiting our website www.stlukeshealthcare.org.uk and using the Donate button, or
- Writing a cheque to St Luke's Healthcare for the Clergy and posting it to: **St Luke's Healthcare for the Clergy, Church House, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3AZ**

Please make sure to include the name and location of your church.

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3. Go the extra mile for your vicar

Why not give your vicar and their family some small treats to show that they are appreciated?

Your parish could:

- Make a Thank Your Vicar Week cake
- Offer a morning of hands-on help – with the vicarage garden, wash the car, walk the dog, babysit
- Cook a meal and deliver it to your vicar's doorstep





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Thank Your Vicar Week in action: Annesley Parish Church

Church: All Saints, Annesley, Nottinghamshire
Organiser: Rosemary Shatliffe, churchwarden

Rosemary, where did you hear about Thank Your Vicar Week?

In a newsletter from Southwell diocese.

Why did you want to celebrate Thank Your Vicar Week?

Revd Malcolm Lambert had been with us nearly two years in 2016 and had done so much, both spiritual and physical. He goes into the three schools in the parish at least once a month and I am told by the teachers that they really look forward to seeing him. He runs all sorts of groups – including a ukulele group! And he arranged a monthly visit to a nursing home with the choir from church, where we run a short service. I wanted to do something to show him that we appreciate his work.

What did you do next?

I spoke to people at the three churches in our parish, the three local schools and the groups we run through church. We decided to put on a surprise concert/service for people to show their appreciation for all Malcolm does.

How did it go?

The church was packed. Two of the three schools came to sing and many people contributed a short message to tell Malcolm how they appreciate what he does. The choir sang, the ukulele group played and much more! It went brilliantly.



What was Revd Malcolm's response?

I think he was overwhelmed - he talked about it a lot, I think Ruth his wife appreciated us doing this as well. You can see what he says in a short film at www.stlukeshealthcare.org.uk/events

Was it worth the effort?

Yes, I think it's important to let people know that what they do is appreciated. I don't think people realise all clergy do, visiting sick, consoling the bereaved, the energy they put into running the church and meetings etc.

Are you planning to celebrate Thank Your Vicar Week 2017?

Yes, and not only that - the three schools enjoyed 2016 so much and the teachers thought it was such a good idea to get the schools together that we got together in June for another concert at the church. We hope to get the schools together perhaps two or three times a year and this came about because of Thank Your Vicar Week.

For more information

www.stlukeshealthcare.org.uk/events Email: events@stlukeshealthcare.org.uk Phone: 020 7898 1808