

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**

(763, 676, 569, 430, 629, 678, St Thomas Mass)

2:30pm **Variety Show Rehearsals in the hall**

3:00pm **Messy Harvest**

PRAYER DIARY & EVENTS

SUNDAY 20th - we pray for the parishes of Lexden, Stanway & Shrub End.

MONDAY – in the Anglican Communion we pray for The Diocese of Botswana: The Church of the Province of Central Africa

8:45am Morning Prayer

TUESDAY - we pray for staff and residents Woodlands Residential Home.

8:45am Morning Prayer.

7:00pm Confirmation Class.

WEDNESDAY – in the Colchester Deanery we pray for the Parishes of Langham (St Mary) with Boxted (St Peter), Great Horkesley (All Saints & St John's) and West Bergholt (St Mary the Virgin) PIC Revd Heather Wilcox and Associate Priest Revd Anne Mason.

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

10.00am Eucharist followed by coffee.

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

THURSDAY - we pray for the Moravian Church.

8:00am Eucharist.

2:00pm Pop-Up Café in Church

FRIDAY - we pray for all nurses and health care workers.

SATURDAY - we pray for the residents of Burns Avenue and Nelson Road.

Services next Sunday

27th September – 17th Sunday after Trinity

9:45am Parish Eucharist with Junior Church

2:30pm Variety Show Rehearsals in the hall

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.

Our next **Messy Church** takes place at 3pm this afternoon 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

At a "LOOSE END"? Just drop in to our "pop-up" cafe on Thursday @ 2:00pm for tea, cake and a chat.

We will be holding our **Macmillan Coffee Morning** on Saturday 3rd October at 10:30am in Church. Please come along to support a great cause and to have a look at the beautiful Harvest decorations. Please note **Men's Breakfast** will start at 8:00am on that day.

Songs of Praise and Harvest Supper – As part of our Harvest celebrations 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 service today and on 27th September.

The Flower Team are busy planning our Harvest arrangements. If anyone would like to make a donation or sponsor an arrangement 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 Tuesday 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 provide Communion to you in your pew, 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 (16th Sunday after Trinity)

Collect

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call upon you; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them; 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 of creation, whose glory is around and within us: open our eyes to your wonders, that we may serve you with reverence and know your peace at our lives' end, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jonah 3.10 – end of 4 (Old Testament, p895)

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, 'O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.' And the Lord said, 'Is it right for you to be angry?' Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, 'It is better for me to die than to live.'

But God said to Jonah, 'Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?' And he said, 'Yes, angry enough to die.' Then the Lord said, 'You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?'

Psalms 145.1-8 (Old Testament, p609)

Philippians 1.21–end (New Testament p211)

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Matthew 20.1–16 (New Testament p22)

Jesus said to his disciples, 'For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard."

'When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'