

NEWSWIRE: 19th September 2025



- Services on Sunday
 - Harvest
 - Children at St Leonard's
 - Blythwood Care Shoebox Appeal
-

A message from Derek



The hearts of the wise make their mouths prudent, and their lips promote instruction. Proverbs 16:23

Yes, I know that this is a grass snake. Well, I know it's a grass snake *NOW*.

I didn't know it was a grass snake when I posted on the Eynsham FB page that, whilst walking, I'd seen an adder and that dog walkers needed to be careful. All done with the best of intentions. Then followed a slew of comments on my post. A number of these pointed out that this was, in fact, a grass snake. Some even mentioned that they'd kept a grass snake as a pet.

All fair enough: I should have checked first. But I really had felt it right to tell people as soon as I could – well, they needed to know didn't they? This snake had zig-zags on its skin as do adders. However, as I later discovered, adder markings are much larger and darker. Ah well.

I was a bit short on the '*prudent-mouth-principle*' mentioned in Proverbs. The apostle James gives a grave warning about unchecked words. Look at James Chp.3:3 – 12 summed up in verse 5:

. . . the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark.

Hence the need of a very necessary prayer:

Set a guard over my mouth, LORD; keep watch over the door of my lips.

Psalm 141:3

Derek Foster

Collect for the fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

Almighty God,
whose only Son has opened for us
a new and living way into your presence:
give us pure hearts and steadfast wills
to worship you in spirit and in 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: Colossians 1.9-10; 2.1-5; Luke 1.68-79

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

Readings: Colossians 1.9-10; 2.1-5; Luke 1.68-79

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

6.30pm - Duncan's Sabbatical Reflections in St Leonard's (see below)

Saturday 20th September

The funeral of the late **Stephen Batts** will be held at **St Leonard's** on **Saturday 20th September at 1pm**



NEXT WEEK

Please note time and venue changes (in red) during the electrical work in St Leonard's church

Monday 22nd September

Walkie Talkies will be meeting from **9.30am to 10.45am** on **Monday** in **St Leonard's church hall** whilst the electrical work takes place in church.

Bump to One will be meeting in **St Leonard's church Hall** on **Monday** from **11am to 12.30pm** whilst the electrical work takes place in the church.

Tuesday 23rd September

Tinies and Toddlers meet every **Tuesday** in the **Village Hall in Cassington** from **1.30 to 3pm** (Term time only).

Wednesday 24th September

Warm Welcome Wednesday from **10.30am to midday** in **St Leonard's Church Hall**

NEXT SUNDAY - 28th September

9am - Holy Communion at St Leonard's

10.30am - All age Harvest service at St Leonard's (see below)

5pm - Evening Prayer at St Peter's

Looking further ahead

Cassington Harvest Supper - Saturday 4th October (see below)

Revive Eynsham - Sunday 5th October at 7pm

Revive in October will be an opportunity for all local Christians to join at St Leonard's in worship and prayer for our community. Followed by refreshments and a time of fellowship.

Duncan's Sabbatical Reflections

I would love to share with you all some informal reflections on my recent sabbatical and so am planning an evening on Sunday 21st September at 6.30pm. We'll share coffee and cake and some photos and songs and study Leviticus together (only joking..?). *Duncan*

Open Doors petition: Many thanks to all who signed the Arise Africa petition in St Leonard's church last Sunday. The petition will be in church again this Sunday so please consider signing it for the protection of persecuted Christians in Sub-Saharan Africa if you haven't already done so. Alternatively you can sign the petition [online](#)

YOUTH AT ST LEONARD'S

Cell Groups run weekly during term time.

Monday: 4-5.30pm (Y6,7,8), Monday: 7-8.30pm (Y11,12,13), Wednesday (Year 9, 10)
Sunday Morning Youth runs on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month during our 10.30am service.

THIS WEEK

21.9.25: Sunday Morning Youth
Up The Bell Tower - 10.30am

22.9.25: Cell Group @ Clover Place (4pm)
22.9.25: Cell Group @ Clover Place (7pm)
24.9.25: Cell Group @ The Bitterell (7pm)

COMING UP

28.9.25: Harvest Service
All Age Service

29.9.25: Cell Group @ Clover Place (4pm)
29.9.25: Cell Group @ Clover Place (7pm)
1.10.25: Cell Group @ The Bitterell (7pm)

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

Something to Bring for Harvest All Age Service Next Sunday (10.30am)

In our Harvest service at St Leonard's on 28th September (next week) we will be thinking about the "fruit of our labours". So we would love to invite you to bring along something which represents your job, volunteer tasks, or your work in the home. It could be the "fruit" of your labours such as home-made food, a hand-made object, some written work, an artwork, or whatever else results from what you do. It could also be a tool of your trade - something you use to accomplish your work. Something to represent what you do during the week (you will get to take them back at the end of the service).

There will also be a collection of non-perishable goods for The Porch. Donations of canned, bottled and dried food are welcomed. No fresh produce please.

The 10.30am service will be followed by a simple harvest lunch.



HARVEST CELEBRATION AT ST PETER'S CHURCH

Sunday 5th October at 3pm
followed by afternoon tea

For all ages – everyone welcome

Contributions of non-perishable items will be gratefully received for local Food Banks. A list of items can be found on the North Oxford Food Bank web site. Financial donations can also be made directly to:

North Oxfordshire Food Bank

<https://www.givefood.org.uk/needs/at/north-oxfordshire/>



Families@4

We are continuing to pause families@4 whilst we discern the appropriate way ahead for this service. The service was originally set up during the pandemic and we are in need of wisdom as to the most helpful way to move forward. We will be providing opportunity for feedback from families to help with this process. Meanwhile, we are endeavouring to provide Sparklers on the second Sunday of the month during our morning services.

Please continue to pray for our precious families and our ministry with them.

Children during our services

Whilst the lighting is being installed we will not have access to the creche room during the service. Our use of the main church space may also require some adjustment to our usual routine. This may affect families in particular so please be aware of the following points:

- Please could we restrict the mats for babies and toddlers as the creche room is not available for them.
- Be aware that access to the toys will also be very limited.
- Older children can sit with parents or carers for the first part of the service which we will keep brief and appropriate for children before providing age appropriate teaching in Sparklers. (Sparklers on the first three Sundays of the month. The fourth Sunday will continue to be appropriate for all ages.)

Following the installation of the lights we will be discussing with parents to discern the best way forward in encouraging the fullest integration during our all age times.



BLYTHSWOOD CARE SHOEBOX APPEAL

This year's Shoebox Appeal is now operational and shoeboxes will be going to very needy people in Eastern Europe including Ukraine. Shoeboxes can be filled for girls, boys, teenagers, women, men and elderly women. Leaflets with instructions and what to put inside your shoebox can be found inside St.Peter's Church porch.

If you would like to know more about this Appeal please contact:

St Peter's - Jane Aston on 01865 880757 or email janeaston53@aol.com

St Leonard's - Janet Haskett on 01865 882488 or email

jeHaskett1@googlemail.com

Completed shoeboxes can be delivered in Cassington to Jane Aston, 9, Bell Close, Cassington or inside St.Peter's Church on the font. In Eynsham, the shoeboxes can be left in St Leonard's church. Completed shoeboxes need to be returned before the end of October.

Wyciffe Bible Translators

Paul and Jo are both delighted that the Mpyemo team (who they used to work with in Bilolo) are back in Bangui after several months travelling through their home area, and this time they've come back with a group of 14 Mpyemo speakers who are going to record the audio version of the New Testament. When they arrived Paul was really happy to discover that among the

group are some old friends and neighbours he hasn't seen for over 12 years! It has been very special spending time together, catching up and hearing news from Bilolo. Paul asks us to pray for the recording of the Mpyemo New Testament which began last week, that the readers will do an exceptional job as they read.

As for the linguistics Paul is presently working on, please continue to pray for the ongoing analysis of the sound system and grammar of Tali and Vale; that they will understand complex things quickly and lead the teams to good decisions so that the translation will be easy to read, accurate and sound natural.

Paul also asks us to pray for good health and protection as they move around Bangui - not always the safest of places.

In all this, our prayers are really appreciated.

Lighting work at St Leonard's

Whilst the work to replace the lighting continues, the church will be 'Out of Bounds' Monday to Friday until 17th October. The church will not be open for prayer during these weeks and if you need anything from church please contact Ken or Louise. The church will be accessible on Saturdays and Sundays and all Sunday services will continue as normal.

Please let me know if you have any queries, Thanks Ken

**St Peter's Church, Cassington Village Hall and
Cassington Sports and Social Club invite you to a**

HARVEST COMMUNITY SUPPER

Saturday 4 October 2025 6.30pm – 10.00pm

ALL WELCOME

Join us for a community evening of fun, music and laughter following in the long tradition of people in Cassington celebrating the gathering of the Harvest.

- ★ **Home-grown local entertainment**
- ★ **Buffet Supper included in the ticket price**
- ★ **Pay bar**



Tickets in advance: Adults £10 / Under 16s £5

Family ticket (up to 5 members) £25 from ...

Jan Macdonald: 07941 419219 – janmacdonald78@aol.com

Carolyn Hinton: 07747 621597 – chinton260@outlook.com

Open Morning at The King's School, Witney

Join us for our whole school Open Morning on Tuesday 7th October from 10:30 am until midday. Discover The King's School, a small and friendly Christian school, for ages 3-16, on the outskirts of Witney.

- Date: Tuesday 7th October
- Time: 10:30 am - 12:00 pm
- Location: The King's School, New Yatt Road, Witney, OX29 6TA
- Website: www.tkswitney.org.uk
- Please join us by [registering here](#)

At The King's School, we believe this is an amazing space to be all God made you to be. Children are truly known, loved, and nurtured. A place where academic success and spiritual growth go hand in hand.

We warmly invite prospective families to explore our welcoming school community. To find out more about the Open Morning, please email Olivia, our Registrar, registrar@tkswitney.org.uk.

Please pray for:

- 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](#)

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)