

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

9:45am **Parish Eucharist with Junior Church**
(335, 108, 134, 107, 140, Lent Prose, 646, Addington Mass)

5:30pm **Eucharist for Wholeness & Healing**

PRAYER DIARY & EVENTS

SUNDAY 22nd - we pray for the parishes of Lexden & Shrub End.

MONDAY – in the Anglican Communion we pray for The Diocese of Texas: The Episcopal Church.

8:45am Morning Prayer.

2:00pm Digital Skills Course.

TUESDAY - we pray for staff & residents at New Hythe.

8:45am Morning Prayer.

WEDNESDAY – in the Colchester Deanery we pray for our City Centre Parishes St Peter PIC Revd Mark Wallace and St Botolph PIC Revd Chris Smith.

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 Eastern Orthodox Church.

8:00am Eucharist.

2:00pm Pop-Up Café in Church.

FRIDAY - we pray for all musicians, writers and artists.

SATURDAY - we pray for the residents Endsleigh Court and Scott Drive.

Services next Sunday

1st March – 2nd Sunday of Lent

8:00am BCP Holy Communion

9:45am All-Age Parish Eucharist

3:00pm SLYC in the hall

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 funeral of **Revd Henry Heath** will take place at Holy Trinity Long Melford at 12 Noon on 27th Feb.

Our **Lent Course** this year is based on the book Dancing to the Heartbeat of God - Stories of Discipleship: The Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 2026. Sessions take place in the Nicholls Room at 11:00am and 7:00pm, starting this Wednesday and continuing on 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th March. We look forward to welcoming you.

At a "LOOSE END"? Just drop in to our "pop-up" café this Thursday, 26th February, @ 2:00pm.

SLYC is back! Fun for Year 4 children and above featuring the ever popular Tuck Shop! Sunday 1st March, from 3-5pm in the church hall. Email to let us know that you are coming to: juniorchurch@stleonardslexden.org

Our **Church Spring Quiz** takes place on Friday March 13th starting at 7:00pm in the Church Hall. Tickets are priced at £10 (£5 under 16's) and include a light supper. They will be available from Steve Whiteman after the 9:45am service.

Liz Adams would like to thank everyone who has donated glass jars, she now has enough for the Easter flowers.

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:

Margaret Cox, Chris Andrews, Margaret Cox, Simon Eavery, Fiona Hunt, Robert Messinger, Eddie Allston. Margaret Smith, Angela Sargent, Dick Verrier, Richard, 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, 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: Patricia Thomas, Doreen Mayes, Revd Henry Heath

COLLECT & READINGS (1st Sunday of Lent)

Collect

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit;
and, as you know our weakness,
so may we know your power to save;
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

Heavenly Father,
your Son battled with the powers of darkness,
and grew closer to you in the desert:
help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer that we may witness to your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Genesis 2.15–17; 3.1–7 (Old Testament, p2)

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, ‘You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.’

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, ‘Did God say, “You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?”’ The woman said to the serpent, ‘We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, “You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.”’ But the serpent said to the woman, ‘You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.’ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

Romans 5.12–19 (New Testament p166)

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned— sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not

reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man’s trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man’s sin. For the judgement following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man’s trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Therefore just as one man’s trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man’s act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man’s obedience the many will be made righteous.

Matthew 4.1–11 (New Testament p3)

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.’ But he answered, ‘It is written, “One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”’

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, “He will command his angels concerning you”, and “On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.”’

Jesus said to him, ‘Again it is written, “Do not put the Lord your God to the test.”’

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; and he said to him, ‘All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

“Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.”’

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.