



NEWSWIRE: 16th May 2025



- Services on Sunday
 - Eynsham Carnival
 - Ascension Day Events in Woodstock Deanery
-

A message from John

This Sunday will be the Fourth Sunday of Easter.

In Acts chapter 1 verse 3, we learn that Jesus spent forty days with the eleven Apostles between his resurrection and his ascension: *“After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God.”*

So as we approach the fourth Sunday of Easter, we are still well within the forty days of Jesus appearing to the Apostles & teaching them. I find myself itching to know what Jesus said to the eleven during this time! Oh, to have been the proverbial “fly on the wall”! But Luke gives us very little detail, other than that Jesus “spoke about the kingdom of God” during these forty days.

Despite this amazing time with the risen Jesus, the Apostles still get things wrong! In verses 4 – 6, we learn about one standout occasion where Jesus commands the Apostles to stay in Jerusalem and to wait for God to send his Holy Spirit. What an amazing promise! But their immediate reaction is to blurt out, *“Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”*

The eleven knew that the Father had sent Jesus, and yet they still did not understand the sort of kingdom that Jesus had come to create. It seems incredible to us (because we have the benefit of 2,000 years of hindsight) that they were still thinking post-Resurrection in very self-centred, human terms about the sort of kingdom which Jesus meant! Jesus has to be quite curt with them in verse seven, but then he follows up with a wonderful promise *“⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you;”*

Then comes the truly shocking news “*and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.*” I bet the Apostles never saw that one coming!

As we continue to respond to the message of Easter, let us be mindful of how, and also where, we are called to be witnesses to Jesus? Where is our ‘Jerusalem’, our ‘Judea’ and our ‘Samaria’... or even beyond?

John Anderson

Collect for the Fifth Sunday of Easter

Almighty God,
who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ
have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life:
grant that, as by your grace going before us
you put into our minds good desires,
so by your continual help
we may bring them to good effect;
through Jesus Christ our risen 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 - Morning Worship at St Peter's

Readings: Psalm 67; John 14:22-31

10.30am - Holy Communion at St Leonard's and live

streamed on [this link](#)

Readings: Revelation 21:1-6

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



NEXT WEEK

Monday 19th May

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 20th 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 21st May

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

NEXT SUNDAY - 25th May

9am - Holy Communion at St Leonard's

10.30am - Family Friendly Morning Worship at St Leonard's

5pm - Evening Prayer at St Peter's

Looking further ahead

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

YOUTH AT ST LEONARD'S

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

THIS WEEK

18.5.25: Sunday Morning Youth @ The Hogan's
19.5.25: Cell Group @ Clover Place
21.5.25: Cell Group @ The Bitterall
22.5.25: Cell Group @ The Church

COMING UP

25.5.25: Morning Worship - *No Sunday Morning Youth*
W/B: 26.5.25 - Half Term, No Cell Groups

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

Paul's Update from Yaoundé

The second week went well—everyone has recovered and is fully involved again.

Thank you for praying for this specifically!

We're now entering the final phase, applying the training to real translation work and developing strategies to make sure the translators continue to remember the differences between their languages and the original in their future work. The true success of the workshop will be seen in how well the teams produce clear, natural and faithful translations.

Please pray:

- for teams to grasp and apply key lessons
- for improved translations as a direct result of the workshop
- for each team to finish their brief summary document before they leave
- for safe travels home for everyone.

Thanks for praying! Paul

**THE MEMBERS OF EYNHAM BAPTIST CHURCH
INVITE
St Leonard's Church
TO JOIN WITH US TO MARK THE END OF THE MINISTRY OF
REVD DR ZOLTAN BIRO IN EYNHAM ON SUNDAY 8TH JUNE 2025
SERVICE AT EYNHAM 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

Carnival time again . Saturday 5 JULY

Would you like to feel a little bit more involved with our local community?

Every year St Leonard's supports the Carnival event with **volunteer ticket sellers** on the day.

St Leonard's benefits by receiving a donation of the share of the profits. The more helpers the more we are given. 😊.

Teams work in pairs or 3s at tables along the route or at the entrances to the field. So you are never left on your own .

You can offer any time from 1 hour upwards.....

I can vouch that the day feels much more fun if you know you are part of helping it run smoothly

If you would like to know more or express an interest .

Please speak to Jenny Hogan who is collecting st Leonard's names for the carnival team .

You can : speak to me on Sunday , or email ajennyhogan@gmail.com to find out more .

ASCENSION DAY EVENTS IN WOODSTOCK DEANERY

Thursday 29th May 2025

9am - Guided Circular Walk (3.5 miles)

Meet at St Mary the Virgin North Aston, OX25 6AA

11am - Eucharist

St Mary the Virgin, Steeple Barton, OX25 4QR

7pm - Sung Eucharist

St Mary Magdalene, Woodstock, OX20 1SJ

8pm - Illustrated Talk on Compostela Pilgrimage

St Mary Magdalene, Woodstock, OX20 1SJ

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

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



Please pray for:

- Noah on his mission trip to New Zealand
- 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.stleonardseysham.org.uk | www.stpeterschurchcassington.org | [Youtube channel](#) | [facebook page](#)



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