

NEWSWIRE: 19th April 2024



- Services on Sunday
 - Annual Parochial Church Meetings and the Electoral Roll
 - Mission Partner Support Team Meeting - **this evening**
 - Working party on the Church Land - 4th May
-

A message from Duncan

Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast."

None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord.

John 21.12

Still Eastertide - Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

It was lovely to reflect on John 20 for Easter Sunday morning- the first Easter race! The verse above comes some time later when the disciples had returned to Galilee as the angels instructed. They still don't know what to think or what to do, so Peter, never one to sit idly by, gets them out on to the lake to fish. A little bit of physical activity is no bad thing - gets the blood circulating to the brain - and oddly, our minds focus better on an issue sometimes when we stop thinking about it! Go figure!

The verse above comes after 153 fish turn up in the nets upon the invitation of a stranger on the shore to cast them on the other side. Perhaps not so much a stranger?! As with last week's verse from Luke, with the Risen Lord we have the ordinary and the sublime in beautiful union. This time he invites the disciples to eat. I mean, "*Come and have breakfast*" is not what you would expect from the one who has just conquered death. Surely something more spiritual or profound or stately. Instead, the Lord of the cosmos suggests a beach BBQ. It is delightful, homely and...so very human.

And yet at the same time, there is something very different about this particular human, captured in the narrator's comment on what was *not* said: “*Who are you?*” *They knew it was the Lord.* A strange sentence that reminds us that here stood New Creation, never before seen, and never since. A different kind of material - resurrection matter, immortal and imperishable. Something strangely different, and, simultaneously, clearly Jesus of Nazareth.

We will realise what it was like for the disciples when we share in that great day of resurrection, and in New Creation physicality ourselves. But whilst we wait, let's remember that as we serve God day by day, amidst the ordinariness of life, we are also touched by the sublime. For the Risen Lord has promised to be with us “*always, to the very end of the age.*” (Matthew 28v20).

Continued Easter greetings to you all.

Duncan

Collect for the fourth Sunday of Easter

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:
raise us, who trust in him,
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,
that we may seek those things which are above,
where he reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

SERVICES ON SUNDAY

9.30am - Holy Communion at St Peter's followed by APCM

Readings: Psalm 23; Matthew 6:24-34

10.30am - Holy Communion at St Leonard's and live streamed [on this link](#).

Readings: Luke 18:9-14; Matthew 7:1-5

If you have difficulties accessing the service on the livestream link above, please try accessing [our youtube channel](#) directly.



7pm - Revive at St Leonard's

NEXT WEEK

Monday 22nd April

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 23rd April

Tinies and Toddlers meet at **Cassington Village Hall** on **Tuesday** (term time) from **1.30 to 3pm**

Wednesday 24th April

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

NEXT SUNDAY - 28th April

9am - Holy Communion at St Leonard's

10.30am - All-in service at St Leonard's and livestreamed

5pm - Evening Prayer at St Peter's

Looking further ahead

The funeral of the late Raymond Clarke will be held at **St Leonard's** church at 2pm on Monday 29th April.

Working Party on St Leonard's Church Land (see below)

St Leonard's Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) - Sunday 5th May following the morning service which will be held at 10am.

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.

CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL - Every year we update our church electoral roll in preparation for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). It is the closest thing the Church of England gets to membership. The revision of the St Peter's electoral roll has already been completed in advance of the APCM on 21st April. If you currently feel St Leonard's is your church and you are not on the electoral roll at present, please consider joining. It's very simple. You can complete the form online [here](#). If the internet is not your thing and you would prefer to complete a paper copy please request one from Margaret Thornton or the church office.

Please note that we are only permitted to add new members to the roll until **22 April 2024** after which you will have to wait until 2025! Any Queries - please contact Margaret Thornton



Witney to Westminster Canoe Marathon

Jo Murrell, Penny Marks, Jonathan Marks and Matthew Marks are all taking part in Adventure Plus Witney to Westminster canoe marathon. Jo and Penny for the first 2 days; Jonathan and Matt for the whole challenge of 127 miles.

They would value your support as they pass through Eynsham lock. Walk or cycle down to the lock if you are free on Monday 29th April at about 12.30pm. (some flexibility on timing!) Bring your sandwiches and sit in the sunshine(!) while the paddlers enjoy a short break.

If you would like to sponsor one of us, we each have a Just Giving web page available.

All the funds raised go to the same cause so don't worry about which one of us you pick to sponsor!

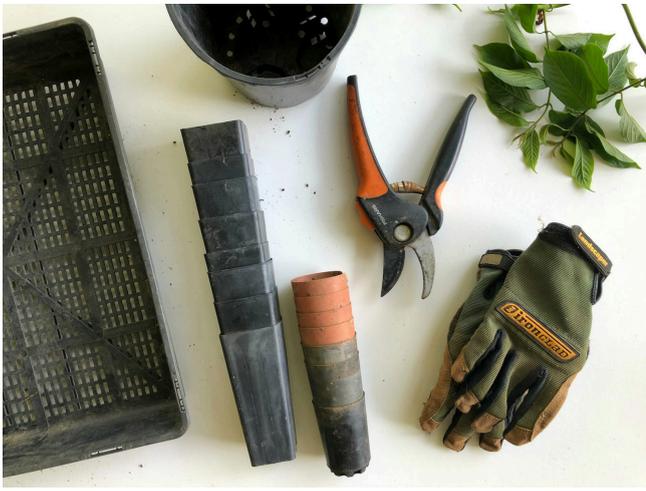
Jo <https://www.justgiving.com/page/jo-murrell-1712695217803>

Penny <https://www.justgiving.com/page/penny-marks-1713372365031>

Jonathan <https://www.justgiving.com/page/jonathan-marks-1713362344090>

Matthew <https://www.justgiving.com/page/matthew-marks-1713288126204>

THANK YOU.



Saturday 4th May from 10am - 3pm – Volunteers needed for a “one day working party” on the church land.

We have decided that it would be good to make better use of the church land. The plan is to tidy up the area, make it more attractive and make a small section into a community allotment area.

There will be a flower bed created along part of the back wall, a proper compost bin in the corner and four raised beds on the long thin strip of land on the left as you enter the site. There will also be a water butt connected to the downpipe on the shed.

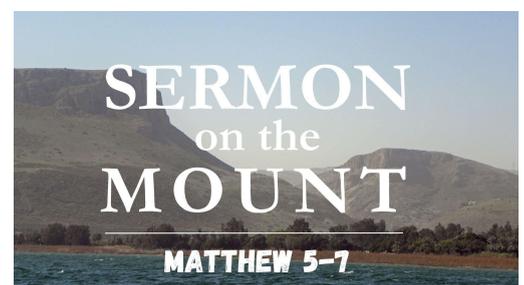
If you feel you could help with this project, for an hour, part of the day or more, or if you have anything to donate that you think could be useful (garden tools, watering can etc. or plants for the flower bed) please get in touch with either Hazel Petty (07939879319) or Sharon Anderson (07756862168). Many thanks

Mission Partners Support: Several of us have been thinking about how we can raise the profile of this ministry in St Leonard's. The Mission Partners Support Team met for 5 years until 2020 when a combination of the pandemic and the increasing age of most of the members meant that it was disbanded. Our role included a monthly focus on one of our mission partners with up-to-date information in newswire, prayers in the 10.30 service, and sometimes a speaker or a special collection or other activity. You will find our 7 mission partners highlighted on the notice board on the north wall. With all this in mind we are having a one-off meeting this evening, **Friday 19th April at 7pm** at 10 Queens Close to pray about the way forward and offer possible ideas. We would love to have a few new people joining us. So if you have a passion for the wider mission of the church in this country and overseas please come along on 19th. Or if you can't manage that date please speak to Jenny Griffiths for more information: jennifer@grahamg77.plus.com 01865 882623.

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:



[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 meaning of Torah](#) | [The least and the greatest](#) | [Fulfilling the Torah](#) | [Greater righteousness](#) | [murder and contempt](#)

Prayer for Politics: Christian Action Research & Education (CARE) is organising occasional online prayer events by Zoom in run-up to the General Election. The first of these is on Thursday 25th April, 12.00 - 12.45pm. To find out more, visit care.org.uk/events. Prayer topics can be engaged with silently or out loud.

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