

**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 some 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**

(494, 603, 621, 427, 602, 593, Webster Mass)

### PRAYER DIARY & EVENTS

**SUNDAY 25<sup>th</sup>** - we pray for the parishes of Lexden & Shrub End.

**MONDAY** – in the Anglican Communion we pray for The Diocese of Sur: Iglesia Anglicana de Chile.

8:45am Morning Prayer.

2:00pm Digital Skills Course.

**TUESDAY** - we pray for staff and pupils at Kingswode Hoe School.

8:45am Morning Prayer.

**WEDNESDAY** – in the Colchester Deanery we pray for all retired clergy.

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

10.00am Eucharist followed by coffee.

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

**THURSDAY** - we pray for the Coptic Church.

8:00am Eucharist.

2:00pm Pop-Up Café in Church.

**FRIDAY** - we pray for all who work in our Fire Service.

**SATURDAY** - we pray for the residents of Cooks Lane and Ratcliffe Road.

#### Services next Sunday

**1<sup>st</sup> February – Presentation of Christ (Candlemas)**

8:00am BCP Holy Communion

9:45am All-Age Christingle & Eucharist for Candlemas

### 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.

Thank you to everyone who donated items to the **Winter Warmer** project – we had a great response and the charity are very grateful for the support.

**Repairs to Nave Roof** – Work on replacing the roof tiles has started and is likely to take until early May to complete. There will be no impact on services as the Church will be open throughout the works but please take extra care around the Churchyard.

**At a “LOOSE END”?** Just drop in to our “pop-up” café this Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> January, @ 2:00pm.

**SLYC is back!** Fun for Year 4 children and above featuring the ever popular Tuck Shop! Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February, from 3-5pm in the church hall. Email to let us know that you are coming to: [juniorchurch@stleonardslexden.org](mailto:juniorchurch@stleonardslexden.org)

This year's **Christingle & Eucharist for Candlemas** will be on Sunday February 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:45am. This will be an All-Age service. As in previous years, St. Leonard's is supporting the work of The Children's Society at this service, please pick up an envelope or collecting box and return at the service.

**Liz Adams** would be glad of any LARGE glass jars (e.g. empty Coffee jars) you can spare to use in flower arrangements. Please bring to Church and she will collect.

Mandy Allston will be selling raffle tickets after the 9:45am service in aid of **Brain Cancer Research**, £1 a ticket.

Our 9.45am service is usually live-streamed to include those who are unable to join with us. It is filmed from the balcony, and only the chancel area is visible during broadcast. The camera will be turned away during the giving of communion to avoid members of the congregation being visible.. We are happy to provide Communion to you in your pew, just let a steward or warden know.

### Among those for whom we pray are:

Simon Eavery, Fiona Hunt, Robert Messinger, Ann and Paul Redfern, Phyll Wood, Margaret Smith, Angela Sargent, 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: James Blythe**

## **COLLECT & READINGS (The Conversion of Paul)**

### **Collect**

Almighty God,  
who caused the light of the gospel  
to shine throughout the world  
through the preaching of your servant Saint Paul:  
grant that we who celebrate his wonderful conversion  
may follow him in bearing witness to your truth;  
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**

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.

### **Jeremiah 1.4–10 (Old Testament, p725)**

The word of the Lord came to me saying,  
'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,  
and before you were born I consecrated you;  
I appointed you a prophet to the nations.'  
Then I said, 'Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to  
speak, for I am only a boy.' But the Lord said to me,  
'Do not say, "I am only a boy";  
for you shall go to all to whom I send you,  
and you shall speak whatever I command you.  
Do not be afraid of them,  
for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord.'  
Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth;  
and the Lord said to me,  
'Now I have put my words in your mouth.  
See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms,  
to pluck up and to pull down,  
to destroy and to overthrow,  
to build and to plant.'

### **Psalms 67 (Old Testament, p558)**

May God be gracious to us and bless us  
and make his face to shine upon us, Selah  
that your way may be known upon earth,  
your saving power among all nations.  
Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,  
for you judge the peoples with equity  
and guide the nations upon earth. Selah  
Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has yielded its increase;  
God, our God, has blessed us.  
May God continue to bless us;  
let all the ends of the earth revere him.

### **Acts 9.1–22 (New Testament p136)**

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.' The men who were travelling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, 'Ananias.' He answered, 'Here I am, Lord.' The Lord said to him, 'Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.' But Ananias answered, 'Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.' But the Lord said to him, 'Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.' So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.' And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, 'He is the Son of God.' All who heard him were amazed and said, 'Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem among those who invoked this name? And has he not come here for the purpose of bringing them bound before the chief priests?' Saul became increasingly more powerful and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Messiah.

### **Matthew 19.27–end (New Testament p22)**

Then Peter said in reply, 'Look, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man is seated on the throne of his glory, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and will inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.'