

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**
 (507, 799, 453, 727, 794, 818, St Thomas Mass)
 2:30pm **Variety Show Rehearsals in the hall**
 5:30pm **Evening Prayer**

PRAYER DIARY & EVENTS

SUNDAY 27th - we pray for the parishes of Lexden, Stanway & Shrub End.

MONDAY – in the Anglican Communion we pray for The Diocese of Central Buganda: The Church of the Province of Uganda.

8:45am Morning Prayer

7:00pm PCC Meeting

TUESDAY - we pray for staff and residents at Hargood Close.

8:45am Morning Prayer.

7:00pm Confirmation Class.

WEDNESDAY – in the Colchester Deanery we pray for the Parishes of Fordham (All Saints) with Eight Ash Green (All Saints) Rector Revd Francis Blight.

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 Anglican Communion.

8:00am Eucharist.

FRIDAY - we pray for all who work in the probation service.

SATURDAY - we pray for the residents of Byron Avenue and New Kiln Road.

8:00am Men's Breakfast.

10:30am Macmillan Coffee Morning

Services next Sunday
4th October – Harvest

8:00am BCP Holy Communion

9:45am All-Age Parish Eucharist for Harvest

2:30pm Variety Show Rehearsals in the hall

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.

Men's Breakfast takes place on Saturday, October 3rd in the Nicholls Room. Please note the **earlier start time of 8:00am**.

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.

At our Harvest Festival service on Sunday October 4th, items will be collected to donate to Colchester Foodbank. Please take a list of suitable items and only donate items that are unopened and in date.

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.

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**,

The Good Old Days Variety Show takes place on Saturday 17th October at 6:30pm in the hall. Sarah and Mandy will be selling tickets after the 9:45am service. Tickets are £15 for adults and £10 for under 18's and include refreshments.

Confirmation Classes continue 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

COLLECT & READINGS (17th Sunday after Trinity)

Collect

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself, and so bring us at last to your heavenly city where we shall see you face to face; 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

Gracious God, you call us to fullness of life: deliver us from unbelief and banish our anxieties with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Ezekiel 18.1–4, 25–end (Old Testament, p813)

The word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, 'The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is unfair.' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is unfair.' O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

Psalms 25.1–8 (Old Testament, p532)

Philippians 2.1–13 (New Testament p212)

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full

accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death - even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Matthew 21.23–32 (New Testament p24)

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?" But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

'What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.