



WHAT'S ON? In the Parish of Upper Deal & Great Mongeham 2nd of Epiphany - Sunday 18th January 2026

Start of the week of prayer for Christian Unity

For all the news, join our weekly email update, please contact
stleonardsoffice@btinternet.com

St Leonard's 8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am Family Service without Holy Communion 4.30pm Choral Evensong	St Martin's 11.00am Family Service without Holy Communion	St Nicholas' 9.30am Family Service with Holy Communion	St Richard's Next service, Sun 1 st Feb, 10.00am Family Service with Communion and Youth Choir
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WEEKLY PARISH COMMUNION Please join us on Tuesdays, 12 noon, in St Leonard's church after the Coffee Morning.



St Leonard's 204 Hail to the Lord's anointed 611 Spirit of holiness 254 I am a new creation 41 At the name of Jesus	This week's music...
St Martin's 127 Come, let us join our cheerful songs 743 There is a redeemer 205 From heaven you came, helpless babe 280 Hail to the Lord's anointed 246 God is working his purpose out	St Nicholas' 336 All my hope on God is founded (omit v2) 238 Blest are the pure in heart 53 Songs of thankfulness & praise 139 Rejoice the Lord is King

The Collect

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new: transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, 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 49. 1-7

49 Listen to me, you islands; hear this, you distant nations. Before I was born the LORD called me; from my mother's womb he has spoken my name. **2** He made my mouth like a sharpened sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me into a polished arrow and concealed me in his quiver.
3 He said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will display my splendour."
4 But I said, "I have laboured in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing at all. Yet

what is due me is in the LORD's hand, and my reward is with my God.” ⁵ And now the LORD says—he who formed me in the womb to be his servant to bring Jacob back to him and gather Israel to himself, for I am honoured in the eyes of the LORD and my God has been my strength—⁶ he says: “It is too small a thing for you to be my servant

to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.” ⁷ This is what the LORD says—the Redeemer and Holy One of Israel—to him who was despised and abhorred by the nation, to the servant of rulers: “Kings will see you and stand up, princes will see and bow down because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

Psalm 40. 1-5

¹ I waited patiently for the LORD; he turned to me and heard my cry.

² He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire, he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.

³ He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear the LORD and put their trust in him.

⁴ Blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD, who does not look to the proud, to those who turn aside to false gods.

⁵ Many, LORD my God, are the wonders you have done, the things you planned for us. None can compare with you; were I to speak and tell of your deeds, they would be too many to declare.

Second reading: 1 Corinthians 1. 1-9

¹ Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, ² To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be his holy people, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ—their Lord and ours: ³ Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. ⁵ For in him you have been enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge—⁶ God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. ⁷ Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. ⁸ He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Gospel: John 1. 29-42

²⁹ The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰ This is the one I meant when I said, ‘A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’ ³¹ I myself did not know him, but the reason I came baptizing with water was that he might be revealed to Israel.”

³² Then John gave this testimony: “I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. ³³ And I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptise with water told me, ‘The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is the one who will baptise with the Holy Spirit.’ ³⁴ I have seen and I testify that this is God's Chosen One.”

³⁵ The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. ³⁶ When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!" ³⁷ When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. ³⁸ Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, "What do you want?" They said, "Rabbi" (which means "Teacher"), "where are you staying?" ³⁹ "Come," he replied, "and you will see." So they went and saw where he was staying, and they spent that day with him. It was about four in the afternoon. ⁴⁰ Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. ⁴¹ The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ). ⁴² And he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas" (which, when translated, is Peter).

Post Communion Prayer

God of glory, you nourish us with your Word who is the bread of life: fill us with your Holy Spirit that through us the light of your glory may shine in all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED ESPECIALLY FOR: Dennis Burney, Karen Fairclough, David Flewker, Mavis Harris, Michael Chambers, Michael Finney, Baby Lola, Baby Esmae, Tanneke Berwick, Margaret Thurgood, Andrew Russell, Heather Brennon, Barbara Sharman, Jean Gear, Dave James, Joan Finney, Ian Instone & his family. Adrian Morley, Wendy Turner, Elizabeth McConnell, Caroline Richards, Steve Milne, Jacob Alger. Also, Father George & all those in Antananarivo, Madagascar.

(Please let Wendy in the office know when names may be removed.)

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY DIED Lord, hold them in your arms, bless and care for them. We ask that you also give peace and comfort to their families and friends and keep them in your loving strength as they come to terms with their loss.

Next Week's Services – Sunday 25th January 2026

<u>St Leonard's</u> 8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am Family Service with Holy Communion	<u>St Martin's</u> 11.00am Family Service with Holy Communion	<u>St Nicholas'</u> 9.30am Family Service without Holy Communion	<u>St Richard's</u> Next service, Sun 1 st Feb, 10.00am Family Service with Communion and Youth Choir
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MORNING PRAYER WEEKLY 9.30-9.55am

St Richard's Mon, St Leonard's Tues, St Martin's Weds, St Nicholas' Thurs

SAVE THE DATE!

BELONGING COURSE A 6 week course begins on Tues 20/1/26, 6.30-8.30pm at the Rectory planned & led by Julie M. please see flyer for more info.

EVENSONG FOR CANDLEMAS On Sunday 1st Feb, at St Martin's, 4.30pm, there will be an **extra evensong for February** led by a local visiting choir, 'With

'Cheerful Voice'. For more details of the Choir & how you can join in, please see flyers & the latest edition of the Compass magazine. Sherry will be served afterwards.

COFFEE MORNING FUNDRAISER Tuesday 17th Feb. 9.30 – noon in the Social Centre. The season kicks off with funds raised going to Emmaus.

NOTICES

SAFEGUARDING Please raise safeguarding concerns immediately with our Safeguarding Officer, Mandy Forrest 01304 372521 or 07999 910197

ST NICHOLAS' Thank you to all at St Nicholas' Church who contributed to the communal Christmas card. We raised £46.95 for Demelza House.

YOUTH CHOIR continues on the first Sunday of the month, 10-11.30am at St Richard's for all children 7yrs & upwards. Snacks will be served

JAMAICA FUND Bishop Rose has asked us to pray and give what we can for Jamaica. If you would like to contribute to a Parish collection please give cash donations in marked envelopes or bank transfer donations with a clear reference to that effect. We have collected £17 so far. Thank you.

ST LEONARD'S CHURCH HEATING We are very grateful for donations towards the cost for the times when we will have to heat the church. Thank you.

WHATSAPP GROUP Please use the link to join the new parish **WhatsApp** gp. https://chat.whatsapp.com/IYnolTbxt0eB0mzyIEbmRE?mode=ac_t

ST RICHARD'S HIRE has a new email for bookings strichardshire@gmail.com

VOCATIONAL TRAINING Please continue to pray for Rev John Wakeman, Rev Nick Tomaszewski, Stephen Manion & Julie Murrow.

CHURCH BANK DETAILS

Paying tithes and pledges electronically is easy. The details you need to know are below. We would also be delighted if you would complete the Gift Aid form if you pay tax, so that your monetary gifts would benefit from tax relief. The QR code below is a quick and safe way to donate to parish funds too. Thank you.

Account Name: Upper Deal and Gt. Mongeham PCC

Sort Code: 40-19-10 **Account No:** 31141228

Parish Giving Scheme URL:

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/upper-deal-w-great-mongeham-deal/treasurerudgm@outlook.com>



God of Mission,

Who alone brings growth to your Church.

Send your Holy Spirit to give, Vision for 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.**