

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**

(781, 519, 806, 437, 512, 588, New People's Mass)

12:00pm **Baptism of Isla-Rai Ayles**

PRAYER DIARY & EVENTS

SUNDAY 16th - we pray for the parishes of Lexden, Stanway & Shrub End.

MONDAY – in the Anglican Communion we pray for The Diocese of Badagry: The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion).

8:45am Morning Prayer.

TUESDAY - we pray for staff and residents at Woodland Drive Care Home.

8:45am Morning Prayer.

10:00am Brick Club in the hall.

WEDNESDAY – in the Colchester Deanery we pray for the Parish Of Myland (St Michael) Associate Priest Revd Hazel Greenland.

10.00am Eucharist followed by coffee.

THURSDAY - we pray for the Christian Churches of India, Pakistan & Bangladesh.

8:00am Eucharist.

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

SATURDAY - we pray for the residents of Beaver Close and Masefield Drive.

Services next Sunday

23rd August – 12th Sunday after Trinity

9:45am Parish Eucharist

5:30pm Evening Prayer

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.

Our Pop-Up Café on Thursday 27th August will be offering Afternoon Tea. So if you're not busy why not pop-in. All welcome, please sign up on the sheet at the back of Church or via the Parish Administrator - call 01206 575565 or email admin@stleonardslexden.org.uk Donations will go to Church funds.

Friendship Lunch returns on Saturday 12th September. Please sign up on the sheet at the back of Church or via the Parish Administrator - call 01206 575565 or email admin@stleonardslexden.org.uk

Beacon House are looking for people to join their volunteer team – for details see the poster in Church

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 (11th Sunday after Trinity)

Collect

O God, you declare your almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace, that we, running the way of your commandments, may receive your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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 glory, the end of our searching, help us to lay aside all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom, and to give all that we have to gain the pearl beyond all price, through our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Isaiah 56.1, 6–8 (Old Testament, p713)

Thus says the Lord:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come,
and my deliverance be revealed.

And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord,

to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord,
and to be his servants,
all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,
and hold fast my covenant—
these I will bring to my holy mountain,
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt-offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar;
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.

Thus says the Lord God,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel,
I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered.

Psalms 67 (Old Testament, p558)

Romans 11.1–2a, 29–32 (New Testament p171)

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. For the gifts and the calling of God are

irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Matthew 15.10–28 (New Testament p17)

Then he called the crowd to him and said to them, 'Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.' Then the disciples approached and said to him, 'Do you know that the Pharisees took offence when they heard what you said?' He answered, 'Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.' But Peter said to him, 'Explain this parable to us.' Then he said, 'Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.'

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, 'Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.' But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, 'Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.' He answered, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.' But she came and knelt before him, saying, 'Lord, help me.' He answered, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' She said, 'Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.' And her daughter was healed instantly.