



WHAT'S ON? In the Parish of Upper Deal & Great Mongeham

5th Sunday of Lent - 22nd March 2026

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

<p><u>St Leonard's</u> 8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am Family Service with Holy Communion</p>	<p><u>St Martin's</u> 11.00am Family Service with Holy Communion</p>	<p><u>St Nicholas'</u> 9.30am Family Service without Holy Communion</p>	<p><u>St Richard's</u> Next Service Youth Choir & Family Communion 5th April at 10am</p>
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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

128 Thou art the way: by thee alone
 65 My God, I love thee: not because
 63 My song is love unknown (not vv 4&6)
 70 It is a thing most wonderful
 Anthem: A Litany for Lent – plainsong
 123 Jesu, lover of my soul

St Martin's

87 Breath on me, breath of God
 820 When I survey the wondrous cross
 317 How deep the Father's love for us
 327 I cannot tell

This week's music...

St Nicholas'

400 Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
 619 Such love
 673 There is a redeemer
 266 I cannot tell

The Collect Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world: lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion, that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour's blood, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PRINCIPAL READINGS

First reading: Ezekiel 37. 1-10

37 The hand of the LORD was on me, & he brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD & set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me back & forth among them, & I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. ³ He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" I said, "Sovereign LORD, you alone know."⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD!' ⁵ This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. ⁶ I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you & cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, & you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD."⁷ So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, & the bones came together, bone to bone. ⁸ I looked, & tendons and flesh appeared on them & skin covered them, but there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then he said to me,

“Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, & say to it, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Come, breath, from the four winds & breathe into these slain, that they may live.’” ¹⁰ So I prophesied as he commanded me, & breath entered them; they came to life & stood up on their feet—a vast army.

Psalm 130

¹ Out of the depths I cry to you, LORD; ² Lord, hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy. ³ If you, LORD, kept a record of sins, Lord, who could stand? ⁴ But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, serve you. ⁵ I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits, & in his word I put my hope. ⁶ I wait for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning, more than watchmen wait for the morning. ⁷ Israel, put your hope in the LORD, for with the LORD is unfailing love & with him is full redemption. ⁸ He himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.

Second reading: Romans 8. 6-11

⁶ The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law, nor can it do so. ⁸ Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God. ⁹ You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. ¹¹ And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

Gospel: John 11. 1-45

¹¹ Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary & her sister Martha. ² (This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord & wiped his feet with her hair.) ³ So the sisters sent word to Jesus, “Lord, the one you love is sick.” ⁴ When he heard this, Jesus said, “This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God’s glory so that God’s Son may be glorified through it.” ⁵ Now Jesus loved Martha & her sister & Lazarus. ⁶ So when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days, ⁷ & then he said to his disciples, “Let us go back to Judea.” ⁸ “But Rabbi,” they said, “a short while ago the Jews there tried to stone you, & yet you are going back?” ⁹ Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Anyone who walks in the daytime will not stumble, for they see by this world’s light. ¹⁰ It is when a person walks at night that they stumble, for they have no light.” ¹¹ After he had said this, he went on to tell them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up.” ¹² His disciples replied, “Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better.” ¹³ Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep. ¹⁴ So then he told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead, ¹⁵ & for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” ¹⁶ Then Thomas (also known as Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.” ¹⁷ On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁹ & many Jews had come to Martha & Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that

Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home. ²¹ “Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.” ²³ Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” ²⁴ Martha answered, “I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.” ²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶ & whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?” ²⁷ “Yes, Lord,” she replied, “I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.” ²⁸ After she had said this, she went back & called her sister Mary aside. “The Teacher is here,” she said, “& is asking for you.” ²⁹ When Mary heard this, she got up quickly & went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up & went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there. ³² When Mary reached the place where Jesus was & saw him, she fell at his feet & said, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, & the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit & troubled. ³⁴ “Where have you laid him?” he asked. “Come & see, Lord,” they replied. ³⁵ Jesus wept. ³⁶ Then the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” ³⁷ But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?” ³⁸ Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. ³⁹ “Take away the stone,” he said. “But, Lord,” said Martha, the sister of the dead man, “by this time there is a bad odour, for he has been there four days.” ⁴⁰ Then Jesus said, “Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?” ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up & said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.” ⁴³ When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands & feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, “Take off the grave clothes & let him go.” ⁴⁵ Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, & had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

Post Communion Prayer Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers & sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, & gave up your life & died for us, but are alive and reign, now & for ever. **Amen.**

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED ESPECIALLY FOR: Rev Patrick Kavanagh, Carolyn Coupland, Sarah Robinson, Dennis Burney, Karen Fairclough, David Flewker, Mavis Harris, Michael Chambers, Michael Finney, Baby Lola, Baby Esmae, 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, we ask that you give peace and comfort to their families and friends & keep them in your loving strength as they come to terms with their loss.

NEXT WEEK'S SERVICES 29/3/26 PALM SUNDAY	<u>St Leonard's</u> 8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am No service	<u>St Martin's</u> 11.00am Whole Parish Family Service with Holy Communion	<u>St Nicholas'</u> 9.30am No service	<u>St Richard's</u> Next Service Youth Choir & Family Communion 5 th April at 10am
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WEEKLY MORNING PRAYER 9.30-9.55am

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

SAVE THE DATE!

LENT COURSE - DIVERSITY & INCLUSION led by Rev Nick, next one **24th March**, 7pm at St Richard's. Everyone welcome.

SERVICE OF WELCOME TO THE DIOCESE for the new Archbishop of Canterbury, at the Cathedral **Sat 28th March**, 5.30pm. There are **12** tickets & **lifts are available**. Please contact Monica if you would like a ticket and/or a lift.

PRIVATE HIRE - LUMOS CONCERTS St Leonard's **church** is unavailable on **Sat 18th April** for 3 private concerts. See *Lumos Experiences Fb page for ticket information*.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING - ADVANCE NOTICE Sunday 10th May 2026 after a short service with Holy Communion at St Richard's.

TRINITY SUNDAY CONCERT 31st May, 2pm at St Nicholas', with Mark Spratt & the Herne Bay Concert Band. Ticket price to be confirmed.



WHOLE PARISH PLANNING AFTERNOON Sat 23rd May, 12-3pm, St Richard's, beginning with a bring & share lunch & performance by **Ravi Holy** (Priest at Wye). *Absolutely everyone is welcome* – you do not have to belong to any committee to help the parish plan.

BOOT FAIR PARISH FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY Would anyone be able to run a parish table at the Boot Fair on **1st August 2026** on Walmer Green? See flyer.

NOTICES

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

QUESTIONNAIRE – WE NEED YOUR RESPONSES Rev Monica has attended a conference about the CofE's new resource 'Cornerstone' which is about helping us to increase giving. It is not about changing or reviewing your giving, it will help us to see what we do well in our parish. Please click on the link and have a go!

<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=O0bilbA6tEeawVh8d-6E8M4fFUY0g5xCvneYTPWm7BtUMFUxS0VFU1U2VTJVRUowNTFUNDILNERZMi4u&route=shorturl>

You will be asked the name of our parish – 'Upper Deal & Gt Mongeham' & use the code (606160) when you are asked to give an 'onboarding' code' (not as difficult as it sounds)

CHURCH BANK DETAILS

Paying tithes and pledges electronically is easy. Thank you for your generosity.

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



Our Mission Prayer
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.**