

This Sunday we are delighted to welcome Annette Walker, who begins her new role with us as Musical Director and Organist.

# A very warm welcome to Annette from us all at St. Leonard's

Annette brings with her a real wealth of musical talent, experience, and enthusiasm, and we are very much looking forward to the contribution she will make to the life and worship of our church. Music plays such an important part in how we pray, celebrate, and reflect together, and we are grateful that Annette has chosen to share her gifts with us in this way.

Over the coming weeks and months

there will be plenty of opportunities to get to know Annette better, both through our services and at the Choir practice on Thursday evenings. Please do take a moment to introduce yourself and make her feel welcome when you see her.

We give thanks for the skills and energy she brings, and we look forward with anticipation to this new chapter in our musical life together.



**Sunday 1 February 2026**

**Epiphany 4  
Presentation of Christ**

**The Weekly Newsletter  
for St. Leonard's Church**

Marshall's Brow, Penwortham PR1 9JA



## A special guest speaker



This week at Chatting Chairs and Talking Tables we are delighted to welcome a very special guest speaker – none other than our own churchwarden, Philip Walsh!

Many of you will know Philip well from his role here at church, but you may not know that he also spent time serving with the Lancashire Constabulary's mounted division. During the session he will be sharing a collection of anecdotes from his years in the saddle with his police horse, Khan (left).

It promises to be an entertaining session, full of humour, insight, and perhaps a few surprises. Please come along, bring a friend, and enjoy good company, conversation, and a chance to hear a different side of a familiar face. Everyone is very welcome.

## A heartfelt thank you to Diane

We would also like to express our sincere thanks to Diane Maslaczky, who has done an excellent job of leading the choir since David stepped down from the role over a year ago. Diane has given her time, energy, and musical skill generously, helping to maintain both the quality and spirit of our choral worship during this period of transition.

We are very pleased that Diane is not going anywhere — she will now be returning to her place among the altos, where her voice and presence will continue to be a valued part of the choir. We are deeply grateful for all she has contributed and for the encouragement and stability she has provided over the past year. Thank you so much Diane.



## FOOD BANK

At Penwortham  
Community Centre,  
Kingsfold Drive PR1 9EQ  
Fridays 9.30am to 12 noon.

Donations of Food are welcome.  
Please leave them at the back of  
church, thank you.

Penwortham Foodbank would  
welcome enquiries from  
potential new volunteers.  
We are particularly keen to  
hear from car owners with  
mid-week availability who  
might be willing to use their  
vehicles (and their muscles)  
to assist with some of the vital  
regular stock collections from  
local stores.

**Initial enquiries  
via email please to  
penworthamfoodbank@  
gmail.com**

## What's on at St. Leonard's

### Some of our regular weekly events

#### **Love2 Learn**

*Mondays from 10am*

Interactive and engaging phonics  
education for preschool children.  
Contact: [lovet2learn.org.uk](http://lovet2learn.org.uk)

#### **Boosh After School Club.**

*Weekdays Monday to Wednesday.*

Contact Fiona on 07890 502966

#### **Preston Society**

*(Birdwatching and Natural History)*

*Mondays at 7.30pm in church.*

For more information and current  
programme of talks and trips please  
go to [www.prestonsociety.co.uk](http://www.prestonsociety.co.uk)

Contact: [prestonwildlife@gmail.com](mailto:prestonwildlife@gmail.com).  
com or 07565 497065

#### **Yoga with Linda.**

*Mondays at 6.15pm*

Contact: Linda on 07963 111239

#### **Magic Moments Memory singing group.**

*Tuesdays at 10.30am.*

Contact Skylarks on 07538 580296

#### **Skylarks Community Choir.**

*Mondays from 11am to 12noon.*

Contact Skylarks on 07538 580296

#### **Rainbows and Brownies.**

*Tuesdays at 5pm and 6.15pm.*

Contact Wendy (Rainbows) on  
07846 490876 or  
Sinead (Brownies) on 07855 865513

#### **L.E.Y.M.E.R.S**

*(Lancashire Early Years Music Educators)*

*Wednesdays at 9.30am*

Music Sessions for Early years in a  
session of fun and engaging music  
making. Contact: [www.trybooking.com/uk/events/landing/89924](http://www.trybooking.com/uk/events/landing/89924) or  
just turn up, but place not guaran-  
teed

#### **Rawstorne Singers.**

*Wednesdays at 7.30pm to 9.30pm*

Contact: [rawstornesingers@gmail.com](mailto:rawstornesingers@gmail.com)

#### **St. Leonard's Church Choir.**

*Thursdays at 6.45pm.*

Contact: [saintleonardspenwortham@gmail.com](mailto:saintleonardspenwortham@gmail.com)

#### **Ling Shui Tai Chi Club.**

*Thursdays at 7pm.*

Contact Mark at [info@taichipreston.co.uk](mailto:info@taichipreston.co.uk)

#### **St. Leonard's Gilbert & Sullivan Group.**

*Fridays at 7.30pm.*

Rehearsals for next show  
"Iolanthe".  
Contact: [stleonardsgsg@gmail.com](mailto:stleonardsgsg@gmail.com)

### Some of our monthly events - just turn up!

#### **Talking Tables and Chatting Chairs Cafe.**

*Usually 1st Tuesday at 1.30pm  
until 3.30pm*

#### **Messy Church for children.**

Please wait for further information.

#### **A Purrfect Friend Jumble Sales.**

*Usually 4th Saturday at 11am to  
12noon*

### IMPORTANT PLEASE NOTE

If you have any news, prayer requests or a  
particular anniversaries you would like to share  
in this newsletter, please email them to  
[revsimonking@gmail.com](mailto:revsimonking@gmail.com)



# Small card, big prayer

Over the last couple of weeks, you may have received a small card at the start of a Sunday service. It contains the *Leading Your Church into Growth* prayer — a simple reminder that the future of our church is not built on



plans alone, but on prayer.

Please can I encourage you to place the card somewhere obvious: on the fridge door, beside your bed, tucked into a diary, or near the kettle. Mine is on the cupboard door next to the kettle, so I see it several times a day. It's a gentle nudge — a visual reminder that even the smallest prayer matters.

There's no need to set aside a long stretch of time. If life is busy, simply pray one line at a time as you notice it. A single sentence offered sincerely is never wasted. Prayer does not need to be lengthy to be meaningful.

As we continue to take part in the *Leading Your Church into Growth* journey, it's important to remember that real growth — the kind that deepens faith, strengthens community, and draws people closer to Christ — comes not through effort alone, but through God's strength and our willingness to pray.

The full prayer once a day, or a single line while the kettle boils, each small moment adds up. Together, they become a shared rhythm of hope and trust, placing our church's future where it has always belonged — with God.

## *The Leading your Church into Growth Prayer*

God of Mission

Who alone brings growth to your Church,  
Send your Holy Spirit to give  
Vision to our planning,  
Wisdom to our actions,  
Joy to our worship,  
And power to our witness.  
Help our church to grow in numbers,  
In spiritual commitment to you,  
And in service to our local community,  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen

"Leading your Church into Growth concentrates on the tried and tested - putting parish and people, evangelism and service front and centre. This is extraordinary help for ordinary churches."

- Rt Revd Stephen Cottrell

Leading your Church  
into Growth



## UKRAINE APPEAL

Contributions of clothing from St. Leonard's parishioners haven't gone unnoticed by volunteer helpers at the International Aid base in Tarleton.

They say A BIG THANK YOU to you all. Our thanks also to Brian and Jean who regularly take a carload of bags which you have donated. Please keep up the good work. As always leave clothing in bags under the table in the church porch. There are magazines about the work of International Aid in the porch.

*International*  
**Aid Trust**

## ¿Hablas español?

**Spanish evening classes for adults - beginners welcome!**

Starting Wednesday, 25th February (18:30-20:00)  
Penwortham Priory Academy, PR1 0JE

### Course Details :

- A 5-week 'Introduction to Spanish' course for adult beginners
- Every Wednesday, 25th February- 25th March (18:30-20:00)
- Penwortham Priory Academy, Crow Hills Road, Preston, PR1 0JE
- £50 for the 5-week course (first week free!)
- More group courses starting April/May 2026

### Why Join? :

- Taught by a local, fluent Spanish tutor with qualified teacher status
- A relaxed, supportive introduction to Spanish
- Start speaking Spanish from day one
- First session free- only pay from week 2 if you continue- no obligation!

## First session free!

Wednesday, 25th February  
(18:30-20:00)

Book your place now.  
Scan the QR code or contact  
us for more details.



E: jack@greenwaylanguages.co.uk  
T: 07846530691  
W: greenwaylanguages.co.uk

Individual and small group sessions also available for all ages (Spanish and French)

Greenway Languages  
 greenwaylanguages

## Sunday 1 February Presentation of Christ

8.30am Said Holy Communion  
10am Sung Holy Communion

## Mon 2 Feb to Weds 4 Feb

Leading Your Church into  
Growth National Conference.  
Hayes Conference Centre,  
Swanwick, Derbyshire.

## Wednesday 4 February

10am Holy Communion  
Rev Janet

## Friday 5 February

8am Morning Prayers  
for growth and renewal

## Sunday 8 February Two before Lent

8.30am Said Holy Communion  
10am All Age Family Service

## Mon 9 Feb

2pm. Funeral for the late David  
Gregson. Followed by interment  
at Hill Road Cemetery.

## Tuesday 10 Feb

7pm. Standing Committee  
Meeting in the Small Hall.

## Wednesday 11 February

10am Holy Communion  
Rev Simon

## Friday 12 February

8am Morning Prayers  
for growth and renewal



**PENWORTHAM  
FARMERS  
MARKET**

St Teresa's Car Park, Queensway,  
Penwortham, PR1 0DS  
**Sat 7th Feb 9am to 1pm**

*The Market sells local produce which  
includes Eggs, Cheese, Meats, Vegetables,  
Fresh Fish, Jams, Plants, Cakes, Pies,  
Veggie Curries, Soaps, Fudge plus a  
variety of craft stalls. Stalls are both inside  
and outside the Scout Hut, with tea and  
coffee served inside with breakfast barm  
and cakes available from the stalls.*



**Talking Tables  
— and —  
Chatting Chairs**

from 1.30pm  
on Tuesday 3 February.

◇

Always first Tuesday  
of the month.

## Sidespersons, Readers and Coffee Rota

### Sun 1 Feb - Presentation of Christ

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

10.00am Brian Bamber. *Reader:* Ann  
Butterworth *Prayers:* Rev Janet *Coffee:*  
Barbara and Christine.

### Sun 8 Feb - 2 before Lent

8.30am Franklin Bello and Angela  
Milner. *Reader:* Phil Range.

10.00am Andrea Cartwright and Joyce  
Helm. *Reader:* Philip Walsh *Prayers:*  
Rev Simon *Coffee:* Laraine and Ann.

### Sun 15 Feb - Sun next before Lent

8.30am Peter and Angela Milner.  
*Reader:* Susan Range.

10.00am Linda and Alistair Woollard.  
*Reader:* Melvyn Gardner *Prayers:* Rev  
Janet *Coffee:* Brian and Melvyn.

### Ash Wednesday 18 Feb

7.00pm Philip Walsh. *Reader:* TBC  
*Prayers:* Set prayers.

### Sun 22 Feb - Lent 1

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

10.00am Barbara Palmer. *Reader:*  
Ann Butterworth *Prayers:* Set prayers  
*Coffee:* Barbara and Christine.

### Sun 1 March - Lent 2

8.30am Susan and Philip Range.  
*Reader:* Peter Milner.

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

## 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) <b>Vacant</b>
PCC Secretary:	Ian Dawson (0771 1053722)
PCC Treasurer:	Susan Walsh (01772 745409)
Pastoral Assistant:	Jenny Stanton (01772 748701)
Choir Leader/Organist:	Annette Walker (07841 911621)
Leo's (Sunday School)	Please see Jenny Stanton or Jeanette Smith

Safeguarding Officer:	Ian Dawson (0771 1053722)
Church Hall Enquiries:	Philip Walsh (01772 745409)
Social Media:	Ruth Gardner (07984 858437)
Eco Champion:	Ian Dawson (0771 1053722)
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