

NEWSWIRE: 30th May 2025



- Services on Sunday
 - Eynsham Carnival
-

A message from Steve

I often reflect on a favourite quotation, from an Eastern Orthodox monk, Paisios: looking on at the state of the world, and church, he said:

“What I see around me would drive me insane, if I did not know that, whatever happens, God will have the last word!”

Daily hearing news, from Gaza, Ukraine, even from this country - and, to be honest, reflecting sometimes on the state of my own life - it is easy to feel discouraged, fearful for the future: ‘What is the world coming to?’, we may ask. But Paisios is right: God *will* have the last word; the ‘hope’ we have is not just ‘fingers-crossed and hope for the best’, it is a ‘sure and certain’ hope. ‘*Christ is risen: He is risen indeed*’ is our Easter-cry; and in Christ’s Resurrection, not only is our past redeemed – our ultimate future is secured.

This is not an excuse for inaction, fatalism, passivity, an invitation to adopt a ‘couldn’t care less’ mentality; there is much for us to *do* in our time, to commit to each day, as we work towards That Day, the great and final Day when the Last Word is spoken.

Much for us to *pray* over, too: Paisios’s phrase ‘the last word’ reminds me of that ‘last word’ of our prayers – the little, powerful word ‘Amen’, ‘so be it’ - and of how the apostle Paul tells us that in Christ is God’s ‘Yes!’, that ‘that is why it is through Him that we answer ‘Amen’, to the praise of God’. (2 Corinthians 1:20).

From our perspective, we cannot fully understand the relation between Time and Eternity - to us, everything in one sense is ‘still all to play for’ as we live out our earthly lives in Time: but we can be assured that in Eternity the issue is settled: God *will* be All In All (1 Corinthians 15:22-28). Meanwhile, in the Time Between, we act, and we pray...

So, brothers and sisters! let's 'take a firm grip on the hope that is held out to us' (Hebrews 4:18); let's engage fully, prayer-fully, with the discord, the apparent chaos we sometimes see around us, and even within us - and let's have Paisios's 'last-word' confidence that our God can, and ultimately will, do abundantly more than we can ask or imagine.

For Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

Steve Hellyer

Collect for the Seventh Sunday of Easter

O God the King of glory,
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us
and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before,
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: Psalm 97; John 17:20-25

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

Readings: Ephesians 4:1-6; John 17:20-26



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 2nd June

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.

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

Tuesday 3rd June

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 4th June

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

Thursday 5th June

Cassington Cafe from 10am on Thursday 5th June in Cassington Village Hall.

NEXT SUNDAY - 8th June

9am - Holy Communion at St Leonard's

9.30am - Morning Worship at St Peter's

10.30am - Morning Worship at St Leonard's

YOUTH AT ST LEONARD'S

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

THIS WEEK

01.6.25: Sunday Morning Youth @ The Hogan's

02.6.25: Cell Group @ Clover Place

04.6.25: Cell Group @ The Church

05.6.25: Cell Group @ The Church

COMING UP

8.6.25: Morning Worship
No Sunday Morning Youth

09.6.25: Cell Group @ Clover Place

11.6.25: Cell Group @ The Church

12.6.25: Cell Group @ The Church

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

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.

WHEELCHAIR ACCESS AT ST LEONARD'S: If there is a need to use a toilet accessible for wheelchairs there is one in the church hall. Please ask one of the stewards or churchwardens for a key.

Statements of giving - We will soon be sending statements of annual giving to everyone who regularly donates to St Leonard's. The statements will be emailed to the regular email address that we hold for you (a hard copy will be sent to those who do not use email). If for any reason you would prefer that we did not send a statement via email, please contact the church office.

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 .

Summer + Drinks and Jazz



Join us for an unforgettable evening of live, background jazz, refreshing drinks and mouth-watering canapes, and enjoy a chance to get up to date as we reveal the exciting developments here at the Adventure Base. Dress smart casual and let us entertain you while we raise money for a good cause.

Please invite any friends who might be excited and encouraged by our life-changing adventures with several thousand young people every year!

Friday 6th June 2025 7-10 pm

RSVP to comms@adventureplus.uk



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www.adventureplus.uk

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



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



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

Please pray for:

- Noah on his mission trip to New Zealand
- David, Kathy and family following Joy's recent death.
- 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.

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