THE PARISH CHURCH OF
ST LEONARD, LEXDEN
www.stleonardslexden.org.uk

Weekly News Sheet

Sunday 15th November – 2nd Sunday before Advent

@lexdenchurch StLeonardsLexden

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**
(356, 648, 676, 657, 686, 477, St Thomas)
3:00pm **Good Old Days Rehearsals in the hall**

PRAYER DIARY & EVENTS

SUNDAY 15th - *we pray for the parishes of Lexden, Stanway & Shrub End.*

MONDAY – *in the Anglican Communion we pray for The Diocese of Chichester: The Church of England.*
8:45am Morning Prayer.
6:15pm Eucharist.
7:00pm PCC Meeting.

TUESDAY - *we pray for staff and residents at Woodlands Residential Home.*
8:45am Morning Prayer.
2:00pm Wreath Making Workshop.
7:00pm Confirmation Rehearsal.

WEDNESDAY – *in the Colchester Deanery we pray for the Parish of St John the Evangelist Priest Revd Paul Dever and Associate Priest Revd Viv Whitfield.*
9:30am Baby & Toddler Group in the hall.
10.00am Eucharist followed by coffee.
11:00am Baby & Toddler Group in the hall.
7:00pm Bible Study Group.

THURSDAY - *we pray for the Eastern Orthodox Church.*
8:00am Eucharist.

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

SATURDAY - *we pray for the residents of Church Lane and Ratcliffe Road.*
8:30am Women's Breakfast.
10:30am Children's Society Box Opening and Coffee Morning.

Services next Sunday
22nd November – Christ the King

9:45am Parish Eucharist with Junior Church
3:00pm SLYC in the hall
3:30pm Confirmation Service

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.

The flowers this week are donated by Sam Howgego in memory of his wife Stephanie.

Come and be Creative! We are holding Wreath Making workshop on Tuesday at 2:00pm in Church. Cost £20, light refreshments will be provided. Sign up at the back of Church or speak to Julie after the 9:45am service.

The next **Bible Study group** takes place on Wednesday 18th November at 7:00pm at Maggie's home. Speak to Maggie for details.

The next **Women's Breakfast** is on 21st November in the Church. Contact Maggie on maggie@stleonardslexden.org.uk

The **Children's Society Box Opening** and coffee morning takes place on Saturday 21st November starting at 10:30am.

SLYC is back! Fun for Year 4 children and above Sunday 22nd November, from 3-5pm in the church hall. Email to let us know that you are coming to: juniorchurch@stleonardslexden.org.uk

Christmas Market – this year's Christmas Market takes place on Saturday 28th November. Please start collecting suitable donations. Donations can be brought to the hall on Friday 27th November from 10:00am.

The Good Old Days, Saturday 16th January 2027 at 2.30 pm - the first rehearsal is this afternoon at 3pm in the hall. If you haven't already signed up, come along and try us out - you are guaranteed a relaxed and enjoyable afternoon of singing and movement. See Sarah or Mandy for more details**.**

Today is the last day to return your shoeboxes for **Operation Christmas Child**. Please speak to Tom & Kathleen Scrimgeour if you have any questions.

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:

Claire Jones, Barbara & Beverley Senter, Margaret Cox, 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: Linzi Burton, Joyce Pavey, Audrey Ellesley, Pauline Bryant

The Church has a card reader available for contactless payments. Please ask if you need help using it and also Gift Aid your donation if you are able to. Donations can also be made online via our website http://www.stleonardslexden.org.uk/

COLLECT & READINGS (2nd Sunday before Advent)

Collect
Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil
and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life:
grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory
we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom;
where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion Prayer
Heavenly Lord,
you long for the world's salvation:
stir us from apathy, restrain us from excess
and revive in us new hope that all creation will one day be healed
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Zephaniah 1.7, 12–end *(Old Testament p909)*
Be silent before the Lord God!
  For the day of the Lord is at hand;
the Lord has prepared a sacrifice,
  he has consecrated his guests.
At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
  and I will punish the people
who rest complacently on their dregs,
  those who say in their hearts,
'The Lord will not do good,
  nor will he do harm.'
Their wealth shall be plundered,
  and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
  they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
  they shall not drink wine from them.

The great day of the Lord is near,
  near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter,
  the warrior cries aloud there.
That day will be a day of wrath,
  a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
  a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
  a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
  and against the lofty battlements.

I will bring such distress upon people
  that they shall walk like the blind;
  because they have sinned against the Lord,
their blood shall be poured out like dust,
  and their flesh like dung.
Neither their silver nor their gold
  will be able to save them
  on the day of the Lord's wrath;
in the fire of his passion
  the whole earth shall be consumed;
for a full, a terrible end
  he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Psalm 90.1-12 *(Old Testament, p577)*

1 Thessalonians 5.1–11 *(New Testament p220)*
Concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, 'There is peace and security', then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Matthew 25.14–30 *(New Testament p30)*
Jesus told his disciples this parable: 'For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

'After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master."

'And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master."

'Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours."

'But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." '