

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**
 (365, 327, 806, 785, 725, 532, St Thomas Mass)
 3:00pm **SLYC in the hall**
 5:30pm **Evensong & Sermon**
 (766, 702, 119, 22, Psalm 119.41-48)

PRAYER DIARY & EVENTS

SUNDAY 13th - we pray for the parishes of Lexden, Stanway & Shrub End.

MONDAY – in the Anglican Communion we pray for The Diocese of Blackburn: The Church of England

8:45am Morning Prayer

11:30am Funeral of Jane Collier

6:15pm Eucharist

7:00pm PCC Meeting

TUESDAY - we pray for staff and residents at Cheviot Nursing Home.

8:45am Morning Prayer.

WEDNESDAY – in the Colchester Deanery we pray for the Parishes of Marks Tey (St Andrew) and Aldham (St Margaret & St Catherine).

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

10.00am Eucharist followed by coffee.

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

7:30pm Bible Study Group.

THURSDAY - we pray for the Society of Friends.

8:00am Eucharist.

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

SATURDAY - we pray for the residents of Browning Close and The Mount.

Services next Sunday

20th September – 16th Sunday after Trinity

8:00am BCP Holy Communion

9:45am Parish Eucharist

2:30pm Variety Show rehearsals in the hall

3:00pm Messy Harvest

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.

SLYC is back! Fun for Year 4 children and above featuring the ever popular Tuck Shop! This afternoon, from 3-5pm in the church hall. E-mail juniorchurch@stleonardslexden.org.uk

Our next **Messy Church** takes place at 3pm on Sunday 20th September and is sure to be great fun with a Messy Harvest theme. 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

Songs of Praise and Harvest Supper – We will be holding a Harvest Singalong and Supper from 2:30pm on Sunday 4th October. Tickets are £10.00 for adults and £5.00 for children and will be available after the 9:45am services on 20th and 27th Sept.

Please note **Men's Breakfast** will start at 8:00am on 3rd October due to the McMillan Coffee morning.

Bible Study group meets on Wednesday at 7:30pm at the home of Revd Maggie. Speak to Maggie for details.

The Flower Team are busy planning our Harvest arrangements. If anyone would like to make a donation or sponsor an arrangement in memory of a loved one or a special occasion please leave your name and details of the occasion or loved one's name in an envelope marked for my attention with a Churchwarden. Thank you **Liz Adams**,

Confirmation Classes begin on 22nd September at 7.00pm. The Confirmation service will be on Sunday 22nd November at 3.00pm, at St Leonard's. If you have any questions or need further information speak to any of the clergy.

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 bring Communion to you, just let a steward or warden know.

Among those for whom we pray are:

Barbara & Beverley Senter, Tony Cross, 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, 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; Jane Collier

COLLECT & READINGS (15th Sunday after Trinity)

Collect

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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, defend your Church from all false teaching and give to your people knowledge of your truth, that we may enjoy eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Genesis 50.15–21 (Old Testament, p51)

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, 'What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?' So they approached Joseph, saying, 'Your father gave this instruction before he died, "Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you." Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.' In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Psalms 103.1–13 (Old Testament, p583)

Romans 14.1–12 (New Testament p173)

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give

thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. For it is written,

'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.'

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Matthew 18.21–35 (New Testament p21)

Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.'

'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'