

**Welcome** to St Leonard's. If you're here for the first time or visiting, please say hello.

The nave will usually be open for private prayer & reflection on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday mornings, and Sunday afternoons.

*Please note that this may be subject to change at short notice.*

### THIS SUNDAY'S SERVICES

8:00am **BCP Holy Communion**

9.45am **Parish Eucharist** with Junior Church

(748, 702, 729, 140, 144, 612, Addington Mass)

### PRAYER DIARY & EVENTS

**SUNDAY 17<sup>th</sup>** - we pray for the parishes of Lexden & Shrub End.

**MONDAY** – in the Anglican Communion we pray for The Diocese of Costa Rica: Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America.

8:45am Morning Prayer

1:30pm Funeral of Charles Edison RIP

**TUESDAY** - we pray for staff and pupils at Lexden Primary School.

8:45am Morning Prayer

**WEDNESDAY** – in the Colchester Deanery we pray for the Parish of St James with St Paul (St James the Great) Rector Revd Fr James McCluskey.

9:30am Baby & Toddler Group in the hall

10.00am Eucharist followed by coffee

11:00am Baby & Toddler Group in the hall

11:00am Lent Course

7:00pm Lent Course

**THURSDAY** - we pray for the Salvation Army.

8:00am Eucharist

**FRIDAY** - we pray for all who work in the retail trade.

**SATURDAY** - we pray for the residents of The Chantry and The Mount.

9:00am Church Spring Clean

**Services next Sunday: 24<sup>th</sup> March – Palm Sunday**

9:45am Parish Eucharist with Procession of Palms

3:00pm Messy Palm Sunday

6:30pm The Last 5 Days?

### NEWS AND EVENTS

**Matt's Health** – please see a separate letter from Matt giving an update on his health. Please continue to hold Matt and his family in your prayers as he continues his treatment.

Our Lent Course this year is called **Witnessing Holy Week – through the eyes of those who were there**. The final session is on Wednesday in the Nicholls Room at 11:00am and 7:00pm. We look forward to welcoming you.

**Messy Palm Sunday** takes place on Sunday March 24<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm. Free activities and crafts, food and fun! All children must be accompanied by an adult. Email to let us know that you are coming to: juniorchurch@stleonardslexden.org.uk.

**Easter Services** – please take a flyer detailing all our services during Holy Week and Easter

**Church Spring Clean** – we are holding a Spring Clean of the Church on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March starting at 9:30am. Many hands make light work so if you can help get our beautiful building ready to celebrate Easter, please speak to **Julie**.



**The Last 5 Days?** – Please join us at 6:30pm on Palm Sunday (24<sup>th</sup> March) for a service illustrating the events from Palm Sunday to Good Friday through music, readings and reflection.

**Review of Electoral Roll** In preparation for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on April 28<sup>th</sup>, we shall be reviewing the Electoral Roll. This is not a full review; if you have filled in an application form in the last five years, no further action is required. If you would like your name to be added to the roll, please complete a form and return it to the Parish Office by Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March. Paper forms may be obtained from the back of the church or by contacting the Parish Office. Electronic versions of the form are available on our website or by contacting electoralroll@stleonardslexden.org.uk

### Among those for whom we pray are:

Sonny Milton, David Moxon, Margaret Cox, Kim Harding, Paul Fordham, Chris Tyler, Brenda Cant, Peter Hazlewood, Frances Bonner, Maureen Watkins, Antonia Loxley, Kim Kite, Velma Bryant, Mary Beavan, Pauline Jarvis, Michael Eavery, Freddie Woolard, Jacquie, Ashley Hanmer, Max, Jill Farley, Jan Buckley, Tony Gurney, Shirley Everitt, Stella Llewellyn, Pat Hughes, Doreen Mayes, Matthew Simpkins, Carole Durrant, Holly Donovan, Win Kenway, Freda and Ernest Jenkins, Ellen Whalley, Nick and Margaret Leaning, Pam Hatherly, Owen Shepherd, Frances Dowson, Joan Collis, and those others known to us.

**Those who have died & those who mourn them: Charles Edison, Mary Quartermain**

The Church has a card reader available for contactless payments. Please ask if you need help using it and also Gift Aid your donation if you are able to. Donations can also be made online via our website <http://www.stleonardslexden.org.uk/>

## COLLECT & READINGS (Passion Sunday)

### Collect

Most merciful God,  
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ  
delivered and saved the world:  
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross  
we may triumph in the power of his victory;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### Post Communion Prayer

Gracious Father,  
you gave up your Son  
out of love for the world:  
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,  
that we may know eternal peace  
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

### Jeremiah 31.31–34 (Old Testament, p763)

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, 'Know the Lord', for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

### Psalms 51.1–13 (Old Testament, p550)

Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your steadfast love;  
according to your abundant mercy  
blot out my transgressions.  
Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,  
and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions,  
and my sin is ever before me.  
Against you, you alone, have I sinned,  
and done what is evil in your sight,  
so that you are justified in your sentence  
and blameless when you pass judgement.  
Indeed, I was born guilty,  
a sinner when my mother conceived me.

You desire truth in the inward being;  
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.  
Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Let me hear joy and gladness;  
let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.  
Hide your face from my sins,  
and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and put a new and right spirit within me.  
Do not cast me away from your presence,  
and do not take your holy spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and sustain in me a willing spirit.

Then I will teach transgressors your ways,  
and sinners will return to you.

### Hebrews 5.5–10 (New Testament p235)

So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, 'You are my Son, today I have begotten you'; as he says also in another place, 'You are a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek.'

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

### John 12.20–33 (New Testament p114)

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.'

'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say — "Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.' Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, 'An angel has spoken to him.' Jesus answered, 'This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.' He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.