



THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST LEONARD, LEXDEN

ORDINARY PEOPLE. EXTRAORDINARY GOD.



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50p

MAKING THE MOST OF THE FETE



One of the first questions I wanted to explore when I arrived in Lexden was, “where and when do Lexden people gather in large numbers?” It’s an important question to answer for any church that – like ours – is looking to serve its community and to make Christ’s love known by as many as people as possible.

It was a thrill to discover that perhaps the single most popular gathering in the Lexden calendar was right under my nose: our very own fete!

Readers will be unsurprised to learn that the thought of silly games, stalls and refreshments fills me with immense excitement. What excites me even more, however, is the opportunity to welcome our broader community to St Leonard’s: to offer them hospitality, to have fun as a community, and – in doing so – to share a little of what God’s love means to us (and to them!). When we build up the community of Lexden, we build up God’s kingdom too.

So I hope that together – and as individuals – we are able to grasp this wonderful opportunity and make the most of enjoying this year’s fete. We have an incredible chance to show our community that generosity and joy are at the centre of St Leonard’s life, as well as being pillars of our existence as Christians.

The words fete and festival mean the same thing, and are religious in their origin. Strangely, though, we seem to use “fete” for “worldly” celebrations and often use “festival” for “churchy” celebrations. I’ve always been confused by those who seek to put a wall between the so-called “every day” and the “religious”, or between the “sacred” and the “secular”. These aren’t distinctions found in Jesus’s ministry: he didn’t keep them apart, he brought them together as he reached out to all.

One of my great heroes – the one-time vicar of Thaxted, Conrad Noel, spent his whole ministry going out into his community and inviting his community in. He did this in order to show that no aspect of our lives is left untouched by God. His Christian witness included helping to set up the great festival of Morris dancing there – and to invite the performers in to the church itself!

Let's go about this month's fete in the same spirit – a festival for the glory of God, for the building of Lexden's community, for the sharing of our faith... and in order to have and share fun, of course!

Math



Morris dancers in Thaxted and (inset) Conrad Noel

COVER PHOTO

Creativity and concentration at Easter

JUNE DIARY

Saturday 1st

8.30 Men's Breakfast in the Nicholls Room

SUNDAY 2nd Easter 8

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.45am ALL AGE EUCHARIST

6.30pm Evensong and Sermon

Monday 3rd

7.45pm Jubilee house group (Details from Maureen 861250)

Tuesday 4th

10.00am Holy Communion at Wren House

2.30pm Lexden Ladies in the Nicholls Room

7.30pm 'Medley' house group (Rosemary 515245)

Wednesday 5th

10.00am Eucharist followed by coffee

10.45 Holy Communion at Woodlands

11.30 Holy Communion at Cheviot

Thursday 6th

8.00am Eucharist

2.30pm 'Constable' House Group (Hugh 564577)

Saturday 8th

10.30am Coffee Morning at 22 Fitzwilliam Road

SUNDAY 9th PENTECOST

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.45am Parish Eucharist with Junior Church

3.00pm Messy Church

6.30pm Evensong and Sermon

Tuesday 11th

Mothers' Union summer outing to West Mersea

Thursday 13th

8.00am Eucharist



SUNDAY 16th TRINITY SUNDAY

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.45am PARISH EUCHARIST with Junior Church

6.30pm Evensong and Sermon



Monday 17th

11.00am Holy Communion at Hill House

Wednesday 19th

10.00 Holy Communion followed by coffee

Thursday 20th

8.00am Eucharist

Saturday 22nd

11.00am-2.30pm St Leonard's Summer Fete

SUNDAY 23rd Trinity 1

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.45am PARISH EUCHARIST with Junior Church

6.30pm Evensong and Sermon

Wednesday 26th

10.00 Holy Communion followed by coffee

Thursday 27th

8.00am Eucharist

SUNDAY 30th Trinity 3

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.45am PARISH EUCHARIST with Junior Church

6.30pm EUCHARIST for WHOLENESS and HEALING



Monday 1st July

7.00pm Eucharist

7.45pm PCC in the Nicholls Room

SUNDAY 7th July Trinity 4

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.45am ALL AGE EUCHARIST

6.30pm Evensong and Sermon



June

2nd June	All Age Service
9th June	Starting with the Spirit – At Pentecost, Jesus' disciples experience being filled dramatically with God's Holy Spirit. <i>Acts 2:1-21</i>
16th June	Revealing God – Jesus speaks to his disciples and, in just a few words, describes the experience of God that flows from the coming of the Spirit. <i>John 16:12-15</i>
23rd June	Clothed in Christ - Paul contrasts life before and after Christ. We are all children of God! <i>Galatians 3:23-29</i>
30th June	Moments of Decision - Paul boldly declares that Christ has set us free and urges us to use our freedom to serve one another. <i>Galatians 5:1, 13-25</i>

Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

Following prayers, the Speaker at our May meeting was Peter Dale, a Director of the “Open Door” Drop-In Centre in Colchester. His talk was followed by a short film.

Peter identified the current needs of people in Colchester, which included relationship breakdowns, loneliness, addiction to alcohol, drugs and/or gambling, mental illness, violence and, of course, homelessness and all their associated problems, with no support network to help.

It was thirty-three years’ ago that members of the Colchester Baptist Church in Eld Lane recognised these needs – physical, spiritual and emotional – and “Open Door” was formed.

Peter has a team of volunteers who spend their time listening to people who come through their door – on average, 35 people a day – helping where they can or assisting, through other agencies, towards a way forward.

The Drop In Centre is open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10am – 2pm each week and they have a small Bible study group on Tuesday at 12.00. They started an informal Sunday service (Sunday at One) six years’ ago, which is followed by everyone enjoying a hot meal together.

Peter took time to answer a variety of questions posed by MU Members and said that they would welcome more volunteers or donations, details of which can be found on their website www.opendoorcolchester.co.uk.

Peter was sincerely thanked for a most interesting afternoon and a collection for Open Door was given to Peter at the end of the meeting.

In June, Mothers’ Union members will have their summer outing in the form of lunch at The Fox Inn, West Mersea, followed, by kind invitation of Brenda Cant, to afternoon tea at her beach hut.

Mary Hanmer

Handel

Messiah from Scratch

Saturday 15th June 2019
at St Leonard's Lexden

9.45 am	-	Registration
10.15 am	-	Session 1
11.30 am	-	Coffee (provided)
11.45 am	-	Session 2
1.00 pm	-	Lunch (not provided)
2.00 pm	-	Session 3
3.00 pm	-	Refreshments (provided)
3.30 pm	-	Informal Concert
5.00 pm	-	End

Registration Fee

Members	-	Admission	-	Free
	-	Hire of Music	-	£2.00
Non-members	-	Admission	-	£10.00
	-	Hire of Music	-	£2.00

Please bring your own lunch

To Register:

Email: sarah.blake186@btinternet.com
with your name, voice, phone number or email address
and request a score if needed (Watkins Shaw edition)
by 5th June or phone 01206 543280

Do come and enjoy a happy day of singing

COFFEE MORNING



Our next Coffee Morning will be held on Saturday 8th June from 10.30 - 12 noon at 22 Fitzwilliam Road by kind invitation of Wendy Allen. There will be Bring and Buy of home produce: home baking and plants etc., jigsaws, books and a Raffle.

We are looking forward to this date and venue very much as there will be a chance to wander round Wendy's delightful garden, weather permitting.

Please come if you can and enjoy the camaraderie of the morning.

Jean Hallett



Kids crafts FUN!

Real Baptism as part of the worship! activities & songs Food

Messy Baptism!

Sunday, 9th June

3-5pm

St. Leonard's Church, Lexden

Children must be accompanied by an adult.
This event is free and no booking is necessary, but - if you can - please email us to let us know if you're coming:
youthworker@stleonardslexden.org.uk

ANNUAL SERVICE OF THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS AT CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL



On Monday 6th May nine members of the Church choir had the wonderful experience of singing at Chelmsford Cathedral with over 120 members from the Essex Association of Change Ringers (bell ringers association). The service took the form of Mattins with Psalm 96, Te Deum and Jubilate. The Cathedral has amazing acoustics and the anthem "Spirit of the Lord, come down" by John Harper was beautifully sung. Simon Eavery, after only 30 minutes of familiarising himself with the 40 stop chancel organ which is coupled to the nave organ accompanied the service magnificently and completed the service with Murrill's joyful "Carillon" organ voluntary.

There were many compliments from the congregation along with thanks from the Ven. Vanessa Herrick, Archdeacon of Harlow who gave the sermon and Canon Alison Kennedy who conducted the service. For me the memory will be the indescribable sense of Light and Joy which seemed to permeate and flood the whole service – thank you Choir.

Sarah Blake

A colorful illustration of a summer festival. At the top, a string of multi-colored triangular bunting hangs against a light blue sky with a few white birds. Below the bunting, the words 'Summer Fête' are written in a large, white, bubbly font with a black outline. In the center, a white rectangular box with a thin black border contains the event details in blue text. To the left of the box is a black and white illustration of a church steeple with a cross on top. Below the box, a vibrant scene depicts the festival itself: a red-roofed stall with a striped awning on the left, a yellow stall with people in the middle, and a wooden signpost on the right that reads 'FÊTE' and 'BOOKS'. A woman in a red dress is walking towards the right, and other people are scattered throughout the scene. The background shows more houses and trees.

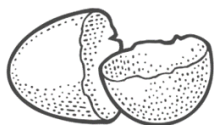
Summer Fête

St. Leonard's Church
Saturday 22nd June
11.00 to 14.30

MOUSE TAILS



On Easter Monday all of the Church mice, including the Woods family, were packing up their few belongings ready to leave the Hall and return to their respective nests. They were saying their goodbyes when one of the youngest Woods gave a dismayed squeak. Mum Woods scuttled across the hall to see what the problem was. Young Jimmy Woods was looking at broken egg which they'd brought along on their little sled and promptly forgotten all about. "Who could do such a thing," he said, "to



break my egg?" Grandpa had joined the scene by now and said the egg wasn't broken, what was inside it had hatched! (In other words been born) and was somewhere in the Hall. Grandpa asked everyone to be 'quiet as mice' and listen.

Soon they heard little cheeping noises and tapping. The tiny duckling was found at the back of the Hall, pecking around, looking for food. Obviously they couldn't just leave it there, so Dad Woods said they would have to take it back to its mother on the sled; but as the duckling, tiny as it was, was already much bigger than the mice, how would they do it? Mum suggested that the poor thing was probably hungry so shredded tiny bits of bread and laid a trail leading to and onto the sled. This scheme worked and Mum produced a piece of wool, tied it around the duckling's leg so it would stay put, and off they set through their tunnel to the woods.

On route Jimmy asked Mum if he could keep Fluffy the duck as a pet. Dad said, "No, certainly not; for one thing it's just a baby and needs its Mum, it also lives on water and anyway it's already huge compared to you. When it's full grown it will be a giant!"



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Before long the mice reached the pond in the wood, Mum soon spotted a duckling with its mother and they called her over. Mum untied the wool and the duckling waddled up to its mother and the other duckling. Mrs Duck was thrilled to see her baby and made a big fuss of it. She told the mice how worried she'd been, thinking that her egg had been stolen and how she'd been looking for it all night. She thanked the mice for returning him safely home and if they ever needed her help just find her and ask.

The Woods family eventually reached their nest, unpacked the sled and settled down for a good rest, it had been a wonderful few days but it was good to be home.

Dad told Jimmy to remember in future not to take any eggs away from their nests. Very soon the family were sound asleep, dreaming of the great time they'd had.



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SUMMER FETE

A huge thank you in advance for the support that everyone is giving the Summer Fete. As ever, the event showcases the church and points to its mission beyond the walls of the church building itself. With the blessing of the weather we can look forward to a great day. 1st Class Brass will be entertaining us once again. We are very fortunate also to have engaged the folk group Scarletts Road with their wide and varied repertoire. They will be performing opposite the arena tent for two sets when the band takes a break. We welcome back for a second year the Petanque Club from U3A, Stanway and we will field all the attractions that make for a traditional summer fete. Please spread the word and, above all, come along. **Robin**

THE COMPANY OF SERVERS

10th ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL



The Chelmsford Chapter of the Company of Servers were privileged to host the 10th Anniversary Festival of the Company of Servers at Chelmsford Cathedral on Saturday 11th May.

Over 40 servers from around the country including 4 servers from St Leonard's attended the Festival that started at noon with Mass at which the Dean of Chelmsford Cathedral, the Very Rev'd Nicholas Henshall presided and the Dean of Southwark Cathedral, the Very Rev'd Andrew Nunn SCP preached. During the service three new members were admitted into the Company.

The Annual General Meeting of the Company followed lunch and the day finished with Evensong and Benediction led by the newly appointed Chaplain General of the Company, Fr Clive Wylie SCP.

If anyone would like to know more about the Company of Servers and their aims, or serving at St Leonard's, please speak to me or any of the other Servers.

Peter Hinchcliffe

**The Dean charges the
thurible before the
procession**



**Group photo after the
service**





Please pray for all those to be ordained this Petertide, among them

Viv Mendham

to be ordained priest by

ROGER, BISHOP OF COLCHESTER

at the Parish Church of St Leonard, Lexden
on Saturday 29th June at 3.00pm.

*Please pray also for The Reverend Matthew Simpkins
and the people of St Leonard's, Lexden amongst whom Viv is serving.*

Viv will preside at the Eucharist for the first time
at St Leonard's on Sunday 30th June at 9.45am