



St. Leonard's NEWS

www.stleonardspenwortham.org.uk

Sunday 26 April 2026

Easter 4

The Weekly Newsletter
for St. Leonard's Church
Marshall's Brow, Penwortham PR1 9JA



Warm welcomes and fond farewells

Last Sunday's communion service was a particularly joyful one, as we celebrated the baptism of Faye Matfen.

It was a real delight to see so many gathered to welcome Faye, along with her parents Tara and Ryan, and her godparents, into the life of our church family. There's something deeply encouraging about those moments when the church feels full of life — promises made, water poured, and a community standing together to say: you belong here.

Baptism is never just a private occasion; it's something we share. As a church, we commit ourselves to

walking alongside Faye as she grows — in faith, in love, and in the knowledge that she is held by God and by her church family.

We're looking forward to more such celebrations over the summer. This Sunday at 2pm, following the APCM, we will gather again for the baptism of Vincent Green. Vincent, with his parents Connie and Jack, Godparents and guests, will be made welcome, and we hope that you will support them in your prayers.

These moments are more than special occasions — they are part of the ongoing story of faith being lived out, shared, and passed on.

The second part of the week brought us together in a very different way, as we gathered for the funeral of Roy Gray at Charnock Richard Crematorium.

Roy, along with his late wife Dorothy, had been part of the life of St Leonard's for many years, and it was a real tribute to his integrity and gentle kindness that so many friends came to pay their respects.

In her tribute to her father, Jeanette shared something of Roy's philosophy of life: "the important thing in life to me is how a person has interacted with their fellow human beings whilst they were alive — how they showed respect for others and tried to help where they could."

It's hard to imagine a more fitting summary. Roy was a true gentleman, and he will be very much missed at St Leonard's.



PENWORTHAM FARMERS MARKET

St Teresa's Car Park, Queensway, Penwortham, PR1 0DS
Sat 2nd May 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 barmes and cakes available from the stalls.



Talking Tables — and — Chatting Chairs

from 1.30pm
on Tuesday 5 May



Always first Tuesday
of the month.



£1.00

SALE

Penwortham Community Centre
Kingsfold Drive
PR1 9EQ

Saturday 16th May 2026

11am-3pm

All clothing £1.00 only

St Leonard's G&S present Iolanthe

Excitement is building as St Leonard's Gilbert & Sullivan group prepare to bring Iolanthe to life!

This much-loved comic opera promises an evening (or afternoon!) of wit, wonderful music, and thoroughly enjoyable performances from our talented cast and crew.

Whether you're a long-time fan of Gilbert & Sullivan or coming along for the first time, Iolanthe is a delightful

mix of humour, charm, and memorable songs.

Please note that Saturday's performance will be a matinee, making it a great option for those who prefer an earlier show.

Tickets can be booked via the phone number on the poster, or by speaking directly to Philip Walsh or Lucy Bunce.

Do come along and support what promises to be a fantastic production!

*St Leonard's
G&S Group*

7.30 pm Thursday 21st May 2026

7.30 pm Friday 22nd May 2026

2.30 pm Saturday 23rd May 2026



Tickets £10

Accompanied U12s free

For ticket information,
call 01772 612030

St Leonard's Church, Marshalls
Brow, Penwortham PR1 9JA



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Utopia1>

NODA

Registered Charity No.
700096



The return of compost corner

Meanwhile... there's still plenty of compost left! If you're getting the garden going this season and could make use of some, do get in touch. There's still plenty available.

Collection can be arranged, or Philip Walsh is happy to deliver locally where possible. Donations to the church are gratefully received.

If you're interested, please contact Philip on 07486 687879.



Friday 24 April

8am Morning Prayer

Sunday 26 April

8:30am Holy Communion
10am Sung Holy Communion
11am APCM
2pm Baptism of Vincent Green

Wednesday 29 April

10am Holy Communion (Rev Simon)

Thursday 30 April

6:45pm Choir Practice (All welcome)

Friday 1 May

8am Morning Prayer

Saturday 2 May

10am Preston Opera Rehearsal

Sunday 3 May

8:30am Holy Communion
10am Sung Holy Communion

Monday 4 May

Early May Bank Holiday

Monday 5 May

1:30pm Chatting Chairs and Talking Tables
1:30pm Funeral of Janet Elizabeth Hoyle at Preston Crematorium.

Sidespersons, Readers and Coffee Rota

Sun 26 April - Easter 4

Acts 2.42 - end | John 10.1 - 10

8.30am Phil and Susan Range. *Reader:* Philip Walsh.

10.00am Sylvia Johnson. *Reader:* Rev Janet *Prayers:* Angela Milner *Coffee:* Brian and Melvyn.

Sun 3 May - Easter 5

Acts 7.55-end | John 14.1-14

8.30am Peter and Angela Milner. *Reader:* Rev Janet.

10.00am. Barbara Palmer *Reader:* Brian Bamber *Prayers:* Rev Janet *Coffee:* Linda and Alistair Woollard.

Sun 10 May - Easter 6

Acts 17.22 - 31 | John 14.15 - 21

8.30am Franklin Bello and Peter Milner. *Reader:* Rev Simon.

10.00am. Joyce Helm *Reader:* TBC *Prayers:* Rev Simon / *Set Coffee:* Barbara and Christine

Sun 17 May - Sun after Ascension

Acts 1.6 - 14 | John 17.1-11

8.30am Irene Farrimond and Elizabeth Bunyan. *Reader:* Rev Janet.

10.00am. Barbara Palmer *Reader:* Melvyn Gardner *Prayers:* Rev Janet *Coffee:* Laraine and Anne.

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

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)

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

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), takes place on Sunday and we are looking for people to make a real difference in helping to shape the future life of St Leonard's.

Its not too late to help to shape the future of St. Leonard's

Have you ever considered serving as a Churchwarden, a member of the PCC, or a Deanery Synod representative? These roles really matter. They help guide the direction of the church, support its mission, and ensure that all we do is rooted in prayer, good stewardship, and a shared vision.

- **Churchwardens** work closely with the Vicar, helping to lead and care for the life of the parish.
- **PCC members** help make decisions about worship, mission, and the practical life of the church.
- **Deanery Synod representatives** connect us with the wider church and help bring back fresh perspective and insight.

You don't need to be an expert. You don't need to have done it before. What matters is a willingness to serve, to be part of the conversation, and to play your part in the life of the church.

If you care about St Leonard's—where it is now and where it might be going—then this could be a really meaningful way to get involved.



Nomination forms are available at the back of church. If you'd like an informal chat about what's involved, please speak to Rev Simon, Ian Dawson, or Philip Walsh.

Please do take a moment to reflect and pray about whether this might be something God is nudging you towards.

New social and fundraising group - be part of something new

As we continue to reflect on what it means to grow as a church through Leading Your Church into Growth (LYCiG), one thing is becoming clear: growth doesn't happen by accident. It happens when we create opportunities to connect, to welcome, to have fun and to try something new.

So we are launching a new Social and Fundraising Group at St Leonard's—and this is your invitation to be part of it.

This group will help shape the social life of our church: planning events, building community, and creating space for others to encounter something of the welcome and life we share here.

It's about being intentional—moving from simply maintaining what we have, to actively creating opportunities for growth. And there is no shortage of opportunity.

In September, as part of the Diocesan Centenary, every parish has been invited to take part in a Mission Weekend—a week of social events and outreach, culminating in a special celebration service. This is exactly the kind of moment LYCiG encourages us to step into: a chance to open our doors wider, to be visible in our community, and to invite others in.

But this won't happen on its own.

If we want to grow, we need people who are willing to step forward—to share ideas, to plan, to organise, and to help make things happen. You don't need experience. You don't need to have done anything like this before. You just need a willingness to be part of the journey.

If you've ever found yourself thinking, "We could do more..."—this is your moment.

If you'd like to be part of this new group, or simply want to find out more, please speak to Rev Janet. Let's take this next step together.

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

