

**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 **All-Age Parish Eucharist for Mothering Sunday**

(138, 315, 826, 136, 137, 656, Addington)

### PRAYER DIARY & EVENTS

**SUNDAY 15<sup>th</sup>** - we pray for the parishes of Lexden & Shrub End.

**MONDAY** – in the Anglican Communion we pray for The Diocese of Udi: The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion).  
8:45am Morning Prayer.

**TUESDAY** - we pray for staff & pupils at Lexden Primary School.  
8:45am Morning Prayer.

**WEDNESDAY** – in the Colchester Deanery we pray for the Parish of Shrub End (All Saints with St Cedd).  
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 United Reform Church.  
8:00am Eucharist.

**FRIDAY** - we pray for all who work in the financial sector.

**SATURDAY** - we pray for the residents Fitzwilliam Road and Sheridan Walk.  
8:30am Women's Breakfast.

#### Services next Sunday

**22<sup>nd</sup> March – Passion Sunday**

9:45am Parish Eucharist with Junior Church

3:00pm Messy Easter

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.

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 on Wednesday and conclude on 25<sup>th</sup> March. We look forward to seeing you.

**Easter Flowers** – if you would like to donate towards the Easter flowers in memory of a loved one or to celebrate a special occasion please speak to Liz Adams 01206-549521.

**Women's Breakfast** – takes place on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 8:30am in the Church.

**Messy Easter** takes place on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 3:00pm. 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)

If Maureen Watkins was still with us, we know that she would want to be part of the fund-raising initiative for the roof repairs. With that in mind the Women's & Men's Breakfast Groups are running a joint **Parish Breakfast on Easter Saturday**, 4th April at 8:30 a.m. Please sign up on the form at the back of the church by Sunday 29th March. Donations on the day will go to the Raise the Roof fund.

**Community Barn Dance** – join us in the Church hall on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April for live music and dancing, with caller provided by local band Ducking and Diving. Tickets £15 including refreshments. For tickets see Mandy Allston.

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:

Mick Adams, Joy Harman, Margaret Cox, Simon Eavery, Fiona Hunt, Robert Messinger, Eddie Allston. Margaret Smith, 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: Angela Sargent**

## **COLLECT & READINGS (Mothering Sunday)**

### **Collect**

God of compassion,  
whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,  
shared the life of a home in Nazareth,  
and on the cross drew the whole human  
family to himself:

strengthen us in our daily living  
that in joy and in sorrow  
we may know the power of your presence  
to bind together and to heal;  
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**

God of love,  
passionate and strong,  
tender and careful:  
watch over us and hold us  
all the days of our life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Exodus 2.1-10 (Old Testament, p52)**

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's

mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because', she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

### **Psalm 34.11-20 (Old Testament, p538)**

### **Colossians 3.12-17 (New Testament p216)**

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

### **John 19.25-27 (New Testament p122)**

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.