

# People and Parish

October 2019



In this issue.....

- Love is a many splendoured thing
- Holiday Club in half term
- Organ and Choir Concert

60p or £6 per year



**The Parish Church of St Leonard  
Heath and Reach**



Team Rector: Revd. Cate Irvine

## **The Parish of St Leonard, Heath and Reach**

[www.saintleonardschurch.com](http://www.saintleonardschurch.com)

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LU7 0AL, 01525 237633  
[saggart@yahoo.com](mailto:saggart@yahoo.com)

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Office hours: 10.30am—12.30pm Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays

### **GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES**

Little Fishes Mums & Toddlers, Monday 1.30 pm in the hall  
Contact: Parish Office

Choir Sundays at 10.15am in Church, Contact: Jane Newman,  
01525 237421

SLAP St Leonard's Amateur Players, Contact:  
Mrs Nicole Waldoock, 01908 608304

Men's Breakfast Group Termly, Saturdays at 8.30am. Contact Neil Forsyth on  
01525 377047

Magazine Editor Neil Forsyth, 01525 377047, [stleonardsmag@gmail.com](mailto:stleonardsmag@gmail.com)

Magazine Advertising Contact Parish Office 07502 320025

All copy to reach Editor by 15<sup>th</sup> of the month, please

# Thought for the Month



Love is a many splendoured thing

Love is a curious and interesting word; we use it in so many ways. We may say that we love a person romantically and many films, plays, poems and songs explore the idea and reality of romantic love. However, we may also say that we love our car or our

house or a particular place or food and so on. These many uses of the word love can confuse or even dilute its meaning. However, as the old saying goes **'Love is a many splendid thing'** encouraging us to celebrate the variety of ways we can love.

As a Christian Minister the area of my ministry in which I most often talk about love is Weddings. In the marriage preparation I encourage the couple to reflect on the love that has brought them together and the sort of love they think will keep them together. As part of the wedding service the couple choose a Bible reading which expresses something of the type of love they hope will sustain their marriage. By far the most popular piece of scripture wedding couples choose is 1 Corinthians chapter 13 vs 4-8 which says the following about love.

*<sup>4</sup> Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. <sup>5</sup> It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. <sup>6</sup> Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup> It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. <sup>8</sup> Love never fails.*

I am always very encouraged when I feel that the sort of love set out in 1 Corinthians ch13 vs 4-8 **is at the heart of a newlywed's marriage.** This is because the Christian faith believes that the love explained in

this scripture is a window into the love that God has for all of us, for everyone, for all of his creation. When the newlyweds look to love each other in the way described in this piece of scripture, they are drawing the love of God into their marriage, seeking to love one another as God loves them, which has to be a great and positive way to start a marriage

So, I leave you today with some questions, what is your definition of love? what do you understand love to be? how do you want to love? and how do you want to be loved?

Maybe you might want to consider the explanation of love in 1 Corinthians ch13 vs 4-8, as I think it is a good place for us all to seek meaningful answers to these questions about love.

Revd. Steve

## New Beginnings Bereavement Support Cafe 2019

*Offering friendship, support and understanding*

Come and join us for a tea/coffee and a chat 2.30 –4.00pm

6th October—Harvest Lunch at 12.30pm

3rd November

1st December

The Spire Coffee Shop, All Saints Church, Church Square, Leighton Buzzard

For more information telephone 01525 381418

## *The Parish Registers*



No entries this month

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# Aumbry Candle

**You will probably have noticed that the Aumbry in St. Leonard's is in the wall of the Church just beside the Altar.** It is a small cupboard with a golden door and was given in memory of Irwin Barraclough, a church member and also one of SLAP. After his death in 1991.

The Aumbry contains wafers and wine which have been consecrated by the Vicar in readiness for Home Communion and oils, consecrated at St. Albans on Maundy Thursday, used for Baptisms etc.

The Aumbry Candle is always alight to show that these consecrated items are there and it is replaced weekly.

**At St. Leonard's we have another use for the Aumbry Candle.**

It shines in memory of family and friends chosen by members of the congregation. There is a list of dates to choose from in the porch and the name(s) of those to be remembered is printed on the Pew Sheet and remembered in prayers.

At present it costs £2 for up to two names. This goes towards the cost of candles and I personally think it is a really good way to remember loved ones. There is an envelope for the money to be given to a Warden. This is usually on the crossing table.

If you have not already used this way of remembrance please give it some thought.

*Jean Lowrence*

## 2019 Harvest Lunch

The Harvest Lunch this year will be on Sunday 13th October, following the 11.00 Parish Communion service. The lunch will be in the Church **Hall on a "Bring and Share" basis and all are welcome.**

There is a list in the Church porch for people to sign up if they would like to join us and a list of suggested items of food—but these are merely suggestions. Please feel free to bring what you wish!

We look forward to seeing you there!

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Thursday 17th October 2019

&

Tuesday 19th November 2019

9.30 – 11.30 am

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The previous month's Harvest Festival donation from the Genetic Modification research laboratory was proving to be a useful stop-gap until the steeple restoration fund reached its target



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*"So really, it is very easy to understand how Brexit will affect our parish..."*



**St Leonard's Church**  
Heath and Reach



**St Leonard's Holiday Club**

*FREE FUN ACTIVITY MORNING*

**in St Leonard's Church Hall** followed by a  
Picnic

Bring a packed lunch, cold drinks provided

Thursday 24th October  
10-12noon

*Activities for 3-11 year olds  
3-6 year olds with accompanying adult*

Topic: Life for children in Laos  
*Peter Banwell will tell us about life in Laos*

*COME AND ENJOY THE FUN*

## St. Francis - and the Life of Simplicity

Just about the only thing most people know about Francis of Assisi is that he talked to the birds. Church-goers also know the popular hymn based **on his famous prayer, 'Make me a channel of your Peace', which was sung at the funeral of Princess Diana.**

**However, Italy's patron saint, whose feast day is this month (the 4<sup>th</sup>)** was a more complex, and some would say controversial character. His life spanned the end of the twelfth and beginning of the thirteenth centuries. He was born into a very wealthy family, but after what he **called his 'conversion' standing before a crucifix. He renounced all his possessions.** In fact, he stripped himself of his of his wealthy garments in a public square in his home-town, Assisi.

For the rest of his life he and his followers, including his feminine counterpart. St Claire longed, prayed and worked for a life of simplicity – a lifestyle without luxury or privileges. For the Franciscan brothers and the Poor Claires. This meant no private possessions at all. Francis saw that many poor people without these things, actually seemed to live happier and more fulfilling lives than the ambitious rich. He spoke of a simple life not shaped by money or power but by love and mutual **concern. As his hymn says, 'it is in giving of ourselves that we receive'.**

Of course, poverty; in our modern western world is seldom a matter of blissful simplicity, as present-day Franciscans recognise. For too many it is a matter of poor diet, over-crowded rooms, rough sleeping and **unemployment. The call of today's followers of Francis and Claire is that those who are better-off should 'live more simply, so that others can simply live'.** Christians follow a Master who said that he came with 'good news for the poor'. They believe that many of us today can be that good news.

# In praise of grandparents!

6<sup>th</sup> October is 'Grandparents Day'. Grandparents in the UK number about 17 million, or more than one in four of the adult population. Grandparents average out at 68 years of age, have four grandchildren who live 10 miles away, and who spend five hours per visit.

Grandparents have multiple roles as their grandchildren grow up: playmates, teachers, confidants, spiritual guides, mentors, role models and nurturers, as well as prayers. They also **can keep children's milestones, family history and family events alive**. Grandchildren will often discuss their personal concerns with a trusted grandparent.

Grandparents are also important for the UK economy! Nine million of them looked after their grandchildren in 2017. On average they did so for eight hours a week, and 96% received no payment.

Research has found that if grandparents go to church regularly, 60% of their grandchildren are likely to go to church also. Grandparental example is followed!

As about **10% of UK grandparents are churchgoers, would a church 'Grandparents' Group,'** to help grandparents meet, discuss issues and pray for their grandchildren be useful? **Moses' injunction to the Israelites "not to forget the things your eyes have seen ... make them known to your children and children's children" (Deuteronomy 4:9) is a constant challenge, but Psalm 92:14 is a wonderful promise!**

**Grandparents' Day in the UK is the first Sunday in October.** Should we put that day in our church diary for a special celebration of our grandparents?

## Best way to enjoy the Bible? Be like a dog with a bone!

Sarah brought her beautiful dog Bobby to a Quiet Morning at church. He was very well behaved and loved all the attention he received. As we began our time together Sarah gave him a bone to **chew on, and he settled down contentedly, enjoying his own experience of 'heaven'!**

**The expression came into my mind, 'like a dog with a bone', and watching Bobby at work further confirmed my thinking.** Here before us was a wonderful example of what it means to meditate on Scripture – to slowly and patiently chew things over in our mind until we begin to grasp internally what God is saying to us.

The Bible encourages us to meditate in this way. Think of Psalm 1, where we read about the **godly person 'whose delight is in the law of the Lord and who meditates on His law, day and night (v2).'** Think also of Joshua who was told, **'Keep this book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it (Joshua 1:8).** Mary **did this as well, when at the birth of Jesus she 'treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart (Luke 2:19).'**

**Perhaps sometimes we don't spend enough time with Scripture, letting its truth soak into our minds and pondering its meaning and application to our lives.** The spiritual discipline of Bible meditation helps us to do just that. Why not take a verse of Scripture that has caught your attention recently, and chew it over as you go through the day, looking at it this way and that way until you feel you have received the goodness it contains?

The background of the entire page is a close-up, slightly blurred photograph of organ pipes. The pipes are arranged in rows, with some in the foreground being more in focus than others in the background. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the wood and the decorative carvings on some of the pipes.

# A Concert in Celebration of the St Leonard's Church Organ

17<sup>th</sup> November, 3.00pm

Tickets £10, Children Free.

includes drinks at the interval

## Performers

Paul Dickens, Organist All Saints Church

Leighton Buzzard Recorder Group

St Leonard's Church Choir

St Leonard's Lower School Choir

Jenny Mellodey & Alan Gomersall piano duet

David Cox clarinet and saxophone

Paul Daggett, Organist Hockliffe Street Baptist  
Church

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# HAPPENINGS!

Thursday 10th October  
COFFEE MORNING  
in the Church Hall  
10am-12.00noon



Sunday 13th October  
HARVEST BRING AND SHARE LUNCH  
in the Church Hall at 1pm



Saturday 26th October  
**MEN'S BREAKFAST**  
in the Church Hall at 8.30am

Sunday 17th November  
ORGAN & CHOIR CONCERT  
in the Church at 3pm  
(see advert on page 13 for more information)

Saturday 23rd November  
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR  
in the Church Hall at 1pm



For more information on any of these events,  
phone 01525 377047

## FED UP?

From time to time I suppose each one of us feels a bit under the weather , cheesed off, or just old fashioned fed up! That being so, it is a relief to know, while suffering the blues, that others may be in the same boat....

Anyway, whilst being in one of my moods, as my wife calls it, I was listlessly leafing through the weekend newspaper, finding nothing of interest, and ending up with the adverts at the back.

WHOA.....

There were all the ads, for old codgers like me, to make life worth living with their products, and I quote:

**'The bathing aid that will change you life'.....Air filled seat!**

**'Shower heaven in just one day'.....Shower with handles!**

**'Life without limits'.....Lightest folding scooter ever!**

**'Own a share in a racehorse'.....unspecified benefits.**

**'Comfort Heaven'.....Pull-on leisure trousers, fleece lined, with 360 degree(?) elasticated waistband with drawstring. Only £12!**

Finally, not sure what the following means, but it was the headline for a necklace!

**'Feathers appear when Angels are near'**

**Think I'd rather stay fed up!!**

Derek Hardman

When you think about it.....

When you rearrange the letters in "eleven plus two" you can get "twelve plus one"

or

When you rearrange "Presbyterian" you can get "Best in Prayer"

# Bishop's Harvest Appeal

## 2019



Imagine if, when you flicked on a light switch, nothing happened.

For many people in Tanzania, where access to electricity is scarce, households cannot function easily after dark; families struggle with everyday chores, their children suffer with poor performance in school, and, without electricity, all basic services – water, health, education – are hindered.

**'Light Up Tanzania'** seeks to bring electricity – in the form of solar panels – to around 350 households in the rural area of Singida, Tanzania. These will make a huge difference! Presently, people rely on paraffin-style (kerosene) lamps in the evenings – which have caused many serious burn injuries – and their cooking is done on firewood or charcoal, creating high levels of smoke indoors too.

Please take a collection jar from St. Leonard's Church, pop in any spare change and return it by the end of October, however full it is. Whatever you can spare will help. Find out more online: <https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/faith/bishop-s-annual-harvest-appeal/> or search Bishop's Harvest Appeal 2019 St. Albans.



CHURCH COFFEE  
MORNING

CHURCH HALL

Thursday 10th October

10.00am to 12 noon

ALL WELCOME

TRANSPORT AVAILABLE IF REQUIRED  
PLEASE TELEPHONE 07502 320025 TO ARRANGE

Coffee mornings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each  
month

Next coffee morning after this will be  
on 14th November



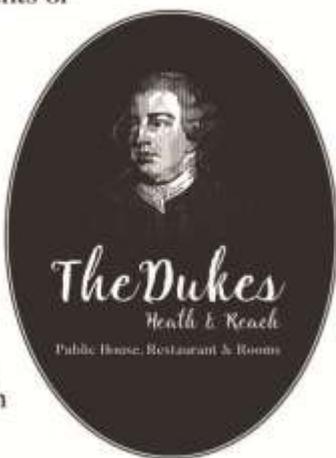
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**“Like child abuse, loneliness carries a stigma, especially for an older generation too proud to ask for help. I hope by creating a helpline for older people The Silver Line will enable them to break through the stigma of loneliness, and thus save lives and comfort and protect older people in need.” Esther Rantzen.**

The Silver Line is a free confidential helpline which provides; information and signposting to services, community and voluntary support across the country; a friendship service to combat loneliness; and a means of empowering those who may be suffering abuse.

If you are feeling isolated or lonely, there is not only the helpline, but a telephone befriending service, where you are matched to a trained volunteer, who will phone on a weekly basis for friendship at a time convenient to you. So if you feel that you would benefit from the services of The Silver Line, please do not hesitate to call our 24/7 helpline on 0800 4 70 80 90.

**‘If you think it is for you, it *is* for you’.**

## **St Leonard’s Parish Prayer**

Living God, you have given us St Leonard  
as an example of one who extended himself  
to relieve the difficulties of others;  
help us to know in our hearts the love you have for us all  
so we may reach out in genuine empathy  
to those in our community  
who feel lonely, isolated, or overwhelmed by grief or loss.  
Help us to grow together as a people  
united in concern for each other and love for you. Amen

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# The tale of the Prodigal Son



JESUS OFTEN TOLD  
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ONE STORY WAS ABOUT A MAN  
WHO HAD TWO SONS.

ONE WAS HARD WORKING  
AND CARED FOR HIS FATHER



BUT THE OTHER SON JUST  
DEMANDED MONEY FROM  
HIS DAD



THEN HE LEFT HOME TO WASTE  
HIS WEALTH.

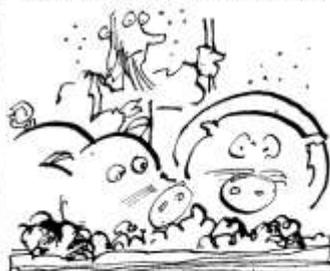
HE HAD MANY FRIENDS...



...UNTIL HIS MONEY RAN OUT



SOON, THE ONLY WAY HE COULD  
SURVIVE WAS BY FEEDING PIGS.



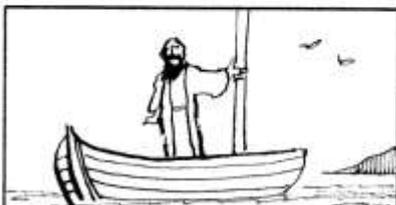
I KNOW, I'LL GO BACK TO  
MY DAD AND SAY SORRY -  
BUT HE'LL BE SO CROSS.



BUT HIS FATHER WAS  
FAR FROM ANGRY - HE  
WAS THRILLED TO SEE  
HIS SON RETURN HOME!



MY SON IS ALIVE!!



JESUS EXPLAINED - WE HAVE A FATHER  
IN HEAVEN WHO ACHES TO SEE US ALL  
RETURN TO HIM - JUST LIKE THE  
PRODIGAL SON RETURNED TO HIS  
FATHER.



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### **St Leonard's Visiting Team**

We are a small group who enjoy meeting people and having a chat (maybe over a cup of tea!).

If you or anyone you know is housebound, or might enjoy some company occasionally, please call Corinna on 07502 320025 and she will put us in touch.

We look forward to hearing from you.

*Anne Chapman*

# Rota Reminders



On or For Sun	Coffee (after 11am service)	Cleaning
6th Oct	A Palmer & L Page	V Cooper & M White
13th Oct	A Chapman	
20th Oct	S Darms	K Anwyl
27th Oct	H&R Ramsbotham	
3rd Nov	J&T Mellodey	
10th Nov	J Thomas	A Gomersall & J Thomas
17th Nov	S Buttery & E Dickinson	
24th Nov	A Palmer & L Page	R Young & S Darms

# **Don't wash your hair in the shower!**

(It's so good to get a health warning that is useful)

It involves the shampoo when it runs down your body when you shower with it.....a warning to us all!!

**I don't know why I hadn't worked this out earlier. I use** shampoo in the shower. When I wash my hair, the shampoo runs down my whole body, but printed very clearly on the shampoo label is this warning:

**“FOR EXTRA BODY AND VOLUME”**

No wonder I have been gaining weight!

Well I got rid of that shampoo and I am going to start showering with dishwashing soap instead. The label on this reads:

**“DISSOLVES FAT THAT IS OTHERWISE DIFFICULT TO REMOVE”**

Problem solved!

**If I don't answer the phone, I'll be in the shower.....**

Did you hear.....?

...about the man who accidentally handed his wife the superglue instead of her lipstick? **She still isn't talking to him.**

...about the man who was sacked from the calendar factory? He took a couple of days off.

...about the explosion at the cheese factory? There was nothing left but de brie.



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Contact Margaret Smithers, Early Years Teacher

Email: [hbpreschool@aol.com](mailto:hbpreschool@aol.com)

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# Worship at St Leonard's

1st Oct 07.30pm	Holy Communion
6th Oct 08.00am 11.00am	16th Sunday after Trinity Holy Communion (Order 1 traditional) Family Harvest Service
8th Oct 07.30pm	Holy Communion
13th Oct 11.00am	17th Sunday after Trinity Harvest Festival with Communion
15th Oct 7.30pm	Holy Communion
20th Oct 11.00am	18th Sunday after Trinity Parish Communion (Order 1)
22nd Oct 07.30pm	Holy Communion
27th Oct 11.00am	Last Sunday after Trinity Parish Communion (Order 1)
29th Oct 07.30pm	Holy Communion