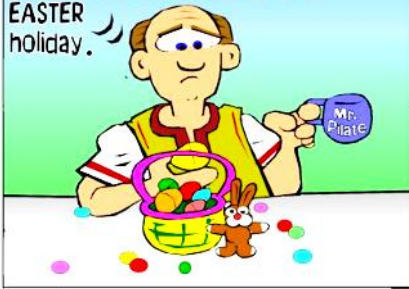




Our vision for St Leonard's:
***"To be a Christian presence in the community,
embodying God's love in all we say and do."***

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson

Chocolate bunnies, Easter Egg Hunts,
colored baskets, coloring eggs..
there must be more to the
EASTER
holiday.



Just 2 days after ordering the crucifixion
of Jesus, Pilate ponders a deeper meaning
to recent events.

Happy Easter! Jesus is risen!

I hope you've all enjoyed your Easter eggs but let's,
like Pilate, ponder a deeper meaning to this festival.

To those of us who walked with Jesus in the journey
to the cross, with all its pain and intensity, Easter
morning brings a mix of emotions, as it probably did
to those who followed Jesus during his earthly life.
Confusion, shock, amazement. Somehow Jesus is alive.
He has survived death. What does this mean?

Easter is a celebration of new life. Now that spring is finally here, we see new life all around us—flowers and trees blossoming, baby birds fledging, lambs in the fields. So we give thanks to God for the renewal of creation, the turning of the seasons. And we thank God for the new life that Jesus brings to us. Jesus' death and resurrection allow us to become closer to God. We too can receive new life, be spiritually transformed, be more aware of God's presence with us.

In Jesus, God has started to transform the world into God's kingdom. Sometimes the realisation of that seems a long way off. But we, as Jesus' followers, must continue to pray, and work, for the coming of the kingdom, and live our lives as Easter people.

Sue Burchell
Vicar

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Liz Spittle 01295 254035

Website: www.saintleonards.org



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

- Sun 1 **Easter Day** 10am Eucharist followed by Easter Egg Hunt
- Wed 4 10am Eucharist
- Sat 7 10am Morning Prayer; 10.30am Coffee
11am **Explore Together** Bible study
- Sun 8 10am Eucharist
12.30pm Baptism
- Mon 9 11.30am Lenny's Monday Club
7.30pm Seeking the Spirit service
- Tue 10 2pm Wedding rehearsal
2pm to 4pm Crafty Fun for accompanied pre-school and primary age children in the **Church Hall**
- Wed 11 10am Eucharist
- Thu 12 3pm Wedding of Richard Mander and Lesley Hope
- Sat 14 10am Morning Prayer; 10.30am Coffee
- Sun 15 10am Eucharist
- Mon 16 11.30am Lenny's Monday Club
2pm Ministry team meeting in **the Vicarage**
- Tue 17 10am Art Group
- Wed 18 10am Eucharist
- Thu 19 7pm PCC meeting in **the Vicarage**
- Sat 21 10am Morning Prayer; 10.30am Coffee
- Sun 22 10am Eucharist
- Mon 23 11.30am Lenny's Monday Club
7.30pm Seeking the Spirit service
- Tue 24 10am Art Group
12.45pm Meeting with the ladies from the Sunrise Multicultural project
- Wed 25 10am Eucharist
7.30pm Grimsbury Community Association AGM in the **Community Hall**
- Sat 28 10am Morning Prayer; 10.30am Coffee
- Sun 29 10am Eucharist
12.30pm Baptism
- Mon 30 11.30am Lenny's Monday Club

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

Deadline for May newsletter is 22nd April. Please send any items to Revd Sue.

Notes from the APCM

The annual meeting was held on 18th March. The main points were:

1. Liz Spittle and Jerry Lewis were re-elected as churchwardens for the coming year.
2. Trish Mancinelli and Vickie Newham were elected to the PCC.
3. Charles Barber was re-elected as Treasurer and also agreed to take on the role of PCC secretary.
4. Detailed plans for the new disabled toilet and kitchen in church had been approved and the architect was in the process of obtaining tenders for the work. The project is expected to cost about £30,000.

A copy of the Annual Report and Accounts are at the back of church for anyone to look at.

Plans for the toilet and kitchen will be on display in church later in April.

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.

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.

Our local schools are:



st-leonards.oxon.sch.uk

and



Dashwood Banbury Academy
an Aspirations Academy

www.aatdashwood.org

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!

Revd Sue will be on sabbatical/study leave from 30 April until 30 July. Visiting priests will cover our Sunday (and most other) services during this time. There will be no newsletters from June to August inclusive.

Sunday Rota

	Apr 1 <i>Mark 16:1-8</i>	Apr 8 <i>Jn 20:19-end</i>	Apr 15 <i>Lk 24:36-48</i>	Apr 22 <i>Jn 10:11-18</i>	Apr 29 <i>Jn 15:1-8</i>
First Reading	Tim: Acts 10:34-43	Charles B: Acts 4:32-35 Psalm 133	Pat S: Acts 3:12-19 Psalm 4	Geraldine: Acts 4:5-12 Psalm 23	Priscilla: Acts 8:26-40
Second Reading	n/a	Pat S: I John 1:1-2:2	Sue A: I John 3:1-7	Charles B: I Jn 3:16-24	n/a
Prayers	Rev Sue	Pat P	Priscilla	Pat S	Geraldine
MC	Liz	Liz	Jerry	Jerry	Liz
Chalice	Joan & Jennie	Liz & Tim	Charles B & Jerry	Joan & Jennie	Liz & Pat S
Sides persons	Ivy & Shirley	Jerry & Mark	Joan & Jennie	Ivy & Shirley	Jerry & Mark
Coffee	Sheila	Charles & Jan	Liz	Olyvia	Sheila

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, Donna Baker, Roy Paginton.

Deddington Deanery Intercessions

1st Apr: For resurrection joy to fill our hearts, our worship, our lives. Christians throughout the world who are persecuted for their faith. All inter-faith dialogue and co-operation. All initiatives seeking to bring peace to this troubled world

8th Apr: Bloxham, Milcombe and South Newington: Dale Gingrich. Michael Howard, Michael Campling, Tom Moffatt. For the benefice work with children and young families. For Warriner MAT: pupils, staff, governors, including local primary schools.

15th Apr: All new housing developments in our Deanery. All we do locally to build community. Parish Councils, District and County Councils.

22nd Apr: Wykeham Benefice: Broughton with North Newington, Epwell, Shutford, Sibford, Swalcliffe, Tadmarton. Ronald Hawkes, John Tattersall, Liz Hawkes.

Sibford School and Swalcliffe Park schools. For the Fire and Rescue service in the dangerous tasks they are called to perform.

29th Apr: For the People's Church: the Baptist church (Bloxham) and the Salvation Army: the Methodist circuit; Free Evangelical Church: Southam Road Evangelical Church; Community Church; Jubilee Church all their Pastors, Ministers, Superintendents and Preachers. For all who seek public office, for our local MPs and Local and County Councillors. For the Diocesan Clergy Conference.