

NEWSWIRE: 18th September 2026



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 - People's Emergency Briefing on the climate
 - Harvest Services
 - Welcome Tea - 4th October
 - Week of Prayer: 11th - 18th October
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A message from Duncan

"Look at the birds...Look at the lilies of the field and how they grow."

Matthew 6.26-30

I hope you have all enjoyed your summers. I know it was hot, but what a privilege it is to slow down a little and catch up with everything that doesn't fit into the usual routine of life, and to have a bit of rest and fun.

But September is here and a few of you have commented that re-entering a higher tempo of living has been an adjustment to say the least. If only we could bottle something of the summer pace and peace and take the occasional draft when it gets too much!

Jesus would, as you know, highly recommend that we do. The well known reference above is a part of his Sermon on the Mount. He is teaching his listeners about worry, and how to avoid it. But he was presumably only able to offer this instruction because he had done it. He knew what it was like to kick back in a meadow and chew a piece of grass whilst he whittled away a moment or two, taking in his Father's world. You'd think, tasked with saving the world, there would be other things to be getting on with. Apparently not! At least not for a time. Jesus somehow managed to work hard whilst never being too busy. Mmmm; still a long way to go on that one!

So as we readjust to a new pace, and the task list builds as we move towards a certain season (to remain unnamed!), let us follow Jesus' example and take a moment every so often to watch summer turn into autumn, the last crops ripen (the ones that have survived the drought) and the colours turn to golden from green; remembering, in it all, that our heavenly Father "*has the whole world in his hands*" - including you and me. Singing it is advised but optional.

Grace and peace to you all

Duncan

Collect for the Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers
of your people who call upon you;
and grant that they may both perceive and know
what things they ought to do,
and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them;
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: Isaiah 65.17-25; Ephesians 1.3-10

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

Readings: Isaiah 11.1-10; Colossians 1.15-23

Click [here](#) for the Service Sheet

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

4pm - People's Emergency Briefing at St Leonard's (see below)



NEXT WEEK

Monday 21st September

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 22nd September

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

Wednesday 23rd September

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

NEXT SUNDAY 27th September

9am - Holy Communion at St Leonard's

10.30am - All age Harvest Service at St Leonard's

5pm - Evening Prayer at St Peter's

Looking further ahead

The funeral of the late Jimmie Hatwell will be held at St Peter's church in Cassington at 12.30pm on Wednesday 30th September.

Church Lunch at the Church Hall on Sunday 27th September (see below)

Cassington Community Harvest Supper on Saturday 3rd October 6.30 - 10pm in the Village Hall (see below)

Welcome Tea - Sunday 4th October at 3pm (see below)

Week of Prayer - 11th to 18th October (see below)

Harvest Services



St Leonard's - Sunday 27th September at 10.30am

There will be a collection of non perishable (tins, jars, packets) food for [the Porch](#). If anyone is available to transport the food to the Porch in the days following the service please contact the office.

Please come and **help decorate St Leonard's church for Harvest** from 10am on Saturday 26th September. There will also be tea and coffee and biscuits too! It would be lovely if you could bring flowers/greenery/fruit/veg. If you can't come on the Saturday, please drop off contributions round the font on Friday - the church is open during the day.

Church Lunch - there will be a lunch in the Church Hall following the 10.30am service on **Sunday 27th September**. All welcome. Save the date! More information to follow...

Harvest at St Peter's - Sunday 4th October at 9.30am

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 [North Oxfordshire Food Bank \(Kidlington Baptist Church\)](#)



New to St Leonard's? We would love you to join us for a **Welcome Tea** at **3pm** on **Sunday 4th October** at the Thornton's (2 Clover Place). An informal time to chat, meet new people and find out about life at St Leonard's. We hope you can make it! RSVP Margaret Thornton margaret@2cp.uk

Week of Prayer : 11th - 18th October We have started making plans for the Week of Prayer. There will be morning and evening prayer during the week, in both churches, as is our tradition. We would love to invite home groups and others to set aside evenings for prayer and invite others to join. All church groups and individuals are invited to hold a meeting of prayer, a prayer walk, a prayer lunch etc with others. Please let the office know what you are planning, so we can publicise these gatherings and events. More details will follow later.



When and how did you come to care about climate change?

In 2014 I was reading a special issue of the charity Tearfund's magazine dedicated to the topic and felt convicted as a Christian that the threat was so serious and urgent I needed to act. Alongside lifestyle changes, I got involved with behind the scenes organisation in various climate groups, contacted MPs, and have turned up to many protests and marches in Oxford and London.

Why should Christians care about climate change?

Here are three reasons: 1. We are commanded by God to be good stewards over creation. 2. It is a significant factor in our ministry to the poor. Climate change already disproportionately affects the poor and the marginalised, particularly in the Global South, and will continue to do so. This is a justice issue. 3. We are a people of hope, and know that when God ushers in the New Creation, he will join heaven and earth under Christ (Ephesians 1:10). Part of living in anticipation of that and growing the Kingdom of God is pointing forward to the renewal of creation. Many are very anxious about this crisis. Christians can offer hope.

What is the People's Emergency Briefing, and why should the church family come along?

The PEB is a 45 minute documentary (age rating: 16+) based on a series of talks held in November 2025 for MPs by experts in several disciplines (climate and weather, food security, health, economics, defence, energy security), focusing on how the climate crisis is affecting their area of expertise in the UK. Communities are being invited to host screenings of the PEB all over the country because this crisis is so urgent and many are unaware of the dangers: it is a national emergency. We are showing it at 3.45 for 4pm on 20th September in St Leonard's, followed by a Christian response of prayer and discussion. I urge you to make this a priority and come along - collectively we can really make a difference as Christians and small actions can have an amazing ripple effect.

People's Emergency Briefing

On the climate and nature crisis

St Leonard's Church Eynsham

Film screening for local Christians
followed by prayer and discussion

Sunday 20th September
4-5.30pm (tea & coffee from 3.45pm)
for more details:
victoriajoannethomas@gmail.com

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www.nebriefing.org

For anyone who is unable to make the People's Emergency Briefing at St Leonard's at 4pm on 20th September, St Mary Magdalene's, Woodstock is hosting a screening the following week at 7pm on 27th September and has invited those who can't make our screening to attend theirs.



Blythswood

BLYTHSWOOD CARE SHOEBOX APPEAL

Please support this very worthy cause and bring a smile to someone this Christmas.

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. You can find out more about the appeal on [this link](#). Leaflets with instructions and what to put inside your shoebox can be found inside the porch at St. Peter's Church and will shortly be available in St Leonard's.

Completed shoeboxes can be left in St Leonard's church or delivered to Jane Aston at 9, Bell Close, Cassington before the end of October.

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

Cassington - Jane Aston 01865 880757 or by email janeaston53@aol.com

Eynsham - Janet Haskett - jehaskett1@googlemail.com

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

HARVEST COMMUNITY SUPPER

Saturday 3 October 2026 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 £12 / Under 16s £5

Family ticket (up to 5 members) £30 from ...

Jan Macdonald: 07941 419219 – janmacdonald78@aol.com

Anne: 07768 167209 – anne.luttmanjohnson@gmail.com

An Iranian pastor begins training for Anglican ministry at Wycliffe Hall, Oxford on 1st October. He's been looking to rent for himself and his wife, but is now looking for somewhere just for himself, in order to be able to begin the course. (And continue his search). If you know of, or could provide accommodation for a short time, please would you contact me at : jenhellyer@yahoo.com
Thank you. *Jenny Hellyer*

Help needed please for the Sunday coffee team! We are looking for new team members to serve refreshments after the Sunday morning service at St Leonard's. We particularly need help on the SECOND SUNDAY of every month. If you are interested in being part of this vital ministry please do contact Angela Holton or Jenny Hogan for further details. Thank you.
adwilkinsonholton@gmail.com

Wyc|iffe Bib|e Trans|ators

Paul's workshop finishes today (Friday) and he should be arriving home on Sunday. Thank you so much for all your prayers over the past few weeks. Please pray that the teams continue to embed all they have learnt into their ongoing translation work, so that the Scriptures will sound natural and be easy to read or listen to, as well as accurately conveying God's message. Pray

for individuals and communities to be transformed as people hear of God's love and their need for salvation, for His glory. Thank you!

Open Morning at The King's School, Witney

Join us for our whole school Open Morning on Tuesday 6th 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 6th 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 Watterson, Head of Admissions - registrar@tkswitney.org.uk.

Please pray for:

- Dave following his move to Oaken Holt care home.
- Ben and healing for his mental health.
- 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)