



Welcome to St Leonard's. If you're here for the first time or visiting, please stay for coffee and say hello. If you've any questions please contact our Priest-in-Charge, Matt (matt@stleonardslexden.org.uk or 01206 577392)

Annual Review of Electoral Roll

Over the next few weeks, leading up to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, we shall be reviewing the Electoral Roll. This is not a full review; if you filled in an application form last year, no further action is required. If you would like your name to be added to the roll, please complete a form and hand it to Jo Burrows or to one of the churchwardens by Sunday 5th April. Forms can be found on the shelf at the back of the church, by the bookstall.

TODAY'S SERVICES

8:00am **BCP Holy Communion**
 9:45am **Parish Eucharist with Junior Church**
 Hymns: 364, 170, 65, 215(R), 82, 171(R)
 Prayer ministry is available in the Lady Chapel
*Music copies of the **Addington Mass Setting** are available from the person at the church door*
 3:00pm **OMG+**
 6:30pm **Evensong and Sermon**
 Hymns: 123(R), 362(R), 231(R), 15(R), Ps 135

PRAYER DIARY & EVENTS

TODAY in the Anglican Communion we pray for the Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo and for The Most Revd Zacharie Masimango Katanda, Archbishop.

MONDAY - we pray for the Parishes of Langham (St. Mary) with Boxted (St. Peter), Great Horkelesley (All Saints and St. John's) and West Bergholt (St. Mary the Virgin) and for Priest in Charge The Revd Dr Mandy Elmes in the Deanery of Colchester.

7:45am Lent Prayer Group in the Lady Chapel
 9:00am Morning Prayer

TUESDAY - we pray for staff and residents at Hargood Close.

9:00am Morning Prayer
 2:30pm CAMEO service in Church
 5:00pm Evening Prayer

WEDNESDAY - we pray for St. Leonard's Toddler group, leaders and visitors.

9:00am Morning Prayer
 9:30am Toddler Group in the Hall
 10:00am Eucharist (followed by coffee)
 11:00am Lent Course in the Nicholls room
 1:00pm CAP Life Skills
 7:30pm Lent Course in the Nicholls room

THURSDAY - we pray for the Anglican Communion.

8:00am Eucharist
 2:30pm 'Constable' house group (Hugh 564577) at 17 Spring Lane, Eight Ash Green
 5:00pm Evening Prayer

FRIDAY - we pray for those who work in local industry.

8:00pm Choir practice in Church

SATURDAY - we pray for residents of Beaver Close and Lexden Mews.

The Parish Office will be open on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday mornings

Services on Sunday: 15th March, Lent III

8:00am BCP Holy Communion;
 9:45am Parish Eucharist with Junior Church;
 6:30pm Evensong and Sermon

NEWS

While there is no cause to panic about the potential spread of Covid-19 (Corona Virus) in the UK, as a significant gathering point for our community it is important for St Leonard's to take sensible precautions. Central Church of England advice is: With regard to your own health, please follow the current NHS advice carefully.

- Please do not intinct (dip your wafer into the wine), as fingertips carry a heightened risk of spreading infection.
- If you are concerned about sharing the chalice, it is fine to receive communion 'in one kind': i.e. to receive the bread and not the wine. In receiving only the wafer or only the wine we still receive the whole of communion.
- If you are concerned about shaking hands at the Peace, remember that handshaking isn't mandatory. Please only do so if you are comfortable to, and be aware that others may not wish to shake hands.

The Bishop's Lent Appeal: To raise funds to support our partner Diocese of Marsabit, Kenya, to provide training in microfinance through the charity, "Five Talents". You are encouraged to donate direct to the appeal at www.chelmsford.anglican.org/lentappeal where there is also information about this important work. Cheques made payable to CDBF with 'Lent Appeal' on the reverse can be sent to Lent Appeal, Diocese of Chelmsford, 53 New Street, Chelmsford CM1 1AT. A cash collection will be made at the back at our regular services.

Fairtrade Breakfast for Commonwealth Day: Monday, March 9th in the Moot Hall from 8:30am - 10am. Drop in any time & enjoy a free breakfast. The Commonwealth flag will be raised at 10am.

Parish Magazine - April Edition: Email items to 'magazine@stleonardslexden.org.uk'. Deadline is Mar. 15th 11am.

NOTES ON READINGS AT THE EUCHARIST

Genesis 12: 1-4a: Last Sunday we heard the sad tale of mankind's first disobedience. This reading is a happier circumstance, with consequences just as far reaching. God's demand to Abraham is to start anew - to be 'new-born' as Jesus later told Nicodemus. Because Abraham is totally obedient, God's purpose can begin in his chosen people.

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17: Paul uses Abraham as an example of complete faith. It is not through obedience to law that God accepted and used him, and it is not our good deeds which justify us. By the sheer grace of God we too are inheritors of God's promises.

John 3: 1-17: Jesus seems to demand the impossible - that we be born again. But he means that faith in his redeeming love brings us spiritual re-birth, into a wholly new kind of living.

We pray for all those who suffer, those receiving Holy Communion at home, those who have died and those who mourn.

A prayer list is available in Church.