



Safeguarding —at the heart of our church life

Safeguarding is more than just a policy or a set of procedures—it is a core part of who we are as a church community. At St Leonard's, we believe that every person who walks through our doors should feel safe, valued, and protected. That is why safeguarding matters so deeply to us.

At its heart, safeguarding is about creating spaces where people can flourish without fear. It means being attentive to the needs of children, young people, and adults who may be vulnerable. It means ensuring that our leaders and volunteers are well trained and equipped. And it means committing ourselves to a culture where concerns can be raised openly, sensitively, and without hesitation.

Good safeguarding practice is an expression of our Christian faith.

Throughout the Bible, God calls His people to defend the powerless, to care for the vulnerable, and to treat every individual with dignity. Jesus himself makes it clear that anyone who welcomes a child in his name welcomes him. In safeguarding, we put those values into action. In practical terms, safeguarding helps us:

- **Recognise risks and respond quickly when concerns arise**
- **Support survivors of abuse with compassion and respect**
- **Ensure volunteers and leaders are safely recruited and appropriately trained**
- **Build a culture of transparency, where every voice can be heard**
- **Protect children and adults so they can participate fully in church life**

But safeguarding is not only about protection—it is also about confidence. When people know that their church takes safeguarding seriously, they feel safer to worship, to volunteer, to bring their families, and to become part of the community.

As a parish, we are grateful to everyone who helps us maintain high standards of care. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility—not because we expect problems, but because we want to ensure that St Leonard's remains a place where God's love is lived out in practical, protective, and life-giving ways.

You may be aware that over the past few months we have been trying to recruit a new Parish Safeguarding Officer and we hope to make an exciting announcement concerning the role after the next PCC meeting.

Together, by caring for one another, we help St Leonard's continue to be a safe, welcoming, and vibrant community for all.

ECONews

Further to receiving a grant for £180 from SRBC as part of their decarbonisation programme, we have now purchased over 20 plants and shrubs for planting out early in the spring ~ a future treat for the bees! Thanks to Philip and Susan Walsh for visiting the local garden centre to sort this out.

Thanks from Ian Dawson to Jeanette Smith, Michelle Banks, Laraine Southwell and Lucy Bunce for volunteering to join with Ian in forming our church Eco Group.

'We're really looking forward to exploring what we can do to make St Leonards even more Eco friendly ~ it's not too late to get involved'. Contact Ian for more information. Also keep an eye on our newly refurbished notice board for any updates on what's going on.



St Leonard's to join the Leading Your Church into Growth journey

We're delighted to share that the PCC has agreed that St Leonard's will join the Leading Your Church into Growth (LYCiG) programme in January 2026. This is an exciting and hopeful step for us as a church as we continue discerning how God is calling us to grow—in faith, in confidence, and in our life together.

This opportunity comes through the Diocesan Renewal Programme, a major initiative supported by a new national grant that aims to help parishes across the diocese revitalise their mission. Over the next few years, most churches in the Diocese of Blackburn will take part, with support from a dedicated team.

What this means for us

In January, a small team from St Leonard's will attend the LYCiG conference: a practical, inspiring time to explore how churches can grow warmer in fellowship, deeper in discipleship, and more confident in sharing their faith. After the conference, we'll receive ongoing support as we gently and prayerfully begin to put ideas into practice.

This fits perfectly with the hopes we identified at our recent PCC Away Day—especially our desire to be a welcoming, inclusive, outward-looking church family, rooted in prayer and open to the Holy Spirit's leading.

Looking ahead to 2026

The Bishop has also invited every parish to host a mission event during the diocesan centenary year. Many churches in the renewal programme have found these events a powerful way of connecting with people who would not normally come to church. Over the coming months, we'll begin imagining what this might look like for us—something joyful, hospitable, and very "St Leonard's."

A journey we take together

This isn't simply a programme to complete—it's a journey of renewal for the whole church. It's about rediscovering hope, encouraging one another, and becoming more confident in the good news we share.

So as we begin this new chapter, we simply ask for your prayers:

- Pray for discernment in recruiting a LYCiG team.
- Pray for St Leonard's as we listen for God's guidance.
- Pray for the courage to grow, even in small and gentle steps.

We believe God has good things in store for us. Thank you for being part of this next stage of our life together.



We aim to protect God's wonderful gift of creation

OUR ECO MISSION

TELL — share our values and what we are doing

TEACH — how we can protect God's creation

TEND — nurture and care for the natural world

TRANSFORM — our church grounds, buildings and lifestyle

TREASURE — value what we have and celebrate our success

Based around our EcoChurch Framework

WORSHIP AND
TEACHING
COMMUNITY
AND GLOBAL
ENGAGEMENT

BUILDING AND
ENERGY
LAND AND NATURE
LIFESTYLE

Do you want
to find out
more?



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

AT ST LEONARD'S CHURCH 2025

Sat 29 and Sun 30 Nov

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Sun 30 Nov at 4:15pm

TREE FESTIVAL SONGS OF PRAISE

ALL WELCOME

Sat 13 Dec at 10am

CHRISTMAS MESSY CHURCH

Sun 21 Dec at 6pm

CAROL SERVICE

Tues 23 Dec at 4pm

TWO SLEEPS TO GO CRIB SERVICE

Weds 24 Dec at 4pm

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

Weds 24 Dec at 11.30pm

MIDNIGHT SUNG HOLY COMMUNION

Thurs 25 Dec at 9:15am

CHRISTMAS DAY SUNG HOLY COMMUNION



on Sunday
16 Nov 2025
at 2pm

Tickets £6

From Lucy Bunce, Philip Walsh or on the door

Children under 12 free with an adult

at St. Leonard's Church,
Marshall's Brow
Penwortham

St. Leonard's
Gilbert & Sullivan Group
presents

Dreams & Fantasy

A concert featuring
the music you love

CHURCH DIARY

Sunday 16 November Safeguarding Sunday

8.30am Said Holy Communion
10am Sung Holy Communion

Wednesday 19 November

10am Holy Communion

Friday 21 November

8am Morning prayer in church for growth and renewal.

Sunday 23 November Christ the King

8.30am Said Holy Communion
10am Sung Holy Communion
11:30am Baptism of Ivy Mo Gordon

Tuesday 25 November

7:15pm PCC Meeting in the Small Hall

Wednesday 26 November

10am Holy Communion

Friday 28 November

8am Morning prayer in church for growth and renewal.

Sunday 30 November Advent 1

8.30am Said Holy Communion
10am Sung Holy Communion

St Leonard's Christmas Tree Festival Itinerary

Friday 28th November
Meet at 1pm to move chairs and prepare church and large hall tables for stalls and activities.
2 to 7pm trees arrive.

Saturday 29th November
Meet at 9.00am for final preparations.
10am Festival opens to the public
1.15 and 2.30pm "Two Note" to play
4pm Festival closes for the day

Sunday 30th November
12pm Festival opens
3.30pm Draw the raffle
4pm Festival closes
4.15pm Songs of Praise

CHRISTMAS TREE Festival 25

On Saturday 29th and
Sunday 30th November 2025

Pots of fun and a reminder of a request for help

On Saturday 22nd November, Revd Janet is once again gathering a merry band of helpers to assemble and finish the beautiful grave pots that will be on sale at our Christmas Tree Festival.

Last year's creations were a huge hit — raising an impressive amount for church funds — and we're hoping this year's batch will be just as successful (and just as lovely!).

Everything you need will be provided — just bring yourself and a smile. We'll start at 10.00am, and of course there'll be coffee and freshly baked scones to keep us fuelled.



If you helped gather those famous pine cones, come and see them transformed into something wonderful. It's a great way to spend a Saturday morning in good company — and all for a good cause!

Sidespersons, Readers and Coffee Rota

Sun 16 Nov - Safeguarding Sunday

Please note that the first reading has changed to 1 John 3:16-24

8.30am Franklin Bello and Angela Milner. *Reader:* Peter Milner.

10.00am Laraine and Jenny. *Reader:* Laraine. *Prayers:* Angela Milner *Coffee:* Laraine and Ann.

Sunday 23 Nov - Christ the King

8.30am Peter and Angela Milner. *Reader:* Philip Walsh.

10.00am Brian Bamber. *Reader:* Brian Bamber. *Prayers:* Rev. Simon *Coffee:* Brian and Melvyn.

Please look out for the new rota for all our Christmas times and services and details of the rota's into 2026

FORTHCOMING EVENTS AT ST LEONARDS CHURCH

Sunday 16 Nov at 2pm

Concert by St. Leonard's Gilbert & Sullivan Group (Church)

Saturday 22 Nov at 1pm

"Christmas Fair" — A Purrfect Friend Group

Sat 29 & Sun 30 Nov

"Christmas Tree Festival" (Church & Halls)

Saturday 6 Dec 10am

"Arts and Crafts Fair" Ian Hamilton (Halls)

Weds 3 Dec 7.30pm

Come and Sing Christmas Rehearsal - The Rawstone Singers

Weds 10 Dec 7.30pm

Come and Sing Christmas Concert - The Rawstone Singers

Saturday 13 Dec at 10am

Christmas themed
Messy Church

ST LEONARD'S CHURCH DIRECTORY

Vicar:	Rev. Simon King (01772 956698) revsimonking@gmail.com
Assistant Priest:	Rev. Janet Taylor (01772 615421) curatejanet@gmail.com
Churchwardens:	Philip Walsh (01772 745409) Vacant
PCC Secretary:	Ian Dawson (0771 1053722)
PCC Treasurer:	Susan Walsh (01772 745409)
Pastoral Assistant:	Jenny Stanton (01772 748701)
Organist:	David Cookson (07721 677831)
Leo's (Sunday School)	Please see Jenny Stanton or Jeanette Smith

Safeguarding Officer:	To be confirmed
Church Hall Enquiries:	Philip Walsh (01772 745409)
Social Media:	Ruth Gardner (07984 858437)
Eco Champion:	Ian Dawson (0771 1053722)
Acting Choir Leader:	Diane Maslaczky (07747 004628)
Church Flowers:	Margaret Dixon (01772 748763)
Electoral Roll Officer:	Angela Milner - am.milner@btinternet.com
Gift Aid Officer:	Peter Milner - ajk.milner@btinternet.com
St. Leonard's News	Rev. Simon King (01772 956698) revsimonking@gmail.com

If you have any news or prayer requests that you would like to share in this newsletter, please email them to
revsimonking@gmail.com