



NEWSWIRE: 3rd May 2024



- Services on Sunday
 - Working party on the Church Land - tomorrow!
 - St Leonard's APCM - Sunday 5th May
 - Thy Kingdom Come
-

A message from Ruth

Sitting in the sunshine of Tuesday, with May Day less than 12 hours away, it was easy to believe that Spring had arrived. The past 48 hours have quashed the dream, the calendar might say different, but as we reach for wellies and jumpers no-one is in any doubt that we are back in winter once more.

I wonder how often our discipleship journey feels like this week? A retreat day, a week away at a Christian festival, an inspirational Christian book and we feel we are in a new season. But then comes sickness, financial hardship, tough work situations or the relentlessness of daily demands and we are left reaching for our spiritual umbrella and thermals.

I see my experience mirrored throughout the Bible, the highs of the Exodus followed by desert wanderings, or the anointing of a King followed by personal failure. Both in relation to the weather and our walk of discipleship, we can be left wondering what happened? Where did Spring go?

In our bewilderment, I believe we should take hope from the Bible narratives. The Israelites spent 40 years in the desert, but they did not remain there. Fallible Kings were replaced by THE King. The darkness of Good Friday illuminated by the light of the empty tomb.

In relation to the weather we remain perpetual optimists, every warm and dry day has us planning barbecues and wondering about a trip to the sea! How much more should our spiritual walk be characterised by hope and conviction? Pentecost, which we will celebrate in a couple of weeks, is God's seal on the promise of Easter, *we are not alone*, God indwells us.

As our meteorological journey to spring does not run smoothly, neither will our Christian walk. But if we fix our eyes on Jesus, surrendering ourselves daily to his

call on our lives, as surely as spring will come, so we will step by step find ourselves transformed, by God's grace, into the likeness of Christ.

Wherever you find yourself today, hold on, spring is coming!

Collect for the sixth Sunday of Easter

God our redeemer,
you have delivered us from the power of darkness
and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:
grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life,
so by his continual presence in us he may raise us
to eternal joy;
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.

SERVICES ON SUNDAY

9.30am - Holy Communion at St Peter's

Readings: Ephesians 3:14-21, Matthew 7:7-12

10am - Morning Worship at St Leonard's and live
streamed [on this link](#)

Readings: Matthew 7:7-12; Revelation 5:1-8

Please note the earlier service time. This is due to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, which will be held after the service.

If you have difficulties accessing the service on the livestream link above, please try accessing [our youtube channel](#) directly.

7pm - Revive at St Leonard's

NEXT WEEK

Monday 6th May

Bump to One and **Walkie Talkies** will **not** be meeting due to the Bank Holiday

Tuesday 7th May

Tinies and Toddlers meet at **Cassington Village Hall** on Tuesday (term time)
from **1.30 to 3pm**



Wednesday 8th May

Warm Welcome Wednesday from 10.30am to midday in **St Leonard's** church.

Thursday 9th May

Cassington Cafe from **10am** in **Cassington Village Hall**.

NEXT SUNDAY - 12th May

9am - Holy Communion at St Leonard's

9.30am - Morning Worship at St Peter's

10.30am - Morning Worship at St Leonard's and livestreamed

4pm - Families@4 at St Leonard's

Looking further ahead

The Chosen - episodes 7 & 8 in the **Tolkien Room**, St Peter's Catholic Church at **7pm** on **Monday 13th May**.

Freeland Orchestra and West Oxfordshire Wind Concerts at **St Leonard's** on **Saturday 11th May** (see below)

Eynsham Choral Society Concert at **St Leonard's** on **Saturday 18th May**

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) Names will be added to the list by express permission, and only first names will be published.



Saturday 4th May from 10am - 3pm – Volunteers needed for a “one day working party” on the church land.

We have decided that it would be good to make better use of the church land. The plan is to tidy up the area, make it more

attractive and make a small section into a community allotment area.

There will be a flower bed created along part of the back wall, a proper compost bin in the corner and four raised beds on the long thin strip of land on the left as you enter the site. There will also be a water butt connected to the downpipe on the shed.

If you feel you could help with this project, for an hour, part of the day or more, or if you have anything to donate that you think could be useful (garden tools, watering can etc. or plants for the flower bed) just come along tomorrow. For more information get in touch with either Hazel Petty (07939879319) or Sharon Anderson (07756862168). Many thanks

FREELAND ORCHESTRA – Saturday 11th May at 2 pm in St Leonard's church. Our local orchestra will be performing Mendelssohn's lively Italian Symphony, of which the composer himself wrote "It will be the jolliest piece I have ever done". Other music in this concert will be the Overture to The Merry Wives of Windsor by Nicolai and music from The Tsar's Bride by Rimsky-Korsakov. A lovely way to spend a Saturday afternoon!

Tickets on the door £5 and free for Under 18s. www.FreelandOrchestra.org

WIND CONCERT – 7.30 pm Saturday 11th May at St Leonard's Church.

No less than FOUR West Oxfordshire wind groups (WOC, WOCI, WOL & WOW) are combining to provide a really varied evening of musical entertainment. The two clarinet choirs and two wind bands, all conducted by Wendy Marks, will be treating us to music including some Handel, Tchaikovsky and Holst alongside well-known favourites: John Williams, Frank Sinatra, Glen Miller, music from Les Miserables and even a bit of Wallace and Gromit!

Tickets on the door £5 and free for Under 18s www.OxfordWoodwind.co.uk

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:

[A surprising Announcement](#) | [Being at home in the Kingdom](#) | [The Hard Path of Peacemaking](#) |

[salt and the land](#) | [the light and the city](#) | [Entering the torah story](#) | [The meaning of Torah](#) | [The least and the greatest](#) | [Fulfilling the Torah](#) | [Greater righteousness](#) | [murder and contempt](#)





Thy Kingdom Come (TKC) is a global ecumenical prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus. Click [here](#) for prayer resources.

www.stleonardseynsham.org.uk | www.stpeterschurchcassington.org | [Youtube channel](#) | [facebook page](#)