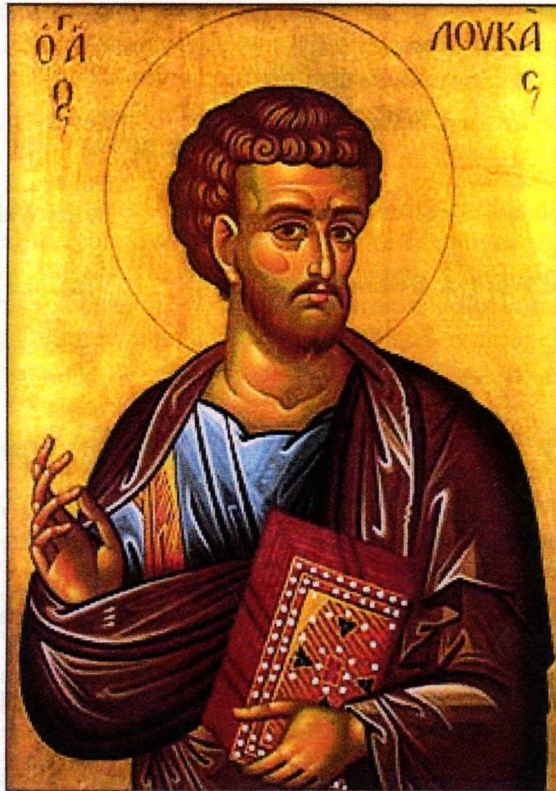


HEALING WAYS

The Order of St Luke

Summer 2011



Almighty God, who inspired your servant St Luke the physician to set out in gospel the love and healing power of your Son: make obvious in Your Church the same love and power for the healing of our bodies and souls; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

My Dear Friends,

As I write this letter, the crows on the stony shore in front of my kitchen window make fascinating viewing. One crow will carefully select a mussel from the rocks and try to break into its hard shell. When that doesn't work, he will take it in his beak and fly upwards, dropping the mussel from a height, and then swoop down to see if it has cracked. Higher and higher he goes, time after time, until the shell fractures, and he is able to get the soft tasty shell fish inside. He is not on his own, for crows gather beneath him watching each time for the result of the impact as the mussel hits the stone. However, they are not solely observers. They are opportunists; and they will jump in quickly to gain from the other's work to break open the shell. There is seldom a fight over division of labour. It is just accepted behaviour, or could it be that I am observing a parent teaching a fledgling some of their amazing skills?

We all need to learn from others. Just as Jesus taught his disciples by example, we need to come alongside more mature Christians and learn from them, and allow ourselves to be corrected by them. In the same way we need to be willing and available to those who want to grow in the faith. Jesus promised us a life more abundant (John 10:10) and to enjoy that life we need someone to learn from.

The Psalmist said:

'Show me your ways, O LORD, teach me your paths; guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Saviour, and my hope is in you all day long'. (Ps 25: 4,5 NIV)

Jesus said:

"Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." (Mt 11:29 NIV)

Being members of The Order of St Luke gives us an amazing opportunity to come alongside people who are hurting, to pray for them and to point them to Jesus. Each encounter is a healing experience because it draws not only the sufferer, but us closer to our Lord. Please write about some of your experiences of being a member of OSL. We would love to hear from you, as it would come as great encouragement to us all.

Your sister in Christ
Pat Mollan

Order of St. Luke the Physician in the United Kingdom
Wardens Annual Report to
Annual General Meeting and to Council
April 2011
Sutton Coldfield United Reformed Church

Last year our Annual General Meeting and Conference were held in Bristol at Saint Edith's Anglican Church. We were warmly welcomed by Vicar Rev David Izzard. Our speaker was the Rev. Peter McIntosh from Crowhurst and a former Moderator of the United Reformed Church, who, with his cheerful sense of humour opened our eyes to see anew the healing accounts in the Gospels and to make them relevant for today. I think we all came away refreshed and challenged in our thinking of the healing ministry.

This year finds us at Sutton Coldfield with Mark Marx from Northern Ireland leading us in the topic of 'Healing on the Streets' and I am sure we will come away once more being challenged to take the healing ministry out of our churches and into the community we are meant to serve in the Lord's name.

From June 22 to 26 the International Conference for the Order was held at Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada. Unfortunately I could not attend but a number of Council members did, and they reported back that it was a wonderful celebration with 400 delegates from around the world attending; many of the speakers coming from the United Kingdom.

During the last twelve months the Council has met three times and I am pleased to report that many of the items on our agenda have come to fruition. Firstly we are now registered with the Charities Commission and our number is 1141436. This has been a long journey, but well worth it. We now have a new Constitution to work by, which reflects the new millennium we are now in. We also now have a web site that people will be able to visit. This will be a useful tool for members and the public to use. It will give details of

