

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 get in touch. Our administrator Vicky is available on 07804 558160. This notice sheet covers the next 2 weeks and combines:

- Notices
- The church diary (including livestream & Zoom joining instructions)
- Prayers and readings for the services on Sunday 27th October & 3rd November 2024

Reflection ... Two Perspectives

One of the things that I heard a number of times during my sabbatical was that there is 'something happening' among young people. I was reminded for example that statistically young people pray more than older people do (sorry I can't find the reference right now). And I kept hearing remarkable one-off stories about God meeting a young person in a remarkable way - whether through dreams, or reading the Bible, or through on-line outreach. One church in Loughborough gave out around 80 bibles last year to young enquirers wanting to learn more. Perhaps the most striking things for me was a talk I went to given by three middle-aged people who had each faithfully been doing university outreach for between 10 and 20 years. They said that since lockdown there is a new open-ness which has surprised all of them, and that they had started to ask questions about whether the national church would be in a position to accommodate an awakening among the young as and when it happens!

Of course, at the same time we live aware of the gloomy 'narrative of decline' on all sorts of levels which I probably need not elaborate on here! Whereas once the Christian faith was passed on through homes from generation to generation (just look at the inscriptions in family Bibles) there are now arguably two 'missing generations' who are largely unchurched, and many of the stats are getting worse. This means that as Christians we are today charged with both presenting the Christian faith (in what now seems like a marketplace of beliefs) as well as nurturing it.

And yet even here in our small part of Rural Suffolk we have perhaps tasted something of the tension between these two narratives. There are a number of things which encourage me about the faith of our young people including the baptisms and confirmations over the last couple of years, our many points of engagement with young people whether through toddler group, youth group, school assemblies, study groups, the 4 o'clock community (last Sunday we had around 50 attending Messy Church) ... and of course our morning services.

So please pray! Just as the tide can go out the tide can come in; if God wants to bring life where it seems impossible he is more than able to do it. Please pray for wisdom for the ministry team and our PCC's as we meet together at the start of November and reflect on how we 'do church' in our different villages so that we can nurture the faith of young and old, new disciples or lifelong church attenders, whether they come via traditional routes or the more contemporary ones (or a bit of both).

Revd Matthew

Apple Day

apple day

*'wild' church celebrates the humble apple,
with picking the orchard, apple pressing...
activities for all the family*

**@ Lavenham Lodge Farm, Old Bury Rd,
Alpheton, CO10 9GN
on Sunday 27th October at 4 o'clock**

*Bring bucket, gloves and long trousers...
and something to sit on!*

*to find out more about 4 o'clock community contact
Nicky 07938 681319 chadbrooklightwave@gmail.com*



Christmas 2024

We have almost finalised the services over the whole Benefice for December & Christmas and we hope to publish these in the next few days on the HT website and will of course include them in the next notice sheet.

Christingles

The Christingle service at Holy Trinity will take place on Sunday 1st December at 10.30am. We would really appreciate it is someone could volunteer to assist in the sourcing and making of approx. 20 Christingles please let Vicky Know chadbrookoffice@gmail.com or 07804 558160.

HTLM Choir Invitation to sing in the Christmas Carol Service

If you have always fancied having a go at singing in a choir, especially with Christmas Carols (and the descants), why not consider joining the Melford church choir for the service on December 22nd for the Carol Service at 6.30pm. There's no audition – unless you want one to discover which voice you might be, but you will need to commit to at least three rehearsals, including the one at 5.15pm on the 22nd just before the service itself at 6.30pm.

The rehearsal schedule is given below and we'll be preparing two or three choir only pieces, together with singing through the descant parts (for sopranos). Once I know who is coming, I can email out copies of music, and where possible, links to performances to listen and karaoke with for your own personal practice.

The invitation is open to singers of all voices – Soprano, Alto, Tenor or Bass, but not just adults. If you would like to encourage children to have a sing, and would like to bring them along, they are welcome too. I would suggest 8yrs +and above, given that the rehearsals will be from 7pm – 8.30pm on Thursday evenings. I'd be grateful if adults could accompany any children to the rehearsals, (and stay) for safeguarding reasons, and I do need to know in advance of any children coming, to make arrangements to meet and register them.

If you would like to know more – then either email me on nwbrown@btinternet.com, or come and say hello at the organ console after a service.

Rehearsals:

Thursday 5 th	7 – 8.30 pm
Thursday 12 th	7 – 8.30pm
Thursday 19 th	7 - 8.45pm (NB later finish)
Sunday 22 nd	5.15 – 6pm Service at 6.30 – 7.45ish pm.

A Church Near You (ACNY)

We are currently updating the information for all of our churches on the ACNY websites (which is a nationally supported website platform available to all Church of England churches). This will be an ongoing job – please bear with us whilst this is taking place.

Suggestions for Prayer

- We pray for wisdom for our leaders as they debate Assisted Dying.
- We pray for our PCC's and Ministry team as they come together on the 2nd Nov for an away day.
- 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, baby Munroe & Gordon Wright.

Tea and Tiaras: new Stained Glass Conservation Fundraising event

Tuesday 19 November, 2-4pm, at the Village Hall

Did you know that many of the jewels worn by the main characters in Downton Abbey were made in Long Melford? In a very special fundraising event, we're offering the chance to meet the creator, see the jewels for yourself – and even win one of Andrew Prince's stunning creations in a raffle. Andrew was commissioned to supply a large collection of costume jewellery for the hit series in 2012. He has now worked on three seasons and two of the three film spin-offs. His creations have been worn by Elizabeth McGovern, Michelle Dockery, Lily James and of course the late Dame Maggie Smith. He is offering a sneak preview of his collection for the third and final film, which comes out next year.

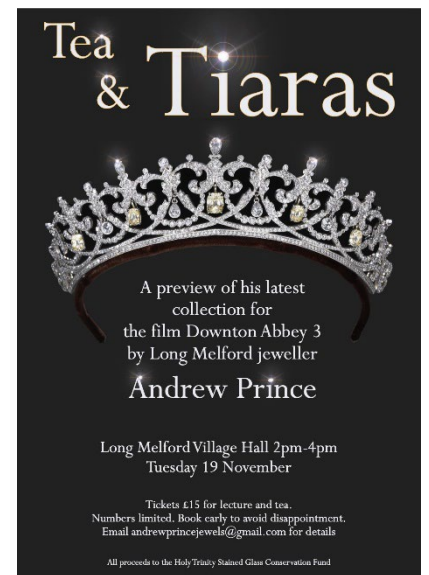
Tickets cost £15, with all proceeds to the medieval stained glass conservation fund. Price includes afternoon tea. Early booking is strongly advised as space is limited. How to book:

- Bank Transfer to SJ Edge, a/c 48765120, sort code 60-21-03. Please use TIARAS followed by your surname as a reference.
- Cheque payable to Long Melford PCC and marked STAINED GLASS on the reverse. Send it with the completed form below to: Stained Glass Fund, c/o Mansel Hall, Hall Street, Long Melford CO10 9JB

I would like ticket(s) for Tea and Tiaras at £15 per person

Name(s)

Email



Theology Café

The first one was really interesting and studied the word 'love' in depth - one more to go ...



Refill and reduce plastic

As well as the Community Café at Lawshall Village Hall on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10.30am, you can visit also this refill van in the car park.



All Souls Service

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.....

Diary

Sun 27 th	10.30am	Communion at Holy Trinity *
	4.00pm	Wild Church – Apple Day at Lavenham Lodge Farm
	6.30pm	Evening Communion at Lawshall
Tues 29 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer via zoom #
Thurs 31 st	7.00pm	Choir Practice at Holy Trinity
Sun 3 rd	9.00am	Communion at Alpheton
	10.30am	Family Communion at Holy Trinity *
	6.30pm	All Souls Evensong at Holy Trinity *
Mon 4 th	9.30am	Connect baby & Toddler Group at St Catherine’s
	7.30pm	A&S Homegroup
Tues 5 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer via zoom #
Wed 6 th	2.00pm	Funeral at Holy Trinity – Audrey Wreford
	7.00pm	Remembrance Rehearsal
Thurs 7 th	7.00pm	Choir Practice at Holy Trinity
Fri 8 th	6.00pm	Alfie’s Bar at Alpheton Village Hall
	7.30pm	Fusion Youth Group (location TBC)
Sat 9 th	8.00am	Prayer Breakfast at St Catherine’s
Sun 10 th	9.00am	Remembrance Service at Alpheton
	10.45am	Remembrance Service at Lawshall
	10.50am	Remembrance Service at Holy Trinity

* Livestream Joining Instructions

- Google the five words “Holy Trinity Long Melford Facebook” or [click here](#) to open the church’s Facebook page (scroll down a bit to see the feed).
- 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

10 th Nov	9.00am	Remembrance Service at Alpheton
10 th Nov	10.45am	Remembrance Service at Lawshall
10 th Nov	10.50am	Remembrance Service at Holy Trinity (please note slightly later start of service)
17 th Nov	10.30am	Elders Commissioning with Archdeacon David Jenkins at Holy Trinity

Collect (*prayer for the day*)

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: help us so to hear them, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word, we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

First Reading**Hebrews 7:23-28**

Now there have been many of those priests, since death prevented them from continuing in office; ²⁴ but because Jesus lives for ever, he has a permanent priesthood. ²⁵ Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

²⁶ Such a high priest truly meets our need – one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens. ²⁷ Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself. ²⁸ For the law appoints as high priests men in all their weakness; but the oath, which came after the law, appointed the Son, who has been made perfect for ever.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading**Mark 10:46-52**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

Glory to you, O Lord

Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large crowd, were leaving the city, a blind man, Bartimaeus (which means 'son of Timaeus'), was sitting by the roadside begging. ⁴⁷ When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!'

⁴⁸ Many rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, 'Son of David, have mercy on me!'

⁴⁹ Jesus stopped and said, 'Call him.'

So they called to the blind man, 'Cheer up! On your feet! He's calling you.' ⁵⁰ Throwing his cloak aside, he jumped to his feet and came to Jesus.

⁵¹ 'What do you want me to do for you?' Jesus asked him.

The blind man said, 'Rabbi, I want to see.'

⁵² 'Go,' said Jesus, 'your faith has healed you.' Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road.

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

God of all grace, your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry with the bread of his life and the word of his kingdom: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your true and living bread; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

Readings for Sunday 3rd November**4 before Advent****Collect** (*prayer for the day*)

God of glory, touch our lips with the fire of your Spirit, that we with all creation may rejoice to sing your praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

First Reading**Hebrews 9:11-14**

But when Christ came as high priest of the good things that are now already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not made with human hands, that is to say, is not a part of this creation. ¹² He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, so obtaining eternal redemption. ¹³ The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. ¹⁴ How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death,^[c] so that we may serve the living God!

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading**Mark 12:28-34**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

Glory to you, O Lord

One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, 'Of all the commandments, which is the most important?'

²⁹ 'The most important one,' answered Jesus, 'is this: "Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one. ³⁰ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." ³¹ The second is this: "Love your neighbour as yourself."^[c] There is no commandment greater than these.'

³² 'Well said, teacher,' the man replied. 'You are right in saying that God is one and there is no other but him. ³³ To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.'

³⁴ When Jesus saw that he had answered wisely, he said to him, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' And from then on no one dared ask him any more questions.

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 of heaven, in this eucharist you have brought us near to an innumerable company of angels and to the spirits of the saints made perfect: as in this food of our earthly pilgrimage we have shared their fellowship, so may we come to share their joy in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**