

# 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. This notice sheet covers the next 2 week and combines:

- Notices,
- The church diary (including livestream & Zoom joining instructions),
- Prayers and readings for the morning services on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February & 2<sup>nd</sup> March

## Thank you

For all of the many best wishes, emails, cards and gifts wishing me well, that I have received, it is very much appreciated. I am feeling much better now & aim to be back at full capacity in the next couple of weeks.

*Vicky*

## Hope (Lent) Lunches

As I was praying into the start of this year I felt prompted in prayer to focus on the wonderful Christian topic of hope. They say that great minds think alike ... or that fools seldom differ(!) ... so I was encouraged to see that the Lent Couse material produced centrally by the Church of England is titled 'Living Hope'. You will be able to get daily email reflections ([click here](#)) or on your phone via the Everyday Faith app ([click here](#)).

We will be continuing our exploration of the topic of Hope at our Lent Lunches (which I will be calling Hope Lunches this year). These will take place at St Catherine's on at 12.30pm on the following Fridays: March 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, and April 4<sup>th</sup>. (Please sign up for catering or contact Linda on 01787 379 236).

We will probably be raising funds for Kagera diocese in Tanzania, and locally for [Number 72](#) - the Family and Community Newtownke - which is a local Christian organisation supping people of all ages going through difficult seasons in their life including school children with mental health problems (these are suggested causes at this stage but these need to be discussed and formalised at all our PCCs).

## Safeguarding

Whatever your views about the approach of our Bishops to safeguarding, our responsibility at local level is to continue to ensure that people are safe and indeed that they feel safe when part of the church family. Furthermore I hope that any victims of abuse increasingly feel safe to open up to someone. Many of you are aware that the requirements for safeguarding training at parish level are considerable, and the administration relating to booking training courses or having a DBS processed is not always user-friendly.

If you have any questions or concerns relating to safeguarding please contact our Safeguarding Officer Cheryl Morgan (07943 811030) and please thank Cheryl for her work in this extremely responsible role. Please also give thanks to Ros who is helping us with the safeguarding admin (01284 830002). In due course Ros may be in touch to check all your training is up to date.

*Revd Lawson*



(if you missed it I spoke on the Makin Report last November [click here](#)).

## Commissioning of the Acting Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich

All are warmly invited to attend the Commissioning of Bishop Graeme Knowles as Acting Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich. This is an opportunity to relay our support for Bishop Graeme as he fulfils his duties throughout the recruitment process. Refreshments will follow the service. For seating and catering purposes, please confirm your attendance by emailing: [erinseligman@stedscathedral.org](mailto:erinseligman@stedscathedral.org) by Monday 24 February. Sunday 2 March, 3.30pm | St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS.

## Easyfundraising for Holy Trinity Organ Fund

Whenever you're doing a food shop online, please use easyfundraising! You can raise regular donations for Holy Trinity Church Long Melford Organ Fund with popular supermarkets including Tesco, Morrisons, ASDA, Sainsbury's, Waitrose, Iceland and Ocado - at no extra cost to yourself! If you're not supporting us on easyfundraising yet, please sign up [here](#)

## The Kelvedon Singers conducted by Christopher Phelps

Holy Trinity Church, Long Melford, Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April at 6.30pm

The Kelvedon Singers are delighted to invite you to join them when they perform two sublime choral works at Holy Trinity Church, Long Melford, Suffolk.

**Mozart's Requiem** is an unparalleled masterpiece of choral and orchestral music, and stands as one of the most profound and haunting compositions in the Western classical repertoire.

**Franz Schubert's Mass in E-flat major** is a monumental work that is a testament to his genius in the realm of sacred music. One of Schubert's last compositions, it is notable for its grand scale and profound spirituality.

We will be joined by four soloists with strong reputations in both concert and opera performance:

**Catherine May** (Soprano) **Felicity Buckland** (Mezzo Soprano), **Jonathan Cooke** (Tenor) and **Owain Browne** (Bass) **Nigel Brown** who is organist and choir master at Holy Trinity, will accompany us on this occasion.

**Holy Trinity Church** is one of the great Suffolk wool churches which stands on a hill at the north end of the village of Long Melford. It is widely acknowledged to be one of the most magnificent parish churches in the country. A quick scan of their visitors' book reveals that even hardened tourists are taken aback by the building's beauty and the peace they experience when visiting a site where Christians have worshipped and prayed for over 1000 years.

Tickets are £15pp incl interval refreshments. Sarah Phillips 01376 561719/[sarahphillips365@outlook.com](mailto:sarahphillips365@outlook.com)  
[www.kelvedonsingers.org.uk](http://www.kelvedonsingers.org.uk)

## Mar & Apr Rota

The March & April service rota has now been put on the website, please do have a look and let me know if you are unable for any duties on there. Many Thanks *Vicky*

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15v13)*

### Suggestions for Prayer

- We pray that we can know the hope of Christ in our heart in the storms of life.
- We pray for world leaders that they would remain humble, seek peace, and be open to the Spirit of God.
- We pray for a grant application we are submitting to support children and music / worship.
- We remember before God those who have recently died and we pray for those who mourn, including the family and friends of Roy Adams, Audrey Bower, Raymond Debenham, Edna Hammond, Jill Vincent, and Brian Watts.
- We pray for those in need of God's presence or his healing touch including Barbara Brady, David Bremer, Robert Hawkins, baby Munroe, Mary Tuffen, & Gordon Wright.

### Exploring HOPE

Can we really have HOPE in these times ?

**Exploring Hope**

**Café Church**

ALL are welcome, with refreshments  
... and activities for children

4pm Sundays  
9th February, 9th March and 11th May  
@ All Saints Church, The Street,  
Lawshall, IP29 4QB

For more information on our 4 o'clock community  
Websites :- [achurchnearyou.com](http://achurchnearyou.com) and  
[longmelfordchurch.com](http://longmelfordchurch.com)  
Contact :- Nicky Lawson 07938 681319  
[chadbrooklightwave@gmail.com](mailto:chadbrooklightwave@gmail.com)

**Diary**

Sun 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10.30am	Communion at Holy Trinity *
	4.00pm	'Shine' informal worship at Holy Trinity
	6.30pm	Communion at All Saints Lawshall
Mon 24 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Connect Toddler Group St Catherine's
	1.00pm	Funeral at Holy Trinity, Brian Donnelly Watts
Tues 25 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Morning Prayer #
	12.00pm	Interment at Long Melford Cemetery
Thurs 27 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Choir Practice Holy Trinity
Fri 28 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Funeral at Lawshall, Raymond Debenham
	7.30pm	'Fusion Plus' Youth Group
Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	9.00am	Communion at Alpheton
	10.30am	Family Communion at Holy Trinity *
	2.30pm	Civic Service at Holy Trinity
	6.30pm	Choral Evensong at Holy Trinity *
Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup>	9.30am	Connect Toddler Group - St Catherine's
	7.30pm	A&S Home Group
Tues 4 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Morning Prayer #
Wed 5 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Ash Wednesday Service St Catherine's
Thurs 6 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Choir Practice HT
Fri 7 <sup>th</sup>	12.30pm	Lent Lunch at St Catherine's
Sun 9 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Communion at Holy Trinity *
	4.00pm	Café Church - HOPE Explored, Lawshall

**\* 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 include:**

Wed	5 <sup>th</sup> Mar	7.00pm	Ash Wednesday Service at St Catherine's Long Melford
Sat	22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	10.00am	Shimpling Graveyard Tidy
Sun	30 <sup>th</sup> Mar	10.30am	Mothing Sunday / Mother's Day Service
Sat	12 <sup>th</sup> Apr	6.30pm	Kelvedon Singers Concert
Sun	20 <sup>th</sup> Apr	10.30am	Benefice Easter Sunday Service

Readings for the 23<sup>rd</sup> February**Collect** (*prayer for the day*)

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever. Amen

**First Reading****Revelation 4**

After this I looked, and there before me was a door standing open in heaven. And the voice I had first heard speaking to me like a trumpet said, 'Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.' <sup>2</sup> At once I was in the Spirit, and there before me was a throne in heaven with someone sitting on it. <sup>3</sup> And the one who sat there had the appearance of jasper and ruby. A rainbow that shone like an emerald encircled the throne. <sup>4</sup> Surrounding the throne were twenty-four other thrones, and seated on them were twenty-four elders. They were dressed in white and had crowns of gold on their heads. <sup>5</sup> From the throne came flashes of lightning, rumblings and peals of thunder. In front of the throne, seven lamps were blazing. These are the seven spirits of God. <sup>6</sup> Also in front of the throne there was what looked like a sea of glass, clear as crystal. In the centre, round the throne, were four living creatures, and they were covered with eyes, in front and behind. <sup>7</sup> The first living creature was like a lion, the second was like an ox, the third had a face like a man, the fourth was like a flying eagle. <sup>8</sup> Each of the four living creatures had six wings and was covered with eyes all round, even under its wings. Day and night they never stop saying:

"Holy, holy, holy

is the Lord God Almighty,"

who was, and is, and is to come.'

<sup>9</sup> Whenever the living creatures give glory, honour and thanks to him who sits on the throne and who lives for ever and ever, <sup>10</sup> the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne and worship him who lives for ever and ever. They lay their crowns before the throne and say:

<sup>11</sup> 'You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.'

*This is the word of the Lord*

**Thanks be to God**

**Gospel Reading****Luke 8:22-25**

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke*

**Glory to you, O Lord**

One day Jesus said to his disciples, 'Let us go over to the other side of the lake.' So they got into a boat and set out. <sup>23</sup> As they sailed, he fell asleep. A squall came down on the lake, so that the boat was being swamped, and they were in great danger. <sup>24</sup> The disciples went and woke him, saying, 'Master, Master, we're going to drown!' He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm. <sup>25</sup> 'Where is your faith?' he asked his disciples.

In fear and amazement they asked one another, 'Who is this? He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him.'

*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 our creator, by your gift the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise, and the bread of life at the heart of your Church: may we who have been nourished at your table on earth be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross and enjoy the delights of eternity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Readings for the 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2025**Collect (prayer for the day)**

Holy God, you know the disorder of our sinful lives: set straight our crooked hearts, and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**First Reading****2 Cor 3:12-4:2**

Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold. <sup>13</sup> We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face to prevent the Israelites from seeing the end of what was passing away. <sup>14</sup> But their minds were made dull, for to this day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. It has not been removed, because only in Christ is it taken away. <sup>15</sup> Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts. <sup>16</sup> But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. <sup>17</sup> Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. <sup>18</sup> And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. **4** Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart. <sup>2</sup> Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God.

*This is the word of the Lord*

**Thanks be to God**

**Gospel Reading****Luke 9:28-43**

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke*

**Glory to you, O Lord**

About eight days after Jesus said this, he took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray. <sup>29</sup> As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. <sup>30</sup> Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared in glorious splendour, talking with Jesus. <sup>31</sup> They spoke about his departure, which he was about to bring to fulfilment at Jerusalem. <sup>32</sup> Peter and his companions were very sleepy, but when they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. <sup>33</sup> As the men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to him, 'Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters – one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' (He did not know what he was saying.) <sup>34</sup> While he was speaking, a cloud appeared and covered them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. <sup>35</sup> A voice came from the cloud, saying, 'This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him.' <sup>36</sup> When the voice had spoken, they found that Jesus was alone. The disciples kept this to themselves and did not tell anyone at that time what they had seen.

<sup>37</sup> The next day, when they came down from the mountain, a large crowd met him. <sup>38</sup> A man in the crowd called out, 'Teacher, I beg you to look at my son, for he is my only child. <sup>39</sup> A spirit seizes him and he suddenly screams; it throws him into convulsions so that he foams at the mouth. It scarcely ever leaves him and is destroying him. <sup>40</sup> I begged your disciples to drive it out, but they could not.'

<sup>41</sup> 'You unbelieving and perverse generation,' Jesus replied, 'how long shall I stay with you and put up with you? Bring your son here.'

<sup>42</sup> Even while the boy was coming, the demon threw him to the ground in a convulsion. But Jesus rebuked the impure spirit, healed the boy and gave him back to his father. <sup>43</sup> And they were all amazed at the greatness of God.

While everyone was marvelling at all that Jesus did, he said to his disciples,

*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

Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ: may we who are partakers at his table reflect his life in word and deed, that all the world may know his power to change and save. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

