

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 two weeks:

- Notices.
- The church diary (including livestream & Zoom joining instructions).
- Prayers and readings for the morning services on Sunday 27th September & 4th October 2026.

For enquiries please contact our administrator Vicky: chadbrookoffice@gmail.com or 07804 558160.

Harvest Festival - *with tractor on the green*

Do come along to our Harvest Festival next week (4th Oct) at 10.30am as we give thanks for the food we eat and pray for our farmers. With crafts, music, beautiful flowers, an opportunity to donate to the local foodbank (see below) and much more ... with thank to the Hyde Parkers who (work permitting) will bring a tractor to the green for people to look at.



Storehouse Foodbank

With harvest festivals coming up we not only remember our farming community but those who do struggle to provide food for themselves or their families. We are grateful for the ongoing work of the Storehouse Foodbank in Sudbury who are once again asking that we bring food items to shore up their supplies. Please see the list of preferred items here.

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|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Tinned Meals: | • Tinned Potatoes |
| • Chicken curry | • Tinned Carrots |
| • Chicken in white sauce | • Tinned Peas |
| • Stewed steak | • Tinned soup |
| • Chilli con carne | • UHT Milk |
| • Minced Beef and Onion | • Pasta Sauce Jars |
| • Frey Bentos Pies | • Snack/Cereal Bars |
| • Irish stew | • <u>Mens and Womens</u> |
| • Tinned Hot dogs | • Shampoo/conditioner |
| • Tinned meatballs in tomato sauce | • Deodorant spray/roll-on |
| • Tinned Sausages in Beans | • Shower gel |

Walk to Lavenham Church

As our relationship with Lavenham develops, and following their walk to Long Melford last year, all of the church family are invited to join us on Sunday 27th September, starting at 2.00pm at Melford Church, to walk to Lavenham where there will be a simple welcome tea. Please let Vicky know if you would like to attend (and whether you could help with a car shuffle) chadbrookoffice@gmail.com or 07804 558160. It is approximately 5 miles. If you are unable to walk and would like to meet us at Lavenham (4-ish) you would be most welcome and please also let Vicky know. This is an event organised by the 4 o'clock Community.



Some Roman Graffiti

The Alexamenos Graffito is one of the earliest surviving visual representations of Jesus' crucifixion, dated as early as 85AD and as late as the 3rd century. It was found scratched into plaster walls in a room near the Palatine Hill in Rome, Italy. The inscription mockingly reads: "Alexamenos worships [his] god." If nothing else, this is one of so many pieces of historical and archaeological evidence that support the Biblical account of Jesus.

While modern Christians have become accustomed to worshipping a crucified figure, an image like this reminds us that the crucifixion of Christ was scandalous. To worship a man on the cross was absurd. Here is a verse from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians Chapter 1 from a contemporary version of the Bible called "The Message":

“The Message that points to Christ on the Cross seems like sheer silliness to those hellbent on destruction, but for those on the way of salvation it makes perfect sense. This is the way God works, and most powerfully as it turns out. It’s written, I’ll turn conventional wisdom on its head, I’ll expose so-called experts as shams. So where can you find someone truly wise, truly educated, truly intelligent in this day and age? Hasn’t God exposed it all as pretentious nonsense? Since the world in all its fancy wisdom never had a clue when it came to knowing God, God in his wisdom took delight in using what the world considered stupid—preaching, of all things!—to bring those who trust him into the way of salvation.” (1 Cor 1:18-25).



Oct – Dec Rota (incl. Christmas provisional)

The rota and provisional Christmas rota are now showing all services until the end of the year, I would be extremely grateful if you could please look at the rotas and let me know of any services/duties you are unavailable for or would rather not undertake. Many Thanks, Vicky chadbrookoffice@gmail.com

Harvest Supper
CB Jackson -
Guest Story Teller



3rd October at 7pm
Lawshall Village Hall
 Cottage or Shepherd's Pie and veg/Vegetarian
 Option, Dessert and Coffee, BYOB
 Tickets £15 from Wendy Harris
 07900 617833
grandmacoe@yahoo.co.uk



Tea & Tiaras
 Monday
 26 October

A Portrait of Jewels
 from 1490 to 1890

An illustrated lecture by Andrew Prince
 followed by a slap-up tea

Village Hall, Long Melford
 2pm-4pm
 Doors open 1.30pm

Tickets £15. Book early to avoid disappointment.
 Email simon@simon-edge.com for details.

All proceeds to the Holy Trinity Stained Glass Conservation Fund

ALL SOULS SERVICE

Holy Trinity Church, 6.30pm, 1st November 2026



The "All Souls Service" will this year take place at Holy Trinity Church on Sunday 1st 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 27th 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.....

A modern pilgrimage? Summer Festivals

Each summer there are a number of Christian festivals over the country with approx. 100,000 people attending in total. They are in some ways a modern 'pilgrimage' - Christians come together from all over the country to pray, to worship, and to be encouraged as people from different churches share their stories and as we learn from national leaders. People from our church family attend a variety of these festivals, including Spring Harvest, Greenbelt, Others. Some more details (and an invitation to an information evening) are below.

New Wine

A group of 9 of us went to New Wine this summer and will be going again next year. This involves camping together which is great as we spend time together and get to know one another - but caravans and B&B are available. If you would like to find out more a please join us for a no obligation information evening at **7.30pm on Friday 9 October**. Drinks and nibbles will be provided. Please contact Helen & Rob Smith for more details.



NEW WINE FESTIVAL
27 July – 1 August 2027

No obligation information evening
 When: 7.30pm on Friday 9 October
 Where: 5 Windmill Hill, Long Melford, CO10 9AD
 Contact: Helen & Rob Smith, melfordrob65@gmail.com

The poster includes three photographs: a festival site with many tents, a large white tent with a blue roof, and a view of the festival grounds with trees and a tent.

Greenbelt

You might have heard of a festival called 'Greenbelt' which takes place annually around the bank holiday weekend period. It started back in 1974 near Framlingham, since then has been at various sites including Cheltenham Racecourse and a variety of sites in Northamptonshire including this year at Boughton House, near Kettering. It is Christian festival, where the arts, faith and justice collide. They have many talk sessions and you can now hear talks from this year and from previous festivals, going back to 1994. To access these free talks, you can do this by going to 'Greenbelt Festival' website and then click on 'listen again'. You can also access them by downloading the 'Greenbelt 2026' app via your app store. Look out for talks from 2026 from Rev Lucy Winkett, Shane Clayborne and Ruth Valerio. and from past years John Bell, Mike Yaconelli and Dave Tomlinson amongst many others. Well worth the listening!

Dates for your diary include:

27 th September	2.00pm Walk from Holy Trinity to Lavenham Church
3 rd October	Lawshall Harvest Supper
4 th October	10.30am Harvest Festival at Holy Trinity (with Tractor on the Green)
31 th October	Light Gazebo in Cordell Place Long Melford
1 st Nov	6.30pm All Souls Choral Evensong at Holy Trinity
8 th Nov	9.00am Remembrance Service at Alpheton
8 th Nov	10.45am Remembrance Service at Lawshall
8 th Nov	10.50am Remembrance Service at Holy Trinity (please note later start of service)

Suggestions for prayer include:

- We pray for world leaders that they would remain humble, seek peace, and be open to the Spirit of God.
- We give thanks for our farmers who have worked hard to bring in this year's harvest (see below).
- We remember before God those who have recently died including Terry Crowland, Georgina Dixon-Smith, Ted Pine, Carol Talbot and Alan Theobald & we pray for those friends & family who mourn.
- We pray for those in need of God's presence or his healing touch including 4-year old Alia, Barbara Brady, David Bremer, Margery Brinkley, Elizabeth Clarke, Christopher Freeman, Robert Hawkins, Joan Jacobs, Jenny Lister, Judith Mills, Ann Share, Mary Tuffen, and Abigail S.

A prayer if we are feeling overwhelmed ...

Jesus, you do not lay heavy burdens on us, but guide us with expectations that are easy and light.

Spirit, you pray for us in our weaknesses, and guide us in our confusion.

Father, you forgive us for mistakes, and give us good gifts.

Meet me, Trinity, in feeling overwhelmed and alone.

Let unnecessary striving cease, and guide me to healthy rhythms of work and rest.

Help me calm and quiet my soul in your presence as I face the expectations of this day.

Amen.

And a prayer for our farmers ...

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the farmers who nurture the land and provide for our needs.

Bless them with favourable weather, fruitful harvests, and the strength to endure challenges.

Grant them peace in times of uncertainty and renew their spirits as they care for Your creation.

Surround them with supportive communities, and may they feel Your presence in their labour.

We pray for their families, their health, and their livelihoods.

May Your provision overflow in their lives as they continue their faithful stewardship. Amen.

Diary

Sun 27 th	10.30am	Communion at Holy Trinity *
	2.00pm	Walk to Lavenham & tea
	6.30pm	Communion at Lawshall
Mon 28 th	9.30am	Connect toddler & baby group at St Catherine's
	7.30pm	A&S Homegroup
	TBC	Lawshall PCC
Tues 29 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer #
Thurs 1 st Oct	7.00pm	Choir Practice
Fri 2 nd	4.00pm	Wedding Rehearsal at Holy Trinity
	7.30pm	Fusion Youth Group
Sat 3 rd	1.00pm	Wedding at Holy Trinity – Samuel & Francesca
	7.00pm	Lawshall Harvest Supper (see flyer)
Sun 4 th	9.00am	Communion at Alpheton
	10.30am	Harvest Festival at Holy Trinity *
	4.00pm	Sing Lawshall
Mon 5 th	9.30am	Connect toddler & baby group at St Catherine's
	7.30pm	Lawshall Home Group
Tues 6 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer #
Wed 7 th	9.30am	Visiting Ringers
Thurs 8 th	7.00pm	Choir Practice
Fri 9 th	4.30pm	Squirrels Scouts at Holy Trinity
Sun 11 th	10.30am	Communion at Holy Trinity *
	4.00pm	Messy Church at Melford School

*** Livestream Joining Instructions for services at Holy Trinity**

- 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: 816 5338 9796, Passcode: 289895, or click [here](#).

Readings for the 27th September 2026 – Trinity 17**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 your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

First Reading**Philippians 2.1-13**

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, ²then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. ³Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

⁵In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

⁶who, being in very nature God,

did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

⁷rather, he made himself nothing

by taking the very nature of a servant,

being made in human likeness.

⁸And being found in appearance as a man,

he humbled himself

by becoming obedient to death –

even death on a cross!

⁹Therefore God exalted him to the highest place

and gave him the name that is above every name,

¹⁰that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father.

¹²Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed – not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence – continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfil his good purpose.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Old Testament Reading**Exodus 17.1-7**

The whole Israelite community set out from the Desert of Sin, travelling from place to place as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²So they quarrelled with Moses and said, 'Give us water to drink.'

Moses replied, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you put the Lord to the test?'

³ But the people were thirsty for water there, and they grumbled against Moses. They said, 'Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to make us and our children and livestock die of thirst?'

⁴ Then Moses cried out to the Lord, 'What am I to do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me.'

⁵ The Lord answered Moses, 'Go out in front of the people. Take with you some of the elders of Israel and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶ I will stand there before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink.' So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ And he called the place Massah and Meribah because the Israelites quarrelled and because they tested the Lord saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

Gospel Reading

Matthew 18.21-25

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord

Jesus entered the temple courts, and, while he was teaching, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him. 'By what authority are you doing these things?' they asked. 'And who gave you this authority?'

²⁴ Jesus replied, 'I will also ask you one question. If you answer me, I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁵ John's baptism – where did it come from? Was it from heaven, or of human origin?' They discussed it among themselves and said, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will ask, "Then why didn't you believe him?" ²⁶ But if we say, "Of human origin" – we are afraid of the people, for they all hold that John was a prophet.'

²⁷ So they answered Jesus, 'We don't know.'

Then he said, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.'

²⁸ 'What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, "Son, go and work today in the vineyard."

²⁹ "'I will not," he answered, but later he changed his mind and went.

³⁰ 'Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, "I will, sir," but he did not go.

³¹ 'Which of the two did what his father wanted?'

'The first,' they answered.

Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You O Christ

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**

Readings for the 4th October 2026 – Trinity 18/Harvest

Collect (prayer for the day)

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us your gift of faith that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to that which is before, we may run the way of your commandments and win the crown of everlasting joy; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

First Reading (9.30am & 6.30pm)**Philippians 3.4-14**

If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless.

⁷ But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ – the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ – yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: forgetting what is behind and straining towards what is ahead, ¹⁴ I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading (9.30am & 6.30pm)**Matthew 21.33-46**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord

‘Listen to another parable: there was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall round it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and moved to another place. ³⁴ When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit.

³⁵ ‘The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. ³⁶ Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Last of all, he sent his son to them. “They will respect my son,” he said.

³⁸ ‘But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, “This is the heir. Come, let’s kill him and take his inheritance.” ³⁹ So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

⁴⁰ ‘Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?’

⁴¹ ‘He will bring those wretches to a wretched end,’ they replied, ‘and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time.’

⁴² Jesus said to them, ‘Have you never read in the Scriptures:

“The stone the builders rejected

has become the cornerstone;

the Lord has done this,

and it is marvellous in our eyes”?

⁴³ ‘Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. ⁴⁴ Anyone who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; anyone on whom it falls will be crushed.’

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus’ parables, they knew he was talking about them. ⁴⁶ They looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that he was a prophet.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You O Christ

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

First Reading (10.30am)**2 Corinthians 9.6-15**

⁶ Remember this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷ Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or

under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. ⁹ As it is written:

‘They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor;

their righteousness endures for ever.’ ¹⁰ Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹ You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

¹² This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord’s people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. ¹³ Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. ¹⁴ And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. ¹⁵ Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading (10.30am)

Luke 12.16-30

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

Glory to you, O Lord

And he told them this parable: ‘The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. ¹⁷ He thought to himself, “What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.”

¹⁸ ‘Then he said, “This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. ¹⁹ And I’ll say to myself, ‘You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.’”

²⁰ ‘But God said to him, “You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?”

²¹ ‘This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich towards God.’

²² Then Jesus said to his disciples: ‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. ²³ For life is more than food, and the body more than

clothes. ²⁴ Consider the ravens: they do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! ²⁵ Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life? ²⁶ Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?

²⁷ ‘Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labour or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendour was dressed like one of these. ²⁸ If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you – you of little faith! ²⁹ And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. ³⁰ For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You O Christ

Post Communion Prayer

We praise and thank you, O Christ, for this sacred feast: for here we receive you, here the memory of your passion is renewed, here our minds are filled with grace, and here a pledge of future glory is given, when we shall feast at that table where you reign with all your saints for ever. **Amen**