

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY



If this is your first newsletter, welcome ... if you have any questions about the church family, the Christian faith, or about our children's work, please do not hesitate to call Vicky, the administrator on 07804 558160. This notice sheet covers the next week and combines:

- Notices
- The church diary (including livestream & Zoom joining instructions)
- Prayers and readings for the services on Sunday 22nd September 2024

Rectors Reflections

It has been a blessing catching up with people after my sabbatical over the last week. During my time away whenever I was posed a difficult question I could reply: "sorry I cannot answer that as I am on Sabbatical!". Likewise I hope that in the weeks to come I do not become too much of a Sabbatical bore by starting too many sentences with the phrase: "When I was on Sabbatical ..."! Nevertheless it has been a time of refreshment: I enjoyed catching up on some sleep, spending some quality time with my family, going sailing a number of times, and tidying a few things up - especially the garage.

I also spent time studying the Wesleys, who in the 1700's helped to transform a nation which had lost its way morally and spiritually, and who challenged the comfortable status quo of the Church of England. Closer to home I read about an oft-forgotten spiritual awakening in Lowestoft 100 years ago. I've been on retreats and spent times in prayer. I've experienced moments of moving from fear towards faith - a transition which is part of the faith journey of all Christians. I hope to share and lead from these beneficial experiences.

But I return with confidence that there is an openness to the Gospel that has not been present for many years - even for generations. And I return with confidence that each one of us has a significant and important part to play, no matter how small it may seem, in God's eternal plan - may you find your place in it.

I extend my thanks to the many people who helped cover things whilst I was away - I am so grateful.

Encouraging news ... Licensed Reader and Pioneer Minister

One of our ongoing prayers has been that God would strengthen our Ministry Team. As a benefice we have been delighted to support Kevin Powell as he went through his Reader training over the last couple of years. A number of us will be joining him at the Cathedral at 3.30pm this Sunday as he is Licensed. If you want to watch the service on line please follow [this link](#).

I am delighted to announce that Nicky has been selected for training to be an ordained pioneer minister (see below).

Furthermore we also have another person starting to enter training for ordination (more in due course).

A date for your diary is also the Elders Commissioning service on the 17th Nov which will be led by Archdeacon David Jenkins (10.30am at Holy Trinity).

Please pray for the ministry team of the church and for all who feel called to formal ministry. If you feel you might be being called - no matter how unlikely it may seem - please contact the Rector to talk it through.

Some news from Nicky :-

Dear all it's been a busy few years for me since the pandemic - I've bumped into quite a few of you at the GP surgery when I returned to help the NHS, whilst also starting the weekly '4 o'clock Community' (our informal afternoon congregation) as a 'Licensed Lay Pioneer'. During this time there has been a growing sense of calling emerging, recognised by our Archdeacon for Rural Mission Sally Gaze who encouraged me to engage with the Diocesan discernment process. In addition to juggling all these balls I also commenced an MA in 'Pioneer Mission and Ministry' last year so have been commuting fortnightly to CMS (Church Mission Society) in Oxford ... my family has had to get a lot better at looking after themselves and I've had to get a lot better at laptops (!)

At the end of July I received the news that I have been recommended by the Church of England to train full time as an 'Ordained Pioneer', just before the Commissioning service of Ordinands with Bishop Mike at the Cathedral (pictured). I will spend the next two years studying at Cuddesdon Theological College in Oxford alongside my MA. I will receive the same training as a Priest but with a focus on Pioneer ministry, and will be able to continue developing the 4 o'clock community during this time.

Though Pioneer ministry is a relatively new term for the Church of England (and one that you may not be familiar with) it is a concept that will become increasingly important as our society moves away from its historical foundations, and people become less familiar with inherited forms of Church. I hope to have the opportunity to explore more questions e.g. what is pioneering ... and how does it integrate with traditional Church ... in due course. But I will leave you with the Church of England's definition of a Pioneer ... and hope and pray I can faithful and with His help fulfil what God sees of it in me:-

"Pioneers are people called by God, who are the first to see and creatively respond to the Holy Spirit's initiatives with those outside the church; gathering others around them as they seek to establish new contextual Christian community." (Ministry Council 2017)



Bishop Mike's Final Service

Sunday 29 September, 3.30pm St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS.

Everyone is warmly invited to St Edmundsbury Cathedral as we say farewell to Bishop Mike as he leaves to become the Bishop of Exeter. The service will be followed by Devon cream teas and fizz. For catering purposes, please use this link to RSVP so we have an indication of numbers:

<https://forms.gle/7Byys8vNYtMTqQF99>

Harvest Festivals

As we come to Celebrate God’s provision of food through this year’s harvest, please note the following ways in which we can come together to give thanks:

- 6th Oct 9.00am Harvest Festival at Alpheton
- 6th Oct 10.30am Harvest Festival at Long Melford
- 13th Oct 4.00pm Harvest Festival at Lawshall

Donations of food are welcome at all our Harvest services; these will then be sent to Storehouse Foodbank (or in Lawshall a community foodbank).

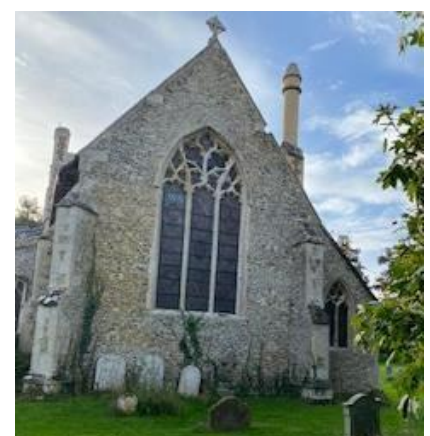
Harvest Suppers

We are extremely fortunate that 2 of our villages are hosting Harvest Suppers this year, please see details on the posters below if you would like to book tickets



St George’s Church, Shimpling

Mark Beaver from Shimpling will from 5th - 12th October be cycling the length of the N2 route in Portugal which is the longest continuous road in the country and one of the longest in the world. He will be cycling for six consecutive days with long days in the saddle, ‘I have had this challenge on my "bucket list" for a few years now so I cannot wait to start riding!’ Over the past year we have worked hard to raise £51,500 from charity grants, from community fundraising events and from individual donations. We just need an additional £2,500 to reach our target of £54,000. It would be absolutely wonderful if you could help us with this final push to restore the beautiful stained-glass window in the East Chancel of the church and to repair the surrounding stonework inside and out.



Can you help by donating to Mark’s JustGiving page [here](#).

Melford Scouts Visit to Holy Trinity Church

Last week we had the pleasure of welcoming a group of 14 Scouts from Long Melford group aged between 10 and 14 to Holy Trinity Church, their visit was split into two sessions:

In session one the group walked around the interior of the church learning about the various areas within the building including Clopton Chapel, Chancel, Sanctuary, knave, pulpit and font. They discussed faith, what it means, different types of faith and the impact 'faith' can have on a person's life.

In session two the scouts ascended the tower where they heard a brief history of our 3 in 1 tower, learnt about the various parts of the bells and terminology used in bell ringing, they all had a go at ringing a bell (including some reluctant group leaders!), saw the bells in motion and took in a moonlight view from the Nave roof.

At the end of both sessions, Rev Matthew Lawson shared his own journey into faith and how it has impacted on his life. We hope everyone enjoyed their visit and that it will give them insight and inspiration for their own journey of faith. The combined sessions will help the scouts obtain their 'Worldwide Faith' badge.

Many thanks to Matthew, Pam, Theresa, Sylvia, Craig and Morgan for their support with this event.

Open Air service at Foxearth Meadows

Lessons from Noah - the First Conservationist

Sunday 22 September, 3.00pm

Foxearth Meadows Nature Reserve, Foxearth, Sudbury CO10 7HY.

Do come along to this open air service featuring speaker Professor James Pearce-Higgins, Science Director for the British Trust for Ornithology. James had spoken at a couple of our benefice dawn-chorus gatherings we have held in Alpheton & Shimpling in recent years. To be followed by refreshments, please bring along a chair and a mug. For more information please contact Sarah on sarah.leedham@arocha.org | 07810 141234.

All Souls Service

We will be holding our All Souls Choral Evensong on Sunday 3rd November at 6.30pm. Please let Vicky know if you would like any names read out

ALL SOULS SERVICE

Holy Trinity Church, 6.30pm, 3rd November 2023



The "All Souls Service" will this year take place at Holy Trinity Church on Sunday 3rd November at 6.30pm.

If you would like a loved ones name/s to be read out email Vicky on chadbrookoffice@gmail.com or call 07804 558160, alternatively, please complete the slip below and return Vicky Moakes, c/o The Rectory, The Green, Long Melford, CO10 9DT by close of play Tuesday 29th October.

If you wish to have a name read out, please complete the slip below and return to Vicky Moakes, The Rectory, The Green, Long Melford, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 9DT.

Name.....
Tel. / email
In memory of.....
In memory of.....
In memory of.....
In memory of.....

An East African Masai Creed

Last Sunday (15th October) the East African Creed was shown, many expressed a wish to see it again – please see below:

We believe in the one High God, who out of love created the beautiful world and everything good in it. He created Man and wanted Man to be happy in the world. God loves the world and every nation and tribe on the Earth.

This we believe.

We have known this High God in darkness, and now we know Him in the light. God promised in the book of His word, the Bible, that He would save the world and all the nations and tribes.

This we believe.

We believe that God made good His promise by sending His Son, Jesus Christ, a man in the flesh, a Jew by tribe, born poor in a little village, who left His home and was always on safari doing good, curing people by the power of God, teaching about God and man, showing the meaning of religion is love.

This we believe.

He was rejected by his people, tortured and nailed hands and feet to a cross, and died. He lay buried in the grave, but the hyenas did not touch him, and on the third day, He rose from the grave. He ascended to the skies. He is the Lord.

This we believe.

We believe that all our sins are forgiven through Him. All who have faith in Him must be sorry for their sins, be baptized in the Holy Spirit of God, live the rules of love and share the bread together in love, to announce the Good News to others until Jesus comes again.

We are waiting for Him. He is alive. He lives. This we believe. Amen.

Suggestions for Prayer

- We pray for a lasting peace in the Holy Land, for a resolution to the war in Ukraine, and a ceasing of hostilities in other places of violence and hatred including the unrest in towns and cities in our own country.
- We remember before God those who have recently died and those who mourn.
- We pray for those in need of God's presence or his healing touch including Barbara Brady, David Bremer, Robert Hawkins, Ian MacDonald, baby Munroe, Audrey Wreford & Gordon Wright.
- We give thanks to God for those he is calling to service in formal ministry and ask God to encourage, guide and protect them and their families.

Diary

| | | |
|------------------------|---------|---|
| Sun 22 nd | 10.30am | Communion at Holy Trinity * |
| | 3.30pm | Commissioning of Readers at the Cathedral |
| | 4.00pm | Pub Social at The Swan Lawshall |
| Mon 23 rd | 9.30am | Connect baby & toddler group |
| | 7.30pm | A&S PCC |
| Tues 24 th | 9.00am | Zoom prayer meeting # |
| Thurs 26 th | 10.00am | Shimpling Coffee Caravan |
| | 7.00pm | Choir Practice at Holy Trinity |
| Fri 27 th | 2.00pm | Wedding Rehearsal at Holy Trinity |
| Sat 28 th | 1.00pm | Wedding at Holy Trinity – Ryan & Jess |
| | 6.00pm | Band Rehearsal (usually at HT). |
| Sun 29 th | 10.30am | Communion at Holy Trinity * |
| | 12.30pm | Baptism at Holy Trinity |
| | 4.00pm | Shine Informal Worship at Holy Trinity |
| | 6.30pm | Evening Communion at Lawshall |

*** Livestream Joining Instructions**

- Google the five words “Holy Trinity Long Melford Facebook”.
- Click on the top link [or click here](#) to open the church’s Facebook page and scroll down a bit.
- Please note that you do not need a Facebook account yourself in order to watch the livestream.

Morning Prayer Zoom Meeting ID: 810 2345 2032, Password: 283350, or click [here](#).

Dates for your diary

| | | |
|----------------------|---------|--|
| 5 th Oct | 7.00pm | Harvest Supper at Alpheton Village Hall (see flyer on page 2) |
| 5 th Oct | 7.00pm | Harvest Supper at Lawshall Village Hall (see flyer on page 2) |
| 6 th Oct | 9.00am | Harvest Celebration at Alpheton |
| 6 th Oct | 10.30am | Harvest Celebration at Holy Trinity |
| 13 th Oct | 4.00pm | Harvest Celebration at Lawshall |
| 19 th Oct | 6.00pm | Take the Song Concert at Holy Trinity (see flyer on last page) |
| 2 nd Nov | 6.30pm | All Souls Evensong |
| 17 th Nov | 10.30am | Elders Commissioning with Archdeacon David Jenkins |

Collect (*prayer for the day*)

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 our Lord who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. **Amen**

First Reading**James 3:13-4:3,7-8a**

Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. ¹⁴ But if you harbour bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. ¹⁵ Such 'wisdom' does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶ For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

¹⁷ But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. ¹⁸ Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.

4 What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? ² You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. ³ When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

⁷ Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading**Mark 9.30-37**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

Glory to you, O Lord

They left that place and passed through Galilee. Jesus did not want anyone to know where they were, ³¹ because he was teaching his disciples. He said to them, 'The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men. They will kill him, and after three days he will rise.' ³² But they did not understand what he meant and were afraid to ask him about it.

³³ They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the road?' ³⁴ But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest.

³⁵ Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, 'Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all.'

³⁶ He took a little child whom he placed among them. Taking the child in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷ 'Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You O Christ

(Bible readings courtesy of Bible Gateway New International Version - UK (NIVUK))

Post Communion Prayer

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**