

NEWSWIRE: 4th October 2024



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 - St Leonard's PCC Secretary
 - Hospitality Sunday - 20th October
-

A message from Duncan

"John was a lamp that burned and gave light" (John 5.35)

That's John the Baptist. And it is Jesus testifying to the fact that John was one in whom the fire of the Spirit was not put out (*1 Thess 5.19*), who had fanned into flame the gift of God within him (*2 Tim 1.6*) and as a result shone like a star in the cosmos (*Phil 2.14-16*). He was a living sacrifice set on fire by God himself (*Lev 22.-24/Rom 12.1*).

The metaphors have come one after another this week as we have meditated in our week of prayer on the need to keep our lamps burning for Jesus (there's another one - *Matt 25.3-4*). As we head into a season thinking about the book of Daniel we will realise how important it is for our survival as Christians, and as churches, that we have plenty of oil in the lamp, that our faith in God keeps burning. We are at a juncture in history where the Christian faith is on a precipice in the West. It is thriving in many parts of the world, but on our own doorstep things can look bleak. It is not the first time in history we have faced a situation like this, and it will not be the last. But in our day it is our task and privilege to persevere, to stay alight, to awaken day by day and pray that God would set our hearts on fire with love for him and his Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Perhaps the odds are stacked against us. But God is more than experienced in that - it's his specialty!

**Kindle in our hearts, O God,
the flame of love which never ceases,
that it may burn in us, giving light to others.
May we shine forever in your temple,**

set on fire with your eternal light,
even your son Jesus Christ,
our Saviour and our Redeemer.
Amen

Collect for the Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

O God, forasmuch as without you
we are not able to please you;
mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit
may in all things direct and rule our hearts;
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

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

Readings: Daniel 1.1-17; 1 Peter 1.13-21



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

3pm - Harvest Celebration Service at St Peter's (followed by afternoon tea)

Reading: Matthew 13:24-30

7pm - Revive at St Leonard's

NEXT WEEK

Monday 7th October

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 8th October

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

Tinies and Toddlers meet in Cassington Village Hall on Tuesday (term time) from 1.30 - 3pm

Wednesday 9th October

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

NEXT SUNDAY - 13th October

9am - Holy Communion at St Leonard's

9.30am - Morning Worship at St Peter's

10.30am - Morning Worship at St Leonard's and livestreamed

4pm - Families@4 at St Leonard's

Looking further ahead

The funeral of the late Michael Green will be held at **St Leonard's** church at **2pm** on **Tuesday 15th October**.

Remembering with Thanksgiving - a memorial service for the bereaved will be held at St Leonard's church at **6pm** on **Sunday 27th October**.

HARVEST CELEBRATION AT ST PETER'S CHURCH

Sunday 6th October at 3pm followed by afternoon tea

For all ages – everyone welcome

Contributions of non-perishable items will be gratefully received for local Food Banks. A list of items can be found on the North Oxford Food Bank web site.

Financial donations can also be made directly to North Oxfordshire Food Bank <https://www.givefood.org.uk/needs/at/north-oxfordshire/>



HARVEST COMMUNITY SUPPER

With Eynsham Morris and the Chamberries

Saturday 12th October 6pm - 10pm at Cassington Village Hall

Join us for an evening of live music with jazz, blues, soul from local band 'The

Chamberries' and songs, dancing, shanties and fun from Eynsham Morris.
Ticket price includes Ploughman's supper. Drinks available at pay bar.

Adults - £10
Under 16s - £5
Families - £25

Contact: Carolyn Hinton 07747 621597 chinton260@outlook.com or
Jan Macdonald 07941 419219 janmacdonald78@aol.com

PCC Secretary - Eynsham

Are you able to provide some administrative support to St Leonard's PCC? We are looking for someone to support Duncan and the churchwardens in the smooth running of PCC meetings. This will include:

- taking the minutes of the PCC meetings and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (7 meetings per year).
- helping to circulate documents to the PCC before and after the meeting
- organising room bookings and any equipment needed for the meeting
- liaising with Louise in the Church Office e.g. to make sure agreed minutes are published

Louise will continue to provide the administrative support required for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, administration of the Electoral Roll and reports for the Diocese.

You do not need to be a member of the PCC to take on this role.

Please speak to Duncan, Ruth or Louise to find out more. You are also welcome to attend the next PCC meeting on Tuesday 8th October, with no pressure to take on the role.

Do you have a good knowledge of spreadsheets and / or databases and some time to help? We are looking for someone to help digitise our churchyard records. If you think you can help please speak to Duncan or contact Louise in the Church Office. Thank you!

Wednesday, 9 October at 7:30pm to 9pm

St Mary Magdalene, Woodstock

“John’s Gospel: its ancient setting for today”

An interactive evening with Rev Steve Stewart,

Rector of Hanborough and Freeland

Steve has recently submitted his doctoral thesis looking at the role of the law of Moses in the Gospel of John. He will be sharing some of the fruits of his research. Accessible to anyone who simply has an interest in reading John’s Gospel. Plenty of time for questions. All welcome!



HOSPITALITY SUNDAY AT ST LEONARD’S 20th October

We are church - a community that is aiming to pray, grow and love together as we journey in the footsteps of Jesus.

Hospitality Sundays are a regular opportunity to get to know others in our church community by spending time together eating and drinking. For some that may be Sunday lunch together in a home, for others it might be inviting someone for tea and cake, or maybe going to a cafe or a pub for a drink with someone you don't know well. The more adventurous might even think about joint dog walks, picnics in the park or sandwiches on a shared bike ride. Some people may want to offer hospitality, others may long to be invited out. Whatever you decide - the main thing is spending time with others and getting to know them better at the end.

We especially encourage those who have started coming to St Leonard's recently to join in to meet others.

Sign up [here](#)

Any queries - please contact Margaret Thornton margaret@2cp.uk,
07971857711



BLYTHSWOOD CARE SHOEBOX APPEAL

This year's SHOEBOX Appeal is now operational and filled shoeboxes will be going to very needy people in Ukraine and Eastern Europe. Shoeboxes can be filled for girls, boys, teenagers, women, men and elderly women.

Leaflets with instructions and what to put inside your

SHOEBOX can be found inside the Foodbank Box outside St.Peter's Church or in the porch at St.Peter's Church and on the table at the back of St Leonard's church. If you would like to learn more about this appeal please contact:

St Peter's - Jane Aston on 01865 880757 or email janeaston53@aol.com

St Leonard's - Janet Haskett on 01865 882488 or email jehaskett1@googlemail.com

Completed Shoeboxes can be delivered to Jane Aston at 9, Bell Close, Cassington or dropped off at St Leonard's before the end of October.

St Andrews Christian Bookshop Witney is 30 years old!

To celebrate we are holding a Service of Thanksgiving on Saturday 26th October at 10.30am at Witney Congregational Church. We also have books and bibles at 30% off for the month of October in store.

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.

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