



NEWSWIRE: 15th March 2024



- Services on Sunday
 - Services for Holy Week and Easter
 - Sign up now for Easter Sunday lunch
 - Families@4 Easter Special - help needed
-

A message from Duncan

How good is life for those who show mercy, because they will be shown mercy.

Matthew 3.7 (BibleProject translation)

After our Mothering Sunday diversion, we return to the Beatitudes to consider acts of mercy. In our childhood years we use the word 'mercy' to demonstrate our submission to a friend who has us in an inescapable wrestle hold! Perhaps pleading for mercy from a judge when we have been found guilty is a more grown up version! But that is not the idea here! The Hebrew word behind the greek word is "*Hesed*". (Its one of the few Hebrew words I actually know along with house [Beth] and bread [lehem]!) You will recognise its frequent use in the Hebrew scriptures by its translation: 'loving kindness' or 'steadfast love'. So 'mercy' can be described as generous and overreaching acts of love. It is the kind of love that Jesus said should mark his disciples (John 13.35) because we have experienced this exact kind of loving action from God himself (1 John 4:19). It is also the natural response of the one who, from the previous beatitude, hungers and thirsts after right-relationships in our world. Rather than thinking that our uninfluential and small efforts are fruitless and worth nothing, we add our small acts of loving kindness to God's great conspiracy to overturn evil with good. It is our little rebellion in our often cynical world. It is our secret and confident demonstration that God's way of love will win the day. It seems logical to think that the rock will crush the fragile plant, but the reality is that in the fullness of time the plant cracks the rock. As someone once said, love wins.

I celebrate the many ways in which I see this at work in the life of our churches and also realise that most simple and profound acts of mercy remain unseen. So my only encouragement is keep going and don't give up! Though our acts of loving kindness seem insignificant in light of the problems of this world, God's way of love *will* win the day and we get to join in!

Grace, mercy and peace be with you all,

Duncan

Collect for the fifth Sunday of Lent

Most merciful God,
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ
delivered and saved the world:
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross
we may triumph in the power of his victory;
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.

SERVICES ON SUNDAY

9.30am - Morning Worship at St Peter's

Readings: Isaiah 53:1 – 6; 1 Corinthians 1 : 18 – 30

10.30am - Morning Worship at St Leonard's and livestreamed on [this link](#)

Readings: 1 Peter 3:18; Isaiah 53:4 - 6; 10 - 12



NEXT WEEK

Monday 18th March

Bump to One meet on **Mondays** from **10.30am to midday** in **St Leonard's**

Walkie Talkies meet on **Mondays** (term time) from **10am to 11.30am** in **St Leonard's church hall**.

Tuesday 19th March

Tinies and Toddlers meet on **Tuesdays** from **1.30pm to 3pm** (term time) in **Cassington Village Hall**.

Joint Cassington and Eynsham PCC meeting

Wednesday 20th March

Warm Welcome Wednesday from 10.30am to midday in **St Leonard's church**

Lent Courses at 2pm and 7.30pm

A Memorial Service for the late Carol Sanders will be held at **St Peter's** at **2.30pm** on **Wednesday 20th March**. There will be a private family service immediately preceding the Memorial Service, please do not arrive at church before 2pm.

Thursday 21st March

Mum's Bible Study meet every **Thursday morning** (term-time) **10 - 11.30am** at **95 Hazeldene Close**.

Saturday 23rd March

A memorial service for the late **Marjory Berry** will be held at **St Leonard's church** at midday on **23rd March**.

Afternoon tea for carers at **3.30pm** on **Saturday 23rd March** in **St Leonard's Church Hall** (see below).



NEXT SUNDAY - 24th MARCH

10.30am - Palm Sunday Benefice Holy Communion at St Leonard's and live streamed

Looking further ahead:

Tuesday Fellowship Reunion - 26th March at 2.30pm in **St Leonard's Church Hall** Roger Aston is our special guest along with his guitar. An opportunity to get together again for prayer and praise, not forgetting a welcome cup of tea and piece of cake. **Visitors** are always welcome so why not come along.

Please pray for:

- Dave recovering from a stroke.
- Ben and healing for his mental health.
- Scarlett's recovery from long Covid.
- Katie suffering with epilepsy. Please pray that the right medication be found to control her seizures.

To add names to the prayer list, please contact the Church Office (stleonards_stpeters@btconnect.com) Names will be added to the list by express permission, and only first names will be published.



St Leonard's & St Peter's
BENEFICE OF EYNHAM & CASSINGTON



EASTER HOPE

MAUNDY THURSDAY 28TH MARCH

St Peters

10am: BCP Holy Communion

St Leonards

4pm: Families@4 Easter Special

7.00pm: Tenebrae Service

GOOD FRIDAY 29TH MARCH

10am: Service in Eynsham Square

at St Peters & St Leonards

2pm: Hour at the Cross

EASTER SUNDAY 31ST MARCH

St Peters

9.30am: Easter Communion

St Leonards

10.30am: Easter Celebration



The **St Leonard's PCC** is looking into ways that we can make more use of the land that we have between the church and the Red Lion and one possible way forward might be to make some of it available for gardening. In order to take this forward, we need someone to act as a "**Garden Champion**", someone with an enthusiasm for gardening, who would be willing to spend a bit of time organising and administering and would be able to act as a link between the PCC and those using the garden plots.

If this is you, or you know of someone who might enjoy doing this, please have a chat with me (Andy Greenwood) or any of the other PCC members.

EASTER SUNDAY LUNCH - SIGN UP NOW!



Easter Day is a joyful time of celebration and this year we will again be sharing lunch together on the church land* after our Easter Celebration Service 12.30 - 2pm

Everyone is welcome, so if you have friends or family staying over Easter please bring them too. There will be slow roasted lamb in burgers, salads and home made puddings to follow. (Veggie and gluten free options will also be available)

Please sign up this week if possible so that we can have an idea of numbers. follow [this link](#) for more information or to sign up. (If the internet is not your thing just let Margaret Thornton know you are coming).

If you are able to make a salad or a pudding to share that would be great - please email [Margaret Thornton](#) or [Ruth Lockwood](#)

*or in the church if it rains

SERMON on the MOUNT *with the Bible Project*

Sign up for weekly emails from the Bible Project on the Sermon on the Mount [here](#)

Links to previous weeks below:

[Introduction](#) | [Jesus and Torah](#) | [Doing right differently](#) | [Right relationships](#) | [The Choice Before Us](#) | [A surprising Announcement](#) | [Being at home in the Kingdom](#) | [The Hard Path of Peacemaking](#) | [salt and the land](#) | [the light and the city](#) | [Entering the torah story](#)



The Filling Station Witney

Next meeting - Tuesday 19th March at 7.30pm (Refreshments at 7.15pm) at Witney Corn Exchange. <https://thefillingstation.org/station/west-oxon/>

Families @4 Easter Special

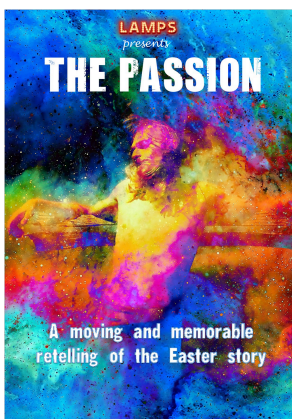
THURSDAY 28TH MARCH
ST. LEONARD'S CHURCH HALL
4 – 6PM

EASTER-THEMED GAMES,
CRAFTS & SONGS AND A MEAL
TOGETHER

PLEASE SIGN UP WITH RABEA
(SLPFAMILIES@GMAIL.COM)



Help needed with the Families@4 Easter Special on Maundy Thursday 28th March - Please contact [Rabea](mailto:SLPFAMILIES@GMAIL.COM) if you are able to help in any way. We are particularly looking for some help with making puddings and setting up / clearing away in the afternoon. Thank you!



St Mary Magdalene Church, Woodstock

Monday 25th March at 7pm

Tickets - £12 (£6 for under 18s) available from Woodstock Bookshop or on the door

Vacancy - Supporter Care Team Leader at Wycliffe Bible Translators. Full time, permanent vacancy. Based in East Oxford. £32,500 per annum. Click [here](#) for more information.



Life Skills



WHAT WE COVER:
BUDGETING

MONEY SAVING
TIPS

COMMUNICATION

HEALTHY
RELATIONSHIPS

COOKING ON A
BUDGET AND
MORE!

Tuesdays 9:30–11:30
Taster session 16th
April
At Witney Methodist
Church
Free
brunch/refreshments

FOR MORE INFO OR TO BOOK A PLACE
PLEASE EMAIL
KATIEGAMBLE@CAPLIFESKILLS.ORG

www.stleonardseynsham.org.uk | www.stpeterschurchcassington.org | [Youtube channel](#) | [facebook page](#)