



NEWSWIRE: 19th December 2025



- Services on Sunday including Christmas Carol Celebration at St Leonard's
 - Christmas Services
 - Big Apple Baroque concert - 30th December
-

Advent Devotion for today

Jesus, Key of David



I will place on his shoulder the key to the house of David;
what he opens no one can shut,
and what he shuts no one can open.

Isaiah 22:22

Keys are an important part of our life. Have you ever lost your keys? It can be a very frustrating experience if you cannot get into your car/house/strongbox* (*delete as appropriate but, honestly who has a strong box in this day and age?). Perhaps even more frustrating are computer passwords. Have you ever been locked out of your phone, software, your favourite app or your on-line banking all because you have forgotten your password?

The words of scripture above are words of prophecy by Isaiah, which are quoted

by the angel of the church in Philadelphia in Revelation 3. Jesus says to them "I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name". Jesus is the one who holds ultimate power, the master key to everything and everyone. He made clear he would deal with the situation the Philadelphian church was facing on their behalf.

Jesus is interested in how we live, how we follow him, our day to day moments. Sometime we can feel isolated or vulnerable but He is in control - no door opens or closes in our lives without his permission. That doesn't mean things will always be easy - they were not in Philadelphia - but we can trust him with our lives.

Now, if only I could remember that password...

Thank You Jesus that you are in control
I trust you with my joys and sorrows
I trust you with my doubts and fears
I trust you with my life
Help me to follow faithfully
Amen

Collect for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

God our redeemer,
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary
to be the mother of your Son:
grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour,
so we may be ready to greet him
when he comes again as our judge;
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: Isaiah 11:1-5; Luke 2:4-20

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

Readings: Matthew 1:1-17



** Coffee and croissants will be served from 10am.*

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

7pm - Christmas Carol Celebration at St Leonard's

NEXT WEEK



Christmas Eve

3pm - Christmas Eve Service with celebration of the crib at St Peter's

5pm - Crib Service at St Leonard's

11.30pm - Midnight Holy Communion at St Leonard's

Christmas Day

8.30am - Holy Communion at St Leonard's

9.30am - Christmas Morning Service at St Peter's

10am - All age Christmas Celebration at St Leonard's and livestreamed on [this link](#)

NEXT SUNDAY - 28th December

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

Looking further ahead

Sunday 4th January 2026

9.30am - Holy Communion at St Peter's

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

The funeral of the late Robert Sale will be held at **St Leonard's in Eynsham** at midday on **8th January 2026**

The funeral of the late Cecil Pratley will be held at **St Leonard's in Eynsham** at **1.30pm** on **19th January 2026**

**Big Apple Baroque invites you to a short concert of seasonal music
at 7.30 pm on 30 December 2025:**

Bach & Bubbles
Charpentier & Canapes
Handel & Hogmanay

Donations in aid of Tear Fund

Wycliffe Bible Translators

Jo and Paul provided an update on their work last Sunday in St Leonard's. Please keep praying for them.

Prayer points:

- pray for Paul to make a valuable contribution to the linguistic foundations for Bible translation projects in CAR
- pray for strong relationships with the translation projects Paul supports in Nigeria and Zambia, and for wisdom as he helps them administer their activities
- pray for peace throughout Africa, where instability is having a major impact on translators and their work
- pray for Jo to be more prayerful in her work supporting Wycliffe members

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.

The church office will be closed from 2pm on Tuesday 23rd December until 9am on Friday 2nd January. Please leave a message during this time and we'll get back to you in the New Year.

Next Newswire - Friday 9th January 2026

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)