

**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 **All-Age Parish Eucharist**  
(204, 678, 198, 236, 653, 208)  
12:00pm **Baptism of Eliza Rain Reed**

### PRAYER DIARY & EVENTS

**SUNDAY 7<sup>th</sup>** - we pray for the parishes of Lexden & Shrub End.

**MONDAY** – in the Anglican Communion we pray for The Diocese of Derby: The Church of England.  
8:45am Morning Prayer

**TUESDAY** - we pray for staff and residents at Woodlands Residential Home.  
10:00am Brick Club.  
8:45am Morning Prayer.  
7:30pm Medley House Group.

**WEDNESDAY** – in the Colchester Deanery we pray for the Parish of Christchurch, PIC Revd Chris Smith and Curate Revd Emma Smith.  
10.00am Eucharist followed by coffee.

**THURSDAY** - we pray for the Junior Church team and the children in their care.  
8:00am Eucharist.

**FRIDAY** - we pray for carers.

**SATURDAY** - we pray for the residents of Chitts Hill and Norman Way.  
12:00pm Pot-Luck Lunch for Christian Aid.

**Services next Sunday:  
14<sup>th</sup> April – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter**

9:45am Parish Eucharist with Junior Church  
5:30pm Evensong and Sermon

### NEWS AND EVENTS

**Brick Club** is back! Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April in Church Hall 10am – 12 noon. Just turn up and build! Free of charge. Children must be accompanied by an adult

Next **Medley House Group** will now be held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April (changed from 2<sup>nd</sup>) at the home of Rosemary Elden, 20 Wordsworth Road, starting at 7:30pm. New members will be very welcome. Speak to Rosemary for more details, 01206 515245.

**Pot Luck Lunch** – on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April we are holding a “Pot Luck” lunch in support of Christian Aid. You will be provided with a hot meal and dessert, but you will not know what you are getting! No charge but donations welcome which will be given to Christian Aid. Please sign up on the sheet at the back of Church.

The next **Women's Breakfast** is on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April in the Church. Contact [maggie@stleonardslexden.org.uk](mailto:maggie@stleonardslexden.org.uk) for more details.

**Confirmation Service** – we are delighted that 5 candidates are to be presented for confirmation in a service in St Leonard's at 7:30pm on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April. Please pray for Suzette, Lowena, Mathaniah, Micaiah and Amy Louise as they prepare for this important step on their Christian journey and come along to support them on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

This year's **Annual Parochial Church Meeting** takes place on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April at 12:00pm. Please make every effort to attend if you are able.

### Among those for whom we pray are:

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: Dimitri Annan, Michael Baldwin**

## COLLECT & READINGS (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter)

### **Collect**

Almighty Father,  
you have given your only Son to die for our sins  
and to rise again for our justification:  
grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and  
wickedness  
that we may always serve you  
in pureness of living and truth;  
through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ 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**

Risen Christ,  
for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:  
open the doors of our hearts,  
that we may seek the good of others  
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,  
to the praise of God the Father.

### **Acts 4.32–35 (New Testament, p130)**

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

### **Psalm 133 (Old Testament, p603)**

How very good and pleasant it is  
when kindred live together in unity!  
It is like the precious oil on the head,  
running down upon the beard,  
on the beard of Aaron,  
running down over the collar of his robes.  
It is like the dew of Hermon,  
which falls on the mountains of Zion.  
For there the Lord ordained his blessing,  
life for evermore.

### **I John 1.1 – 2.2 (New Testament p257)**

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us— we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

### **John 20.19–31 (New Testament p123)**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.