



THE PARISH CHURCH OF
ST LEONARD, LEXDEN

ORDINARY PEOPLE. EXTRAORDINARY GOD.

PARISH MAGAZINE



SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2025 £1.00



Constancy in Change

As we enter the season of autumn, the parish of Lexden is in vacancy. The process of appointing a new priest always takes time, so it will be a while before someone new comes to Lexden, but as we look ahead to the future, we're bound to wonder what they will be like. Will they fit in? Will they want to change things? In the years during which I have been worshipping at St Leonard's there have been three different parish priests; some members of the congregation have known four or even five. All those priests brought their own individual styles and ideas to St Leonard's, and all served in different times and seasons, through many changes in the world and in the Church.

I remember the days when the only form of worship in the Church of England was the Book of Common Prayer, and Sunday services were conducted entirely by the priest; members of the congregation never read the lessons and or led the intercessions as they do now; and until 1994 all priests were male. Changes to those long-established practices were perceived by some at the time as a threat to the integrity of the Church, yet now we take them for granted. At St Leonard's there was even division over how comfortable the congregation should expect to be during the service: not everyone approved when pew cushions were installed! Before the extension was built in 2008, the entrance to the church was through heavy, forbidding doors, with poorly lit steps, and inside there was no running water or toilet. But thanks to the bold vision of the then Rector and PCC, and the commitment of the congregation, we now enjoy bright, level access, a flexible space and modern facilities. The church building was adapted and updated, and in

the process, its beauty and holiness, far from being compromised, were enhanced. The power of our faith was affirmed and strengthened to serve in contemporary culture.

Technology has continued to develop at a pace and in ways we could never have envisaged. During the pandemic that technology suddenly became vital, in order for us to stay alive as a church. Creative measures brought about some lasting changes which have broadened and enriched church life. We found new ways to worship, serve and connect as a community: The Friendship Line is now established, and we continue to livestream services from church, making worship more accessible for those unable to attend in person.

Change has not compromised our integrity, and as we look forward to welcoming our next parish priest, we'll keep on serving in the name of Christ in this place and beyond; and each of us has a part to play. The Church is, as St Paul tells us, one body, dependent on all the different parts in order to function. (Romans 12.4-8, 1 Corinthians 12.) Without us there is no Church. Christian ministry takes many and varied forms, whether it's helping to clean the church, serving on the PCC, making regular donations, or simply talking to someone new and making them feel welcome. See the notice board in the extension for more suggestions! St Leonard's lives and flourishes through the love of its members.

So, during this vacancy, we'll draw on wisdom gained from past experience, we'll recognise and encourage the talents and potential in one another, and we'll continue to be a steadfast and reliable Church. And in all this, we'll have as our guide the One who is constant and unchanging, but who is always relevant and contemporary. Jesus is the Church's one foundation, the Word in whom we can trust. He continues to inspire, love and support us through all life's times and changes, as long as we keep him in our sight.

FROM THE EDITOR



Together we look forward to a blessed future.

This edition of the magazine sees a new beginning for St Leonards. By the time you read this the Revd Matthew Simpkins will have become the Priest in Charge at St James Clacton and St Christophers Jaywick. A number of Matts former parishioners were there to see him installed. We wish Matt, Sian and their children all the best for the future. Now we must look to our future and prepare for what could become an interesting few months.

In this copy of the magazine, we have pictures from Matts last service on the 20th of July, details of the Harvest supper and Songs of Praise and a report on the brick club that has run through the school Holidays.

Enjoy the magazine

Mike

**Crossword Solution
(from last magazine)**

•Cards•
•Framing•
•Gallery•

SEBASTIAN WARNER *Framing*

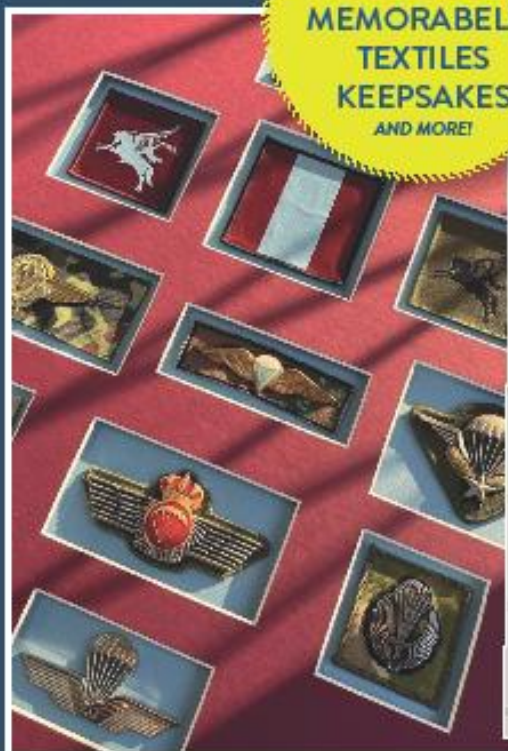
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Harvest at St Leonard's

Harvest will soon be upon us, and we have been asked to make this year's display a bit more special than usual, so I am asking for volunteers to help with this. The harvest displays are not meant to be virtuoso flower arrangements but displays to illustrate Harvest in all its forms. The flower team is now quite small, and we will be glad of YOUR help. We will be putting the displays together on Friday 3rd October. If you are willing to help, please speak to me as soon as possible, and definitely on or by 7th September as I shall be on holiday soon after that date and will need to make plans before I go.

For those who enjoy the weekly flowers, may I ask you to think about making a donation toward these, as funds are currently perilously low?

Many thanks for your kind responses to these requests,

Peter. (01206 766906)

On 5th October as part of our Harvest Celebrations the Church will be holding a Songs of Praise combined with a Harvest Supper. If you would like to nominate a favourite hymn please fill in a request slip and tell us why you have chosen it. We would like choices back Wednesday 17th September so we can go through to find the most popular hymns and start organising the format. There will be a charge for the Harvest supper and funds raised will go to the Church. More details appear later in the Magazine.

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER DIARY

Tuesday 2nd September

11:30am Holy Communion at Cheviot

Wednesday 3rd September

10:00am Eucharist followed by coffee

10:45am Holy Communion at Woodlands

Thursday 4th September

8:00am Eucharist

10:30am Thanksgiving for Major John Richard Nixon RIP

Saturday 6th September

8:30am Men's Breakfast

SUNDAY 7th September – 12th Sunday after Trinity

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)

9:45am ALL-AGE PARISH EUCHARIST with Baptism of Wai Hei Pang

Tuesday 9th September

7:30pm 'Medley' house group (Rosemary 07954-138674)

Wednesday 10th September

9:30am Baby & Toddler Group in the hall

10:00am Eucharist followed by coffee

11:00am Baby & Toddler Group in the hall

Thursday 11th September

8:00am Eucharist

Saturday 13th September

12:00pm Friendship Lunch

SUNDAY 14th September 13th Sunday after Trinity

9:45am PARISH EUCHARIST with Junior Church

5:30pm Evensong and Sermon

Monday 15th September

7:00pm Eucharist

7:45pm PCC Meeting

Wednesday 17th September

9:30am Baby & Toddler Group in the hall

10:00am Eucharist followed by coffee

11:00am Baby & Toddler Group in the hall

7:00pm Bible Study Group

Thursday 18th September

8:00am Eucharist

Saturday 20th September

8:30am Women's Breakfast in the Church

SUNDAY 21st September – Matthew the Apostle

9:45am PARISH EUCHARIST

3:00pm Messy Church

5:30pm Eucharist for Wholeness & Healing

Wednesday 24th September

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 25th September

8:00am Eucharist

SUNDAY 28th September – 15th Sunday after Trinity

9:45am PARISH EUCHARIST with Junior Church and Baptism of Edith Grace Whiteman

5:30pm Eucharist for Wholeness & Healing

Wednesday 1st October

9:30am Baby & Toddler Group in the hall

10:00am Eucharist followed by coffee

10:45am Holy Communion at Woodlands

11:00am Baby & Toddler Group in the hall

Thursday 2nd October

8:00am Eucharist

Saturday 4th October

10:30am Macmillan Coffee Morning

SUNDAY 5th October - Harvest

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)

9:45am ALL AGE EUCHARIST

3:00pm Songs of Praise and Harvest Supper

Tuesday 7th October

11:30am Holy Communion at Cheviot

7:30pm 'Medley' house group (Rosemary 07954-138674)

Wednesday 8th October

9:30am Baby & Toddler Group in the hall

10:00am Eucharist followed by coffee

11:00am Baby & Toddler Group in the hall

Thursday 9th October

8:00am Eucharist

Saturday 11th October

12:00pm Friendship Lunch

SUNDAY 12th October – 17th Sunday after Trinity

9:45am PARISH EUCHARIST with Junior Church

3:00pm SLYC

5:30pm Evensong and Sermon

Wednesday 15th October

9:30am Baby & Toddler Group in the hall

10:00am Eucharist followed by coffee

11:00am Baby & Toddler Group in the hall

7:00pm Bible Study Group

Thursday 16th October

8:00am Eucharist

Saturday 18th October

8:30am Women's Breakfast in the Church

SUNDAY 19th October – Luke the Evangelist

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)

9:45am PARISH EUCHARIST

Wednesday 22nd October

9:30am Baby & Toddler Group in the hall

10:00am Eucharist followed by coffee

11:00am Baby & Toddler Group in the hall

Thursday 23rd October

8:00am Eucharist

SUNDAY 26th October - Sunday Last after Trinity

9:45am PARISH EUCHARIST with Junior Church

5:30pm Eucharist for Wholeness & Healing

Tuesday 28th October

10:00am Brick Club in the hall

Wednesday 29th October

10:00am Eucharist followed by coffee

Thursday 30th October

8:00am Eucharist



MOUSE TAILS

All the Balcony and hall mice were off on their annual holiday to the woods. They now had 4 sledges on which to carry all their belongings and foodstuff through their specially created tunnel. They set off with much excited chatter, the youngsters making plans for what they would do with their Woods cousins, the very young mice were catching a ride on the sledges and looking around wide eyed at the procession of families going through the tunnel, for many it was their first experience of going away. Excited doesn't begin to explain their joy of a new adventure.



It didn't take long for the mice to arrive at the Woods. They first passed by the duck pond and had a chat with their duck friends who reminded them that they would give them a ride on big lily leaves across the pond to the island. The little ones wanted to go there and then but their parents said there would be plenty of time during the holiday to do that and many other things, but first they needed to find their Woods cousins and set up a base camp.



Before too long they met up with one of their cousins who had come to greet them and guide them to their home. Mum Woods came rushing out of the undergrowth arms stretched wide to hug the family's welcome.

It didn't take too long before the visiting mice had settled on their holiday home base, the Balconies settled in the hollow oak tree which they always went for and in no time at all were clustered around the Wood home enjoying a nice cold glass of elderflower cordial (acorn beer for dads!)



After sharing out their food offerings they all enjoyed an impromptu picnic, it was a happy sight, adults catching up on their news and the youngsters disappearing off with their Woods cousins to seek adventures.

Summer holiday was fabulous for everyone, the ducks kept their word and gave lily leaf rides to the island where the mice had a wonderful time playing pirates, castaways and all sorts. It has to be said that, although the Mallards were very well meaning they tended to be a tad forgetful and, on one occasion, Mum Hall went looking for little Milly as she'd been gone a long time, scooting up to the nearest duck she asked if all the mice had been brought back from the island? "I don't know" he said, "I'll go and look". Sure enough on the edge of the island was a tearful little Milly.



"Its OK dear", said the duck, "hop on my back and I'll give you a ride back to your Mum". After a tearful reunion, Milly and Mum made their way back to base camp.

With only a few days left of their holidays, the mice all gathered to discuss plans for Harvest Festival which was getting close. This summer had been a wonderful growing time in the woods and the return sleds were piled high with watercress, acorn beer and elderberry wine, fresh herbs and greens, and the promise of more to come the following week when the Woods all took a trip to the Hall for Harvest celebrations.

On reaching their respective homes, the Balconies were still full of stories and good memories of their holiday and enjoyed a light supper of watercress and cheese. Mum and Dad were happy to be in their own nest again and the twins settled down to dream of their adventures.



CT

A Prayer in This time of Vacancy

"Thank You Heavenly Father that you are The Way, The Truth and The Life; all things come from you and of your own do we give you. Lead us, Father, during this interregnum, to seek and do your will; to love you and to love one another as you love us.

Direct Your chosen person, Father, and give to those in authority the wisdom and knowledge to discern your will that this parish may grow in faith, hope and above all, love. Amen"



Liturgical Colours

I've been asked by a couple of people lately why we change the colours of our robes and church hangings and so I thought that it might be a good time to put a piece in the magazine. The exact days when these colours are worn in the Church can be found on the Church of England website. It lists all the different saints and festivals, and which colours should be used but the following is the basic explanation:

White symbolises celebration. It's used for joyful occasions like Christmas and Easter, when gold can also be used. White is also used for special events like baptisms, weddings and confirmations. It is also used for child's funeral, which I know is neither celebratory nor joyful but it's to do with purity.

Red represents the Holy Spirit (the Fire of Pentecost) and Martyrdom (blood), so you'll see it used at Pentecost, on the feast days of martyred saints and as we recall Jesus' suffering and death in Holy Week.

Purple symbolises repentance and preparation, which is why you will see it during Advent and Lent. It is often worn at funerals as well.

Green symbolises growth and hope. It is the colour of Ordinary Time – the period between Epiphany and Lent and between Easter and Advent.

I do think that the words 'growth' and 'hope' for the time we wear Green does sound better than 'Ordinary time' which sounds a bit mundane.

And so, as you will see, it's not a matter of which colour do I fancy wearing this week; the colours are dictated by the Church and are very specific to the particular time of year. They are an outward sign of the season that the Church is in.

Reverend Jacquie



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.

Friendship Lunch returns on 13th September

Our popular Friendship Lunch returns on 13th September in the church at 12 noon. This is an informal lunch of delicious homemade soup and cake and an opportunity to meet new people or chat with old friends. If you haven't been before do give it a try. We would love to see you and we can promise you will have made new friends by the end of the lunch! There is no charge, but donations are welcome.

Friendship Lunches take place on the second Saturday of the month from September to March. There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the church, or you can book by phoning the Parish Office on 01206 575565.

The Friendship Lunches Team

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Thank you so much to everyone who supported the coffee morning in July in aid of St Helena Hospice and the Royal Marsden Hospital Charity.

It was lovely to see so many people in Church supporting two wonderful causes. We raised a magnificent £500 which was split between the 2 charities. These charities do 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, Julie and the team.**



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



SAVE THE DATE!

Wednesday, 17th September 2024

Our monthly Bible Study Group will be taking place at 108 Lexden Road – pink cottage next to the Church starting @ 7:00 pm – All welcome.

Please contact Maggie for further details.



At a...
"LOOSE END"?

Just drop in to our "pop-up" cafe on the last Thursday of every month starting on **25th September @ 2:00pm**

Songs of Praise and Harvest Supper

Come and join us in singing some of your favourite hymns followed by a Harvest Supper.

Venue: St Leonard's Church

Date: Sunday 5th October at 3pm.



WORLD'S BIGGEST
COFFEE
MORNING

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

We will be holding our annual Macmillan Coffee Morning on Saturday 4th October in Church. Please come along to support a great cause and have a look at the beautiful Harvest decorations.



The
Children's
Society

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOX OPENING AND COFFEE MORNING 1ST NOVEMBER

If you would like to know about the work of the Children's Society or would like a donations box please speak to Julie, Linda or Rachel.

St Leonards Church Lexden

CHRISTMAS MARKET

2025

Saturday 29th November
In the Church Hall
11:00am to 2:00pm

Come and join us for our Annual Market
All the usual stalls plus some new stalls, including
Refreshments, Gifts, Christmas Fare, Cakes,
Kiddies Corner, Tombola, Raffle and Father Christmas



At a...

**“LOOSE
END” ?**

Just drop in to our
“pop-up” cafe on the
last Thursday of
every month starting
on:

25th September

@ 2:00pm

Further details from:

maggiew234@gmail.com

or

admin@stleonardslexden.org.uk



At a...“LOOSE END?”

It is with great excitement and, after much prayer & discussion, that we are able to announce the setting up of a “pop-up” cafe; it is open to anyone from the parish and hopefully beyond.

Between the hours of 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. on the last Thursday of every month we want people to ‘drop in’ for a chat to enjoy some tea and cake.

The members of **The Friendship Line (Maggie, Viv, Jacquie, Julie, Rosemary, Janice, Marion & David)** will be able to give you more details or call Esther on 01206 575565

Take care & God bless,

Maggie



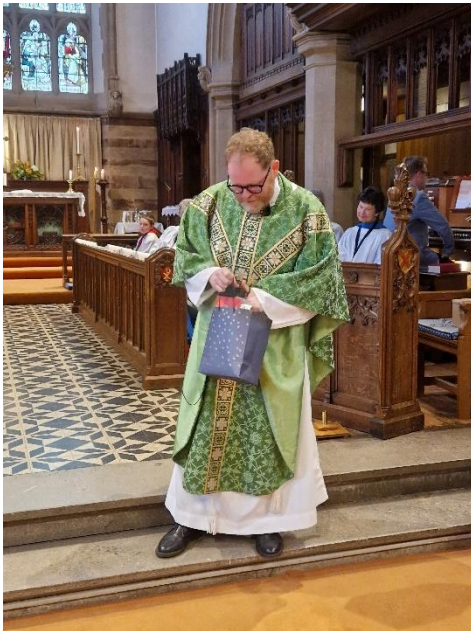
Back in June we hosted a couple of coffee mornings to help the students of Kingswode Hoe School get some experience of what it might be like to work in the hospitality sector.

Thank you to everyone who supported these delightful young people. I know they received a great deal from the experience, and I think we did too.

They will be back with us in December for their Christmas Carol Service - they would love to see you there.

Goodbye

On 20th July, Matt conducted his last service as Priest in Charge of St Leonards Lexden. It was a joyous, if somewhat sad occasion. That morning, we had over 100 in the congregation as many had come to say goodbye. Matt had been with us for seven years although sadly part of that time was lost when he became seriously ill. The congregation collection was used to buy Matt a travelling communion set. On behalf of Junior Church, Messy Church, Toddler Group and the Brick Club, Rachel Burrage presented items that reflected Matt's love of young people.



To Matt



In thanking everyone for their gifts, Matt said how he and his family would miss St Leonard's and the support they had received over the years, in good times and bad. As a parting gift he gave the Church a new copy of the Gospel used in our weekly services to replace the existing copy which has become a little battered from use.

Let your light shine before others Matthew 5:16

These were the words that the leaders and children used to say a fond goodbye to Matt, Sian, Martha and James on their last Sunday in July. We are so grateful to Matt and Sian for all they have done for the young people during their time with us. Matt made it clear from the start that children and families would be welcome in our Church at all times, and he leaves us with many happy memories of all the different ways in which we have worked together to help the children and their carers to experience God's loving care towards us. The gifts we gave reflect some of the wonderful groups we have established or grown over the past seven years.

Firstly, we thanked Sian for supporting Pauline with the Baby and Toddler Group, eventually leading it, and steering the group through the difficult months of Lockdown when our parents and children were particularly vulnerable. So, a bucket and spade seemed an appropriate gift, giving unfailing pleasure on future walks along the beach and encounters with little ones.

Next came Brick Club which Matt was eager to establish, and which has gone on to be a regular well attended event in the school holidays. Our gift was an ice cream parlour Lego set. We know how Matt loves ice cream!

Of course, last Christmas we held a first - Messy Brick Nativity! Matt managed to combine the two groups and what fun the children had adding their brick creations to the nativity scene. Which brings us to Messy Church which is a firm favourite with children and families. What a huge range of stories and themes we have explored. So, a crib set was our third gift so that Matt would have one handy for the Bethlehem box building at his new church at some point!

And lastly Junior Church and SLYC worked together to make a picture showing Matt and his family surrounded by their St Leonard's family. They are represented by candles shining their light as they leave for their new parish, with God's Holy Spirit in the form of stars shining down above them. And so, we continue to pray for them all with the blessing written on the picture and know that many wonderful things will be taking place in Clacton and Jaywick. We will miss them all!



*The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you,
And give you peace.
Numbers 6 : 24-26*



SEPTEMBER- OCTOBER

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>The Baby and Toddler Group runs in the hall every Wednesday in term time at 9.30am or 11.00am. These sessions are identical. The first session this term is the 10th of September. Just turn up!</p> | |
| 7 th September | All Age Service |
| 14 th September Junior Church | <p>Worth Finding</p> <p>Paul explains how he was lost, but God found him and changed him</p> |
| <p>21st September</p> <p>MESSY SENSES</p> <p>3pm - 5pm in the church</p> | <p>Please let us know you are coming if you can.</p> <p>juniorchurch@stleonardslexden.org.uk</p> |
| 28 th September Junior Church | <p>Treasuring Generosity</p> <p>Being generous with time, love and gentleness</p> |
| 5 th October Harvest | All Age Service |
| <p>12th October</p> <p>Junior Church</p> <p>PLUS - SLYC (youth group)</p> <p>in the hall 3pm - 5pm</p> | <p>Card making for those church members who are no longer able to attend</p> <p>Details to follow on our Facebook page</p> |
| <p>26th October</p> <p>Junior Church</p> <p>PLUS - MESSY CHURCH</p> <p>3pm - 5pm in the church</p> | <p>God stood by me</p> <p>God is with us always!</p> <p>Please let us know you are coming if you can. More details to follow!</p> <p>juniorchurch@stleonardslexden.org.uk</p> |
| <p>Tuesday 28th October</p> <p>Brick Club in the hall 10am - 12 noon</p> | Just turn up and build! |

Families and Children at St Leonard's

What's on in September and October?

Well, the answer is that there is something for everyone!

For the youngest children and their carers [St Leonard's Baby and Toddler group](#) starts again on Wednesday 10th September in the hall. We run two identical sessions at 9.30am and 11.00am each Wednesday in term time. We usually start the autumn term by having fun with our Harvest theme of tractors, farms and sensory play. No need to book, just turn up.

[Junior Church](#) runs at 9.45am on most Sundays and is aimed at school-age children. The children explore bible stories in a reflective and creative way and then rejoin the service towards the end. For those who are younger we have a special place at the back of the church with books and toys, and where parents can join in with the service. Our next Junior Church is Sunday 14th September.

Our next [Messy Church](#) takes place at 3pm on Sunday 21st September and is sure to be action packed with a Messy Senses theme. This is an informal family worship session with activities suitable for pre-school and primary school children. We share some of the classic stories or themes of the Bible through crafts, songs and worship. At the end we all sit down together to share a meal. Messy Church takes place five or six times a year.

[Brick Club](#) usually takes place on Tuesday mornings during the school holidays from 10am – 12 noon in the hall. This is an opportunity for pre-school and primary age children to have fun building creatively with Lego. Carers can join in or have a chat with friends. Refreshments are provided and there is no charge for the session.

Finally, our [SLYC](#) youth group is aimed at children in Year 4 and above and our first session this term is at 3pm in the hall on Sunday 12th October. This group is an active session with games and activities. We like to think about ways we can help in the world, and to share our experiences of faith and life. Most of all we like to have fun! And there's a Tuck Shop!

To find out more about any of the above email
baby&toddler@stleonardslexden.org.uk
juniorchurch@stleonardslexden.org.uk

MESSY SENSES



Sunday 21st September 3pm
at St Leonard's Church Lexden



Children must be accompanied by an adult.
Please email to let us know if you are coming:
juniorchurch@stleonardslexden.org.uk

Baby and Toddler Group



Every Wednesday during term-time
in the Church Hall

Session Times – 9:30am and 11:00am



Find us at www.facebook.com/stleonardsbabyandtoddlergroup

St Leonard's Baby and Toddler Group

The Baby and Toddler group runs every Wednesday morning in term time in the church hall. There are two identical sessions in the morning which run for an hour. One starts at 9.30am and another at 11.00am. The group is well established and there is always a warm welcome for carers and their children. Each session is based on a theme with a range of activities to engage babies and toddlers. We provide tea, coffee and a snack during the session and the children have a great time playing and exploring. The Facebook page gives a flavour of the sessions so do have a look. No need to book. Just turn up.

Brick club

Brick Club returned over the course of the summer break, and we were pleased to welcome many new young people.

The Club is free, but we do accept donations towards the cost of refreshments. The school break this year was shorter than usual but never the less about 100 hundred youngsters attended, accompanied by their adults, happily not all at once!

Thank you to everyone who ensured that we are successfully able to run this important outreach



PCC Charities for 2024-25

At the November PCC meeting it was agreed that the following charities should receive our support this year. Each charity will receive a donation of £925.

- Colchester Foodbank
- Korban (helps homeless young adults in Colchester)
- OMF (overseas mission)
- CYO (Christian Youth Outreach)
- Youth Enquiry Service (Adolescent mental health charity)
- English for Women (Educational charity for female refugees)
- Next Chapter (Women's refuge)
- Colchester Debt Centre (new name for CAP)



As usual, we will be collecting donations for Colchester Foodbank at our Harvest Thanksgiving service on 5th October.

Below is their current shopping list

SMALL BAGS OF RICE
LONGLIFE JUICE
CARRIER BAGS/REUSEABLE BAGS
TINNED FRUIT
TINNED POTATOES
TINS OR PACKETS OF CUSTARD
PEANUT BUTTER
RAZORS
SMALL JARS OF COFFEE
SMALL MULTIPACK SNACKS
(penguin/club/twix)

LONGLIFE MILK
SHAMPOO
SQUASH
DEODORANTS
TINNED PUDDINGS
JAM
TOOTHBRUSH/TOOTH PASTE
SHOWER GEL
SMALL WASHING POWDER/LIQUID
TINNED TOMATOES



THE PARISH CHURCH OF
ST LEONARD, LEXDEN

Songs of Praise followed by Harvest Supper



Sunday 5th October
Songs of Praise at
3:00pm
Tickets £7.50 per
adult, £5:00 under 16
Please bring your own
drinks





From the Archives

Pelham Rawston Papillon DSO (1864 – 1940)

The last true Lord of the Manor, he was born in London but spent much of his youth at Lexden, due to his father's political links to Colchester. As a young man he was interested in Archaeology and in the grounds of the manor found an ivory carving of a Gladiator from Roman time, This was donated to the British Museum and is on display. (Why not Colchester's Museum?) He went to Oxford and studied law and played County Cricket for Sussex. Pelham was always destined for the military and served in the Royal Sussex Regiment. He was active in the 2nd Boar war and served under Lord Kitchener, being mentioned in dispatches in Kitchener's final communique of 23rd June 1902.

In 1914 he invited the Revd Thomas Stamford Raffles to be the Rector of St Leonards. Raffles was a direct descendant of the Raffles who set up Singapore in 1819. At the outbreak of WWI in 1914, when he was in his 50s, he was tasked with commanding the newly formed 13th battalion of the 3rd Essex Regiment known as the West Ham Battalion (a Pals Battalion). He was respected by the men and looked after their needs. The 1st of July 1916 was the first day of the Somme offensive, a battle that would last for most of the year. He was wounded while leading his men over the top at Deville Wood, refused help and continued to lead. The following day he was again wounded. For this action he received the DSO and the citation appeared in the London Gazette of 20th October 1916.

He had little to do with Lexden after that, it appears that his younger brother (Harold Garnier) inherited the advowson and used it to appoint the Rectors including SL Dolph. However, Harold died in 1930, 10 years

prior to his older brother Pelham. The Advowson and the title Lord of the Manor went to Harold's eldest son David Pelham Papillon. David never married although it was announced in the Tatler that he had become engaged, but this had been broken off. It was also reported that at one time he was seen with a young Margaret Roberts who was quite keen on him. Margaret Roberts went on to marry a Denis Thatcher and became the country's first female Prime minister.

Pelham Rawston's military ranks were all acting apart from when he became a lieutenant. It was not until 27th July 1927 that his final rank of Lieut. Colonel was confirmed in the London Gazette and signed off by the Lord Lieutenant of Sussex.

Harold Garnier Papillon who held the Benefice married later in life and had two children with his wife Elizabeth. However, the family had fallen on hard times and money was tight. It appeared that when Harold died it looked as though the manor would have to be sold. But at the last minute his widow married a Mr Lawrence and all was saved. However, with David not marrying and producing an heir and his younger brother being killed in Normandy in June 1944 the family line died out in 1977. Thus ending 900 years of history.

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

Crossword

Answers in Next Magazine

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FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

13th July
Amelia Ives
Reeva Millard



'One Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all.'

FUNERALS



4th July
Colin Hazell
19th August
Janet Birtles

'Rest in peace and rise in glory.'

MAGAZINE DEADLINE

Final day for items for the NOVEMBER-DECEMBER edition:

SUNDAY 9TH NOVEMBER

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.



The Church of England
in Essex and East London

Diocese of Chelmsford

21 August 2025

The Bishop of Chelmsford, the Rt Rev Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani is encouraging church congregations in Chelmsford Diocese to take part in a day of prayer for peace in the Middle East on Sunday 21 September.

The day of prayer is being organised to coincide with the UN's International Day of Peace, and all Church of England congregations have been invited to participate.

Bishop Guli said:

"I have had the opportunity to visit and spend time with our friends in the Anglican Diocese of Jerusalem on two occasions during this conflict. They emphasised the important role we have to play in the Church of England in speaking out and praying for a just peace. I encourage congregations across Chelmsford Diocese to use the prayer the Archbishop in Jerusalem has written for 21 September, which prays for an immediate end to the war, the release of all captives, help for those suffering hunger and starvation in Gaza and beyond and the resumption of negotiations for a just and lasting peace."

Prayer material and other information will be made available on special pages of the ecumenical groups Churches Together in England and Churches Together in Britain and Ireland.

Further events and opportunities for church engagement are planned for the coming months the details of which will be released in due course.

A prayer for the Holy Land

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: In your mercy, provide for all those in Gaza and beyond who suffer from hunger and starvation, that they may be given both physical bread to nourish their bodies and heavenly bread to sustain their souls. By the power of your Spirit, bring a speedy end to this cruel war, the release of all captives, care for the sick and wounded, comfort for those who have lost loved-ones, and the opening of a pathway for a just and lasting peace here in the very homeland where your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ministered during his earthly life; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The Most Reverend Dr Hosam E. Naoum Anglican Archbishop
in Jerusalem
August 2025

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

SEPTEMBER

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 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 |

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.

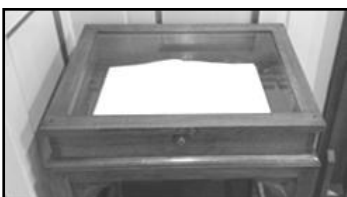
If you would like to attend – or to find out more - please email
bereavement@stleonardslexden.org.uk



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.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE OCTOBER

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Geernaert, Charlotte Everitt | 4th March 1839 - 6th October 1919 |
| Boswell, Edith Amelia | 25th June 1910 - 22nd October 1998 |
| Davey, Peter Nigel | 4th March 1920 - 31st October 2001 |
| Barnes, Jean Doris | 8th August 1933 - 26th October 2003 |
| Funnell, Donald de Jersey | 9th March 1910 - 2nd October 1971 |
| Enfield, Jill Marion | 17th November 1939 - 4th October 1996 |
| Goddard, Jennifer Mary | 29th February 1940 – 3rd October 2006 |
| Austin, Margaret Ann | 19th January 1926 – 12th October 2007 |
| Bryant, Charles John | 18th November 1928 – 28th October 2012 |
| Goodyear, Gwendoline Hilda | 17th December 1921 - 24th October 2014 |
| Hodge, David Campbell | 2nd July 1918 - 22nd October 2014 |
| Davis, Marie Ellen | 28th March 1921 - 22nd October 2015 |
| Calvert, Albert Cyril Holcombe | 24th June 1896 - 9th October 1965 |
| Burgess, Doris Evelyn | 6th November 1903 - 6th October 2002 |
| Pugh, Catherine Kirkpatrick | 19th December 1928 - 24th October 2020 |
| Cook, Dennis Albert Frederick | 21st October 1928 - 31st October 2019 |
| Christie, Anthony Charlwood | 27 th December 1934 – 8 th October 2020 |



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 (1 st Sunday of 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 |



Annual Memorial Service
Sunday 2nd November
5:30pm

St Leonard's annual Memorial Service will be held on Sunday 2nd November at 5.30pm. This is a moving and simple service which features music, prayers, simple readings and an opportunity to light a candle to remember loved ones. There will be a sheet at the back of Church throughout October if you would like to add the name of a loved one to those to be remembered during the Commemoration of the Departed.