

St. Leonard's Church

Newsletter

March 2008

St. Leonard's Church

Middleton Road,
Grimsbury,
Banbury
www.saintleonards.org

Web-site

Vicar

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Church Wardens

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PCC Treasurer

Claire Lynn

PCC Secretary

Charles Barber

Electoral Roll

Tim James

Hall Bookings

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Verger

Charles Dargan 279735

Bible Study

Will Knox

Diana Davies 07729 106291

Rainbows / Brownies

Tracy Charmley 262120

Beavers / Cubs / Scouts

Alex Lyczkowski

Child Protection

Diana Davies 07729 106291

Children's Society

Marlene Dargan 279735

Choir

Charles Barber

Sheila James

Lenny's Sunday School

Libby Knox

Sewing Circle

Pippa Adamson 271475

Peggy Tooley

Weekly News Sheet

Mark Charmley

For Baptisms, Weddings or Wedding Blessings please come to Vestry Hour

Saturday 10:30 am—11:30 am in church or ring Mark

If you want anything published in the Monthly Newsletter please ensure Mark has it by the 15th of the month.

Thought for the month...

A 17th Century Nun's Prayer;

Lord, Thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older and will some day be old.

Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking that I must say something on every subject and on every occasion.

Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's affairs.

Make me thoughtful but not moody, helpful but not bossy.

With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all, but Thou knowest Lord that I want a few friends at the end.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details, give me wings to get to the point. Seal my lips on my aches and pains. They are increasing, and love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by.

I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tails of others pains, but help me to endure them with patience.

I dare not ask for improved memory, but for a growing humility and a less cocksureness when my memory seems to clash with the memories of others. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet, I do not want to be a Saint—some of them are so hard to live with—but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil.

Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places and talents in unexpected people. And give me, O Lord, the grace to tell them so. Amen.

A prayer by a lady getting older.... but a prayer that contains some truth for many of us. May we reflect this month on our lives, and areas where we need to work at, with God's help.



March Diary Dates

Unless stated;

Services

Morning Prayer Tues - Fri 9:00 am

Morning Prayer Sat 10:00am

Evening Prayer Wed, Fri 7:00pm

Midweek Eucharist Thurs 10:00am

Other activities

Vestry Hour Sat 10:30am - 11:30am

Choir Practice Tues 7:30pm

Rainbows & Brownies Fri 4:00pm onwards

Sat	1st	10:30am	Coffee Morning
Sun	2nd	10:00am	Eucharist & Sunday School (Mothering Sunday)
		7:00pm	Compline
		8:00pm	Sunday Lent Group
Mon	3rd	8:00pm	Monday Lent Group
Sun	9th	10:00am	Eucharist & Parade (Education Sunday)
		8:00pm	Sunday Lent Group
Mon	10th	8:00pm	Monday Lent Group
Wed	12th	7:30pm	Sewing Circle
Sat	15th	10:00am	Parish Quiet Day
	15th	7:00pm	Social - Quiz Night
Sun	16th	10:00am	Eucharist & Sunday School (Palm Sun- day)
		7:00pm	Taize
		8:00pm	Lent Group

Coffee Morning

We have started a monthly coffee morning at church on the first Saturday of the month from 10:30am - 12:00 noon. Our next one is Saturday 1st March. Please come, and please spread the word.



Lent Quiet Day

Saturday 15th March 10:00am—4:00pm

Come and join us for our quiet day.

Cost £5, for more details or to sign up see Mark

A chance for space in a busy life.

A chance to think and pray.

A chance to reflect on the events of Easter.

Volunteers Needed



Could you be interested in the role of MC or Thurifer? We need a couple more on the serving rota.

Or have you got any other ideas how you might like to get involved? We are always willing to have new volunteers.

Quiz Night

'Our next social will be a Quiz Night which will be held on Saturday 15th March at 7.00pm. If you would like to join us for a chance to win the 'St Leonard's Quiz Cup' please speak to Claire after the service. Tickets £3.50 adults, £2.50 school aged children.'



Prayer Focus for March



Please join us at St. Leonard's in praying....
For the Rural Dean Ben Phillips, Lay Chair Lindsay Mills,
for the Deanery Standing Committee, Chapter and Synod
For St. Hugh's Banbury:
For the work of the Mothers' Union.
For the work of CRUSE, Katharine House Counsellors
and all others who bring comfort to the bereaved.
For the work of environmental groups and for the church's part in
showing respect for creation.
For the work of the Post Office and it's staff.
For those who live in Princethorpe Drive, Winchester Close, Priory
Vale Road and Woburn Close
For all the members of the PCC
For the Brownies, Rainbows, Beavers, Cubs & Scouts – children and
leaders

The Church Electoral Roll

The Church Electoral Roll is our church's register of electors and is the list of those qualified to attend and to vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in the elections for the parochial church council and the parish's representatives on the deanery synod.

If you want to vote and play your part and are not currently on the Roll, please speak to Tim James.

Church APCM (AGM) Wednesday 2nd April 7:30pm

Want to have your say in what happens at church... Come to the APCM
Want to help with the running of the church.... Stand for the PCC.
Want to see what happens in the Deanery....Stand as a Synod Rep.
Nomination lists out soon.
Speak to Mark or Sue for more details about the roles available.

Thurs	20th	7:00pm	Eucharist (Maundy Thursday)
Fri	21st	10:00am	Good Friday Workshop
		10:30am	Stations of the Cross
		12:00pm	Family Stations of the Cross
		2:00pm	Good Friday Service
Sun	23rd	10:00am	Eucharist & Baptism (Easter Sunday)
Wed	26th	7:30pm	Sewing Circle
Sun	30th	10:00am	Eucharist & Sunday School (Easter 1)

Advance Dates for 2008

Wed 2nd April - Annual Parochial Church Meeting 7:30pm
Sun 4th May - Archdeacon's Visitation 6:00pm @ Horley
Sun 11th May Confirmation Service 6:30pm
Wed 21st May - PCC 7:30pm
Sat 24th May - Market Stall
Sat 28th June - Summer Fete
Sun 14th September - Racial Justice Sunday
Sun 28th September - Back to Church Sunday
Sun 5th October - Sue's Priesting
Sat 11th October - Away Day 10:00am - 4:00pm @ Horley Old School
Some of these dates may be subject to change. Further details nearer the time.

Prayers

Do you know anyone who needs our prayers?
Add their name to the list at the back of church and we will pray for them at Morning and Evening Prayer as well as at the Sunday Eucharist.

Midweek Eucharist

Come and join us for a weekly Midweek Eucharist, every Thursday at 10:00am.
This is a short straightforward service with no incense followed by coffee



**What's it all about? Palm Sunday /
Maundy Thursday / Good Friday and Easter Sunday?**

Easter is the most important Christian Festival, the time when we mark the central event of our faith, the death and resurrection of Jesus.

Palm Sunday

This is the first day of Holy Week, the week leading up to Easter Sunday. It marks the day when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey and was welcomed by crowds who threw down palm branches.

At St. Leonard's this is an ecumenical service which we share with the Baptists and Methodists. We process at 10am from West Street to St. Leonard's where we are given palm crosses and the church is decorated with palm branches to remember the Biblical event. The palm crosses link Palm Sunday to Good Friday, as we look forward to the forthcoming events.

Maundy Thursday

The Thursday before Easter is called Maundy Thursday. It commemorates Jesus' last supper with the Disciples and the washing of their feet by Jesus. Many church leaders re-enact the footwashing, even the Pope and Archbishop will kneel at the feet of ordinary people to perform this, reminding everyone of Jesus' command that his followers should serve others.

At St. Leonard's at 7:00pm we follow the pattern of many churches. We re-enact Jesus' footwashing with a number of volunteers and follow this with a Eucharist. We all enter silence once we have received the bread and wine, and watch while the altar is stripped bare, all finery is removed, leaving nothing. The choir, servers and vicar disrobe silently and we enter a period of vigil, as we contemplate the events that are to take place.

Good Friday

Good Friday is "good" because it is the day Jesus showed the greatest form of goodness possible. It is the most solemn day of the Christian year as we stand with the Disciples at the foot of the cross and watch as our Saviour is killed in our place.

Churches often have services from noon until 3 pm, the hours thought to represent Jesus' time on the cross. Some Christians spend the whole day in prayer and silent meditation.

Leaving from St. Leonard's Church at 10:30am we share in an ecumenical "stations of the cross" as we walk and pray our way around some of the streets of Grimsbury, joining Jesus on his journey to the cross.

Church is then open from 12 noon for 2 hours, so anyone can drop in for private prayer, before a service at 2pm of prayer, readings and silence as we contemplate Jesus' death. As with Maundy Thursday, we leave in silence, to echo Jesus cry "It is finished."

Easter Sunday

Prayers of praise and thanksgiving, sermons of joy and hymns of triumph ring out around the world as Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, death has been conquered.

Some churches celebrate with a candle-lit service at midnight on Saturday and others with a Sunrise service on Sunday morning. Other churches have a bonfire and light the new Paschal Candle from it. In most churches the response "Christ has risen", "He is risen indeed! Alleluia!" will be heard.

Some from St. Leonard's join in the ecumenical Sunrise service followed by a shared breakfast. Our own service starts at 10am outside with a bonfire and lighting of the Paschal Candle before we process into church. Some adults and children enter the Easter bonnet competition and there is an Easter Egg hunt after the service.

There is a real sense of celebration in church.
"Christ has risen", **"He is risen indeed! Alleluia!"**