

Welcome to St Leonard's. If you're here for the first time or visiting, please say hello.

The nave will usually be open for private prayer & reflection on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday mornings, and Sunday afternoons.

Please note that this may be subject to change at short notice.

THIS SUNDAY'S SERVICES

9:45am **Parish Eucharist with Junior Church**
(702, 629, 787, 693, 463, Lent Prose, 646, Addington)
5:30pm **Evensong and Sermon**
(131, 129, 115, 132, Psalm 119.73-88)

PRAYER DIARY & EVENTS

SUNDAY 9th - we pray for the parishes of Lexden & Shrub End.

MONDAY – in the Anglican Communion we pray for The Diocese of Malakal: Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan.

8:45am Morning Prayer.

7:00pm Eucharist.

7:45pm PCC Meeting.

TUESDAY - we pray for staff and residents at Woodlands Residential Home.

8:45am Morning Prayer.

WEDNESDAY – in the Colchester Deanery we pray for all retired clergy.

9:30am Baby & Toddler Group in the hall.

10:00am Eucharist with followed by coffee.

11:00am Lent Course – Hearing God in Poetry.

11:00am Baby & Toddler Group in the hall.

7:00pm Lent Course – Hearing God in Poetry.

THURSDAY - we pray for the Lutheran Church.

8:00am Eucharist.

FRIDAY - we pray for all surgeons and consultants.

11:00am Funeral of Carole Durrant RIP.

SATURDAY - we pray for the residents of Church Lane and Ratcliffe Road.

8:30am Women's Breakfast.

**Services next Sunday:
16th March – 2nd Sunday of Lent**

8:00am BCP Holy Communion

9:45am Parish Eucharist with Junior Church

3:00pm SYLC in the hall

NEWS AND EVENTS

The funeral of **Carole Durrant** will take place at 11:00am on Friday 14th March at St Leonard's. Please wear something red in honour of Carole's Welsh heritage.

Our **Lent Course** this year is called **Hearing God in Poetry**. Sessions take place in the Nicholls Room at 11:00am and 7:00pm on Wednesday's 12th, 19th & 26th March and 2nd & 9th April. We look forward to welcoming you.

Magazine – copies of the latest magazine are now available in print or online at <https://www.stleonardslexden.org.uk/magazines/>

The next **Women's Breakfast** is on Saturday 15th March in the Church. Contact maggie@stleonardslexden.org.uk for more details.

SLYC is back! Fun for Year 4 children and above featuring the return of the popular Tuck Shop! Sunday 16th March, from 3-5pm in the church hall. Email to let us know that you are coming to: juniorchurch@stleonardslexden.org

Church Spring Clean – we are holding a Spring Clean of the Church on Saturday 29th March starting at 9:30am. Many hands make light work so if you can help get our beautiful building ready to celebrate Easter, please speak to Julie.

Revision of the Church Electoral Roll 2025: Our Electoral Roll is to be completely revised before this year's Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 18th May. If you are baptised, attend St Leonard's Church, and are aged sixteen or above, you are encouraged to enter your name on the new roll by completing and signing an application form. Forms and a collecting box are available in church or from the website <https://www.stleonardslexden.org.uk/APCM/>. If your name is on the existing roll you will still need to re-apply, please; this is a full revision. There are further details in the March/April Magazine. Please ensure that all forms are returned by Sunday 20th April.

Summer Fayre – this year's summer fayre will take place on Saturday 28th June, please save the date in your diaries.. Please speak to Nick if you are able to help in any way.

Our 9.45am service is live-streamed each Sunday to include those who are unable to join with us in person. If you prefer not to be on camera, please sit behind the front five rows of the nave. We are happy to provide Holy Communion to you in your pew, just let a steward or warden know.

Among those for whom we pray are:

Angela Sargent, Jean Holden, Father David Armstrong, Dick Verrier, Richard, Derek Cowie, Johanne Bresch, Lionel Simpkins, Brian Root, Katrina Light, Joseph, David Moxon, Kim Harding, Graham Tyler, Jenny and Peter Hazlewood, Frances Bonner, Maureen Watkins, Antonia Loxley, Janice, Kim Kite, Hugh and Mary Beavan, Michael Eavery, Freddie Woolard, Jacquie, Ashley Hanmer, Jan Buckley, Tony Gurney, Shirley Everitt, Stella Llewellyn, Pat Hughes, Doreen Mayes, Holly Donovan, Win Kenway, Freda and Ernest Jenkins, Ellen Whalley, Nick Leaning, Pam Hatherly, Owen Shepherd, Frances Dowson, Joan Collis, and those others known to us.

Those who have died & those who mourn them: Pauline Jarvis, Carole Durrant

The Church has a card reader available for contactless payments. Please ask if you need help using it and also Gift Aid your donation if you are able to. Donations can also be made online via our website <http://www.stleonardslexden.org.uk/>

COLLECT & READINGS (1st Sunday of Lent)

Collect

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness,
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your
Spirit; and, as you know our weakness,
so may we know your power to save;
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.

Post Communion Prayer

Heavenly Father,
your Son battled with the powers of darkness,
and grew closer to you in the desert:
help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer
that we may witness to your saving love
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Deuteronomy 26.1–11 (Old Testament, p194)

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from
Moses said to all Israel: When you have come into the land
that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to
possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take
some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you
harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you,
and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the
Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You
shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to
him, 'Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come
into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give
us.' When the priest takes the basket from your hand and
sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall
make this response before the Lord your God: 'A wandering
Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and
lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a
great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians
treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labour
on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the
Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our
oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty
hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of
power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into
this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and
honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that
you, O Lord, have given me.' You shall set it down before the
Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God.
Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who
reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the
Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

Psalms 91.1–2, 9–16 (Old Testament, p577)

You who live in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,
will say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my fortress;
my God, in whom I trust.'

Because you have made the Lord your refuge,
the Most High your dwelling-place,
no evil shall befall you,
no scourge come near your tent.

For he will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways.
On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.
You will tread on the lion and the adder,
the young lion and the serpent you will trample under
foot.

Those who love me, I will deliver;
I will protect those who know my name.
When they call to me, I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble,
I will rescue them and honour them.
With long life I will satisfy them,
and show them my salvation.

Romans 10.8b–13 (New Testament p170)

But what does it say?
'The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart'
(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you
confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your
heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.
For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one
confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says,
'No one who believes in him will be put to shame.' For there
is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is
Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For,
'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

Luke 4.1–13 (New Testament p65)

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and
was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days
he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during
those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The
devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command this
stone to become a loaf of bread.' Jesus answered him, 'It is
written, "One does not live by bread alone."'

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all
the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, 'To you
I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been
given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then,
will worship me, it will all be yours.' Jesus answered him, 'It is
written,
"Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him."'

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the
pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, 'If you are the Son of
God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written,
"He will command his angels concerning you,
to protect you",
and
"On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone."'
Jesus answered him, 'It is said, "Do not put the Lord your
God to the test."'

When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him
until an opportune time.