

PLEASE LEAVE THIS IN CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS DAY



Music, readings and collects for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day 2025

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contact stleonardsoffice@btinternet.com**

Christmas Eve - Midnight Mass – St Leonard's, 11.30pm

Music for Midnight Mass

46 Once in royal David's city
40 O little town of Bethlehem
41 It came upon a midnight clear
43 A great and mighty wonder
Anthem: Nativity Carol – Rutter
34 O come all ye faithful

The Collect

Almighty God, you make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as we joyfully receive him as our redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him when he shall come to be our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

PRINCIPAL READINGS

First reading: Isaiah 52. 7-10

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!"

⁸ Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices; together they shout for joy. When the LORD returns to Zion, they will see it with their own eyes. ⁹ Burst into songs of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰ The LORD will lay bare his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God.

Psalm 98

¹ Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvellous things; his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

² The LORD has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations.

³ He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

⁴ Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music;

⁵ make music to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the sound of singing,

⁶ with trumpets and the blast of the ram's horn— shout for joy before the LORD, the King.

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⁷ Let the sea resound, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.

⁸ Let the rivers clap their hands, let the mountains sing together for joy;

⁹ let them sing before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth.

He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with equity.

Second reading: Hebrews 1. 1-4

1 In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, ² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. ³ The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. ⁴ So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.

Gospel: John 1. 1-14

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴ In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. ⁸ He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

⁹ The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognise him. ¹¹ He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹² Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— ¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

¹⁴ The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God, for whom we wait, you have fed us with the bread of eternal life:

keep us ever watchful, that we may be ready to stand before the Son of man,
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

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Christmas Day – St Leonard's

St Leonard's

10.00am

Family Service **with** Holy Communion

Music for Christmas Day

St Leonard's

34 O come all ye faithful

37 While shepherds watch their flocks
by night

40 O little town of Bethlehem

35 Hark the herald angels sing

The Collect

Almighty God, you make us glad with the yearly remembrance
of the birth of your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as we joyfully receive him as
our redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him when he shall
come to be our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the
Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

PRINCIPAL READINGS

First reading: Isaiah 7. 10-16

¹⁰ Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹ "Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in
the deepest depths or in the highest heights." ¹² But Ahaz said, "I will not ask; I will
not put the LORD to the test." ¹³ Then Isaiah said, "Hear now, you house of David! Is
it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my
God also? ¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive
and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. ¹⁵ He will be eating curds and
honey when he knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, ¹⁶ for before
the boy knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, the land of the two
kings you dread will be laid waste.

Psalm 80. 1-7

¹ Hear us, Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock. You who sit
enthroned between the cherubim, shine forth ² before Ephraim, Benjamin and
Manasseh. Awaken your might; come and save us.

³ Restore us, O God; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved.

⁴ How long, LORD God Almighty, will your anger smoulder against the prayers of your
people?

⁵ You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have made them drink tears by the
bowlful.

⁶ You have made us an object of derision to our neighbours, and our enemies mock
us.

⁷ Restore us, God Almighty; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved.

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Second reading: Romans 1. 1-7

¹ Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God— ² the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures ³ regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David, ⁴ and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord. ⁵ Through him we received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith for his name's sake. ⁶ And you also are among those Gentiles who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

⁷ To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be his holy people: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 1. 18-end

¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

²⁰ But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³ "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us"). ²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵ But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God, for whom we wait, you have fed us with the bread of eternal life: keep us ever watchful, that we may be ready to stand before the Son of man, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Services – Sunday 28th December 2025 – Holy Innocents

<u>St Leonard's</u>	<u>St Martin's</u>	<u>St Nicholas'</u>	<u>St Richard's</u>
8.00am Holy Communion	11.00am Whole Parish	9.30am No Service	10.00am No Service
10.00am No service	Family Service with Holy Communion		