



St Leonard's

Ordinary People. Extraordinary God.



Parish Magazine

October 2014

Mens' Prayer Breakfast

**on the first Saturday of every month
in the Nicholls Room**

8.30 to 10.00am

with a breakfast of

Cereals, Tea, Coffee, Fruit Juice and Bacon Rolls.

Followed by Prayer Time

REGULAR SERVICES

Sunday:

- 8.00am Holy Communion
(BCP using Common Worship lectionary)
9.45am PARISH EUCHARIST and Junior Church
9.45am All Age Worship (1st Sunday in the month)
6.30pm Evensong and Sermon
6.30pm PARISH EUCHARIST (1st Sunday in the month)

Wednesday: 10.00am The Eucharist.

Thursday: 8.00am The Eucharist.

Monday-Wednesday: Morning Prayer is usually said at 9.00am

Monday-Thursday: Evening Prayer is usually said at 5.00pm
(Please check times listed in Weekly Notices each week)

CHURCH OPENING

The Church is open every weekday morning, for anyone who would like to visit, to enjoy this beautiful building and to have the opportunity to experience God's presence. The normal opening hours are:

<i>Mondays</i>	<i>8.45 – 12.00</i>	<i>Thursdays</i>	<i>7.45 – 12.30</i>
<i>Tuesdays</i>	<i>8.45 – 12.30</i>	<i>Fridays</i>	<i>9.45 – 2.00</i>
<i>Wednesdays</i>	<i>8.45 – 12.00</i>		

Advertisements: The inclusion of an advertisement in this magazine should not be taken as implying endorsement of the objects of the advertiser by this church or the diocese.

Diary for October



Wednesday 1st

10.00am The Eucharist with prayers for healing followed by Open Church

10.45am Holy Communion at Woodlands

Thursday 2nd

8.00am The Eucharist

SUNDAY 5th Harvest Festival

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.45am All Age Worship for Harvest Festival

11.30am Teaching session by Revd Steve Kersys, Diocesan Advisor for children's work. 'Faith with boots on', a talk about practical advice, encouragement, unity and boldness in service.

12.30pm Parish Lunch

6.30pm Parish Eucharist

Tuesday 7th

2.30pm Holy Communion at the Old Rectory

Wednesday 8th

10.00am The Eucharist with prayers for healing followed by Open Church

10.45am Holy Communion at Woodlands

7.45pm 'Explorers' House Group at 127 Straight Road

Thursday 9th

8.00am The Eucharist

3.00pm 'Canticle' and 'Wordsworth' House Groups meet (Hugh 564577)

SUNDAY 12th: Trinity XXVII

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.45am Parish Eucharist with Junior Church

6.30pm Evensong and sermon

Monday 13th

7.45pm PCC meet in the Nicholls Room

Tuesday 14th

2.30pm Mothers' Union Service

7.30pm 'Medley' House group (Rosemary 515245)

Wednesday 15th

10.00am The Eucharist with prayers for healing followed by Open Church

Thursday 16th

8.00am The Eucharist

Saturday 18th

10.30am Coffee Morning at 4 Landseer Road

SUNDAY 19th: Trinity XVIII

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.45am Parish Eucharist with Junior Church

6.30pm Evensong and sermon

Monday 20th

11.00am Holy Communion at Hill House

Wednesday 22nd

10.00am The Eucharist with prayers for healing followed by Open Church

Thursday 23rd

8.00am The Eucharist

8.15pm 'Harmony' house group (at 'Harmony', 145 High Road Layer, Alison Ewbank 734246)

SUNDAY 26th: Last Sunday after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.45am Parish Eucharist with Junior Church

6.30pm Evensong and sermon

Monday 27th

7.45pm PCC meets in the Nicholls Room

Wednesday 29th

10.00am The Eucharist with prayers for healing followed by Open Church

Thursday 30th:

8.00am The Eucharist

Saturday 1st November

8.30am Men's Prayer Breakfast

10.30am Coffee Morning at Appletrees, West Bergholt

SUNDAY 2nd November: All Saints

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.45am All Age Worship

3.00pm Memorial Service

6.30pm Parish Eucharist

It Starts with a Shoebox

Leaflets for **Operation Christmas Child** are now available in Church.

Please follow the instructions carefully; noting which items should NOT be included.

We have again obtained decorated "GO" boxes which are available in church or by phoning us. The donation towards transport is again £3.00 to be put in the box. Secure the lid with an elastic band.

The last date for delivery of filled boxes is **Sunday 9th November.**

Thank you

Tom and Kathleen Scrimgeour – 574797



**Congratulations to
Wendy Crockett
and Mark Howell
on their completion of
the Course in Christian Studies**

Thank you

Margaret Shepherd expresses her thanks for all the prayers, cards and good wishes she received after her recent operation.

Responding to the Crisis in Northern Iraq A Pastoral Letter from our Area Bishops

Like us you will be holding in your prayers the appalling humanitarian crisis in Northern Iraq which has been provoked by the mass displacement of many thousands of Christians and other people from all backgrounds in minority communities. Those communities have been subjected to terrorism, ferocious brutality, abductions and killings.

As you are aware the survivors have been forced to flee from areas controlled by ISIS (Islamic State in Iraq) where they were given the message – convert, leave or die. Vulnerable children, women and men are now stranded in dire conditions. They stand in desperate need of safety, shelter, water, food and sanitation.

Northern Iraq is crying out for our prayers, our practical aid and our advocacy. The Church of England has set up a dedicated [website](#) ‘[Pray.Act.Give.](#)’ on which you will find prayers, a downloadable poster for displaying your support for the people of Iraq, details of how to donate to a wide variety of Church-based emergency appeals, and advocacy action to keep this crisis in the eyes of the international community.

As a Church, we are committed to championing freedom of religion and belief worldwide as a fundamental and internationally recognised human right. Even in the UK, we stand firmly against any labelling or targeting of people on the basis of their religion, and we work for a society that continues to be welcoming and respectful of all faiths.

We would also want to encourage you to find ways to reach out to Muslim neighbours in your local community. Many Muslims are feeling insecure because of suspicion, prejudice and attacks fuelled by claims that ISIS is acting in the name of Islam despite the fact that Muslim leaders have condemned this group.

Thank you for all you are doing, both personally and corporately, in your witness to prayer, practical action and commitment to those who are suffering and struggling at this time of crisis in Northern Iraq.

We are writing in the absence of the Bishop of Chelmsford who is on annual leave.

With our prayers.

From the Rectory



There have been a lot of comings and goings, beginnings and endings, this year it seems. We have said goodbye to quite a few of our faithful members – who are now promoted to glory, we have said goodbye to Richard – with grateful thanks for his ministry among us, to Sara as she goes off to theological college, we have said goodbye to people who have moved house, or whose lives have changed. But we have also said hello – and welcome to David, to Judy, to new people who have come to join our community. People have changed roles, taken up new or different responsibilities within St Leonards... and life goes on.

I recall a quote from T. S. Eliot: "What we call the beginning is often the end, and to make an end is to make a beginning. The end is where we start from."

I find it useful to remember - because endings are so often painful - that endings and beginnings go hand in hand.

That idea is important, because there is grief when we leave anywhere and we should recognise the pain that sometimes brings. Similarly – those who are new among us have quite often also been through the end of a previous part of their lives, with all the emotions that entails. But new beginnings bring new opportunities; new people bring energy, enthusiasm and ideas. We all know of organisations (and I'm not just thinking of churches!) where nothing new ever happens and nobody new ever joins... Moving on – changing roles, lives, jobs is part of our calling as disciples. We know the first disciples answered the call of Jesus and left their families, friends, homes and security to go where he needed them. And that applies – maybe not in such a drastic way – to us as well.

Have you ever seen the film *Sister Act*? Whoopie Goldberg has witnessed a murder and so the police have put her to hide in a convent, pretending to be a nun, as a sort of witness protection scheme. There's a scene where she is trying to look like she knows what she's doing as a nun, and chatting to make friends with the other nuns, is asked about her "call". "When did you get 'the call'?" they ask her - and initially she has no idea

what they're talking about, then when the penny drops she begins to make up the story of God calling her to be a nun. I'm always struck by the way the characters talk about "the call", as if there were no other - but I think as Christians we tend to make the same mistake; there tends to be quite a bit of misunderstanding about what's meant when we talk about a call from God.

A call from God is not only to a specific Christian ministry. It can be to anything. I have a friend whose call was to be a doctor. It's not just about something "religious", being a nun or a priest.

A call from God is not always unmistakable and clear. Sometimes it is - but sometimes it can be a slow and growing call, dawning on us over time, requiring thought, prayer, study and searching.

A call from God is not necessarily in a direction related to where we've been before; it could be to something completely different. On the other hand, it's not necessarily something new and radical, it could be a reimagining of a current situation, a call to stay put and do things differently.

A call from God doesn't necessarily need a clear vision of where it will end when we set out. When Simon Peter, Andrew, James and John responded to Jesus' call to follow, they didn't know where it would lead. They had to take things one step at a time.

A call from God is not necessarily joyful, in the sense that, as a beginning, it will usually involve the ending of something else, which means that it could be painful, it could involve grieving for some of what is being left behind, it could involve decisions about what to leave behind and what to carry with you.

A call from God is not an imposition or a burden, it is an invitation. It is not forced upon us. We are free to say no; although whichever choice we make has consequences.

But a call from God is life-giving. It is an invitation to be part of the bringing about of the life-in-all-its-fullness life that Jesus promised; to be part of the growing of God's kingdom of love and life and forgiveness; to take steps towards being the person He made us to be.

It is important, though, to know that our call to follow Jesus isn't a once-in-a-lifetime event. Responding to that initial call to follow was the *start* of the journey. But following is a continuing process and further down the

line God continues to call us, to point us in new directions, to give us new things to do. And callings, to a change of direction, a new beginning, tend to involve endings too.

Change, new people, new beginnings is a sign of a church which is responding to the call of our Lord. A sign that it is alive and well and ready to do God's work. Not always easy to see, but there all the same.

Teresa



Mothers' Union

We are grateful to Carol Holding who stepped in to replace our planned speaker who had to attend a family Member's funeral. Carol reflected on her life sharing with us what has influenced her. She is an artist and colour plays an important part in her life. Books of art were passed around which were colourful. Carol also has a love of poetry and she read one composed by herself after she had been a flight in an air balloon. Colour playing its part again. We also examined some of her craft work including an intricately embroidered cloth. Finally she read a version of the Twenty Third Psalm written by a Japanese poet. Thank you Carol for a thoughtful talk.

Next month we meet in church on **Tuesday, 14th October at 2-30pm.**
All are welcome to this service

Joan Kitson

Reflection

August 21st this year would have been my and Charles 60th Wedding Anniversary.

On that day I walked to St. Leonard's (church was open) and walked up aisle I had walked 60 years previously.

I said a little prayer and thanked God that I was still able to do just that.

Velma



HARVEST LUNCH

5th October at 12.30 p.m. in the church hall.

Harvest time has come around again and it wouldn't be the same without our harvest lunch after the service on the 5th October. There are invitations available for you to give to a friend, neighbour or just someone that you think might think would enjoy our harvest service. Lists are available for you to put your name on if you could bake one of those lovely apple pies or bring along a salad. A list will also be put out for those who wish to join us for the lunch. If you would like to help with the catering on the day please let me know. You can e-mail me at jacque@stleonardslexden.org.uk or just let me know when we meet in church.

Jacque Messinger

**Lexden
Ladies'
Group**

LEXDEN LADIES' GROUP

Fourteen members enjoyed an excellent meal and social get-together at Ardleigh Craft Garden Centre at the beginning of September. So much so, that we have already booked our

Christmas meal there on Tuesday 2nd December!

We do not meet in October and we have a change of speaker on **Tuesday 4th November at 2.30pm** in the Nicholls Room. Dr Jane Pearson has had to cancel, but I have managed to book the **Revd. Keith Lovell** for the occasion. His subject is yet to be decided, but he is always an entertaining speaker whatever his topic. Visitors welcome!

Margaret Howard

Some Dates

PCC Meetings 27th October, 1st December

WW1 Special national Remembrance 11th November

Colchester Chamber Choir at Bury St Edmunds 22nd November

From Judy



It's been two weeks and already I feel like part of the family. Thank you so much for all the kindness, generosity, and warm welcome that I have received. I still feel as if I'm settling in and working things out, but as term begins I'm beginning to have a feel for what this year will look like for me. So far I've been to some meetings, joined the Wednesday Eucharist congregation, went along to the Lexden Choral Society, the Parent and Toddler Group, as well as the Cubs, Rainbows and Beavers. It's been great and I'm looking forward to getting more involved with these groups.

The all-age service on the 7th September was a great experience for me. It was a wonderful service with a variety of parts that incorporated the different ages of the church family. I loved being able to plan and organize the children's activity and read the Scripture reading. It was a pleasure to also be commissioned, and so now it all officially begins!

Aside from all that's going on here, I had my graduation which was lovely. It was great to see my friends from my course and join them in Lincoln cathedral to celebrate that we are now graduates!

I've really enjoyed meeting so many people and getting involved in St. Leonard's and Colchester so far. I'm looking forward to getting to know you all better, and I'm excited for what God has planned this year and the part that I will be playing in it!

God Bless and thanks again,

Judy

Stewardship

Two years ago we decided to mount a major Stewardship Campaign. The motivation for this was that we felt we needed to appeal for more help for mission work at St. Leonard's. The appeal focused on both practical and financial help and resulted in a 25% increase in regular giving and a long list of church members offering their services for a whole variety of activities.



One result of that appeal was that we were able to appoint a Youth and Families Worker for the first time. Mia joined us in September 2013 and made a major contribution in this area. Particularly noticeable was the way she enthused the young people. She ran Junior Church from October half term – she helped with Rainbows, Cubs and

Beavers, SL Club, 7th Heaven and OMG, All Age services and Holy Commotion. She was creative, enthusiastic and inspiring, and provided a ‘bridge’ between church and those young people who usually have nothing to do with it. The youngsters loved her, partly because she was young, on their wavelength and fun. She provided a young ‘face of church’. Mia has now moved on but Judy is here in her place and we are very much looking forward to working with her in this vital ministry.

We also ran a Mission Week for the first time this year. We aim to repeat this in 2015, only bigger and better and we are planning to stage **two** Alpha courses to enable more people to explore the Christian Faith. All of this requires resources both human and financial.



Back in 2012, Rosemary wrote an article for the magazine providing some background to stewardship. Part of that bears repeating.

“St. Leonard's is not just about its members; it's about taking the gospel out to others, **Giving enables mission.** We are a generous parish. But what we want is to be able to pay the bills, run the different organisations,

have enough people to comfortably fill the cleaning rota or the sidesmen's rota, etc., and of course ensure all the regular Sunday and midweek services are covered, but also have enough time, talents and money *left* to go out to the wider community and the wider world, to take the message of God's love to them - which was after all Jesus' commission to us. That is what it means to be a disciple of Christ, not just to feather our own nest, but to have enough resources to go out to other people."

So many of you will shortly be receiving a letter from us asking you to review whether you might be able to assist financially or practically. Please read it, think about it, pray about it and respond if you can.

David Burrows

Coffee Mornings

We are grateful to Wren House for holding a Coffee Morning for St. Leonard's on 6th September. It was good to meet up with some of the residents again. The raffle was well organised and a pleasant morning was enjoyed by all who attended. Approx. £173 was raised for church funds.

The next coffee morning

Will be held on **Saturday, 1st November**

at **Appletrees, West Bergholt**

by kind invitation of Edward and Beverley Kettell

(Details of how to find their home

will be in the November magazine

and beforehand in the Weekly News Sheet)

We are also having an impromptu Coffee Morning

on **Saturday 18th October from 10-30am to 12noon**

At **4 Landseer Road** (off Gainsborough Road, Prettygate)

hosted by Jenny Cross and her sister Liz Adams

Crafts, cards, raffle, books, produce and cakes

All are welcome and bring a friend or two.

Jean Hallett

Christmas Bazaar 2014

Saturday 6th December

Planning is in hand for the **Christmas Bazaar** to be held on **Saturday 6th December from 10.30 am.**

Further details will appear in the November magazine.

In the meantime if you can offer help please contact –

Tom and Kathleen Scrimgeour on 574797

CARDS

Owen Shepherd makes cards of various sorts that are on sale in the Nicholls room after all services. Also, he can make cards to order. All proceeds going to Church Funds.

On **Sundays October 12th and November 16th**, he will be selling his cards at the back of the church after the 09-45 service. All proceeds going to church funds.

Woolly Hats for Seamen

I have already received quite a few woolly hats for the Felixstowe Christmas presents and I hope everyone is busy knitting.

I would like them to be with me by **30th October** please at the **9.45 service**

Thank you,

Sheila Cook

**Dispensing
Coffee
and
Cheerfulness**



WW1 REMEMBRANCE

**AN EVENING SERVICE
OF
REMEMBRANCE
AT
ST LEONARD'S CHURCH
9TH NOVEMBER
TIME: 6:30**



**MUSIC
POETRY
READINGS
PRAYER
& REFLECTION**

The Power of the Cross

I have been asked by some who did not hear the sermon I gave on Holy Cross Day to repeat the anecdote I told about my previous church, St Peter's Eaton Square, London and the creation of crucifix in the sanctuary. Before I do so, I would like to attribute the true story to the previous Vicar of St Peter's, Rev'd Desmond Tillyer, who, I am sure could tell it much better than I in the extract below from my sermon:

The vivid symbolism of the power of Cross remains with us to this day and is deeply rooted in our faith and psyche. I would like to share a story with you about my previous church, St Peter's Eaton Square in London.

Just over 20 years ago the church was totally gutted by fire after an arson attack. Eventually, once the insurance and logistics were sorted out work began on the painstaking reconstruction of the Church. When the sanctuary floor had been laid, but the altar had not yet been built, the builders were keen to place the crucifix above the sanctuary, bolting it to a steel flange hanging from the ceiling. The Cross was made from two roof timbers which fell from the roof of the old building during the fire. They had been cleaned and shaped and put together to make the Cross. However, the figure of Christ had been made by Michael Camileri Cauchi on the Mediterranean island of Gozo and he sent it to Heathrow for collection.

The vicar at the time hired a van and went there to the freight terminal to collect it. It arrived in a large kite shaped crate. When the vicar arrived back at St Peter's with the statue a group of the workmen under the guidance of their excellent foremen carried the crate and placed it on the floor beside the cross lying on the new sanctuary pavement.

Behind this they had erected a scaffold on which to haul up the Cross to the flange. The foremen then told them to open the crate and when they did so there lying on its back was the figure of the crucified Christ with the crown of thorns beside it. The workmen fell silent as it dawned on them what they now had to do: to nail this figure of Christ onto the Cross, put the crown of thorns on his head and haul him up the scaffold to be bolted to the flange.

The atmosphere was electric. They carefully lifted Christ out of the crate, placed him on the Cross and secured him to it, stood the Cross upright, placed the crown of thorns on his head and then ever so gently hauled the

now complete crucifix up to the ceiling. Done without a single word, these rough and ready men worked with such unity of purpose and awe at what they were doing, and wonder that they were doing it, that the holiness of Christ's suffering and death became a tangible reality. When it was done, they simply stood still around the crucifix and slowly one by one left in silence. The foreman Michael said to the vicar afterwards, "This is a day that they will remember for the rest of their lives and they will tell of it to their children and grandchildren."

That is how powerful the image of the Cross still is to this day.

David Armstrong



CHOREOGRAPHER REQUIRED.

7th Heaven have been enhancing the worship in our all age services for the last eleven years.

During that time there have been several different choreographers who have helped make their routines relevant and often moving.

For the last four years two of our founder members Shannon Forster and Fiona Logan have taken joint responsibility for the choreography of each dance and under their guidance the girls have grown in maturity and skill. They are a delightful group of girls who are an example to us all as they support and encourage one another in all they do and at the same time welcome newcomers into the fold, doing everything they can to make them feel at ease.

Shannon and Fiona are now eighteen and from September will no longer be free to work with 7th Heaven and unless we can find someone else willing to choreograph the routines the group will have to fold.

So if there is anyone who has a passion for liturgical dance and would like to work with this group, please get in touch with me:

Telephone 01206 762144
or email pauline@stleonardslexden.org.uk

Pauline Jarvis

Anne Marshall

Anne, who was the wife of Reverend Canon Peter Marshall Rector of Lexden from 1966 to 1994, died peacefully after just a few days in a nursing home on 21st June 2014. Her funeral was held at St Peter and St Paul, Fareham, Hampshire on 8th July and Peter Marshall has kindly supplied a copy of the Address given at her Service by Reverend Andy Davis, Vicar of Gosport.

Anyone who ever met Anne would very quickly feel that they were part of her family – and that included me and my wife, Chris, to whom she and Peter always showed wonderful love, care and hospitality. We lost count of the Sunday lunches we enjoyed at 21 Manor Close. Anne was like a mum, grandma and favourite auntie all rolled into one. Always warm, always welcoming, and with an infectious laugh, and a wonderful smile that would melt your heart! But she was also nobody's fool. Anne knew about human life in all its many facets – good and bad – and saw the world and people with clarity and perception.

But those of us here today – and many others - who felt part of Anne's extended family would want to surround the family itself with our love and prayers today: Peter, her devoted husband of 57 years; her children, Carrie and Luke; her grandchildren, Alex, Ben and Ella; Heather and Katie; Anne's sister, Janet (and also remembering her departed brother, John today); and, not forgetting her son-in-law, Gary and daughter-in-law, Carolyn. May God bless you all, who loved Anne so much, and were loved so much in return.

Anne was born in London in 1928. The family came to live in Friern Barnet in North London where Peter also lived, but as far as is known, they did not meet at that stage. At the outbreak of war she, and her brother and sister went to stay with family in Switzerland, as her parents thought that it would be safer. But a death in that family made it necessary that they come home again. They just made it before the Germans occupied Paris. Her school

was evacuated to Grantham, and Anne disliked being away from her family again.

War ended and she went to Camden High School for girls and then, after teacher training she taught infants and juniors at Queenswell Primary School in Whetstone. Before this she started attending the Methodist Church but found that as they had Holy Communion only once a month this often did not coincide with Sundays home from college. For this reason, she started attending the Church of England, St James, Friern Barnett.

Peter noticed the puffed sleeves on the coat that this young girl was wearing, not that he thought it was good fashion (which everybody else did), but just rather distinctive! They got talking, and started seeing each other. The Rector said to Peter, “Anne is a very nice girl, you should marry her”. He always thought that he had brought them together, and they let him go on thinking just that!

Anne knew that Peter was to train for the priesthood but was not at all put off with the thought of becoming a clergy wife, indeed, one might say that she was born for the role – as it was then (some see it as greatly different today).

When Peter was a curate, Anne spent her time with the children. She joined the Mother’s Union and remained a member for fifty years. She remained actively involved with the Mothers’ Union, even during Peter’s retirement, getting involved with the parish branch at Wickham. How appropriate that we shall shortly sing the hymn, “*Tell out my Soul*”

When Peter became Rector of the parish of Lexden, where they remained for twenty-nine years, Anne was determined – along with Peter – that parishioners would always feel welcome in their large Rectory. On her 60th birthday, the parish organised a Barn Dance in her honour, at which it was mentioned how many thousands of biscuits Anne had made down the years for all those attending meetings at the Rectory, along with her famous and delicious mince pies at Christmas. Someone recently wrote what others had in

different ways expressed: Anne was “the quintessential vicar’s wife.”

But it was as a thoughtful and kind person that most people will think of Anne. She was incapable of saying, or even thinking anything unkindly about anyone. A chaplain who visited Anne recently in hospital wrote these very perceptive words:

“Having visited many hundreds of patients, every so often one meets a person who gives a new meaning to faith, hope and love. Such was Mrs Anne Marshall, for whom I held the utmost respect and regard. It was also a pleasure for me – for which she expressed great joy – to arrange bedside Communion.”

The Holy Communion meant a great deal to Anne. One of her favourite prayers was the Post-Communion prayer, “*Father of all, we give you thanks and praise...*” which is why we will all say it together during the prayers in this service.

Among my most vivid memories of Anne (along with her plonking a lovely pudding on the table in front of you!) was her sitting with her feet up in the Rectory garden at Bishop’s Waltham; large floppy hat on head, with 100 + parishioners enjoying an al fresco lunch; following on from a glorious St Peter’s Day Eucharist (with a profoundly theological sermon from a visiting preacher), smiling broadly and saying “this is how a parish church SHOULD be!”.....and, of course, that gave me and everyone who heard it quite a boost, because Anne would know exactly what a Church of England parish should be like.....

Anne was not only a quintessential Vicar’s wife, but also a quintessential wife, mother, grandmother and friend.

So for all these reasons, and for many others held in your own hearts, we give thanks for Anne today.

May the Lord bless Anne, and keep her in his loving care, today and always, Amen.

A Parishioner remembers; A picture on the Dentist's wall.

In my dentist's chair, I was sitting that day
And letting my thoughts just wander away,
And seeing the pictures there, on the wall,
Of the old station, I was glad to recall,
Of Liverpool Street, as it was in my youth
While quite forgetting the hole in my tooth

And there was the clock that formed such a part
Of my social life, and sometimes my heart.
For oft' we would say, to an old friend, or new,
"Meet you under the clock" a place we all knew.
So they'd come from the City, and I'd come by train
And under that clock we would meet once again.

The dentist approached, with her drill at the ready
And I felt myself stiffen, as I held myself steady.
With my mouth open wide, and fingers clenched tight,
I said to myself "You don't have to take fright,
Just think a new thought". So I thought once again
Of that clock in the station: to deaden the pain.

And thinking these thoughts of times long ago,
Of folk I knew then, and of those I still know
The drilling now started, it was grinding away
And I tried to remember a really good day
That must surely have started right under that clock,
And would I find waiting a smart suit, or frock?

Let's go for a frock, for a memory sweet
Which one shall it be, I must name who I'll meet
In that time long ago, sixty years now at least,
"Miss X" I shall call her. But the drilling has ceased!
I hear in my ear "Wash your mouth out now please"
And a clean white tissue was dropped on my knees.

The filling began, and my thoughts slide away
Back to that station; my fears to allay.
My plan didn't work; there was nobody there!
And to my surprise there was no pain to bear
The tooth was soon filled and polished with care,
"It's finished" I was told, "You may now leave the chair".

David Hodge

Canticle and Wordsworth House Groups

always meet on the **2nd Thursday of the month at 3.00pm**

so in **October** that will be

Thursday 9th

For venues please see Weekly News Sheet.

Contact numbers: **Hugh (564577) Jacqui (760742)**



Arranging Flowers

FINAL DAY FOR ITEMS FOR THE NOVEMBER MAGAZINE IS

SUNDAY 12th OCTOBER

11.00 am hard copy or 7.30pm email copy

Please include your name with any submission. This will be withheld from publication if requested but items from unknown sources cannot be used.

**PLEASE SUBMIT ITEMS FOR THE NOVEMBER EDITION TO
PETER BROWNING ; email: magazine@stleonardslexden.org.uk
or by placing items in the box marked 'Parish Magazine' in the
Church**

HOLY COMMOTION!

Thursday 30th October
3 - 4.30pm

Church with a difference for all ages!

Refreshments provided

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

No charge, but please let us know you are coming...

Contact Judy on 07582 442682

youthworker@stleonardslexden.org.uk

Notice of a Healing Service at Chelmsford Cathedral on Sunday 12th October 2014.

This, the third in a series of healing services arranged at Chelmsford Cathedral, is offered to any in our parishes and chaplaincies across the diocese in Essex and East London who might appreciate the ministry offered on this occasion.

Called ‘**The Beauty of Thy Peace**’, it will be a service of reflection and renewal for all those who live and work with mental illness and its consequences.

Previous services have focussed on loss and bereavement as a result of the death of a child, and a celebration of the healing ministry with a particular focus on all those in the diocese who are responsible for this ministry. We hope that the service on the 12th October 2014 will also provide an opportunity to bless and thank all those who are involved with this important area of pastoral work whether personally or professionally, and when mental dis-ease seems to engender a lot of stigma and misunderstanding, we hope that the occasion will also provide a time of support, recognition and reassurance for any who might value it.

The preacher is The Rt.Rev'd John Wraw Bishop of Bradwell, and we hope that there will be an opportunity for one or two brief reflections from people about their mental health management and recovery, and issues to do with faith and spirituality and mental health.

After the service, as on previous occasions, people will be available around the cathedral for prayer, The Laying on of Hands and Anointing for any who would like that ministry.

Do please spread the word about this service to any who you think might value and benefit from it, and we look forward, once again, to welcoming people from across the diocese to come together in their cathedral on the 12th October 2014 at 6pm.

Ivor Moody, Vice Dean and Canon Pastor.