

NEWSWIRE: 25th September 2026



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A message from Derek



Times of Refreshing

Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, and that he may send the Messiah, who has been appointed for you—even Jesus. Acts 3:19-20

In Sulawesi, Indonesia: The long drought is nearly over. We saw, then as now, fist-shaped clouds beginning to drift up from the south. Most noticeably the air changing, cooler, moister, fresher. At night flashes of lightning illuminate the clouds like so many flickering lightbulbs. The rains are coming. They won't break just yet but refreshment is in the air, a night's sleep is actually restful. Our water tanks are cleaned ready for the downpours.

In Jerusalem late May, 33 AD: A few weeks after Jesus' resurrection, days after His ascension and the promise of His return, the emboldened Peter stands up and addresses the crowds. "Jesus is coming again. Get ready. These are the times of renewal for sin-parched lives before He returns. Repent! Your sins will be wiped out! The time of the Lord's refreshing is here."

In Eynsham today: Peter's words still speak to us. Jesus offers the gift of forgiveness to all who repent and turn to Him. His forgiveness brings refreshment to our sin-parched lives. But more than that. We each need the refreshment only the Holy Spirit can give as we walk with Jesus. This refreshment comes as we listen to His voice in Scripture; as we pray; as we live faithfully and gather together regularly, waiting expectantly for His coming again.

In Sulawesi the rains arrive: They bring ear-splitting thunder and lightning, a continuous, deafening roar.

In His time, Jesus will come:

For as lightning that comes from the east is visible even in the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. . . . And then all the peoples of the earth will mourn when they see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory. And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other. Matthew 24:27-31

A PRAYER:

Heavenly Father, I do not know when Jesus will return. So, as I wait, grant me the refreshment of the Holy Spirit now. Refresh me for the coming week. Strengthen me with faith and love, and let my life-walk reflect Your grace and salvation. Forgive me for times I have grown distracted or been spiritually dry – refresh me. May the refreshing breath of Your Spirit settle my earthly dryness, and use me as a witness in life and word to share Your refreshing with others. Strengthen me. Keep me watchful, joyful, and steadfast until Jesus comes and I am gathered to Him,

Amen.

Collect for the Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

Almighty God,
you have made us for yourself,
and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you:
pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself,

and so bring us at last to your heavenly city
where we shall see you face to face;
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

9am - Holy Communion at St Leonard's

Readings: 2 Corinthians 9:6-1; Luke 12.16-20

**10.30am - All age Harvest service at St Leonard's
and livestreamed on [this link](#)**

followed by lunch in the Church Hall (see below)

Reading: 2 Corinthians 9:6-11

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.

5pm - Evening Prayer at St Peter's

Readings: Proverbs 8.12-31; Colossians 1.15-23



NEXT WEEK

Monday 28th 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 29th September

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

Wednesday 30th September

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

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

Thursday 1st October

Cassington Cafe from 10am in Cassington Village Hall

NEXT SUNDAY 4th October

9.30am - Harvest Service at St Peter's

10.30am - Morning Worship at St Leonard's

7pm - Revive at St Leonard's

Looking further ahead

Holiday Club Connect - Sunday 11th October 3pm - 5pm in St Leonard's Church Hall

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

A memorial service for the late Rachel Collins will be held at St Leonard's church at 11am on Thursday 8th October

Harvest Services



St Leonard's - Sunday 27th September at 10.30am followed by lunch in the Church Hall

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 early part of next week please contact the office.

Please come and **help decorate St Leonard's church for Harvest** from 10am tomorrow (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.

Church Harvest Lunch - there will be a lunch in the Church Hall following the 10.30am service on **Sunday**. Everyone is welcome. Please sign up [here](#).

Can you help with the catering? We will be serving baked potatoes with chilli, beans, cheese and tuna and salads followed by desert. In the spirit of harvest we would especially encourage any contributions of produce from gardens or allotments but stuff bought at the Coop is absolutely welcome as well! [Please sign up here](#)

- * either bringing some hot chilli (that is piping hot not fiery hot!) in a slow cooker (or bring it hot at 12pm),
- * or a salad (shop bought or home made is fine)
- * or a desert for afterwards (again shop bought is absolutely fine) maybe something with all those apples and plums...

Please bring a list of ingredients for those with allergies

or if you are willing to help serve food and clear up afterwards then please also sign up on [the sheet](#).

Any queries please contact Margaret Thornton or Margaret Johnson.

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 \(Kidlington Baptist Church\)](#)



Links to Creation Care Sermon Notes and Resources

[Rejoicing in a Wonderful World - Psalm 104](#)

[Lamenting a broken World - Romans 8:18-25](#)

[Hope for Creation - Colossians 1:15-23](#)

[John Stott on Creation](#)

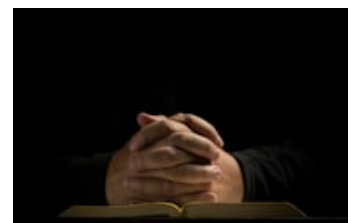
[Martin Lloyd Jones on "All things reunited in Christ"](#)

[Shaped by the Word - Creation Care](#)



Unfortunately we have had to delay the **Welcome Tea** until later in October. We will confirm a new date shortly and look forward to getting together soon.

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.



Holiday Club Connect

Captain Eye Eye and First Mate Kate warmly invite children and their families for an afternoon of Bible stories, crafts, games and drama on **11th October, 3-5pm at St Leonard's Church.**

There will be a meal towards the end of the afternoon, please let us know of any allergies or dietary requirements on the form.

This event is for all the family, feel free to bring older and younger siblings but please ensure there is a parent or guardian supervising them at all times.

Please also invite other families along - you don't have to have taken part in Holiday Club to enjoy this event!

Sign up using this link:

<https://stleonardseynsham.churchsuite.com/events/bcn9o63y>

Captain Eye Eye and First Mate Kate are looking forward to inviting you back onboard!



Light on Halloween

Like in past years, we want to bless people in our village on Halloween evening by giving out hot chocolate and little treat bags that point to Jesus.

We will need helpers to prepare the hot chocolate in church and others to be in front of the church giving out the drinks and treat bags.

If we get enough helpers, we would like to invite the families into church for some craft activities.

Timings will be 5pm - 8pm, but you can just help for an hour, too.

If you would like to get involved, please contact Rabea as soon as possible (slpfamilies@gmail.com).

If you were unable to make the **People's Emergency Briefing at St Leonard's** last Sunday, **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.

We were very grateful to recently receive generous **donations** from the **Eynsham Carnival Committee** of £1000 for our youth work and £350 for St Leonard's general church funds.





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

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.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)