



## NEWSWIRE: 8th March 2024

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- Services on Sunday
  - Mothering Sunday service and afternoon tea at St Peter's
  - Save the date - Easter Sunday lunch
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### *A message from Duncan*

This is the week our thoughts turn to motherhood.

My thoughts, of course, have limits. Particularly bearing in mind that I am not, nor ever will be, a mother! I do, however, have experience of having a mother, as well as observing first hand the mother of my children. I have also experienced the motherhood of God, a theme we only ever seem to consider at this time of year. The Church's meditation on Mothering Sunday should always eventually land on the motherhood of God. Jesus instructs us to address God as Father, but there are plenty of biblical metaphors that remind us that motherhood finds its origin and source in God from whom all good things come. God is the one who bore us and gave us birth (James 1.18 amongst many), who is like a mother bird feeding hungry chicks (Psalm 81.10) and bearing them on wings aloft to show them the world below (Deut 32.11); even one who is like a mother bear with her cubs (Hosea 13.8). We are all invited to experience something of these things in our relationship with God. One biblical image that remains precious to me is from Psalm 131 - a toddler on their mothers lap. The toddler is described as a 'weaned child' indicating that they are content from a meal, satisfied and at ease. They are calmed and quieted, happy simply to be near their mother in that special and unique place of intimacy. Mother's Day is a day of mixed emotions for many with echoes of grief amongst those of thanksgiving. But it is also a reminder of the staggeringly wonderful invitation we have all received to climb into the lap of the Almighty, from whom we have received life, that we might have the most fundamental need of our humanity eternally met: to know, with our whole being, that we are loved and we are safe.

My heart is not proud, LORD,  
my eyes are not haughty;  
I do not concern myself with great matters  
or things too wonderful for me.  
But I have calmed and quieted myself,  
I am like a weaned child with its mother;  
like a weaned child I am content.

*Psalm 131*

Grace and peace to you all,  
Duncan

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### **Collect for Mothering Sunday**

God of compassion,  
whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,  
shared the life of a home in Nazareth,  
and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself:  
strengthen us in our daily living  
that in joy and in sorrow  
we may know the power of your presence  
to bind together and to heal;  
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.

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### **SERVICES ON SUNDAY**

**9am - Holy Communion at St Leonard's**  
*Readings: Psalm 131; Matthew 6:1-8; 16-21*

**10.30am - Morning Worship at St Leonard's and  
livestreamed on [this link](#)**  
*Readings: Psalm 131; Matthew 6:1-8; 16-21*

**3.30pm - Mothering Sunday Service at St Peter's followed by afternoon tea**  
*Readings: Luke 13:31-35; Psalm 131*

**4pm - Families@4 at St.Leonards**



## **NEXT WEEK**

### **Monday 11th March**

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

**Walkie Talkies** meet on **Mondays** (term time) from **10am to 11.30am** in **St Leonard's church hall**.

### **Tuesday 12th March**

**Tinies and Toddlers** meet on **Tuesdays** from **1.30pm to 3pm** (term time) in **Cassington Village Hall**.

**St Leonard's PCC Meeting**

### **Wednesday 13th March**

**Warm Welcome Wednesday** from **10.30am to midday** in **St Leonard's church**  
**Lent Courses** at **2pm** and **7.30pm**

**St Peter's PCC Meeting**

### **Thursday 14th March**

**Mum's Bible Study** meet every **Thursday morning** (term-time) **10 - 11.30am** at **95 Hazeldene Close**.

## **NEXT SUNDAY - 17th MARCH**

9.30am - Morning Worship at St Peter's

10.30am - Morning Worship at St Leonard's and live streamed

### **Looking further ahead:**

**A Memorial Service for the late Carol Sanders** will be held at **St Peter's** at **2.30pm** on **Wednesday 20th March**. Please note that the time for this service was incorrectly advertised last week, and we apologise for any confusion caused. There will be a private family service immediately preceding the Memorial Service, please do not arrive at church before 2pm.

**A memorial service** for the late **Marjory Berry** will be held at **St Leonard's church** on **23rd March**.

**Afternoon tea for carers** at **3.30pm** on **Saturday 23rd March** in **St Leonard's Church Hall** (see below).

**Tuesday Fellowship Reunion - 26th March** at **2.30pm** in **St Leonard's Church**

**Hall** Roger Aston is our special guest along with his guitar. An opportunity to get together again for prayer and praise, not forgetting a welcome cup of tea and piece of cake. **Visitors** are always welcome so why not come along.

**Families Easter Dinner** - Easter themed crafts, games and dinner for the whole family. Thursday **28th March** from **4pm to 6pm** in St Leonard's Church Hall.

**Easter Sunday lunch** at **St Leonard's** on **31st March** follow [this link](#) for more information or to sign up.



**Mothering Sunday posies** - On Mothering Sunday posies will be given out at the morning services in St Leonard's. We need some help to make up the posies in church **tomorrow morning** from **9.30am** to 10.30am (Saturday 9th March). For more information follow [this link](#) or speak to Margaret Thornton. If you have some foliage in your garden which we can use in the posies, please bring it to church tomorrow morning.

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**Craft and Chat:** Saturday 9th March 22 Falstaff Close, Eynsham from 14:00 - 16:00. Bring anything you are working on and we can craft and chat. Please let me know if you are coming or if you have any questions. Jennifer [jenniferclarke362@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferclarke362@gmail.com)  
0774 975 9939



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**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](mailto:stleonards_stpeters@btconnect.com)) Names will be added to the list by express permission, and only first names will be published.

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## **SERMON on the MOUNT**

### ***with the Bible Project***

Sign up for weekly emails from the Bible Project on the Sermon on the Mount [here](#)

Links to previous weeks below:

[Introduction](#) | [Jesus and Torah](#) | [Doing right differently](#) | [Right relationships](#) | [The Choice Before Us](#) | [Being at home in the Kingdom](#) | [The Hard Path of Peacemaking](#) | [salt and the land](#) | [the light and the city](#)





**TONIGHT!**

## **Benefice of Hanborough and Freeland**

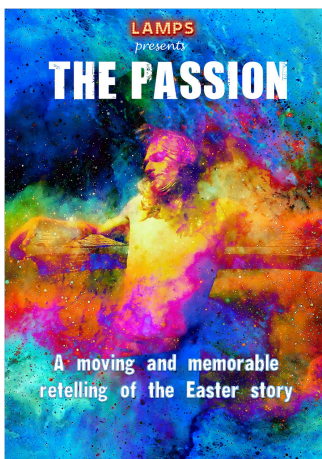
**An evening of Christian poetry for all**

**Christ Church, Long Hanborough**

**7-9pm on Friday 8th March**

You are welcome to read or just listen. There is no charge for this. If you would like to bring cake or biscuits, that would be most appreciated. We hope to see you at what promises to be a spiritual and uplifting event. If you wish to attend please text Laura on 07974973867.

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**St Mary Magdalene Church, Woodstock**

**Monday 25th March at 7pm**

Tickets - £12 (£6 for under 18s) available from Woodstock Bookshop or on the door

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christians  
against  
poverty

**CAP**

# Life Skills



WHAT WE COVER:  
BUDGETING

MONEY SAVING  
TIPS

COMMUNICATION

HEALTHY  
RELATIONSHIPS

COOKING ON A  
BUDGET AND  
MORE!

**Tuesdays 9:30–11:30**  
**Taster session 16th**  
**April**  
**At Witney Methodist**  
**Church**  
**Free**  
**brunch/refreshments**

FOR MORE INFO OR TO BOOK A PLACE  
PLEASE EMAIL  
KATIEGAMBLE@CAPLIFESKILLS.ORG

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[www.stleonardseyntsham.org.uk](http://www.stleonardseyntsham.org.uk) | [www.stpeterschurchcassington.org](http://www.stpeterschurchcassington.org) | [Youtube channel](#) | [facebook page](#)