

Welcome to St. Peter's Leckhampton

A special welcome to any visitors and to any worshipping with us for the first time. Please join us after the service for refreshments in the Church Cottages.

www.stpeters-leckhampton.org.uk



Team Vicar: Revd Gary Grady

The Parish Office

Church Road

Leckhampton, GL53 0QJ

T: 01242 513647

parishofficeleckhampton@btinternet.com

Sunday 16th December 2018 THE THIRD SUNDAY of ADVENT

08.00 Holy Communion

10.00 Parish Communion with Junior Church

Hymns: 34, 36, 32, 31

Choir anthem: 'Christ our God descends' by Alan Bullard

Voluntary before the service: Prelude on 'Veni Emmanuel' by Edward Bairstow

After the service: Chorale Prelude on 'In dulci júbilo' BWV729 by J.S. Bach

15.30 Choir rehearsal

16.45 Bell ringing

18.00 Carol Service followed by refreshments in the Cottages

The carols are in the Order of Service

Voluntary: Postlude on 'Mendelssohn' by David Willcocks

THIS WEEK

Morning and Evening Prayer

Held at 08.30 and 17.00 weekdays and Saturday; do come and join us for this.

Monday 17th December

11.00 Holy Communion at The Grange

19.30 Bell ringing

Tuesday

10.00-11.45 Tuesday Club mother and toddler group in the Cottages, last of term

Wednesday

No St. Peter's Craft Group in the Cottages today – see Notices

10.30 Holy Communion

11.30 Visit to church by Broadlands School

16.30 Carol singing at Faithfull House

19.00 Advent Reflections – see Notices

19.30 Leckhampton Local History Society in the Cottages – see 'In Brief'

Thursday

11.00 Holy Communion at Middleton House

18.00 Brownies – in the Cottages

18.15 Carols at Hampton House – see Notices

19.00 Parish carol singing followed by refreshments – see Notices

Friday

15.45 Bell ringing quarter peal

Choir practice 18.45 Juniors 19.30 Adults

Sunday 23rd December 2018

THE FOURTH SUNDAY of ADVENT

08.00 Holy Communion

10.00 Parish Communion with Junior Church

16.45 Bell ringing

18.00 Evening Prayer

Please remember our overseas partner Dioceses in your prayers this week – Dornakal, Karnataka Central, Western Tanganyika, El Camino Real and Vasteras



Toilets are across the churchyard in the Cottages.



A loop system is installed in the church; please turn your hearing aid to the T position.



Large print copies of the service are available at the back.



There is a carpeted area with toys, books and an activity table for children. If they wish, children are invited to come to Junior Church in the Cottages for part of the service. Pre-schoolers should take their adult with them!

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING

Zephaniah 3.14-20

¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!

¹⁵The LORD has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;

you shall fear disaster no more.

¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak.

¹⁷The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing ¹⁸as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.

¹⁹I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth.

²⁰At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

SECOND READING

Philippians 4.4-7

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.

⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made

known to God.

⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL

Luke 3.7-18

⁷John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?

⁸Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham.

⁹Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

¹⁰And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?'

¹¹In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.'

¹²Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?'

¹³He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

¹⁸So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever. Amen.

NOTICES

Contributions should be given to the Parish Office by 10am on Thursday. You can post them through the letterbox in the Glebe Cottages, pop in (Mon-Fri, 9am-1pm), call us on 01242 513647 or e-mail:

parishofficeleckhampton@btinternet.com

NB. Any notices over 70 words may be edited.

ST. PETER'S

The Children's Society Thank you to the boxholders for their kind and generous donations for The Children's Society. This year our total amount was £292.07.

I am truly grateful for your continuing support and wish you all a very Happy Christmas. Liz R

Royal British Legion Poppy appeal

The organiser for the Cheltenham District, Charles Tippett, advises that the amount collected at St Peter's this year was £70.15 while the overall total for the district was £92,000. He sends his thanks.

Friday lunch with Friends – thanks to the enthusiastic support and generosity of so many people we have been able to donate £260 to the Children's Society this autumn. We look forward to hosting the next lunch on **Friday 25 January** from 12.30 to 2pm – make sure that date goes in your new diary! Sally & Peter

St Peter's Craft group are not meeting on Wednesday 19th December. After the holidays they will be back on 9th January.

Christmas Flower Donations

If you would like to make a donation towards the cost of the Christmas flowers please leave it in the box at the back of church. Alternatively give it to Diana, Margaret, Averil or a member of the Flower Guild. Last year's flowers cost £115 so all contributions will be very welcome, thank you. Diana

Women's Fellowship Group

Here are some dates for 2019...

January 28th, February 25th, March 25th (all Mondays) and Wednesday April 24th. We are going to arrange something different in March so that date may change.

Hope you all enjoyed the Wine and Cheese evening. Happy Christmas. Hermione and Maggie.

POSADA There are still one or two slots available, so please sign up on the sheet at back of church to have Mary and Joseph stay one night under your roof during Advent.

PARISH CAROL SINGING

Join us for Parish Carol Singing in aid of the Children's Society on Thursday 20th December, meeting at 7pm at 1 Vineries Close, with hot refreshments in the Cottages at about 8:45pm. For more details contact Peter M.

HAMPTON HOUSE CAROLS

Also join us at Hampton House, Leckhampton Road, on Thursday 20th December at 6:15pm to sing carols with the residents, to finish in time for Parish Carol Singing. For more details contact Sally M.

Advent Reflections

Please join us at 7pm at St. Peter's on Wednesday 5th, 12th and 19th December for a short time of prayer and reflection as we travel through Advent. This will be Compline and meditation led by Anne W.

Parish Magazine: free delivery

Please contact me if you would like the magazine delivered free to your door. At £6 per year it is great value for money!

If more convenient you can pay me, and collect from church each month.

Calling all distributors:

Please collect £6 now from each person for the year. Cheques are payable to St Peter's Leckhampton PCC. Please let me have the money at church or drop it in. I can collect. Sue, Business Manager

Christians in the World - with all the Advent and other pre-Christmas activities planned, we will not be meeting in December or January.

Christian Aid: The 100 Mile Walk

Will be coming through St. Peter's on Tuesday 15 Jan at approx. 4pm. More info and sponsor form at back of church; money will go to refugee causes. JustGiving page: <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/hundred-mile-walk/>

CCP – HAMPER SCAMPER

Many thanks for the 17.1kgs of Christmas items donated to the special CCP Hamper Scamper appeal during November. The baskets will remain on the bench behind the font in the run up to Christmas for any further donations of seasonal items. Please check that use by dates on the more perishable goods extend up to Christmas. Our regular weekly collection of food items of tinned pies, meat and vegetables and dried goods continues as normal. During November 64.1kgs was collected. Gilly

Leckhampton School Crossing Patrol

We are looking to recruit a School Crossing Patrol here at Leckhampton C of E Primary School. This is a valuable and rewarding role, working from 8.20-8.50am and 2.55-3.35pm, term time only. The basic duties include the safe passage of children and adults across Church Road at school time, following

straightforward instructions, and working outdoors all year round. Successful applicants will receive full training and uniform. The position is paid at Grade Band B (Living wage). If interested, or would like to know more about the role, please contact the school directly on 01242 524062.

SOUTH CHELTENHAM TEAM

Emmanuel Festival of Christmas Trees

Lovely images at www.achurchnearyou.com

SC Team 'Quiet Days'

The next Quiet Day, led by Revd Diane Daymond, will be held in the Cottages on Thursday 24 January 2019 from 10am to 3pm.

Diane is a retired Methodist minister and finds enrichment in the privilege of leading quiet days.

All are welcome. Please see the flyers in church. To reserve a place please ring the Parish Office on 513647.

The future dates for the Quiet Days/Evenings are 19 March, 23 May, 23 July, 26 September and 26 November 2019.

World Day of Prayer (formerly Women's World Day of Prayer) is being organised for Friday 1st March 2019 by St Stephen's church in Tivoli. Christians across the world are united on this day of prayer, and prayers from Slovenia will be used this year. To find out more and/or become involved, please contact Sue Rowe on 07905 307859 or suevrowe@gmail.com or Ann Bacon on 07812 098871 – dorothyannstafford1943@gmail.com

IN BRIEF

Leckhampton Local History Society will be meeting in the Cottages on Wednesday 19th December at 7.30pm when David Smith will talk on Dr Edward Jenner. Non-members £2. All are welcome.