

**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**

(709, 563, 664, 454, 602, 593, New People's Mass)

3:00pm **Messy Senses**

### PRAYER DIARY & EVENTS

**SUNDAY 21<sup>st</sup>** - we pray for the parishes of Lexden & Shrub End.

**MONDAY** – in the Anglican Communion we pray for The Diocese of Oru: The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

8:45am Morning Prayer.

7:00pm Eucharist.

7:45pm PCC Meeting.

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

8:45am Morning Prayer.

**WEDNESDAY** – in the Colchester Deanery we pray for the Parish of Lexden (St Leonard's) Associate Priests Revd Viv Mendham, Jacque Messenger & Maggie Whiteman.

9:30am Baby & Toddler Group in the hall.

10:00am Eucharist followed by coffee.

11:00am Baby & Toddler Group in the hall.

7:30pm Confirmation Service at St Luke's, Tiptree.

**THURSDAY** - we pray for the Colchester Debt Centre.

8:00am Eucharist.

2:00pm Pop-Up Café in Church.

**FRIDAY** - we pray for all agricultural workers.

**SATURDAY** - we pray for the residents of Bawtree Way and Lexden Road.

#### Services next Sunday:

**28<sup>th</sup> September – 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity**

9:45am Parish Eucharist with Junior Church and Baptism of Elsie Grace Whiteman

5:30pm Eucharist for Wholeness & Healing

### NEWS AND EVENTS

**Prayer Ministry** is available at the 9:45am services. If you would like someone to pray with you or for you please go to the Lady Chapel following the service.

**The flowers** this week are donated by Joyce Bygrave in memory of two dear friends, Anne Jardine & Pat Humphries, who recently passed away. RIP

**Vacancy Prayer** – please take a copy of our prayer asking for God's guidance in this time of vacancy.

**Messy Church** takes place at 3pm this afternoon and is sure to be great fun with a Messy Senses theme. 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](mailto:juniorchurch@stleonardslexden.org.uk)

**Confirmation** - we are delighted that 2 candidates from St Leonard's are to be presented for confirmation in a service in St Luke's, Tiptree on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September. Please pray for Henry and Isaac as they prepare for this important step on their Christian journey.

**At a "LOOSE END"?** Just drop in to our "pop-up" cafe on the last Thursday of every month starting this Thursday @ 2:00pm

**Songs of Praise and Harvest Supper** – As part of our Harvest celebrations we will be holding a Songs of Praise and Harvest Supper from 3:00pm on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October. You can sign up for the supper on the sheet at the back of Church, tickets are £7.50 for adults and £5.00 for children and will be available after the 9:45am service.

**Domestic Abuse Training** – Maggie has arranged for some training on domestic abuse awareness at 7pm on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October in Church. The session is open to everyone so please come along and learn more about how to spot the signs and where to get help.

Our 9.45am service is usually live-streamed each Sunday to include those who are unable to join with us in person. It is filmed from the balcony, and the chancel and the front five rows of the nave are visible during broadcast. If you do not wish to be on camera, please sit behind this area. We are happy to provide Holy Communion to you in your pew, just let a steward or warden know & we will bring it to you.

### Among those for whom we pray are:

Ann and Paul Redfern, Phyll Wood, Margaret Smith, Sally Christie, Jane Scott-Thompson, Angela Sargent, Father David Armstrong, Dick Verrier, Richard, Derek Cowie, Johanne Bresch, Lionel Simpkins, Brian Root, Katrina Light, Joseph, David Moxon, Kim Harding, Graham Tyler, Jenny and Peter Hazlewood, Frances Bonner, Antonia Loxley, Janice, Kim Kite, Hugh and Mary Beavan, Michael Eavery, Freddie Woolard, Jan Buckley, Tony Gurney, Shirley Everitt, Stella Llewellyn, Pat Hughes, Doreen Mayes, Holly Donovan, Freda and Ernest Jenkins, Pam Hatherly, Owen Shepherd, Frances Dowson, Joan Collis, and those others known to us.

**Those who have died & those who mourn them: Stephanie Howego, Ellen Whalley**

## **COLLECT & READINGS (Matthew the Apostle)**

### **Collect**

O Almighty God,  
whose blessed Son called Matthew the tax collector  
to be an apostle and evangelist:  
give us grace to forsake the selfish pursuit of gain

and the possessive love of riches  
that we may follow in the way of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### **Post Communion Prayer**

Lord God, the source of truth and love,  
keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,  
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,  
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Proverbs 3.13–18 (Old Testament p615)**

Happy are those who find wisdom,  
and those who get understanding,  
for her income is better than silver,  
and her revenue better than gold.  
She is more precious than jewels,  
and nothing you desire can compare with her.  
Long life is in her right hand;  
in her left hand are riches and honour.  
Her ways are ways of pleasantness,  
and all her paths are peace.  
She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her;  
those who hold her fast are called happy.

### **Psalms 119.65-72 (Old Testament, p550)**

You have dealt graciously with your servant,  
according to your word, O Lord.  
O teach me true understanding and knowledge,  
for I have trusted in your commandments.  
Before I was afflicted I went astray,  
but now I keep your word.  
You are gracious and do good;  
O Lord, teach me your statutes.  
The proud have smeared me with lies,

but I will keep your commandments with my whole heart.

Their heart has become gross with fat,  
but my delight is in your law.  
It is good for me that I have been afflicted,  
that I may learn your statutes.  
The law of your mouth is dearer to me  
than a hoard of gold and silver.

### **2 Corinthians 4.1–6 (New Testament, p193)**

Since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practise cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

### **Matthew 9.9-13 (New Testament p9)**

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, 'Follow me.' And he got up and followed him.

And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax-collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, 'Why does your teacher eat with tax-collectors and sinners?' But when he heard this, he said, 'Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, "I desire mercy, not sacrifice." For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.'