

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 Baptism of Montgomery Cook**
 (363, 595, 242, 448, 653, 791, St Thomas Mass)
 12:00pm **Baptism of Jonathan, Callie and Freddie Helbing**
 5:30pm **Evening Prayer**

PRAYER DIARY & EVENTS

SUNDAY 26th - we pray for the parishes of Lexden, Stanway & Shrub End.

MONDAY – in the Anglican Communion we pray for The Diocese of Armagh: The Church of Ireland.
 8:45am Morning Prayer.

TUESDAY - we pray for staff and residents at Woodlands Residential Home.
 8:45am Morning Prayer.
 10:00am Brick Club in the hall.

WEDNESDAY – in the Colchester Deanery we pray for the University of Essex (Colchester Campus) Chaplain.
 10.00am Eucharist followed by coffee.

THURSDAY - we pray for the United Reform Church.
 8:00am Eucharist.
 2:00pm Pop-Up Café in Church.

FRIDAY - we pray for all those who work in the retail industry.

SATURDAY - we pray for the residents of Back Lane and London Road.
 8:30am Men's Breakfast.

Services next Sunday
2nd August – 9th Sunday after Trinity

8:00am BCP Holy Communion
 9:45am All-Age Parish Eucharist with Baptism of Finn and Seth Percy

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.

Brick Club is back! Every Tuesday during the school holidays in the Hall. 10am – 12 noon. Just turn up and build! Free of charge. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Evening Service – 4th Sunday of the Month. Please note that from today onwards the Eucharist for Wholeness & Healing held at 5:30pm on the 4th Sunday will be celebrated as Evening Prayer. All welcome.

At a “LOOSE END”? Just drop in to our “pop-up” café this Thursday, 30th July, @ 2:00pm.

Men's Breakfast takes place next Saturday, August 1st in the Nicholls Room.

The next **Medley House Group** is at 7:30pm on Tuesday 4th August at the home of Rosemary Elden, 20 Wordsworth Road. New members will be very welcome. Speak to Rosemary for more details, 07954-138674.

Confirmation – we are considering running a confirmation class in the Autumn. If you are interested or have questions please speak to any of the clergy team. 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:

Tony Cross, Eileen Moxon, Margaret Cox, Fiona Hunt, Eddie Allston. Margaret Smith, Dick Verrier, Johanne Bresch, Katrina Light, Kim Harding, Jenny and Peter Hazlewood, Frances Bonner, Antonia Loxley, Janice, Kim Kite, Hugh and Mary Beavan, Michael Eavery, Freddie Woolard, Jan Buckley, Shirley Everitt, Stella Llewellyn, Pat Hughes, Holly Donovan, Freda and Ernest Jenkins, Pam Hatherly, Frances Dowson, Joan Collis, and those others known to us.

Those who have died & those who mourn them.

COLLECT & READINGS (8th Sunday after Trinity)

Collect

Almighty Lord and everlasting God,
we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern both our
hearts and bodies in the ways of your laws and the
works of your commandments;
that through your most mighty protection, both here
and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul;
through our Lord and Saviour 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,
your Son left the riches of heaven
and became poor for our sake:
when we prosper save us from pride,
when we are needy save us from despair,
that we may trust in you alone;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

I Kings 3.5–12 (Old Testament, p327)

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, 'Ask what I should give you.' And Solomon said, 'You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart towards you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?'

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, 'Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.'

Psalms 119.129-136 (Old Testament, p598)

Romans 8.26-end (New Testament p168)

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his

purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, 'For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.' No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Matthew 13.31–33, 44–52 (New Testament p15)

He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'

He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.'

'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.'

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.'

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

'Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old'.