

NEWSWIRE: 14th November 2025



- Services on Sunday
 - Week of Prayer: 16th - 23rd November
 - Alpha Course
 - Church Lunch - Sunday 23rd November
 - Advent and Christmas services
-

A message from Derek



"Wherever he steps, whatever he touches, whatever he leaves, even unconsciously, will serve as a silent witness against him. Not only his fingerprints or his footprints, but his hair, the fibres from his clothes, the glass he breaks, the tool mark he leaves, the paint he scratches . . . All of these and more, bear mute witness against him."

This is a summary of the 'Locard's Exchange Principle'. Dr. Edmond Locard was a French criminologist, who became known as the "Sherlock Holmes of France". He formulated the basic principle of forensic science: *"Every contact leaves a trace"*. Locard proposed that it is a fundamental concept that when two surfaces come into contact, there is an exchange of material between them.

And so we have the threads of detection as followed in the plot of any of our favourite TV crime series.

And so too, as we walk our days with Jesus, we find another 'exchange principle' in action. It is the 'Salt – Light Principle' of Mathew 5:13 – 16:

"You are the salt of the earth . . . You are the light of the world . . . let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

I wonder if I have become numb to Jesus' words on the significance of my daily interactions? Have these verses become just too familiar? Through my life I have been the better for the daily contacts of family, a teacher, friends, youth leaders, colleagues whose have been Jesus' salt and light to me. All such contacts have left their Jesus trace in my life.

Jesus' words are direct and plain. We are salt, we are light. Perhaps I need to have confidence in the fact that whether intended or not, I have potential to leave a '*Jesus touch exchange*' in my daily contacts.

My grandfather would continually quote some lines which might seem trivial and perhaps, on first hearing, cloyey and maudlin – but, on reflection, are profound:

*Little deed of kindness,
Little deeds of love
Make this world an Eden like the Heaven above.*

Derek Foster

Collect for the second Sunday before Advent

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son was revealed
to destroy the works of the devil
and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life:
grant that we, having this hope,
may purify ourselves even as he is pure;
that when he shall appear in power and great glory
we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom;
where he is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

SERVICES ON SUNDAY

9.30am - BCP Holy Communion at St Peter's

*Readings: Leviticus 24.1-8; Psalm 67;
2 Corinthians 3:18; John 12:27-28, 35-36*

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

Readings: Leviticus 24.1-8; Psalm 67; 2 Corinthians 3:18; John 12:27-28, 35-36



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

7pm - A Service of Contemplative Prayer and Song at St Leonard's

[Please click here](#) for more Week of Prayer services and meetings.

NEXT WEEK

Monday 17th November

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 18th November

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

Wednesday 19th November

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

Saturday 22nd November

Creation Care Prayer Event from **10.30am** in **St Leonard's Church** (see below)

NEXT SUNDAY - 23rd November

9am - Holy Communion at **St Leonard's**

10.30am - All age service at **St Leonard's**

5pm - Evening Prayer at **St Peter's**

7pm - Revive at **St Leonard's**

Looking Further Ahead

Sunday 30th November - **Advent service of light** at **7pm** in **St Leonard's**



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

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

17.11.25: Cell Group @ Clover Place (4pm)

17.11.25: Cell Group @ Clover Place (7pm)

19.11.25: Cell Group @ The Bitterell (7pm)

COMING UP

23.11.25: Morning Worship
All Age Service

24.11.25: Cell Group @ Clover Place (4pm)

24.11.25: Cell Group @ Clover Place (7pm)

26.11.25: Cell Group @ The Bitterell (7pm)

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

Week of Prayer Sunday 16th - Sunday 23rd November



May God be gracious to us
and bless us
and make his face
to shine upon us,
that your way may be known on earth,
your saving power among all nations. *Psalm 67.1*

As is our Autumn custom, we will be devoting a week to prayer for the mission and ministry of St. Leonard's Eynsham and St. Peter's, Cassington. We will also be praying for our nation, world and one another. See if you can find one extra time in the week to pray with others. [PLEASE SEE HERE](#) for details of prayer services and meeting this week.

Creation Care Prayer Event - Saturday 22nd November - 10:30am

Join us at **St Leonards**. We will be thinking and praying for:

- **How as God's people we can love the world** (both his good creation and all who inhabit it) by being good stewards of all that he has entrusted us with.
- **Tearfund** (one of our mission partners) as they care for the poor through caring for creation
- **Local initiatives** that members of St Leonard's are involved with that reflect how we want to live as 'small models of new creation' in caring for the created world.

If there is interest from youth and/or children or others who find craft a helpful way of praying, we may provide a craft based prayer station.

Please express interest (even if you can't come) by completing this [Google form](#) or alternatively speak to Sally Owen or Margaret Johnson.

SUNDAY 23rd NOVEMBER: Preparing for Advent

Our 10.30 service, a week on Sunday, will focus on preparing for Advent. It is a wonderful opportunity to spend time with those we live with, or perhaps meeting up with a friend, to prepare our hearts to receive the coming Christ. Simple devotions, perhaps around a meal table, can help fix our hearts and minds on Jesus amidst a very busy time of year. **At this service we would love people to share different Advent ideas and traditions that have been a blessing over**

the years. So have a think and perhaps you have something you could share, from a simple prayer that accompanied the lighting of an advent candle in your home, to...well...something I've never thought! (*That's the point!*)

Duncan



We will be holding a simple **shared church lunch** after the all age service on **Sunday 23 November**. Everyone is welcome - [just sign up](#) . Lunch will be around **noon**.

Are you are able to help with the catering?

- * either bringing some hot soup in a slow cooker,
- * or bread or rolls (shop bought or home made)
- * or a cake or traybake for afterwards (again shop bought is absolutely fine)

or if you are willing to help serve food and clear up afterwards then please either add you name to [this sign up sheet](#) or let me know.

Please note that you don't need to be female to bring food or wash up - last time the team had no men on it.... Everyone is welcome to join in!

Any queries please contact Margaret Thornton margaret@2cp.uk 07971 857711

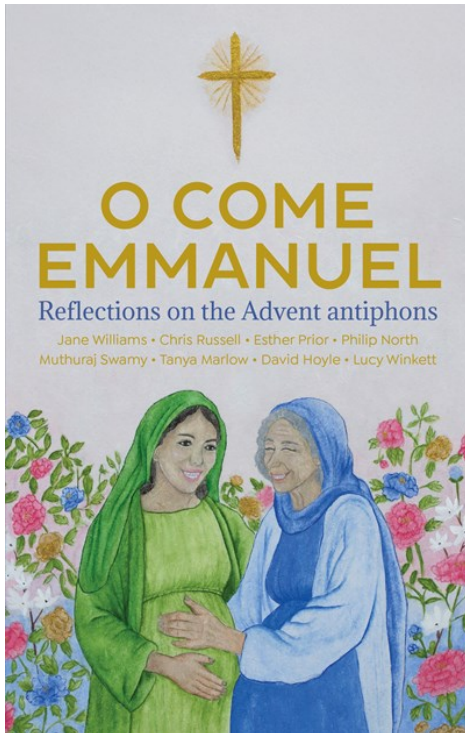


Services and Events during Advent and Christmas

I don't know whether you had realised but Christmas is around the corner! It will be a busy time for you all, I have no doubt, so I thought it was worth letting you know what is happening in the Benefice throughout the Season. Please [SEE FULL DETAILS HERE](#). I thought I would draw your attention to a couple of things. **Christmas Round the World** is happening again in St.Leonard's

Church Hall following its great success last year and is a delightfully unusual and easy event to invite a neighbour or friend to. We're taking a break from the Tree Festival this year for a variety of reasons but I expect it to return next year. There is a **traditional Candlelit Carol service** over in St.Peter's to which anyone is invited, featuring a small pop-up choir. Over at St.Leonards a **Christmas carol celebration** will have the usual opportunity to sing well known carols and hear the Christmas readings but will have a different feel this year. It might particularly

appeal to young people, but will have something for everyone. Again, a wonderful opportunity to invite neighbours and friends to hear of the wonderful love of God writ large in the gift of Jesus for us all. And it all begins with a quiet, traditional, candlelit **Advent Service** in the evening on Advent Sunday. Come Lord Jesus.



Advent: O Come, Emmanuel

The Church of England's Advent and Christmas theme this year is **Joy**. A new book has been published to help prepare for the joy of Christmas. With daily Advent reflections, 'O Come Emmanuel' explores the symbolism behind the hymn.

The book is published by [Church House Publishing](#). You will find a copy on the Bible trolley in St Leonard's church.

The reflections will also appear on the Church of England Everyday Faith app from 1st to 24th December.

Ladies - why let men have all the fun? Let us have a curry night as well! Let me know if you are interested email or speak to me billandjunem@gmail.com
June Middleton

We are hoping to run the **Alpha course** in the New Year, a course which allows the pressure-free exploration of faith in an open and friendly environment. The course begins with a meal, includes a short video presentation which leads into a group discussion where any questions can be asked and discussed. It is a wonderful opportunity to present Jesus to those who do not yet know him, or to refresh our own faith. In order to run this course, however, we need some help. Perhaps you love leading discussion groups (no one expects anyone to have all the answers) or you can help with setting up or in providing food (alongside others). Both attending and



serving on this course is often both exciting and transformational. So please get in touch with myself or the church office if you might be able to help or would like to know more. *Duncan*

Shoebox Collection - 18th November. Please make sure that shoeboxes are brought to St Leonard's in time for collection on Tuesday 18th.

Walkie Talkies: one member of the Walkie Talkies team is stepping down at the end of this term. This makes us short of one volunteer in the kitchen to do refreshments. We urgently need someone to fill this gap in January. It could be either in the kitchen or in the main part of the hall. The role in the main part of the hall comprises putting out toys, mats and chairs and the reverse at the end of the session; also importantly welcoming mums and other carers and their toddlers, and talking to them about their concerns or just generally. Please speak to one of the team if you are interested in joining the rota in alternate weeks, or even less frequently. We all find it's an enjoyable and worthwhile way of spending a Monday morning. *Denise McKemey, Elly Wastie, Eileen Crosby, Jenny Griffiths.*

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.stleonardseynsham.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)