



ST LEONARD'S CHURCH
**ADVENT AND
CHRISTMAS**
MESSY CHURCH



Special Advent and Christmas Messy Church

Our final Messy Church of the year is nearly here — and it's a festive one!

Join us on Saturday 13th December in the large hall from 10am to 12 noon for a joyful morning of Advent and Christmas-themed crafts, games and storytelling. Together we'll explore the build-up to Jesus' birth, discovering why Advent is such a special time

for preparing our hearts and homes for the coming of Christ.

There will be plenty to make, play and enjoy — from creative crafts to fun activities that help us think about hope, joy, love and peace. And of course, we'll have festive refresh-

ments to keep everyone going.

Messy Church is free to attend, and children of all ages are warmly welcome, along with parents, grandparents, carers and friends. It's a relaxed, friendly way to spend a Saturday morning, and a lovely chance for families to prepare for Christmas together.

Come and share the Advent excitement — we'd love to see you there!

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

ECOTIP

Measure your carbon footprint

Take an audit of your individual or household carbon footprint, then repeat this each year to see if you can reduce it! There are some great tools to help you, including the carbon calculators provided by Climate Stewards at climatestewards.org/carbon-calculators (or scan the QR Code below). There are lots of ways to reduce your footprint, from switching energy suppliers to changing your diet.

Creation Care, at creation-care.org.uk, has resources specifically for households that give you

ideas and help you track your progress. As you look at different areas of your life, consider lifting up each area or action to God as an offering.



Help needed for this year's Christmas Tree Festival preparations

As we get ready to welcome the Christmas Tree Festival, we'd be grateful for a little extra help from the church family.

On Thursday 28th at 1.00pm, we need volunteers to help move the furniture in church so we can prepare the space for the arrival of the trees. If you can spare half an hour (or a little more!), your help would make a big difference.

We are also planning our usual display of Nativity scenes and

angels, which is always a highlight of the weekend.

If you have a Nativity set or angel you'd be willing to lend, please bring it to church on Friday afternoon from 2.00pm.

To help us return everything safely, please pop a label with your name on the base of your item.

Thank you so much for your support — these small acts of help create something truly special for our community!

Dreams and Fantasy, a wonderful concert

Last Sunday, St Leonard's Gilbert and Sullivan Group treated us to a delightful concert on the theme of Dreams and Fantasy — it was an afternoon filled with imagination, humour, and truly excellent music.

The performance was well attended, with audience members of all ages enjoying the superb singing and accomplished accompaniment. The programme brought together pieces that lifted the heart and sparked the imagination, and the performers,

particularly the soloists, were met with warm applause throughout.

A special thank you goes to everyone who worked behind the scenes, especially those who organised and served the refreshments. Thanks to their efforts — and the generosity of those attending — a huge £452 was raised for the church.

It was a delightful afternoon of music, fellowship and community spirit. Well done to all involved!

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT ST LEONARD'S CHURCH

Sat 29 and Sun 30 Nov

**ANNUAL
CHRISTMAS
TREE FESTIVAL**



Sun 30 Nov at 4:15pm

**TREE FESTIVAL
SONGS OF
PRAISE**

Sat 13 Dec at 10am

**CHRISTMAS
MESSY CHURCH**

Sun 21 Dec at 6pm

CAROL SERVICE

ALL WELCOME

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**

Thank You for your generosity on our Patronal Gift Day

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed so generously to this year's Patronal Gift Day. We are delighted to share that the total raised was an impressive £1,352.

These funds will go directly towards the purchase of a large flat screen TV, which will enhance our worship and presentation during services. It will also be invaluable as we look ahead to the New Year, when we hope to begin running courses and teaching sessions that will benefit from clear, accessible visual resources.

Your kindness and willingness to support the life of our church is deeply appreciated. Thank you for investing in our worship, our learning, and our shared future. Well done, and thank you once again!



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
4:15pm Tree Festival Songs of Praise.

Tuesday 2 December

1.30pm Talking Tables and Chatting Chairs Café

Wednesday 3 December

10am Holy Communion

Friday 5 December

8am Morning prayer in church for growth and renewal.

*A mock up of what
the actual screen
could look like,
thank you again
to all who have
contributed to the
fund.*

The new service rota is now available

The new rota for all those who help lead our worship — including readers, intercessors and sidespersons — covering 30 November 2025 to 5 April 2026, has now been published.

If you would like a digital copy, please email Rev. Simon and he will be happy to send one to you. If you prefer a printed copy, just let Simon know and he can provide that too.

As always, if you find you are unable to fulfil a duty on your allocated date, please arrange a swap with someone offering the same role.

Thank you to everyone who serves so faithfully in our services — your contribution is deeply appreciated and helps our worship run smoothly throughout the year.

Sidespersons, Readers and Coffee Rota

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.

Sunday 30 Nov - Advent 1

8.30am Phil and Susan Range.
Reader: Phil Range.

10.00am Joyce Helm. Reader: Melvyn Gardner. Prayers: Diane Raynor Coffee: Brian and Melvyn.

Sunday 30 Nov - Festival Songs of Praise at 4:15

4:15pm Philip Walsh. Reader: Philip Walsh. Prayers: Set Prayers.

Sunday 07 Dec - Advent 2

8.30am Phil and Susan Range.
Reader: Phil Range.

10.00am Linda and Alistair Woollard.
Reader: Rev. Simon. Prayers: Rev. Simon Coffee: Linda and Alistair.

Sunday 14 Dec - Advent 3

8.30am Irene Farrimond and Elizabeth Bunyan. Reader: Andrea Waine.

10.00am Sylvia Johnson. Reader: Philip Walsh. Prayers: Rev. Janet Coffee: Barbara and Christine.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS AT ST LEONARDS CHURCH

Saturday 22 Nov at 1pm

"Christmas Fair" — A Purrfect Friend Group

Sat 29 & Sun 30 Nov

"Christmas Tree Festival" (Church & Halls)

Tues 2 Dec at 1:30pm

Talking Tables and Chatting Chairs Café

Saturday 6 Dec 10am

"Arts and Crafts Fair" Ian Hamilton (Halls)

Weds 3 Dec 7.30pm

Come and Sing Christmas Rehearsal - The Rawstorne Singers

Weds 10 Dec 7.30pm

Come and Sing Christmas Concert - The Rawstorne 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:

Church Hall Enquiries:

Social Media:

Eco Champion:

Acting Choir Leader:

Church Flowers:

Electoral Roll Officer:

Gift Aid Officer:

St. Leonard's News

To be confirmed

Philip Walsh (01772 745409)

Ruth Gardner (07984 858437)

Ian Dawson (0771 1053722)

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