



NEWSWIRE: 2nd May 2025



- Services on Sunday
 - Big Apple Baroque Concert
 - Guest preachers during Duncan's sabbatical
-

A message from Margaret

We have learned that Pope Francis was a man wanting to live out his faith in humility and simplicity. His worldly possessions consisted only of a few books and records (he loved the Tango); his coffin was to be simple, not elevated for the lying-in-state; he was to be buried not in the Vatican but in among the people of Rome; his gravestone should just have one word on it "Franciscus" – not his title, nor his birth name, but that of his role model St Francis of Assisi, a man who turned his back on worldly wealth.

And then there was the striking photo of Zelensky and Trump sitting eye-to-eye, dwarfed by the magnificent roof of the Basilica, in the House of God, away from the shouting and power imbalance of the Oval Office. The Observer printed the picture with the words "The Pope's Last Act" where perhaps they lived out his injunction to "Build bridges and not walls."

But the Pope was criticised by members of his own flock for some of his reforms: clergy who lost their anticipated Vatican appointments to the laity, many of them women; the forbidding of the Mass in Latin; he certainly offended the Vatican Gardens tour guide I met, who, when showing us the helicopter pad announced with disdain "But THIS pope, he does not use it" with the implication that he was demeaning the privileges of his role. To go against what others expected, to challenge and sometimes offend the religious people of the day, to speak Truth to Power – these are all reminiscent of the Master he followed and we proclaim – Jesus, Son of God.

On a retirement retreat, we were asked to consider what our own obituary might be. What would we want it to say? Do our lives reflect this? If you have a spare 5 minutes I encourage you to have a go. It's not as morbid as it sounds! I don't think any of us are famous enough to have a gravestone with only one word to sum up our life, nor powerful enough to have world leaders come to our

departure but we can ask God to guide us in His service, to be challenged to love and stretched to widen our vision to give dignity to all, and, in the coming week to “ build bridges and not walls.”

Margaret Johnson

Collect for the Third Sunday of Easter

Almighty Father,
who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples
with the sight of the risen Lord:
give us such knowledge of his presence with us,
that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life
and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;
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: 1 Corinthians 15:12-28; John 21:1-14

10.30am - Morning Worship at St Leonard's and live streamed on [this link](#)

Readings: John 21:1-19; Psalm 30

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 5th May

No Bump to One and Walkie Talkies due to the Bank Holiday.

Tuesday 6th May

Mum's Bible Study meets on **Tuesday mornings** (term time) from **10 - 11.30am**. Please contact Jo Shaw for more details. Email: jollypops@gmail.com

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

Wednesday 7th May

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

Thursday 8th May

The funeral of the late **Alison Dunn** will be held at **St Leonard's** at **11.30am** on **Thursday 8th May**.

NEXT SUNDAY - 11th May

9am - Holy Communion at St Leonard's

9.30am - Morning Worship at St Peter's

10.30am - Morning Worship at St Leonard's

Looking further ahead

CHANGE OF DATE - **Cassington Cafe** on **Thursday 15th May** from **10am** in **Cassington Village Hall**

The funeral of the late **Peter May** will be held at **St Leonard's** at **2.30pm** on **Monday 2nd June**.

As Duncan headed off on sabbatical this week, thank you to everyone who responded to the opportunity to contribute financially, or by sharing a Bible passage or some words. A sizable financial gift was given to Duncan and Carmen and a book containing the passages and words that had been shared was also given to Duncan. Both the financial gift and the book of words reflected the enormous love and regard in which both Duncan and Carmen are held and we know they were both very moved by the love shown to them in this way. Thank you to all those who made these gifts possible.

YOUTH AT ST LEONARD'S

Please Note: Time & Location Changes for Sunday Morning Youth, Monday & Thursday Cell Groups

THIS WEEK

04.05.25 - Sunday Morning Youth @ The Hogan's

05.05.25 - Monday Cell Meeting on Thurs. @ Clover Place

07.05.25 - Cell Group @ The Bitterall

08.05.25 - Mon & Thurs Combined @ Clover Place.

COMING UP

11.5.25: Morning Worship
No Sunday Morning Youth

12.5.25: Cell Group @ Clover Place

14.5.25: Cell Group @ The Bitterall

15.5.25: Cell Group @ The Church

WEEKLY CELL GROUPS

Cell Groups run weekly on a
Monday (year 10-11)
Wednesday (year 7,8-9)
Thursday (year 12-13)

Cell Groups run during term-time from 7-8.30pm

Further dates are available on the St Leonard's Website.

SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH

Sunday Morning Youth runs on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month during our 10.30am service.

For more information please contact Laura: youth.stleonards@gmail.com

GUEST PREACHERS

Whilst Duncan is away on sabbatical most preachers will be from our own preaching team, but you might want to add to your diary some special services and guest preachers coming up in the next three months:

St Leonard's

4 th May	Az Hobbs	Manager of CAP Debt Centre in Witney - focus on our Mission Partner Christians Against Poverty (CAP).
18 th May	Charlie Cleverly	Former Rector of St Aldate's, Oxford.
25 th May	Jon Cox	Founder and Director of Adventure Plus - Family friendly service with focus on our Mission Partner Adventure Plus.
15 th June	Graham Tomlin	President of St Mellitus College and Director of The Centre for Cultural Witness, former Bishop of Kensington.
6 th July	Bob Key	Former Vicar of St Leonards, Eynsham. (Carnival Sunday)
20 th July	David Tyler	Archdeacon of Dorchester area, former vicar of Hanborough.

St Peter's

1 st June	Stephen Pix	Associate Priest, St Mary's Woodstock
29 th June	Katie Jones	Associate Priest, St Mary's Woodstock
3 rd August	Andrew Bunch	Associate Priest, St Mary's Woodstock and Area Dean for Woodstock Deanery

'Please pray for Paul Murrell, who travelled to Cameroon on Friday 25th April to lead a three-week workshop on text analysis. He is training six teams from CAR, Cameroon, Burkina Faso and Congo. Pray for good learning to take place, leading to much-improved translations, and for good relationships to be built between everyone attending, as they encourage each other in their work. You can read more about what the Murrells are up to in their latest newsletter, here: <https://mailchi.mp/aaf8f1a1674e/murrell-news-april-2025> or email Jo at josephinemurrell@gmail.com to be added to their newsletter and updates list.'

Will you still love me when I'm __??

You are warmly invited to

Big Apple Baroque's Birthday Bash

Keyboard concertos by Bach & Handel

Music for a Restoration Tempest by Messrs Locke, Lully, Purcell, Weldon and Anon

Friday 9th May 2025 at 7.30 pm

St Leonard's Church, Eynsham

Donation for Tear Fund

THE MEMBERS OF EYNSHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

INVITE

St Leonard's Church

**TO JOIN WITH US TO MARK THE END OF THE MINISTRY OF
REVD DR ZOLTAN BIRO IN EYNSHAM ON SUNDAY 8TH JUNE 2025**

SERVICE AT EYNSHAM BAPTIST CHURCH AT 10.30AM

FOLLOWED BY LUNCH AT 12.30PM

If you are unable to come to the morning service
you are welcome to join us for lunch.
Let us know numbers and whether you are coming
to the service and/or the lunch in your reply.

Please RSVP BY 30TH MAY 2025

sheila.wood1952@gmail.com

Please pray for:

- Joy receiving palliative care for liver cancer and for David, Kathy and family.
- Dave following his move to a care home.
- 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.

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

CAN YOU HELP?

Sunday Morning Youth runs on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at the Vicarage during the 10.30 service...
but we need help!

To keep our Youth Ministry running, we are looking for two more people to join the Sunday Morning Youth Team!

We are looking for confident leaders who are passionate about sharing the Good News with our young people, who could commit to serving on the rota once a month.

If you feel as though this could be you, please don't hesitate to get in touch with Laura, via email, or over a cup of tea after church!

youth.stleonards@gmail.com





access

Riding for Resilience: Supporting Young Lives vs Cancer from London to Amsterdam



Dear St. Leonard's Church Family,

I'm reaching out to ask for your support in raising funds for the Access - London to Amsterdam 2025 event in June, which benefits Young Lives vs Cancer. This cause is close to my heart, and with your generosity and prayers, we can make a real difference in the lives of young people facing cancer.

Every donation, no matter how small, can provide vital support to those in need. If you feel called to contribute, it would mean so much to me and to the young lives we are helping. Together, as a church family, we can bring hope and make a positive impact.

You can donate on this [link](#) to the charity fundraising page, or use the QR code in the photo above. I can also accept cash donations, which I will add the charity page on your behalf.

Thank you for your kindness, support, and prayers. God bless you!

Kind regards, Ginta

Church Office - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9am – 2pm

Tel: 01865 883325 E-mail: stleonards_stpeters@btconnect.com

Revd Duncan Fraser: 07810 324088 (Day off – Friday)

Please note - Duncan is on sabbatical until mid August 2025