

# St Leonard's Church Newsletter

## February/March 2019



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

As the days are getting longer and lighter, we're making our way towards Lent. On 3rd February, we celebrate Candlemas, traditionally a time when candles are blessed in church and given out to take home as symbols of light.

Candlemas grew out of the Pagan celebration of Imbolc, a time for preparing the winter ground for new planting, for lighting sacred fires, and for awakening the spirit. It marks the midway point between winter and spring—a time to turn our thoughts to lighter days ahead, and hope for the end of winter.

On this day, in church, we celebrate the presentation of the child Jesus in the Temple. Mary and Joseph follow the Jewish tradition of offering the child to God, bringing a pair of doves for sacrifice. They meet Simeon, who's been waiting a long time for this moment, and Anna, a prophet of great age. And Simeon and Anna recognise Jesus as the one who is to save Israel.

This marks the end of the Epiphany season, a time when we've been hearing stories of how Jesus is revealed as the Messiah, the Son of God. We've had the crib up since Christmas. Now it's taken down and we turn our focus towards the cross. We journey with Jesus in his earthly ministry.

Then, Lent begins on 6th March. Lent is actually an old name for spring, when the days lengthen, and signs of new life appear. It's a time to prepare ourselves for the events of Holy Week, that culminate in Jesus' death on the cross, and resurrection at Easter. A time to prepare for the new life promised in Jesus.

Sue Burchell  
Vicar

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**Website:** [www.saintleonards.org](http://www.saintleonards.org)



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

### Feb

- Sat 2 10am Morning Prayer; 10.30am Coffee  
11am **Explore Together:** Bible study  
3.30pm Indonesian presentation
- Sun 3 10am Eucharist
- Mon 4 11.30am Lenny's Monday Club
- Tue 5 10am Art Group
- Wed 6 10am Eucharist
- Sat 9 10am Eucharist; 10.30am Coffee  
11am **Play Together:** board games
- Sun 10 10am Eucharist  
4pm Seeking the Spirit service
- Mon 11 11.30am Lenny's Monday Club
- Tue 12 10am Art Group with the ladies from Sunrise
- Wed 13 10am Eucharist
- Sat 16 10am Morning Prayer; 10.30am Coffee  
11am **Create Together:** art and craft
- Sun 17 10am Eucharist
- Mon 18 11.30am Lenny's Monday Club  
11am-2pm New Year Wishes event at **Grimsbury Community Hall**
- Wed 20 10am Eucharist
- Sat 23 10am Morning Prayer; 10.30am Coffee  
11am **Jigsaw Together**
- Sun 24 10am Eucharist and Baptism  
4pm Seeking the Spirit service
- Mon 25 11.10am Lenny's Monday Club
- Tue 26 10am Art Group
- Wed 27 10am Eucharist

*A prayer group meets every Monday afternoon at 2pm. Choir practice is usually every Tuesday at 7.30pm.*

### Mar

- Sat 2 10am Morning Prayer; 10.30am Coffee  
11am **Explore Together:** Bible study
- Sun 3 10am Eucharist
- Mon 4 11.30am Lenny's Monday Club
- Tue 5 10am Art Group
- Wed 6 **Ash Wednesday** 10am Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes
- Sat 9 10am Morning Prayer; 10.30am Coffee  
11am **Play Together:** board games
- Sun 10 10am Eucharist  
11.30am **Film showing: *The King's Speech*** (basis for Lent study)  
4pm Seeking the Spirit service

## What's On cont'd

- Mon 11 11.30pm Lenny's Monday Club  
Tue 12 10am Art Group  
Wed 13 10am Eucharist  
2.30pm Lent Study Group in **the vicarage**  
6.30pm Grimsbury Community Association meeting at the  
**Community Hall**  
Sat 16 10am Eucharist; 10.30am Coffee  
11am **Create Together:** art and craft  
Sun 17 10am Eucharist  
11.30am **APCM**  
Mon 18 11.30am Lenny's Monday Club  
Tue 19 10am Art Group  
Wed 20 10am Eucharist  
2.30pm Lent Study Group in **the vicarage**  
Sat 23 10am Morning Prayer; 10.30am Coffee  
11am **Jigsaw Together**  
Sun 24 10am Eucharist  
4pm Seeking the Spirit service  
Mon 25 11.30am Lenny's Monday Club  
Tue 26 10am Art Group  
1pm Meeting with the ladies at the **Sunrise Project**  
Wed 27 10am Eucharist  
2.30pm Lent Study Group in **the vicarage**  
Sat 30 10am Morning Prayer; 10.30am Coffee  
**Deanery Synod** meeting at **St Francis Church**  
Sun 31 **Mothering Sunday** 10am Eucharist

### St. Leonard's Christian after school club

If you can help with the after-school club on Tuesdays 3pm to 4pm, or the prayer space on Wednesdays 12.10pm to 1.10pm, please speak to Revd Sue or Sue Ayliff

### Church Hall Bookings:

Please call 07856 278797 or email [saintleonardsbanbury@gmail.com](mailto:saintleonardsbanbury@gmail.com)

From now on, the newsletter will be printed every two months. The deadline for the April newsletter is 24th March. Please send any items to Revd Sue.

Our local schools are:



[st-leonards.oxon.sch.uk](http://st-leonards.oxon.sch.uk)

and



**Dashwood Banbury Academy**  
an Aspirations Academy

[www.aatdashwood.org](http://www.aatdashwood.org)

## Sunday Rota—February

	3 Feb <i>Luke 2:22-40</i>	10 Feb <i>Luke 5:1-11</i>	17 Feb <i>Luke 6:17-26</i>	24 Feb <i>Luke 8:22-25</i>
<b>First Reading</b>	<b>Pat S:</b> Malachi 3:1-5 Psalm 24	<b>Charles:</b> Isaiah 6:1-8 Psalm 138	<b>Geraldine:</b> Jer 17:5-10 Psalm 1	<b>Priscilla:</b> Gen 2:4-9,15-25 Psalm 65
<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>Margaret:</b> Heb 2:14-end	<b>Alison:</b> I Cor 15:1-11	<b>Charles:</b> I Cor 15:12-20	<b>Tim:</b> Rev 4
<b>Prayers</b>	Priscilla	Pat S	Henry	Pat P
<b>MC</b>	Liz	Jerry	Liz	Liz
<b>Chalice</b>	Liz & Tim	Charles & Jerry	Joan & Jennie	Pat S & Tim
<b>Sides persons</b>	Jerry & Mark	Joan & Jennie	Ivy & Shirley	Jerry & Mark
<b>Coffee</b>	Marlene	Charles & Jan	Sheila	Olyvia

### **Deddington Deanery Intercessions**

**3rd Feb:** Ironstone Benefice: Drayton, Horley, Hornton, Hanwell, Shenington, Alkerton, Wroxtton, Balscote. John Reader, Hugh White, Lindy Bridgeman. For Children and Schools work; Worship development; Community Engagement. For the Banbury Food Bank.

**10th 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 and accredited Ministers who work throughout our Deanery and are such a blessing. BGN the pupils, staff, governors.

**17th Feb:** Deddington, Clifton, Hempton and the Barfords: Annie Goldthorp, Paula Smith, with Christopher Hall and Christine Turner. For their outreach work with children and families, especially for the growth of 'Little Saints'. For all staff, governors and pupils at Deddington Primary School.

**25th Nov:** For all Village Christian Communities served by Quakers, Methodists, Roman Catholics and Baptists. For circuit Teams, Priests, and Visiting Ministers travelling many miles to minister to small flocks. For all that we can learn through ecumenical dialogue. For Fair Trade.

**Please pray for the sick and those who've asked for prayer:** Marion, Steve, Laura, Flora, Daniel, Donna, Justin, Vince, Judy, Mike, Nita.

**Please note that, owing to the latest Data Protection guidelines, we are unable to include a person's surname unless they have specifically given their permission.**