

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.

Guest Preacher

This Sunday (11th Oct) we are delighted to welcome Scott Owen to our 10.30am service at Holy Trinity. Scott is Chaplain to the Suffolk Ambulance Service. Indeed, we have one or two members of our own church community who are paramedics serving on the ambulances. Please welcome Scott as he shares from the Scriptures, and as we learn something about the remarkable perspective that his work brings.

Messy Church



Macmillan Coffee morning Success

Thank you to everyone who supported our Macmillan coffee morning on the day, with your support, we managed to raise £1123.60 and have since been given a further £10 making a grand total of £1133.60.

Many thanks, Jan & Ron

Wild Church (18th Oct)

(We have checked and despite the early harvest there are still plenty of apples!)

apple day

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

**@ Lavenham Lodge Farm, Old Bury Rd,
Alpheton, CO10 9GN**

on Sunday 18th 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*



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

Light Gazebo

(no tricks only treats!)



Being Anglican (an online course open to all ...)

The six-session course starts on 9 November at 7.00pm - Teams. Join the Revd Canon Charlotte Cook to explore the essential aspects of Anglicanism together in an informal learning style. This course will be particularly valuable if you would like to explore your rich Anglican heritage. It is free of charge and all are welcome. Further information, dates, times and booking details are available [here](#).

Stained Glass Fundraiser



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

Dates for your diary include:

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 (<i>please note later start of service</i>)

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.....

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 remember before God those who have recently died including Lady Georgina Dixon-Smith, Ted Pine 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, Robert Hawkins, Joan Jacobs, Jenny Lister, Judith Mills, Ann Share, Mary Tuffen, Clive and Abigail S.

Reflection - What If the Detour Is the Road?

(an abbreviated and edited extract from an article by Revd Canon J John)

There are few things more irritating than a diversion sign when we are already running late. We have a destination, a timetable and a reasonable expectation that the entire road network should cooperate. Then comes the sign: ROAD CLOSED. We all like a direct route. Education, career, marriage, family, comfortable retirement, etc. We make our plans and ask God to bless them. Occasionally, we even give our plans to God in prayer. Then life takes an unexpected turning. A door closes. An opportunity disappears. A responsibility arrives that we never asked for. Suddenly, the future bears little resemblance to our 'brochure'. And we wonder: have we lost our way? Sometimes we have. We need wise counsel, honest reflection and the humility to change direction. But an unexpected road is not necessarily a mistaken one. A changed plan does not mean an abandoned purpose.



What if the detour is the road? In Genesis, Joseph certainly travelled an unexpected route. God gave him dreams of a remarkable future. What followed was a pit, slavery, false accusation and prison. Yet years later, Joseph could tell his brothers that although they intended to harm him, God intended it for good, to preserve many lives (Genesis 50:20). Their cruelty remained cruelty. God's goodness did not excuse it. But their actions could not put Joseph beyond God's reach. What others do to us need never have the final word on what God can do through us. Joseph could see that looking back. Living through it was another matter. From inside the prison he had no timetable for release. He had to trust God in the middle. So do we.

We enjoy testimonies about God's perfect timing, especially when the people telling them have already reached the happy ending. Waiting for our own is more demanding. But on his unexpected route Joseph continued to serve. He took responsibility. He noticed the distress of his fellow prisoners and asked why they looked so troubled (Genesis 40:6-7). Even in his own disappointment, he had room for someone else's.

So when our plans change we can of course ask God for guidance. But we can also ask, 'Lord, what does faithfulness look like here?' Whom can we love? What can we learn? We do not need to see the whole road to walk faithfully along the next stretch; furthermore, the detour may end up being the road.

Diary

Sun 11 th	10.30am	Communion at Holy Trinity *
	4.00pm	Messy Church at Melford School
Mon 12 th	9.30am	Connect toddler & baby group at St Catherine's
	7.30pm	A&S Homegroup
Tues 13 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer #
Wed 14 th	10.00am	Coffee Caravan at Alpheton Village Hall
Thurs 15 th	7.00pm	Choir Practice
Fri 16 th	12.30pm	Thanksgiving Service at Holy Trinity – Lady Georgina Dixon-Smith
Sat 17 th	10.30am	FaithChat
Sun 18 th	9.00am	Shimpling Communion
	10.30am	Communion at Holy Trinity *
	4.00pm	Apple Day at Lavenham Lodge
Mon 19 th	9.30am	Connect toddler & baby group at St Catherine's
	7.30pm	Lawshall Home Group
Tues 20 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer #
Wed 21 st	10.00am	Communion at Steeds Meadow (All Welcome)
	2.00pm	Funeral at Holy Trinity – Alan Theobald
Thurs 22 nd	7.00pm	Choir Practice
Fri 23 rd	7.30pm	Fusion +
Sun 25 th	10.30am	Communion at Holy Trinity *
	4.00pm	Shine Informal Worship at Holy Trinity
	6.30pm	Evening Communion at Lawshall

*** 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 11th October 2026 – Trinity 19**Collect (prayer for the day)**

O God, forasmuch as without you we are not able to please you; mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; 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 4.1-9**

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, dear friends!

² I plead with Euodia and I plead with Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³ Yes, and I ask you, my true companion, help these women since they have contended at my side in the cause of the gospel, along with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.

⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things. ⁹ Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me – put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Old Testament Reading**Exodus 32.1-14**

32 When the people saw that Moses was so long in coming down from the mountain, they gathered round Aaron and said, 'Come, make us gods who will go before us. As for this fellow Moses who brought us up out of Egypt, we don't know what has happened to him.'

² Aaron answered them, 'Take off the gold earrings that your wives, your sons and your daughters are wearing, and bring them to me.' ³ So all the people took off their earrings and brought them to Aaron. ⁴ He took what they handed him and made it into an idol cast in the shape of a calf, fashioning it with a tool. Then they said, 'These are your gods, Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt.'

⁵ When Aaron saw this, he built an altar in front of the calf and announced, 'Tomorrow there will be a festival to the Lord.' ⁶ So the next day the people rose early and sacrificed burnt offerings and presented fellowship offerings. Afterwards they sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry.

⁷ Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Go down, because your people, whom you brought up out of Egypt, have become corrupt. ⁸ They have been quick to turn away from what I commanded them and have made themselves an idol cast in the shape of a calf. They have bowed down to it and sacrificed to it and have said, "These are your gods, Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt." ⁹ 'I have seen these people,' the Lord said to Moses, 'and they are a stiff-necked people. ¹⁰ Now leave me alone so that my anger may burn against them and that I may destroy them. Then I will make you into a great nation.' ¹¹ But Moses sought the favour of the Lord his God. 'Lord,' he said, 'why should your anger burn against your people, whom you brought out of Egypt with great power and a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, "It was with evil intent that he brought them out, to kill them in the mountains and to wipe them off the face of the earth"? Turn from your fierce anger; relent and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³ Remember your servants Abraham, Isaac and Israel, to whom you swore by your own self: "I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and I will give your descendants all this land I promised them, and it will be their inheritance for ever."' ¹⁴ Then the Lord relented and did not bring on his people the disaster he had threatened.

Gospel Reading**Matthew 22.1-14***Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew***Glory to you, O Lord**

Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: ² 'The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come.

⁴ 'Then he sent some more servants and said, "Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet."

⁵ 'But they paid no attention and went off – one to his field, another to his business. ⁶ The rest seized his servants, ill-treated them and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city.

⁸ 'Then he said to his servants, "The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come.

⁹ So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find." ¹⁰ So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹ 'But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. ¹² He asked, "How did you get in here without wedding clothes, friend?" The man was speechless.

¹³ 'Then the king told the attendants, "Tie him hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

¹⁴ 'For many are invited, but few are chosen.'

*This is the Gospel of the Lord***Praise to You O Christ****Post Communion Prayer**

Holy and blessed God, you have fed us with the body and blood of your Son and filled us with your Holy Spirit: may we honour you, not only with our lips but in lives dedicated to the service of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen*Readings for the 18th October 2026 – Trinity 20***Collect (prayer for the day)**

God, the giver of life, whose Holy Spirit wells up within your Church: by the Spirit's gifts equip us to live the gospel of Christ and make us eager to do your will, that we may share with the whole creation the joys of eternal life; 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**2 Timothy 4.5-17**

But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.

⁶ For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸ Now there is in store for me the crown of

righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day – and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

⁹ Do your best to come to me quickly, ¹⁰ for Demas, because he loved this world, has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, and Titus to Dalmatia. ¹¹ Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry. ¹² I sent Tychicus to Ephesus. ¹³ When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, and my scrolls, especially the parchments.

¹⁴ Alexander the metalworker did me a great deal of harm. The Lord will repay him for what he has done.

¹⁵ You too should be on your guard against him, because he strongly opposed our message.

¹⁶ At my first defence, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them. ¹⁷ But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was delivered from the lion's mouth.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 35.3-6

Strengthen the feeble hands,
steady the knees that give way;

⁴ say to those with fearful hearts,

'Be strong, do not fear;
your God will come,

he will come with vengeance;

with divine retribution

he will come to save you.'

⁵ Then will the eyes of the blind be opened
and the ears of the deaf unstopped.

⁶ Then will the lame leap like a deer,
and the mute tongue shout for joy.

Water will gush forth in the wilderness
and streams in the desert.

Gospel Reading

Luke 10.1-9

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

Glory to you, O Lord

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. ² He told them, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. ³ Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. ⁴ Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road.

⁵ 'When you enter a house, first say, "Peace to this house." ⁶ If someone who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will return to you. ⁷ Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house.

⁸ 'When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is offered to you. ⁹ Heal those there who are ill and tell them, "The kingdom of God has come near to you."

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 Father, whose Son, the light unfailing, has come from heaven to deliver the world from the darkness of ignorance: let these holy mysteries open the eyes of our understanding that we may know the way of life, and walk in it without stumbling; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**