

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 and combines:

- Notices
- The church diary (including livestream & Zoom joining instructions),
- Prayers and readings for the morning services on Sunday 7th & 14th September 2025.

Reflection ...

Last week we had a challenging Old Testament reading from Exodus chapter 32, when Moses asked God to have mercy on those who had fallen into idolatry. In the next chapter God tells Moses to lead those very same people. Moses' response is worth thinking about ...

"If your presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here.

How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us?

What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?"

There are many good things we can do with our lives, our time, and our money - and so we should! However, I was challenged this morning to consider how much I have sought a particular distinctive - the presence of God - in my journey of faith? Surely even a small dew-drop of the presence of God could make all the difference in so much of what I do? Perhaps a little more time in prayer and submission, and a little less time in worry and self-important worldly activity would open the door to God's presence. That is sufficient challenge for me today ... let alone for our church and our nation! Why not stop right now and for a minute ask God's presence to be with you today?

Revd Lawson

Open Air Service at Foxearth Meadows

On 14th September 2025 3.00-4.30pm, we will be celebrating harvest and creation in Autumn at the reserve. Our speaker is Professor James Pearce-Higgins (Head of Science at the British Trust for Ornithology and a member of our Steering Group). Enjoy being in nature together praising God in his wonderful creation. There will be refreshments. Bring something to sit on, a sunhat or an umbrella, and a reusable cup for tea or coffee afterwards. This is a free, ecumenical event with plenty of space for all (and will be supported earlier than usual by our 4 o'clock community). We ask you to book a place beforehand so that we have an idea of numbers and to help us with refreshments. [Book your place here](#) (Ctrl & click for link). For more information, contact Sarah Leedham on sarah.leedham@arocha.org or on 07810 141234. Follow 'what3words' charm.dragonfly.townhouse



Other 4 o'clock Community services and events in September ...

Sun	21 st	4.00pm	'Shine' Informal Worship at Holy Trinity Long Melford (includes a testimony)
Sun	28 th	4.00pm	Pub Social at The Swan in Lawshall

Welcome Evening *(including our online community)*

Once upon a time, before the pandemic, we would have a welcome / social evening every autumn to bring together those who were new to our church community across the benefice so that they could meet new people, and so they could learn more about the church family.

As life returns back to 'normal' we want to start this up again. So, if you are new (in the last four years!) please do let Vicky know if you can come along at 7.30pm on the evening Tuesday 14th October at Brook House in Long Melford (opposite the Bull). Also, we would like to invite those who normally watch us online to attend so that we can feel closer to you (and you to us) as we worship together.

Vicky's details are chadbrookoffice@gmail.com or 07804 558160.



Small Groups - misc. notices

The Rector was given a very warm welcome at the **Lawshall Home Group** which meets twice month on the 1st and 3rd Monday evenings at 7.30pm. Cake and tea were in abundance as we explored the difficult topic of 'unanswered prayer'. If you want to join the group for the remaining three sessions on this topic or to find out more please call Peter and Ros on 01284 830002.

Alpheton and Shimpling Homegroup Exploring faith together

2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month
7:30-9:30

For more information contact Sophie on 07557 965345
or Lottie on 07939 194233

charlottefblyth@btinternet.com

We look forward to welcoming you to our friendly group which will meet twice a month in Sophie and Peter's home in Alpheton. Our next meeting will be on September 23rd when we'll start a Bible Society course looking at the book of Romans.



Macmillan Fundraisers - a Coffee Morning ... and a Coffee Afternoon

Almost all of us will know people whose lives are affected by a journey with cancer. One simple way we can support those on that journey is by raising money for the many charities that provide help in all sorts of different ways - here are two fundraisers within our benefice.

Please come and join us for our Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer, to be held at our house, 13 Laurel Drive Long Melford, on Saturday 20th September, 10am until 12. There will also be a raffle and second-hand book stall. Any raffle donations would be greatly appreciated. We look forward to welcoming you, Jan & Ron



**It's time for
a Macmillan
Coffee
~~Morning~~ Afternoon
and you're invited**

Let's do whatever it takes
to support people living with cancer.

Place: Shimpling Village Hall
Date: ~~25th~~ 26th September
Time: 3-5pm
Contact: Liz Brunwin - 01284 828122
lizbrunwin@hotmail.co.uk



**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**

FR registered with
FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR

Suffolk Churches Ride & Stride

We are looking for volunteers to man St Cats and Holy Trinity for the duration of the 'Ride & Stride' on 13th September. We really struggled last year to cover it. Ideally, we also need someone else to take on the organising in future. Tel 01787 370686 for sponsors forms and offers of help. Thanks Steve & Carolyn Spraggons



Emergency Alert Test

There will be test of the emergency alerts system on mobile devices at 3.00pm on Sunday 7 September. Please don't panic (or plan to propose then!).



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 and we pray for those friends & family who mourn.
- We pray for those who are on a journey with cancer, and for those who support them.
- We pray that young people would discover that God loves them and has a good plan for their life, and that the church would nurture their faith effectively. In particular we pray for those starting a new academic year and the staff that will support and teach them.
- We pray for those in need of God's presence or his healing touch including Barbara Brady, David Bremer, Elizabeth Clarke, Phillip Cole, Robert Hawkins, William Hawkins, baby Munroe, and Mary Tuffen.



STUNNINGLY ELECTRIFYING ♦♦CONCERT ♦♦

Holy Trinity Church
Long Melford

Fri 26th Sept, 7pm

Tickets £13.50, children under 16 free

Online/on the door

Fundraising for church and local charity Compassion



Marianne Olyver - Violin
Jacqueline Phillips - Cello
Oliver Steggles - Guitar
Jeffery Wilson - Saxophone
John Human - Keyboard
Jonathan Woolston - Bass
Sirishkumar Manji - Tabla Drums



THE EMERGERS CHARITY FUNDRAISER

PLAYING FOLK,
CLASSICAL AND BLUES

SAT OCTOBER 11TH 2025
7-10PM

ALL SAINTS CHURCH,
LAWSHALL

RAFFLE

LICENSED BAR

HOTDOG INC. WITH

TICKET

ADULT £12

CHILD (12-18) £5

INFANT (UNDER 5) FREE

TICKETS ON THE DOOR

PROCEEDS TO CHURCH TOWER FUND AND
SEN EQUIPMENT FOR LITTLE SAPLINGS
PRESCHOOL

FOR MORE INFO EMAIL:
HELLO@LAWSHALLLITTLESAPLINGS.CO.UK
GRANDMACOEE@YAHOO.CO.UK

Tea & Tiaras



Andrew
Prince
presents

The Glamour Years

Long Melford
Village Hall
2pm-4pm

Wed 29 October

Doors open 1.30pm

Jewellery and Fashion
from 1929 to 1959

Tickets £15 for lecture and tea.

Numbers limited. Book early to avoid disappointment.

Email simon@simon-edge.com or text 07765 898650 for details.

All proceeds to the Holy Trinity Stained Glass Conservation Fund

Harvest Suppers



Harvest Supper
Guest Speaker - Neil Cobbett
'My Antarctic Experience'



20th September at 7pm
Lawshall Village Hall
Soup, Cheese Scone, Dessert and Coffee, BYOB

Tickets £12 from Wendy Harris
07900 617833
grandmacoe@yahoo.co.uk



ALPHETON AND SHIMPLING

**HARVEST
SUPPER**

27 SEPTEMBER 2025

7 for 7:30

SHIMPLING VILLAGE HALL

Tickets available from
lizbrunwin@hotmail.co.uk
or 01284 828122
Adults £15 - Children £7.50

Diary

Sun 7 th	9.00am	Communion at Alpheton
	10.30am	Family Communion at Holy Trinity *
	12.30pm	Baptism at Holy Trinity
	4.00pm	Family Communion at Lawshall
	6.30pm	Choral Evensong at Holy Trinity
Mon 8 th	9.30am	Connect toddler & baby group at St Catherine's
	7.30pm	Lawshall PCC
Tues 9 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer #
	7.30pm	A&S PCC
Wed 10 th	10.00am	Coffee Caravan at Alpheton Village Hall
Thurs 11 th	3.00pm	Church Tour at Holy Trinity
	7.00pm	Choir Practice
Fri 12 th	11.00am	Interment of ashes at Lawshall Church
	7.30pm	Fusion Youth Group
Sat 13 th	All Day	Suffolk Churches Ride & Stride
Sun 14 th	10.30am	Communion at Holy Trinity *
	12.30pm	Baptism at Holy Trinity
	3.00pm	'Wild Church' at Foxearth Meadows
Mon 15 th	9.30am	Connect toddler & baby group at St Catherine's
	7.30pm	Long Melford PCC
	7.30pm	Lawshall Homegroup
Tues 16 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer #
Wed 17 th	10.00am	Church Tour at Holy Trinity
	10.00am	Midweek Communion at Steeds Meadow (all welcome).
	10.30am	Community Cafe at Lawshall Village Hall
Thurs 18 th	7.00pm	Choir Practice Holy Trinity
Sat 20 th	2.00pm	Lavenham Church visit (500 year Celebration of Tower)
	7.00pm	Lawshall Harvest Supper (Lawshall Village Hall)
	7.00pm	Alpheton & Shimpling Harvest Support (Shimpling Vill. Hall)
Sun 21 st	9.00am	Communion at Shimpling
	10.30am	Communion at Holy Trinity *
	4.00pm	Shine Informal Worship at Holy Trinity

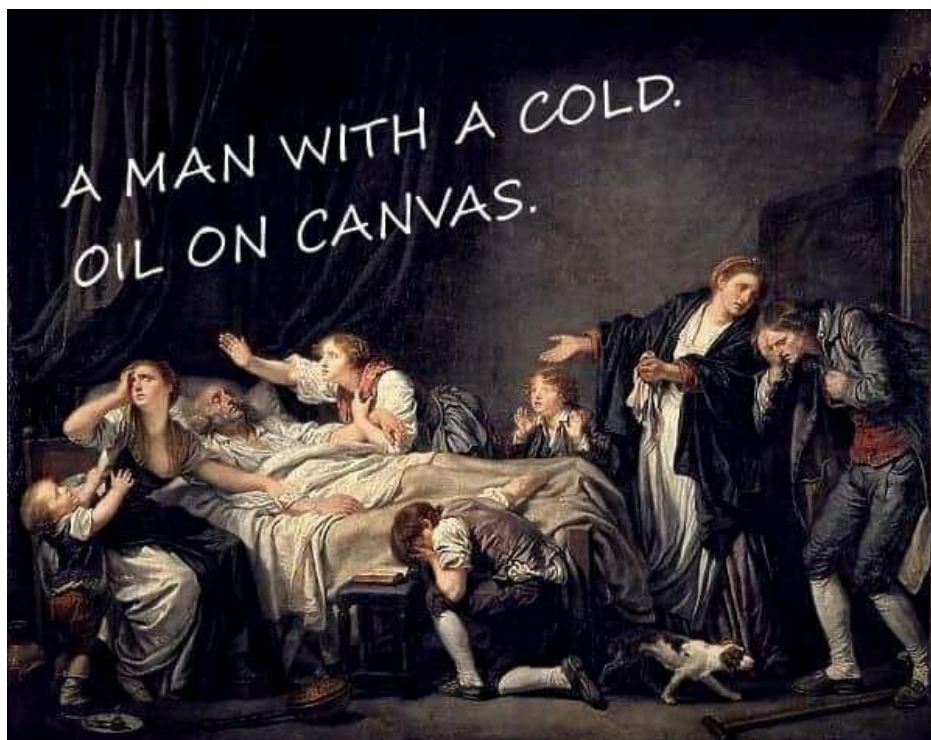
*** Livestream Joining Instructions**

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

Dates for your Diary include:

Sat 21 st Sep	10am-12pm	Macmillan Coffee Morning at 13 Laurel Drive, Long Melford
Fri 26 th Sep	7.00pm	Electric Alchemy Band at Holy Trinity
Sat 27 th Sep	from 7pm	A&S Harvest Supper, Shimpling Village Hall
Sat 27 th Sep	7.00pm	Lawshall Harvest Supper
Sat 10 th Oct	7-10pm	‘The Emergers’ will be playing for a fundraiser at Lawshall church
Tue 14 th Oct	7.30pm	Welcome Evening
Wed 29 th Oct	2-4pm	Tea & Tiara’s, Long Melford Village Hall
Sat 8 th Nov	3.00pm	The Kirbye Voices - A Remembrance Themed Concert at Holy Trinity



Readings for the 7th September – Trinity 12**Collect (prayer for the day)**

God of constant mercy, who sent your Son to save us: remind us of your goodness, increase your grace within us, that our thankfulness may grow, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

First Reading 9.30am & 6.30pm**Philemon 1:21**

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon our dear friend and fellow worker – ² also to Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier – and to the church that meets in your home:

³ Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴ I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers, ⁵ because I hear about your love for all his holy people and your faith in the Lord Jesus. ⁶ I pray that your partnership with us in the faith may be effective in deepening your understanding of every good thing we share for the sake of Christ. ⁷ Your love has given me great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have refreshed the hearts of the Lord's people.

⁸ Therefore, although in Christ I could be bold and order you to do what you ought to do, ⁹ yet I prefer to appeal to you on the basis of love. It is as none other than Paul – an old man and now also a prisoner of Christ Jesus – ¹⁰ that I appeal to you for my son Onesimus, who became my son while I was in chains. ¹¹ Formerly he was useless to you, but now he has become useful both to you and to me.

¹² I am sending him – who is my very heart – back to you. ¹³ I would have liked to keep him with me so that he could take your place in helping me while I am in chains for the gospel. ¹⁴ But I did not want to do anything without your consent, so that any favour you do would not seem forced but would be voluntary. ¹⁵ Perhaps the reason he was separated from you for a little while was that you might have him back for ever – ¹⁶ no longer as a slave, but better than a slave, as a dear brother. He is very dear to me but even dearer to you, both as a fellow man and as a brother in the Lord.

¹⁷ So if you consider me a partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸ If he has done you any wrong or owes you anything, charge it to me. ¹⁹ I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand. I will pay it back – not to mention that you owe me your very self. ²⁰ I do wish, brother, that I may have some benefit from you in the Lord; refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹ Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Reading 10.30am & 4.00pm**Acts 27:27-28:5**

On the fourteenth night we were still being driven across the Adriatic Sea, when about midnight the sailors sensed they were approaching land. ²⁸ They took soundings and found that the water was forty metres deep. A short time later they took soundings again and found it was thirty metres deep. ²⁹ Fearing that we would be dashed against the rocks, they dropped four anchors from the stern and prayed for daylight. ³⁰ In an attempt to escape from the ship, the sailors let the lifeboat down into the sea, pretending they were going to lower some anchors from the bow. ³¹ Then Paul said to the centurion and the soldiers, 'Unless these men stay with the ship, you cannot be saved.' ³² So the soldiers cut the ropes that held the lifeboat and let it drift away.

³³ Just before dawn Paul urged them all to eat. 'For the last fourteen days,' he said, 'you have been in constant suspense and have gone without food – you haven't eaten anything. ³⁴ Now I urge you to take some food. You need it to survive. Not one of you will lose a single hair from his head.' ³⁵ After he said this, he took some bread and gave thanks to God in front of them all. Then he broke it and began to eat. ³⁶ They were all

encouraged and ate some food themselves. ³⁷ Altogether there were 276 of us on board. ³⁸ When they had eaten as much as they wanted, they lightened the ship by throwing the grain into the sea.

³⁹ When daylight came, they did not recognise the land, but they saw a bay with a sandy beach, where they decided to run the ship aground if they could. ⁴⁰ Cutting loose the anchors, they left them in the sea and at the same time untied the ropes that held the rudders. Then they hoisted the foresail to the wind and made for the beach. ⁴¹ But the ship struck a sand-bar and ran aground. The bow stuck fast and would not move, and the stern was broken to pieces by the pounding of the surf.

⁴² The soldiers planned to kill the prisoners to prevent any of them from swimming away and escaping. ⁴³ But the centurion wanted to spare Paul's life and kept them from carrying out their plan. He ordered those who could swim to jump overboard first and get to land. ⁴⁴ The rest were to get there on planks or on other pieces of the ship. In this way everyone reached land safely.

28 Once safely on shore, we found out that the island was called Malta. ² The islanders showed us unusual kindness. They built a fire and welcomed us all because it was raining and cold. ³ Paul gathered a pile of brushwood and, as he put it on the fire, a viper, driven out by the heat, fastened itself on his hand. ⁴ When the islanders saw the snake hanging from his hand, they said to each other, 'This man must be a murderer; for though he escaped from the sea, the goddess Justice has not allowed him to live.' ⁵ But Paul shook the snake off into the fire and suffered no ill effects.

Psalm 1 6.30pm

Blessed is the one

who does not walk in step with the wicked

or stand in the way that sinners take

or sit in the company of mockers,

2 but whose delight is in the law of the Lord,

and who meditates on his law day and night.

3 That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,

which yields its fruit in season

and whose leaf does not wither –

whatever they do prospers.

4 Not so the wicked!

They are like chaff

that the wind blows away.

5 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,

nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.

6 For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,

but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.

Gospel Reading 9.00am & 6.30pm

Luke 14:25-33

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

Glory to you, O Lord

Large crowds were travelling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: ²⁶ 'If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters – yes, even their own life – such a person cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

²⁸ 'Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won't you first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it? ²⁹ For if you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule you, ³⁰ saying, "This person began to build and wasn't able to finish."

³¹ 'Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Won't he first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? ³² If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. ³³ In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my 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

God of all mercy, in this eucharist you have set aside our sins and given us your healing: grant that we who are made whole in Christ may bring that healing to this broken world, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Readings for the 14th September - Trinity 13

Collect (prayer for the day)

Almighty God, who called your Church to bear witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself: help us to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be drawn to you; through him who was lifted up on the cross, and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

First Reading

Philippians 2:6-3:12

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

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

⁶ who, being in very nature God,

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

⁷ rather, he made himself nothing

by taking the very nature of a servant,

being made in human likeness.

⁸ And being found in appearance as a man,

he humbled himself

by becoming obedient to death –

even death on a cross!

⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place

and gave him the name that is above every name,

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

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father.

¹² Therefore, 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,

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Old Testament Reading

Numbers 21:4-9

They travelled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go round Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; ⁵ they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, 'Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!'

⁶ Then the Lord sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. ⁷ The people came to Moses and said, 'We sinned when we spoke against the Lord and against you. Pray that the Lord will take the snakes away from us.' So Moses prayed for the people.

⁸ The Lord said to Moses, 'Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live.' ⁹ So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived.

Gospel Reading

Luke 3:13-17

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord

No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven – the Son of Man. ¹⁴ Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵ that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.'

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through 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, you feed your children with the true manna, the living bread from heaven: let this holy food sustain us through our earthly pilgrimage until we come to that place where hunger and thirst are no more; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**