

St Leonard's Church Newsletter

February 2018



Our vision for St Leonard's:
***"To be a Christian presence in the community,
embodying God's love in all we say and do."***

It seems not very long since the end of our Christmas festivities but now we start thinking about Lent and Easter. Ash Wednesday is on 14th February. There'll be a service with the imposition of ashes that morning at 10am.

Lent is an old name for spring—when the days lengthen (although the cold weather we've had recently makes spring seem a long way off!). It's a time of renewal in the natural world, everything springing back to life. For Christians, it's a time of spiritual renewal. We think of how we can prepare ourselves for that great renewal—Jesus' resurrection at Easter.

It's a time of examining our way of life and seeing how we could improve it, make it in keeping with our Christian calling. Often, people give something up to recall Jesus' forty days of fasting in the wilderness. But it's also a time when we can take something on—helping others, seeing if we can lessen our impact on the environment, reading the Bible more often ...

To help with the latter, we'll be running a Bible study group throughout Lent, based on the film *The Way*. Five sessions are planned on Wednesday afternoons. An initial screening of the film will take place at in church on Sunday 18th February after the morning service. We'll have lunch together and watch the film. Please bring some food to share.

Sue Burchell
Vicar

Contact details:

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Churchwardens:

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What's On in February (here at St Leonard's unless otherwise specified)

- Fri 2 2pm Whist Drive
7pm Banbury Interfaith Network meeting at the **Friends' Meeting House**. A celebration of Imbolc. All welcome.
- Sat 3 10am Morning Prayer; 10.30am Coffee
11am **Explore Together** Bible study
6pm Quiz night
- Sun 4 10am Eucharist
- Mon 5 11.30am Lenny's Monday Club
- Tue 6 10am Art Group
- Wed 7 10am Eucharist
- Sat 10 10am Morning Prayer; 10.30am Coffee
- Sun 11 10am Eucharist
- Mon 12 11.30am Lenny's Monday Club
7.30pm Seeking the Spirit service
- Wed 14 **Ash Wednesday** 10am Eucharist
- Fri 16 2pm Whist Drive
- Sat 17 10am Morning Prayer; 10.30am Coffee
10am Local councillors' surgery in the **Community Hall**
- Sun 18 10am Eucharist
11.30 Lunch and showing of the film 'The Way'
- Mon 19 11.30am Lenny's Monday Club
- Tue 20 10am Art Group
- Wed 21 10am Eucharist
2pm Lent study group meets in **the Vicarage**
- Sat 24 10am Morning Prayer; 10.30am Coffee
- Sun 25 10am Eucharist
1pm Baptism
- Mon 26 11.30am Lenny's Monday Club
7.30pm Seeking the Spirit service
- Tue 27 10am Art Group
- Wed 28 10am Eucharist with Years 3 and 4 from St Leonard's School
2pm Lent study group meets in **the Vicarage**

*Choir practice is usually every Tuesday at 7.30pm.
Revd Sue's usual day off is Friday.*

Deadline for March newsletter is 19th February. Please send any items to Revd Sue.

Deddington Deanery Training Opportunity

Saturday March 3rd. 10AM -3PM at St Hugh's Church, Banbury

Imaginative Spirituality: Reframing worship for a changing world.

A day exploring new ways and styles of worship, led by **Andy Freeman**. Andy is a Pioneer based in Sheffield, he co-authored Punk Monk: New Monasticism and the Ancient Art of Breathing, teaches on mission and spirituality and runs Space to Breathe which helps resource churches wanting to explore different expressions of Spirituality.

Lunch provided. **Booking ESSENTIAL BY Friday February 23rd** to Anita and Colin Smith. anita.smith.nbi@gmail.com



Church Chairs Update:

The PCC have chosen the chair that most people voted for. We will be ordering 60 standard chairs plus 10 with arms. The chairs will be a red colour (exact colour to be decided when the fabric swatches are received) and have a pocket at the back in which to put hymn books and service books, as required.

Church Hall

Is in use every Wednesday evening and every Saturday afternoon (term time only)

Bookings: Please call into church on any Saturday morning between 10.30 and 11.30am

Hall Manager needed

We need someone to take bookings for the church hall, keep the diary up to date, and arrange access for the hirers. Please let Revd Sue know if you can help.

St. Leonard's Christian after school club

Sue A is still looking for helpers for our after-school Christian club at St. Leonards School on a Tuesday afternoon from 3-4pm.

St Leonard's Primary School hosts a **Stay and Play** session for parents and grandparents with toddlers. It's every Wednesday at the school, in the Diamond Building, running from 8.45 to 10.30. There is no need to have a child at the school or to stay for the whole session. Just drop in and meet other parents and help your toddlers make new friends!

Our local schools are:



st-leonards.oxon.sch.uk

and



Dashwood Banbury Academy
an Aspirations Academy

www.aatdashwood.org

Sunday Rota

	Feb 4 <i>John 1:1-14</i>	Feb 11 <i>Mark 9:2-9</i>	Feb 18 <i>Mark 1:9-15</i>	Feb 25 <i>Mark 8:31-end</i>
First Reading	Priscilla: Prov 8:1,22-31 Ps 104:26-37	Pat P: 2 Kings 2:1-12 Psalm 50:1-6	Tim: Gen 9:8-17 Psalm 25:1-9	Charles B: Gen 17:1-8,15-16 Psalm 22:23-31
Second Reading	Pat S: Col 1:15-20	Sue A: 2 Cor 4:3-6	Charles B: 1 Pet 3:18-22	Pat P: Rom 4:13-end
Prayers	Rev Sue	Pat S	Priscilla	Geraldine
MC	Liz	Jerry	Jerry	Liz
Chalice	Liz & Tim	Charles B & Jerry	Joan & Jennie	Liz & Pat S
Sides persons	Jerry & Mark	Joan & Jennie	Ivy & Shirley	Jerry & Mark
Coffee	Sheila	Charles & Jan	Liz	Olyvia

Please pray for the sick and those who've asked for prayer: Marion Lewis, Dacian and Lorena, Fr Roger Bellamy, Terry Foulsham, Vince Garas, Alex Cripps, Joan Newman, Steve Lewis, Andy Ford, Sharon Sampson, Daniel Fry, Rodd Bankier.

Deddington Deanery Intercessions

4th Feb: Ironstone Benefice: John Reader, Hugh White, Lindy Bridgeman and Trina Wilcock, our response to the new housing developments and also the overall future of the benefice in a period of transition. For the Children and Schools work; Worship development; Community Engagement. For the Banbury Food Bank.

11th Feb: St Hugh's Banbury: Anita Smith, Colin Smith. For the work of Relate, Samaritans and all counsellors helping those in crisis. For LLMs and all other authorised Ministers who work throughout our Deanery. BGN: the pupils, staff, governors.

14th Feb: For our links with the churches in Sweden - Sofiakyrkan, Jönköping as our link Växjö Parish, and South Africa - the Church of the Resurrection in Mmabatho as our Kimberley and Kuruman one.

18th Feb: Deddington, Benefice: Annie Goldthorp, Paula Smith with Christopher Hall and Christine Turner, for their work with children and families, especially for the growth of 'Little Saints'. All staff, governors and pupils at Deddington Primary School.

25th Feb: For all Village Christian Communities served by Quakers, Methodists, and Baptists. For circuit Teams and Visiting Ministers travelling many miles to minister to small flocks. For all that we can learn through ecumenical dialogue. For Fair Trade to happen in all countries and for us to ensure it does.