

Thank  
your  
vicar  
week

Join in on...

15-22 October 2017



## Everything your school needs to run Thank Your Vicar Week

Thank Your Vicar Week wants to help your school to say a big thank you to clergy for everything they do for your community.

Being a member of the clergy involves demanding pastoral care, long hours and big expectations. Just a simple thank you can play a real part in boosting clergy wellbeing, something we care about at St. Luke's.

Please  
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Help St Luke's  
look after vicars

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

Read on for ideas and resources for Thank Your Vicar Week





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## Step 1

### Here's a plan

Here's a suggested schedule for using Thank Your Vicar Week resources:

When?	Who/where?	What?
<b>Early September</b>	Head/staff team	Book a date between Oct 15-22 for your school's Thank Your Vicar Week assembly
	Teacher	Download all the TYVW resources from <a href="http://www.stlukeshealthcare.org.uk/events">www.stlukeshealthcare.org.uk/events</a> You will find: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• invitation template</li> <li>• poster template</li> <li>• 'Our school is celebrating' video on the role of a vicar, also available as a Powerpoint presentation</li> <li>• Thank Your Vicar Week logo</li> </ul>
<b>Early September</b>	Class	Use your downloaded invitation template to create and send an invite to your vicar, for your TYVW assembly
<b>Sept/October</b>	Class	Use your downloaded poster template to print and decorate Thank Your Vicar Week posters for around the school
	Class	Write a class prayer which can be used during your assembly – see below for tips
	Class	Create a thank you card, to be presented to your vicar at your assembly
	Class/ Whole school	Plan which fundraising idea you're going to use to donate to Thank Your Vicar Week – see below for ideas

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When?	Who/where?	What?
<b>During 15-22 October</b>	Assembly	Run your Thank Your Vicar Week assembly – with your vicar there!
	Whole school	Run your Thank Your Vicar Week fundraising event
<b>After the event</b>	Teacher	Get in touch and tell us how your Week went and send us a photo. You can send your donation to Thank Your Vicar Week - via our website <a href="http://www.stlukeshealthcare.org.uk">www.stlukeshealthcare.org.uk</a> or by post. <b>See p5 for details</b>
<b>And finally...</b>	Teacher	Put Thank Your Vicar Week 2018 <b>14-21 October</b> in the school diary



## Step 2: Ideas

### Assembly:

#### Write a prayer

You may like to include prayers written by your pupils as part of your Thank Your Vicar Week assembly. Here are some phrases that could be included by the children:

#### Dear God, we thank you for...

- all the time our vicar\* spends helping other people
- everything our vicar does to help our school, such as taking assembly or showing us round the church
- the help that the vicar gives to people in happy times, like when they get married, or in sad times, when someone is ill or has died
- everything the vicar does in church, and for other people who help them, like the churchwardens

#### We ask you, God, to...

- keep our vicar and their family healthy and strong for everything they have to do
- give our vicar wisdom as they try to guide other people

*\*Amend to eg curate, rector as appropriate for your parish*



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- bless our vicar with peace and joy
- help us to remember to say thank you for everything our vicar/curate does for us and our community

### Thank your vicar - find it in the Bible

Use this resource as part of your special assembly, focusing on Bible verses.

#### Pupil 1:

Did you know the Bible tells us to thank our vicar? The Bible is full of everyday help for us about the way we live and treat other people. What does the Bible tell us about how we look after our vicar?

#### Pupil 2:

We found some verses about this in the New Testament. 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 says: 'Now, brothers and sisters, we ask you to appreciate those who work hard among you, who lead you in the Lord and teach you. Respect them with a very special love because of the work they do.'

#### Pupil 1:

This is what Hebrews 13: 7-8 says: 'Appreciate your pastoral leaders who gave you the Word of God. Take a good look at the way they live, and let their faithfulness instruct you, as well as their truthfulness.'

#### Pupil 2:

A pastoral leader is someone who guides and cares for other people, just like our vicar. These readings are from The Message version of the Bible.

#### Pupil 1:

Let us pray: 'Dear God, we thank you for our vicar. Thank you for the example they set us in following you, and for the help and advice they give the school and people in our community. Please help us to put into practice what they teach us about the Christian faith. Amen.'

### Make a thank you card for your vicar

Plan to make a thank you card to present to your vicar at the Thank Your Vicar Week assembly. You could make one per class/year or one from the whole school.

### Teacher's note:

You can involve 2 or more pupils to read out this piece.



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### Step 3: Please help us

#### Let's get fundraising for Thank Your Vicar Week

We realise schools are extremely busy places and it is often hard to find time to add in new things. We're sure you'll find this celebration week fun and a worthwhile cause.

We have provided some simple fundraising ideas below to help you show your support in a tangible way. You may have other creative ideas on how to celebrate your vicar, as well as raise money - please tell us what your school does to celebrate Thank Your Vicar Week.

Whatever you raise, big or small, will help Thank Your Vicar Week to continue to look after the health and wellbeing of Anglican clergy and their families – and that includes your vicar or curate, whenever they might need support.

Read on for some fun and easy ways to raise funds to support your vicar...



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### What can your school do?

- Cake and Bake Sale
- Pupils donate £1 for dress-up days such as:
  - Funky Socks Friday: wear coloured socks or tights to school
  - Unfashionable Day: wear clashing, wacky outfits
  - Choose Your Shoes Day
  - Wellies and Wig Day
- Sports Challenge: try a fun run, with children/staff/parents sponsored individually per lap of the playground
- Sponsored Tidy Up: clean up the area around the school/church/ local community
- Who's the baby? competition, with photos of staff/pupils as a baby. Charge eg £1 to take part, for prize
- Christmas concert/carol service/ carol singing: keep your vicar in mind and take a seasonal collection for Thank Your Vicar Week

### 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](http://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 school. Remember we'd love to hear what your school did for Thank Your Vicar Week and please send us a photo that we can use to promote Thank Your Vicar Week next year.

**Thank you for taking part in Thank Your Vicar Week!**

### Get in touch

Please contact St Luke's if you'd like any more information or to let us know you want to be part of Thank Your Vicar Week.

 **Email**  
[events@stlukeshealthcare.org.uk](mailto:events@stlukeshealthcare.org.uk)

 **Visit**  
[www.stlukeshealthcare.org.uk/events](http://www.stlukeshealthcare.org.uk/events)

 **Phone**  
Becky Millington on:  
020 7898 1808

*Thank Your Vicar Week is an initiative of St Luke's Healthcare for the Clergy, which supports the physical and mental health of Anglican clergy and their families. St Luke's Healthcare for the Clergy is a registered charity: no. 1123195; company no. 06511046.*