



THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST LEONARD, LEXDEN

ORDINARY PEOPLE. EXTRAORDINARY GOD.



PARISH MAGAZINE

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2023 £1.00



**10 years of the Colchester CAP
Debt Centre
A beacon of hope in difficult times**

The gift of hope in difficult circumstances is a most precious gift.

For 10 years, the Colchester CAP Debt Centre has been offering hope to families and individuals struggling financially. Over 1,000 people have been helped during this time. Hundreds of people who were caught in debt have been freed from it.

This is worthy of great celebration in itself, but St Leonard's should celebrate in particular because we continue to play a very significant role in CAP's story. We were one of the founding churches of the Colchester CAP Debt Centre and remain one of its most significant contributors – both in terms of funding and in terms of providing volunteers and courses.

At Colchester CAP's 10th anniversary celebration service, held at Colchester Baptist Church, it was very moving to see that those clients who spoke all had experience of the Life Skills Course which so many people from St Leonard's have helped to run.

In a powerful sermon, Bishop Roger reminded the congregation of the appalling state of our nation's economy and the harsh real-world effects upon those on low incomes or with no income. With the effect of the highest inflation rate among the G7 nations on mortgage payments and rent payments beginning to bite, very few people are immune to financial pressures.

CAP has never been more relevant nor needed.

Demand for CAP's services has grown year on year since the centre started, and the rate of increase has gone up hugely in the last 2 years. Rises in fuel and food prices, and rising interest rates, will only add to this.

Though CAP has never been more important, like many other agencies and organisations, they are facing great financial pressure: losing significant sources

of regular grant funding as thread-bare local authority and housing association funding is under such stress.

St Leonard's continues to support CAP, and I encourage you to consider whether you might be able to do so too. CAP is presently using the Aviva Community Crowd Funding scheme whereby any money you donate is matched by Aviva itself. Please find details of this – and of their normal stewardship scheme below.

I warmly commend this to you as a way of supporting CAP's essential work and ensuring that hope can continue to be available to Colchester families in financial need.

AVIVA COMMUNITY CROWD FUNDER (closes in August):

<https://www.avivacommunityfund.co.uk/p/another-10-years-of-colchester-cap-debt-ce>

CAP's Stewardship scheme:

<https://www.stewardship.org.uk/partners/20199003>

Matt



FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the second edition of the revamped Parish Magazine. Could I, on behalf of the editorial team, thank everyone for their very encouraging comments and expressing their pleasure at having the magazine back.

As you are aware the Magazine comes in two formats, online or in booklet form. A great number of people who took the booklet said they do not have a computer, and this is their only means of accessing what is going in the parish.

So, what have we in this edition? Well, there is something from Matt on St Leonard's involvement with CAP, a report from one of our associate priests, a round-up of the very successful Summer Fete, a new edition of the Mouse Tails and a new item, "From the Archives".

Enjoy this edition and if anyone has suggestions, please contact the Editor.



Around Mersea Island for the Royal Marsden Cancer Charity

Matt and his son Jim and will be sailing their beloved plywood Mirror Dinghy in the legendary Round Mersea Island Race to raise money for the Royal Marsden Cancer Charity on 2nd September. The Royal Marsden Cancer Charity raises money solely to support The Royal Marsden, a world-leading cancer centre where Matt is a patient. The charity ensures the Marsden nurses, doctors and research teams can provide the very best care and develop life-saving treatments, which are used across the UK and around the world. From funding state-of-the-art equipment and groundbreaking research, to creating the very best patient environments, the charity looks for ways to improve the lives of people affected by cancer. In the race, sailors head around the Island. Competitors navigate the fleets and backwaters as well as sailing out to sea and lifting their boat over the causeway. If you would like to sponsor Matt and Jim, please use this link:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/matty-and-jim-round-island-sail>

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER DIARY

Tuesday 1st August

10:00am Brick Club

11:30am Holy Communion at Cheviot

Wednesday 2nd August

10.00am Eucharist followed by coffee

10.45am Holy Communion at Woodlands

Thursday 3rd August

8.00am Morning Prayer

Saturday 5th August

10:30am Men's Breakfast

12:30pm Wedding of William Humphreys and Maria Morris

SUNDAY 6th August The Transfiguration

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.45am ALL AGE EUCHARIST

Monday 18th September

7:00pm Eucharist

7:45pm PCC Meeting

Tuesday 8th August

10:00am Brick Club

7.30pm 'Medley' house group (Rosemary 515245)

Wednesday 9th August

10.00am Eucharist

Thursday 10th August

8.00am Morning Prayer

SUNDAY 13th August 10th Sunday after Trinity

9.45am PARISH EUCHARIST

Tuesday 15th August

10:00am Brick Club

Wednesday 16th August

10.00am Eucharist followed by coffee

Thursday 17th August

8.00am Morning Prayer

1:15pm Thanksgiving Service for Sheila Cook in Church

SUNDAY 20th August 11th Sunday after Trinity

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)

9:45am PARISH EUCHARIST

12:00pm Baptism of Theodore Lauder

Tuesday 22nd August

10:00am Brick Club

Wednesday 23rd August

10.00am Eucharist followed by coffee

Thursday 24th August

8.00am Morning Prayer

SUNDAY 27th August St Augustine of Hippo

9.45am PARISH EUCHARIST

Tuesday 29th August

10:00am Brick Club

Wednesday 30th August

10.00am Eucharist followed by coffee

Thursday 31st August

8.00am Eucharist

Saturday 2nd September

8.30am Parish Breakfast in the Hall

2:00pm Wedding of Isla Gavin and Jamie Sturgess

SUNDAY 3rd September 13th Sunday after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.45am ALL AGE EUCHARIST

Tuesday 5th September

11.30am Holy Communion at Cheviot

7.30pm 'Medley' house group (Rosemary 515245)

Wednesday 6th September

9:30am Baby & Toddler Group in the hall

10.00am Eucharist followed by coffee

11:00am Baby & Toddler Group in the hall

11.30am Holy Communion at Cheviot

Thursday 7th September

8.00am Eucharist

Saturday 9th September

12:00pm Friendship Lunch

SUNDAY 10th September 14th Sunday after Trinity

9.45am PARISH EUCHARIST with Junior Church

5.30pm Evensong and Sermon

Wednesday 13th September

9:30am Baby & Toddler Group in the hall
10.00am Eucharist followed by coffee
11:00am Baby & Toddler Group in the hall

Thursday 14th September

8.00am Eucharist

Saturday 16th September

8.30am Women's Breakfast in the Nicholls Room

SUNDAY 17th September 15th Sunday after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.45am PARISH EUCHARIST with Junior Church

3:00pm Messy Church

Monday 18th September

7:00pm Eucharist

7:45pm PCC Meeting

Wednesday 20th September

9:30am Baby & Toddler Group in the hall

10.00am Eucharist followed by coffee

11:00am Baby & Toddler Group in the hall

Thursday 21st September

8.00am Eucharist

SUNDAY 24th September 16th Sunday after Trinity

9.45am PARISH EUCHARIST with Junior Church

5:30pm Eucharist for Wholeness & Healing

Wednesday 27th September

10.00am Eucharist followed by coffee

Thursday 28th September

8.00am Eucharist

Saturday 30th September

10:30am MacMillan Coffee Morning

Scout Groups at St Leonard's Church

At St Leonard's we are lucky to have two Scout Groups meeting in our hall. We have 2nd Lexden Scout Group that has been at the church since 1998 when the group was started up by Rev Stephen Carter during his time as Rector at St Leonard's. The group started with just Beavers and then added the Cub and Scout sections as the group grew in numbers, it has been running for over 25 years and is a very popular group.

1st Colchester Air Scout Group are also meeting temporarily at St Leonard's following the sudden closure of their old District owned Head Quarters in town, and while their new Head Quarters at Ypres Road are being completely refurbished. 1st Colchester are one of the oldest Scout Groups in the country being with a history going back to 1908 when the group was founded and was the first scout group in Colchester.

Scouting is open to all young people from 4 years olds to 18 years old and are made up with the different sections; Squirrels 4- to 6-year-olds, Beavers 6- to 8-year-olds, Cubs 8 to nearly 11-year-olds, Scouts 11- to 14-year-olds, Explorers 14- to 18-year-olds. The young people learn new skills by taking part in the many different activities that the leaders run for them in their weekly meetings, play games, be creative, work on and earn badges covering many different subjects, go on, hikes, visits and days out, go on camp, and get to spend time outside exploring the world around them. Throughout their time in scouting the young people will learn many 'Life Skills', 'good, kind and helpful being values', caring for the natural World, the environment, their community and being kind, caring and helpful to everyone. The sections are led by a team of volunteer leaders for each section, at their weekly meetings. Scouting is always keen to welcome in new volunteers to work alongside the leader team in each group, for anyone who is interested in becoming a member of the leadership team within a group they can either contact the group direct through their website, through Colchester North District Scouts website, or through Scout Head Quarters.

Janice Chambers



MOUSE TAILS

So, after a month in the woods the Church mice had settled into their new homes and had made their nests very cosy. Now that Spring had arrived the produce was plentiful and many of them enjoyed the freedom of the woods and adapted to a different lifestyle and diet. The older mice still missed their Church homes, not just for the more 'exotic' foods but hearing the hymns and listening to the children playing at their Brick club and Messy Church.

Mums, of course, missed their old homes and familiar surroundings a lot. So much so, that the Dads decided they would pay a visit to their Hall cousins (using their trusty underground tunnel.) Just the adults went on the trip, taking with them some Acorn beer, Elderflower wine, a selection of berries, seeds and watercress.

When they arrived in the Churchyard, they were amazed to see humans about, (some wearing a strange covering on their faces) and stealthily made their way to the Hall, knowing that their cousins would be under the stage as usual.

The Hall cousins were thrilled to see them and updated them on some of the happenings in the Church. They were particularly amazed to hear about the Underfloor family who they didn't know existed, it was a huge surprise to learn that, especially as most of the Church mice were very sociable and got together for all the big events; Christmas, Easter, mice weddings, christenings and sadly, funerals.

There had been a pipe leaking under the floorboards in the Church, so all the wooden flooring had to be lifted allowing the warm water to slowly drain and dry out where it had soaked into the floor. Fortunately, the Underfloor mice were all OK. It is a little-known fact that mice are excellent swimmers and can hold their breath under water for as long as 3 minutes, in fact they apparently enjoyed their warm baths! There was a bit of a panic when a large black rat was seen under the boards (they might be the same genre but didn't like each other at all). Being curious they kept watch from a distance so when the rat didn't

move or seem to eat, they edged closer and discovered that it was a PLASTIC rat!

Once the Church mice discovered that things were almost back to normal, they decided that they would discuss with those who had migrated to the woods about an imminent return to their former homes.

As there had been a few human events involving cakes, pastries and sandwiches, the mice ended their visit with a typical mouse feast, washed down with copious amounts of Acorn beer and Elderflower wine. They ended with a prayer of thanks that so many of them had survived and could return to their homes. **CT**



Baby & Toddler Group



9:30am and 11:00am in the Church Hall each
Wednesday during term time.

Find us at www.facebook.com/stleonardsbabyandtoddlergroup

I have worked with St. Helena's for the last nine years. It is a beautiful place to work. When you are at the hospice itself you find such kindness and care. The nurses and doctors find the time to be with patients to reassure and comfort them.

The one thing the hospice is not about is death. Indeed, many go there for respite or just to have their medication sorted out to give better pain relief etc. Those who spend their last days there are helped to live those days and have a good death.

I rarely visit the hospice itself these days. I will go onto the In-Patient Unit if they phone me because someone is asking for a chaplain, and one isn't in the building or if the chaplain is on holiday, I will give cover. But my main work for the hospice is going to people's homes and seeing them there.

I have visited many homes over the years. Some people I see just once or twice some for much longer. The longest has been to a lovely lady in Walton who I visited for two years.

Visiting isn't about preaching; it's about walking a journey with someone. They don't have to be Christians for me to visit them. They can be of other faiths or no faith. The object of my visit is to go and listen. See where their anxieties lie, see where I can give comfort. I go and hear their stories and hear about their families. I listen to their worries and fears and try to bring comfort.

My visits take many forms, from taking communion to people to helping them sort out their funerals. Sometimes it has been a visit just to start a conversation with their family that they are dying. The family are often in denial and don't want to discuss death, but the person concerned desperately wants to do so. And in these circumstances, I can be the person who can bring that conversation about.

I can get called to the hospice as someone is dying, so pray with them or sometimes even then just to chat and reassure. The tricky part of these visits is

praying. The family are often still hoping for a miracle and the patient just knows it is time to go. My prayers must accommodate both!

Often, I get called because the patient has just died, and the family want a chaplain there to pray and say the right words. I've spent quite a few hours drinking tea, even eating cake at the bedside of a deceased person!

You do have to look after yourself as it can become stressful especially when someone dies that you have been seeing for a while. Because it becomes a strange situation. You have no-one to discuss the loss with that knew them. Normally when someone near to you dies you have your family and friends to discuss it with, to chat over the loss and the memories. But when someone dies that I have been visiting no-one else in my circle knows them, not even the others in the chaplaincy group. So, you must make sure that you off-load to someone.

I find the work humbling and rewarding. Humbling because of the trust that people put in you at the most vulnerable times of the lives. Rewarding because you get as much love back as you give. And we often have a great laugh about what is going on. The hospice work isn't sad or depressing, it's uplifting and stimulating. It does make you think. It often puts my own life into perspective when you see what others struggle through. It's a good place to be.

Reverend Jacquie Messinger

Have You been Bereaved?

Losing a loved one can leave you feeling adrift; talking and meeting with others in a similar situation may help.

Lexden Bereavement Support Group offers the opportunity to chat over a cup of tea. The group is informal and relaxed, and led by trained volunteers.

It is open to people of all faiths and backgrounds and is usually run on Thursday afternoons fortnightly.

If you would like to attend – or to find out more - please telephone Margaret on 01206 547803 or email bereavement@stleonardslexden.org.uk

From the Church Wardens

My name is David Watkins, I am one of the church wardens, alongside Nick Allston who was appointed at the APCM in April.

St Leonard's is a very active Church, so we have a team of wardens, me and Nick plus 3 assistant wardens: Peter Hinchcliffe, Mike Firth and Esther Heptonstall. The wardens are elected annually by the Annual Meeting of Parishioners and may serve up to 6 consecutive terms, but his can be extended. The assistants are chosen by the Church Wardens.

We are there to make sure that things run smoothly during acts of worship, and to deal with matters with the Church and general fabric of the building. We are assisted in this by the fabric committee which we can and do refer to. There is always a warden or assistant or both on duty at every service. The duties are many and varied, and one or two of us can be regularly seen doing odd jobs around the place, assisted by other members of the congregation. We are always happy for people to join us and help out with any of these "odd jobs"!

Please feel free to ask any of the team if you see something needs doing, we would rather be told a few times, than not at all. If you want to know more about what we "do" just ask.

David

By way of introduction my name is Nick and following Esther's appointment to the post of Parish Administrator at St Leonards I was asked by Matt if I might be interested in becoming a Church Warden to work alongside David Watkins, I had been assistant Warden for 9 months or so and as such I was familiar with some of the tasks required of me.

Since attending St Leonards for a couple of years now following my Baptism and Confirmation, I was honoured to accept the position, I consider the Church family at St Leonards to be a wonderful and diverse group and I am dedicated to work with David, the deputy wardens and ministry team to continue to provide a safe and suitable place to worship together as disciples of God.

In my day-to-day life I am a Captain in the Army running a facility for the Army Reserves (Territorial Army in old money) in Brentwood, Essex. It is particularly important to me as I have a link St Leonards having been a member of the 1st Lexden Cubs over 50 years ago and meeting in the Church Hall under Akela Dennis Cook and it is no small measure due to the life skills that I learnt that my later military career has been a successful one.

For me our church is a place to worship, socialise and most of all find peace in our lives and I look forward to serving our community to the best of my ability.

Warmest regards, **Nick**



From the Choir

The Church choir is a warm friendly group of dedicated people who enjoy singing, sharing, leading, and enhancing our congregation's worship through music.

While the core of our singing is from the Classical – 20th century repertoire; we also have services which include contemporary styles, accompanied by our music group, (led by Simon Eavery) made up of a group including keyboard, bass guitar, flute, clarinet, horn, violin, trumpet, and drum kit.

We welcome all who enjoy singing, both those who want to sing weekly in services, together with those who are unable to commit on a regular basis. Singers who would like to build up their confidence before singing at a service, are welcome to come to one of our enjoyable and relaxed one-hour practises on a Friday at 7.30, to try us out.

In addition, we have a children's choir formed at the beginning of this year. It includes both young people from junior church along with children 11 years and over. They sing at the All-Age service on the first Sunday in the month and enjoy learning new skills and wearing a choir robe!

Many of our members also give of their time and talents in other ways including joining the servers, readers, and intercession rotas; working with our children of all ages, organising, and helping with fundraising events, flower arranging, welfare, catering, joining the PCC – the list is endless! The choir helps members to feel they belong and gives them the confidence to join other groups and events while making new friends and feeling valued members of the Church Community.

Whether you are new to the area; have just started to come to St Leonards, or have been part of the Church for years, do think about joining us – you are very welcome.

Come and introduce yourself to me, Sarah Blake, after a 9.45 service or phone 01206 543280.



The Summer Fete

A fabulous Summer Fete was enjoyed on 24th June.



The atmosphere and number of visitors was wonderful.

Many comment on the lovely “proper village fete” feel we have, with the refreshments, silly games and traditional stalls and tents attracting visitors from well beyond Lexden.



Sincere thanks to all those involved in planning, setting up, running, and taking down.

Especial thanks to Robin, of course.

When one gets a year like 2023 with near perfect weather (ok; perhaps too hot!), it is hard to remember a year when it was more perfect for St. Leonard's summer fete. One should not tempt fate. I recall occasions with rain showers, with obvious implications for the book stall. For a complete wash-out one would have to go back to 2007 (our first year in the Parish), when we walked up the path from Lexden Road and were greeted by a few hardy individuals selling stuff under leaking gazebos. Their hands, wearing mitts, pointed us in the direction of lunches being served in the church hall.

In fair weather we have an excellent template for the event. I put it to one lady who accompanies her band member husband every year that it was difficult to know how to make the occasion in any way different. She said she absolutely loved it as it was – many people have expressed how much they enjoy a traditional summer fete.

Talking of the band, Ann Ruddock, the director of First Class Brass, was in some doubt, as we started to plan the first post-pandemic summer fete last year, that the band would ever be match fit again. She would not commit the members to more than two sets and explained that the membership had fallen. The pandemic had taken its toll. In the event, by July 2022 the band was already up to strength again and they were back to doing three sets this year.

The sound of the band playing at a busy event on a lovely summer's day is what what one strives for but nobody should doubt the considerable physical effort involved for those setting up and running stalls and then taking down at the end. Some are reluctant to leave before everything is down and put away. I am pleased that most respect their physical limits and can re-assure them that reinforcements arrive at about 2pm, as the show is finishing. They take over from all those who have been on the go since early morning and take us up to 6 in the evening and make life easier for a final clear up the following week.

Thanks to all - too many to list - for all the work put in for such a wonderful result.

Robin Greatorex.



News from Junior Church

This month we have been working hard on the Junior Church garden which is just beside the path leading behind the church. The garden was originally started by Mia our very first youth worker nearly ten years ago. She decided she would like a special project to focus on, and with a little help from the congregation the garden was formed, and gardening gear purchased for the children. It was a lovely project to undertake and soon the seeds were sown, and the parish office was full of vegetable and flower seedlings. The children thoroughly enjoyed the experience and we have tried to keep the garden going since then. The irises in the corner were planted by Mia and it's lovely to have a reminder of her year with us.

As the ground in the garden is so dry and is situated under the canopy of the trees, it's quite a challenge to find plants that will thrive in these conditions, so we have planted lots of herbs which we hope will survive. Last week we planted colourful flags with all the different things that we do at Junior Church written on them so that anyone passing by can find out more about us. The churchyard is a beautifully tranquil space, but it is lovely to see the 'pop' of colour that our garden brings. It reminds us how lucky we are to have such a happy group of children learning about God's love and exploring their faith and gaining an appreciation of the natural cycle of life through our gardening fun.

Junior Church Dates

Junior Church will be taking a break during the summer holidays but don't forget we have our children's area in the church with books, puzzles, and toys. Our last session is 23rd July. and we resume on 10th September.



And very importantly our amazing MESSY CHURCH is back again at 3pm on 17th September. Look out for the posters or visit our Facebook page nearer the time for more information.



SEPTEMBER

Junior Church is taking a break during August.	
3 rd September	All Age Service
10 th September Doing conflict well	Learning how to resolve disagreements in a gentle loving way
17 th September The meaning of forgiveness also..... MESSY CHURCH! 3-5pm in the church see the website for more details	Reflecting on how we can pass forgiveness on
24 th September The parable of the vineyard	Exploring how justice can sometimes seem unfair
1st October	All Age Harvest Celebration
Our next MESSY CHURCH is 15th October!	



Friendship Lunches

St Leonard's Church Lexden welcomes you to its **Friendship Lunches**

Join us for delicious homemade soup and cake.
Every month on the 2nd Saturday from **September to March** at 12pm

Please book by emailing admin@stleonardslexden.org.uk or phoning the Parish Office on **01206 575565** or use the sign up sheet in Church.

Donations welcome on the day.



From the Archives

Items for From the Archives will be taken from past magazines, minute books and other publications that the church has issued over the last fifty years. We start with the minutes from two Church Hall Committee meetings.

Taken from the Lexden Church Hall Minute book 2nd March 1970

The meeting was chaired by the then Rector the Reverend Marshall. A discussion took place over the cost of heating and lighting the Church Hall. The committee were told that the cost per unit of electricity had risen to 6d (2.5p) for daytime use and 9d (4p) nighttime rate after 7pm.

To cover this increase, it was decided that the cost for hiring the hall would have to rise and the following recommendations were made and approved.

For summertime use May 1st to October 1st the hourly rate would be 25 shillings (£1.25) per hour, with a minimum hire of 2 hours plus £1 for the caretaker. The winter rate was to be 45 shillings (£2.25) per hour, with a minimum hire of again 2 hours, with the caretaker being paid £1.

For weddings the charge for the day was £20 with a £10 booking charge refundable should no damage be done. The caretaker was to receive 30 shillings (£1.50) plus £2 per week paid from Hall funds. The Reverend Marshall informed the meeting that rateable value of the Hall was £20 per annum.

However, at the next meeting 9th June 1970, it was announced that the hourly rate discussed at the previous meeting was incorrect and that the daytime rate was in fact 9d and the night rate 1 shilling (5p.)

Concern was expressed that the Hall that had previously broken even was now running at a loss. It was decided to make some alterations to hire charges.

The charge for weddings was reduced to £14.10 shillings (£14.50) retaining the £10 refundable deposit. It was agreed that should any member of the church wish to use the hall for weddings they would be charged £5. The caretaker would be paid the same remuneration. The number of weddings had reduced due to the increased costs agreed at the March meeting.

One other thing that is mentioned in the minutes is that the hall had lost a very lucrative booking from the Borough Council for it to be used as a clinic, no information is given what the clinic was, only that the nearby Roman Catholic Hall was getting the contract as its access was better.

Nothing changes!

Men's Breakfast



1st Saturday of the month in Church.
All Welcome, we look forward to seeing you there...
If you have any questions, please contact.
davidw@stleonardslexden.org.uk



SAVE THE DATE!

CHURCH AUTUMN QUIZ

Come and test your knowledge at a fun packed evening!!!

Venue: St Leonard's Church Hall, Lexden

Date: Friday 20th October 2023

More details to follow nearer the date.

St Leonards Church Lexden

CHRISTMAS MARKET

2023

Saturday 2nd December

In the Church Hall

11.00am to 2.00 pm

Come and join us for our Annual Market

All the usual stalls plus some new stalls. including

Refreshments, Gifts, Christmas Fare

Kiddies Corner, Tombola and Father Christmas

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

FUNERALS

21st July
Mary Green



'Rest in peace, and rise in glory.'

WEDDINGS



1st July
Eloise Burley and Ryan Percy

'Those whom God has joined together.'

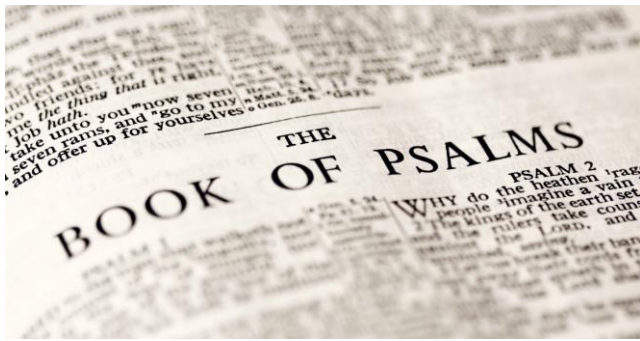
MAGAZINE DEADLINE

Final day for items for the OCTOBER-NOVEMBER edition:

SUNDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER

Please submit items to the Editor
email: magazine@stleonardslexden.org.uk

Please include your name with any submission
and limit text to 500-600 words maximum.
Longer articles may be edited. Thank you.



An Evening with the Psalms

The Evening with Psalms came about following a comment at the Lent course about how we all wished we knew more about the Psalms. Thanks to a lot of work by Maggie, Sarah, Simon, the Choir & the musicians, we were treated to a very special service full of music and praise. As part of the service, we were invited to look at Psalm 136 and write our own verse, that a cantor then sang, followed by a simple response “His love endures forever.” The completed St Leonard’s Psalm is recreated below for everyone to enjoy.

THE ST LEONARD’S PSALM

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever.
Give thanks to the God of Gods. His love endures forever.
Give thanks to the Lord of Lords. His love endures forever.
O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever.
We are fed through His body and His blood. His love endures forever.
O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever.
For He is the only true light of the world. His love endures forever.
O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever.
He upholds the people and life of His Church. His love endures forever.
Who has given us raw materials to make things for the good of all. His love endures forever.
Give thanks to the Lord who loves you. His love endures forever.
And accepts you for what you are. His love endures forever.
Who is that arm around your shoulder. His love endures forever.
And that voice whispering in your ear. His love endures forever.
Who is the light of the world. His love endures forever.
And brings love and joy into your life. His love endures forever.
Who brings you His peace. His love endures forever.
Give thanks to the God of heaven. His love endures forever.



ROYAL MARSDEN COFFEE MORNING

Thank you so much to everyone who supported the Royal Marsden coffee morning last month. It was lovely to see so many people in Church supporting a wonderful cause. The final total is an incredible £789.38, and we expect to receive a further £86.25 in Gift Aid. You will have read in Matt's article earlier that the charity does fantastic work supporting patients and their families through some really difficult times and I know many of you will have 1st hand experience of the wonderful work they do. Thanks again, **Esther**.

STRAWBERRY TEA

Thank you to Sarah Orr for hosting a strawberry team at her home which raised a fantastic £244 for Church funds.



WORLD'S BIGGEST
COFFEE
MORNING

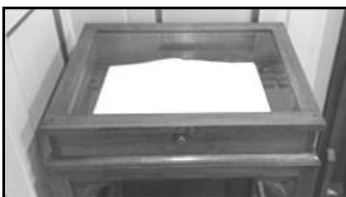
MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

We will be holding our Macmillan Coffee Morning on Saturday 30th September in Church. Please come along to support a great cause and have a look at the beautiful Harvest decorations.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE AUGUST & SEPTEMBER

Spurrier, Rose Hilda 1st October 1906 – 5th August 1975
Blake, Michael David 27th November 1927 – 2nd August 1997
Buckley, Elsa 28th December 1916 – 19th August 2002
Dalton, George Harold 1st March 1919 – 17th August 1999
Beard, Paul 18th March 1979 – 14th August 2004
Wiggins, Mary Grace 21st March 1923 – 9th August 2005
Walden, Arthur William James 14th May 1915 – 6th August 1966
Keeble, Jessie Birtles 20th August 1933 – 24th August 2007
Claxton, Betty Louise 2nd January 1920 – 15th August 2003
Keble, Doris Ellen 28th May 1909 – 24th August 2008
Bridge, John Henry Ayden 4th November 1923 – 12th August 2010
Harrison, Sydney 3rd December 1922 – 22nd August 2010
Teggin, Edward 'Ted' 23rd July 1926 – 7th August 2012
Cook, Albert Victor 22nd March 1904 – 21st September 1980
Kenway, Henry Charles 10th February 1920 – 1st September 1999
Barnes, Herbert James 16th January 1929 – 5th September 1999
Nickolls, Alfred Herbert George 19th October 1916 – 27th September 2003
O'Neill, Claire Natalie 8th January 1968 – 18th September 2005
Blowers, Pearl Elizabeth 8th February 1921 – 6th September 2006
Austin, Bernard William 30th June 1925 – 14th September 2007
Kitson, Mary Jane 2nd April 1963 – 20th September 2010
Jacklin, Janet Evelyn 27th March 1927 – 22nd September 2010



If you would like the name of a relative added to the Book of Remembrance, you will find forms with instructions on the bookcase beside the north door.

REGULAR SERVICES

Sunday	8.00am 1662 BCP Holy Communion (1st & 3rd Sundays) 9.45am PARISH EUCHARIST with Junior Church Or All Age Eucharist (1st Sunday in the month) 5.30pm Evensong and Sermon (2nd Sunday) 5.30pm Eucharist for Wholeness & Healing (4th Sunday)
Monday	8:45am Morning Prayer
Tuesday	8:45am Morning Prayer
Wednesday	10.00am Eucharist
Thursday	8.00am Eucharist

During August there are a number of changes to the usual pattern; please check the weekly notices or the diary in this magazine for occasional variations.

Women's Breakfast - St Leonard's Lexden

Our group has been running now for over 5 years, including during the lockdowns when we used to meet on zoom (when we could keep our pyjamas on!)

We average at least 16 people at each breakfast on the third Saturday of every month (except August) and sit down to freshly baked pastries, fresh fruit, yogurt and cereals, not forgetting cafetieres of coffee and pots of tea. Breakfast lasts for about an hour and takes different formats - sometimes we will discuss a specific subject, share personal stories, listen to a speaker, or just chat to one another. Clearing and washing up is also very sociable!

There is no charge and any donations we receive are given to charity; in particular, Crossroads which is a local charity supporting those who are carers for family members. The group is very friendly and relaxed, and we have welcomed many new people. We have even had joint breakfasts with the Men's group up in the hall and really enjoyed their bacon rolls - I'm not so sure that they thought much of our croissants!!

What's our aim? To build up the fellowship of the church, to be there for one another and to enjoy each other's company. We start back on Saturday, September 16th at 8:30 a.m. so if you have nothing else planned come and join us - you will be so very welcome.

God bless, Maggie.

Women's Breakfast



3rd Saturday of the month in Church.
All Welcome, we look forward to seeing you
there...

If you have any questions, please contact.
maggie@stleonardslexden.org.uk