St Leonard's & St Peter's
BENEFICE OF EYNSHAM & CASSINGTON

NEWSWIRE: 30th October 2026

INSIDE NEWSWIRE

- Services on Sunday
- Light on Halloween
- Farewell Tea for Janet Haskett - Saturday 3pm -5pm
- Newcomers Tea
- Men's Curry Night

A message from Duncan

To the church of God that is in [Eynsham, Cassington, Witney, Stanton Harcourt, Cumnor, North Hinskey, Freeland, Yarnton…] to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours. 1 Corinthians 1:1-2

It's the eve before the eve of All Saint's Day. I'm not specifically omitting Hallowe'en (please pray for the families event in St Leonard's church to draw alongside families on the streets in that evening) but All Saints is a great day. It used to be distinguished from All Souls day on the 2nd November. The idea was that the Saints were celebrated on All Saints Day and then the ordinary Christians, loved ones lost, were remembered on All Souls Day; folk who were not quite 'proper' saints. It's probably more nuanced than that but that's my non-conformist background for you! I greatly treasure the opportunity to remember my own family members and dear friends alongside others at our Bereavement service - our equivalent of All Souls day - but distinguishing between everyday Christians and proper saints is unhelpful at best.

The blessed reality is that all those who have trusted in Jesus are referred to as saints in scripture. And All Saints Day is a day to celebrate the vast number who have gone before us who share, with us, the hope of resurrection through Christ our Saviour. They share with us our love for Jesus. We are not alone. We are not completely mad! We are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses cheering us on.

Remember that in the quiet place, in the lonely place, at the times you are discouraged, or feeling as though you fall so far short of being a 'saint'.

Remember that none of the cloud of witnesses will be surprised by our failures and doubts, for they have experienced them already and have overcome, trusting Jesus to the end. They know that we can also triumph for they did it!. Not through their own merit or strength, but through Jesus our shared Saviour and Lord. "*So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison." (2 Corinthians 4.16-18)*

Grace and peace to all you saints!

Duncan

Collect for All Saints Day

Almighty God,
you have knit together your elect
in one communion and fellowship
in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord:
grant us grace so to follow your blessed saints
in all virtuous and godly living
that we may come to those inexpressible joys
that you have prepared for those who truly love you;
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: Genesis 1.28-2.3; Matthew 11.25-30

10.30am - Morning Worship at St Leonard's and livestreamed on this link
Readings: Genesis 1.28-2.3; Matthew 11.25-30

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.

7pm - Revive at St Leonard's

NEXT WEEK

Monday 2nd November

Bump to One meet on Mondays from 10.30am to midday in St Leonard's.

No Walkie Talkies this week due to the Inset day.

Tuesday 3rd November

Tinies and Toddlers meet in Cassington village Hall at 1.30pm - 3pm on Tuesdays in term time.

Wednesday 4th November

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

NEXT SUNDAY 8th November

9.30am - Remembrance Service at St Peter's
10am - Remembrance Service at St Leonard's

Looking further ahead

Welcomers Meeting - Sunday 8th November at 4pm (see below)

Newcomers Tea - Sunday 15th November at 3pm (see below)

Men's Curry Night - Thursday 19th November (see below)

STOP PRESS……

Janet Haskett, having lived in and around Eynsham for the last 47 years is moving north to be near her family. She has been a faithful worshipper at St Leonard's for all of that time. On Saturday 31st October she will be hosting a farewell party for any of her friends who would like to come to say goodbye. As her house is being emptied, she will be celebrating those years at 2, Bitterell, off Queen Street, and cake and teatime refreshments will be available any time from 3pm to 5pm, so do call round if you can!

CREATION CARE GROUP - Tomorrow morning

Churchyards offer an ideal location to increase biodiversity, which has sadly seen a great decline in Britain. Would you like to help restore this on Saturday 31st October from 10am? An area has been strimmed in preparation. We will then remove grass and moss using rakes to expose the soil to sew a wildflower and grass mix. Do email Hazel Petty on pettyhazel2@gmail.com if you intend to be there, so that if the weather is dubious, you can be contacted if it is postponed, or you can just turn up. Refreshments and hot drinks available!

Light on Halloween - Please Pray!

Like in the past years, we will bless families in our village on the evening of 31st October by giving out hot chocolate, treat bags that point to Jesus and also offering the opportunity to do light-themed crafts in church.
In the past, this has been an excellent opportunity to chat to families and invite them to our Christmas activities.
Please pray for the parents and children as well as the volunteers. Pray for good conversations and families to feel welcomed. Please pray especially that the little books about Jesus in their treat bags will be a starting point for some to finding out more about faith.

HELP NEEDED WITH REFRESHMENTS

Are you able to help with serving refreshments at the Deanery Synod meeting at St Leonard's at 7pm on Wednesday evening (4th November)? If you can help on the evening or make a cake, please contact the Church Office.

Everybody's welcome!

We are so grateful to the team of people who week by week welcome everyone to church. However, we are in urgent need of more people to join the team. We are running a short information and training session on Sunday 8th November at 4pm for all current welcomers and anyone who is interested in finding out more. If you can be in church half an hour before the service starts, even once in a while, please do come along on 8th November, we look forward to seeing you there. *Catherine and Ruth*



NEWCOMERS TEA
Sunday 15th November at 3pm

If you are new to St Leonard's, we would love you to join us for tea on Sunday 15th November at 3pm. Come along and meet some more people and find out more about life at St Leonard's. Sign up on this link and we will confirm the venue closer to the date.

The St Leonard's PCC's Building Team are keen to know of any local contractors that you have recently worked with and could recommend. We're

looking for:-
Plumbers
Electricians
General Builders
An odd-job man

If there's someone you could recommend, please could you let Andy Greenwood know on 07901 337922 or by email at amg1954church@gmail.com. Thank you!





An Evening With Noël Tredinnick

Saturday 14th November at 7pm

Witney Methodist Church

All proceeds to Adventure Plus

Join Noel for an uplifting and inspiring celebration of music and faith. Hear much-loved orchestral classics. Raise your voice to sing some favourite hymns and songs.

Discover more about the youth outreach work of Adventure Plus and be encouraged by stories of God's faithfulness at work

along the way.

With The Emmaus Ensemble and soprano soloist Kate Sharp.

Interval refreshments will be available. Tickets on this link.

St Andrew's Bookshop 20% Discount

St Andrew's Bookshop is offering a 20% discount for any purchases from their website www.standrewsbookshop.co.uk before the end of the year. Use the code **WITNEY20**

CAP Christmas Hampers For several years now we have been inviting individuals and small groups from supporting churches to put together and donate a hamper of Christmas extras for a local CAP client. It is that time of year again, and I am starting the process of coordinating this year's hampers.

The idea is that hampers are given to CAP clients who are struggling with their finances and can't afford some of the extra Christmas luxuries most of us take for granted.

In order to give us time to match donors to clients, I will be grateful if offers of hampers could be sent to me at alanthornton@capuk.org **no later than 2 November, but preferably before!** We would like to have all hampers ready for delivery by Monday 7 December, to give us time to get them to the clients.

In the past we have nearly always received more offers than we need, and we anticipate needing a smaller number of hampers this year. Several church groups have previously offered to provide a generous number of hampers, but I do not expect to need to ask any to provide more than one or two this time.

I know that many people enjoy joining in this venture each year. It always brings a lot of joy to our clients and is a wonderful expression of God's love and provision.

Please contact me if you have any questions and I will do my best to answer them. Kind regards. *Alan Thornton*



BLYTHSWOOD CARE SHOEBOX APPEAL

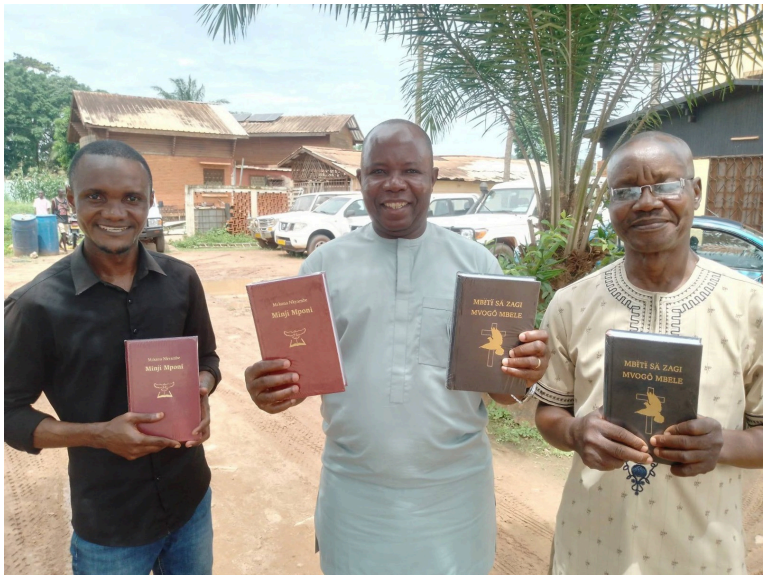
The shoeboxes will be collected from us very soon, for their onward journey to Eastern Europe. Could you please make sure that all completed shoeboxes are left in St Leonard's church or delivered to Jane Aston at 9, Bell Close, Cassington as soon as possible.

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

Thank you!

An exciting update from Paul and Jo Murrell:



Wycliffe Bible Translators

Some of you may know that when we first went to CAR we worked for several years with the Mpyemo people and were involved in translating the New Testament into their language. The translation work began in 2006.

Rejoice with us! The Mpyemo and Nzakara New Testaments were printed in the Czech Republic earlier this year and, after a long journey by

container ship and truck, have now arrived in the capital Bangui! They arrived much more quickly and easily than any New Testaments in recent years. We don't yet know when and where the launch events will be, but we are excited that the Mpyemo people can now start planning for them! We hope we may be able to attend too.

In other news, Jo is now at Moorlands College teaching on the Healthy Community Engagement module for new Wycliffe members. She'll be there for three weeks over the next month. She's looking forward to meeting her new students and getting stuck into teaching again.

Please pray for:

* God to be at work preparing communities to receive the New Testament

* Jo to teach well and build good relationships with her students

* Paul to catch up on his backlog of work since his last trip

THANK YOU!"



Please pray for:

- Ray, who has a very rare form of cancer, for which all forms of treatment are unsuitable to him.
- Michael and family following his sister's recent death. Please pray especially for her husband, daughters and grandchildren.
- 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.

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www.stleonardseynsham.org.uk | www.stpeterschurchcassington.org | Youtube channel | facebook page

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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)