

NEWSWIRE: 25th October 2024



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 - Blythwood Care Shoebox Appeal
 - CAP Christmas Hampers
-

A message from Duncan

What do lilies, forget-me-nots, pink carnations and chrysanthemums all have in common? Apparently they are all flowers for remembering, and in this part of the year, with its swiftly changing seasons, we are entering a time of remembering. Not many of us find this season very easy, for many different reasons. For some remembering is painful, for others it's complicated.

On Sunday evening we will hold a Benefice Memorial Service for the bereaved. Bereavement touches us all throughout our lives and although it's hard, taking time to remember loved ones who are no longer with us can be helpful. It's hard because we deeply miss those who are separated from us, and it's hard because we are reminded of our own mortality - *"The life of mortals is like grass, they flourish like a flower of the field; the wind blows over it and it is gone, and its place remembers it no more."* (Psalm 104). Perhaps not what you wanted in your inbox just before the weekend!

But remembering is a wonderful thing. It enables us to learn, to grow relationships, to develop skills, to achieve the most remarkable things, to cherish and to love. Remembering is an attribute we rely on in God. He is a God who says, *"I will remember my covenant"* (Lev 26.42). He remembers to keep his promises. Fortunately he can be implored to "remember not" some things we would rather he forget. And he does, such is his grace.

And remembering is a gift to us. In Psalm 77, Asaph, the psalmist, is not feeling great. He is in distress and it seems like the best days are all behind him. His solution? To remember. *"I will remember the deeds of the LORD"* (Psalm 77v11).

So take a moment, a pause, over the next few weeks to remember, the kind of remembering that makes you stronger, more grateful and fills you with hope.

And in your remembering, may God be with you all.

Duncan

Collect for the Last Sunday after Trinity

Blessed Lord,
who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning:
help us so to hear them,
to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them
that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word,
we may embrace and for ever hold fast
the hope of everlasting life,
which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

SERVICES ON SUNDAY

9am - Holy Communion at St Leonard's

Readings: Luke 14.1-11; 1 Peter 5.5b-11

10.30am - All-in service at St Leonard's and live streamed on [this link](#)

Readings: Luke 14.1-11

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

6pm - Memorial Service for the bereaved at St Leonard's

Please note - There is no service at St Peter's this Sunday.

NEXT WEEK

Monday 28th October

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



Wednesday 30th October

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

Thursday 31st October

Light up Halloween at St Leonard's from 5pm - 8pm

NEXT SUNDAY - 3rd November

9.30am - Holy Communion at St Peter's

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

7pm - Revive at St Leonard's

Looking further ahead

Remembrance Sunday Services on 10th November

9.30am at St Peter's

10am at St Leonard's

Pop up Tuesday Fellowship Meeting in St Leonard's Church Hall at 2.30pm on Tuesday 26th November. Martin Flatman will be talking to us about Advent. Do put the date in your diary!

Children and Families Worker - Maternity Cover

With Rabea starting her maternity leave in the New Year, we are advertising for a temporary Children and Families Worker to provide maternity cover next year. You will find the job advert on [this link](#). Do share with anyone you think may be interested in applying, and please keep praying for our children and families ministry at this time.



BLYTHSWOOD CARE SHOEBOX APPEAL

It is very nearly time for the shoeboxes to be sent to needy people in Ukraine and Eastern Europe. Please make sure that completed shoeboxes are brought to St Leonard's church or returned to Jane Aston at 9 Bell Close, Cassington no later than Friday 1st November. Please note that the shoeboxes are checked by customs and need to have a list of contents attached to the front of the box. If you have any questions 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



Prayer Ministry - Prayer is a vital part of the life of St. Leonard's. In past years we have had a Prayer Ministry Team available at the end of a morning service to pray with people if they have worries, concerns or as a response to something from the Service.

If you are interested in being part of a Team or learning more about Prayer Ministry, please contact Gill - gillsinfield@uwclub.net or Duncan.



Christians Against Poverty (CAP) Christmas Hampers

As in previous years we would like to give each of our clients a special hamper of Christmas extras. These clients are working with CAP to clear their debts, and they cannot afford some of the extra Christmas luxuries many of us take for granted.

Following feedback from both clients and donors, we would like to slightly change the make-up of this year's hampers. Whilst we would still like them to include some luxury Christmas food and treats, we feel it would be appropriate to reduce the amount of day to day food items, and replace them with a gift voucher(s) from local shops to enable the clients to choose something for themselves that they might not otherwise be able to afford.

In order to give us time to match donors to clients, if you would like to provide a hamper this year, please **let me know no later than 10 November, but preferably before**. We would like to have all hampers ready for delivery by 12 December, to give us time to get them out to the clients.

I know that many people enjoy joining in this venture each year. It always brings a lot of joy to our clients and is a wonderful expression of God's love and provision.

Please contact me if you have any questions and I will do my best to answer them. Kind regards. *Alan Thornton*

The next **Woodstock Deanery Synod meeting** will be held at St Leonard's on Wednesday 6th November at 7.30pm. Refreshments are served before the meeting from 7pm. If you are able to help with preparing and serving

refreshments please speak to Margaret Thornton or contact the Church Office. Thank you.

Thank you so much for praying for **Jo** as she was teaching at Moorlands last week. The course started well, and she has a lovely group of students from the UK, Germany, Finland and India. This week Jo is back in Eynsham doing her normal member care work, while others are helping the students think through what is involved in planning development programmes.

**Wyc/iffe
Bib/e
Trans/ators**

Paul is currently on the last push of proofreading the Mpyemo New Testament with the team before typesetting starts - please pray for the team to find any remaining errors, and for good internet connection for them to get the work done. Paul is also hoping to finish writing up his research on translating texts naturally in Gbanu. Then on Saturday **November 2nd he will be returning to CAR**. During this trip he will be working with the Bhogongo team to improve their writing system and start learning about its grammar.



Open Doors October mission focus: A church pastor in Burkina Faso asks for prayer for a clean water supply in a displacement camp. His strong faith enables him to say 'I do believe that we are displaced, but Jesus is not and will never be displaced from our lives'.

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.

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.

The Church Office will be closed until Thursday 31st October. Please leave a message and I will get back to you on my return. *Louise*

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](#)