



St. Leonard's NEWS

www.stleonardspenwortham.org.uk

Sunday 19 July 2026

Trinity 7

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



ST LEONARD'S WINS GOLD!



We are delighted to announce that St Leonard's has been awarded a Gold Award in the Community Venue category of Penwortham in Bloom.

The award was presented on Thursday evening, where Ian Dawson proudly represented St Leonard's and received the certificate on behalf of the church.

This is a wonderful achieve-

ment and one that reflects the dedication of a remarkable team of volunteers who work tirelessly throughout the year to care for our church grounds. Whether planting, pruning, weeding, mowing or simply keeping everything looking its very best, their commitment ensures that St Leonard's remains a place of beauty and welcome for every-



one who visits.

The churchyard and gardens are often the first impression people have of our church. They speak of care, hospitality and pride in our community long before anyone steps through the church doors. This award is a fitting recognition of the many

hours of hard work that often go unseen.

To everyone who has helped in any way—whether regularly or occasionally—thank you. This Gold Award belongs to you, and we hope you feel justifiably proud of what has been achieved together.

Headteacher, Mrs Pilkington
pictured with Deputy Head Mrs
Allton, after an emotional service
on Thursday



Joyful, generous stewards and the book of Ruth

- **Sun 5th July – Trinity 5**
Generous Loving
Ruth 1:1-22 | Matt 13:44-46
- **Sun 12th July – Trinity 6**
Generous Provision
Ruth 2:1-20 | Luke 12:13-21
- **Sun 19th July – Trinity 7**
Generous Choices
Ruth 3:1-18 | Luke 18:18-23
- **Sun 26th July – Trinity 8**
Generous Hope
Ruth 4:1-17 | Luke 12:27-34

This Sunday we continue our summer journey through the Book of Ruth as we arrive at Chapter 3 and the third part of our series, **Generous Choices**.

The Book of Ruth is only four chapters long, yet it has a remarkable way of asking big questions through the ordinary events of everyday life. There are no dramatic miracles, God is quietly at work through the decisions that ordinary people make. It is a reminder that our lives are often shaped not by the

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

The church was filled with joy on Thursday morning as Middleforth School gathered at St Leonard's for their end-of-year Celebration Service.

Children, parents, governors and staff came together to give thanks for another successful year and to celebrate the achievements of the wonderful young people who make up our church school. Led by Mrs Pilkington and Rev Simon, the service reflected on the school's inspiring strapline, "Let your light shine," reminding everyone that each child has unique gifts to share with the world.

As awards were presented and Year 6 prepared to take their next steps towards high school, there were smiles, laughter and, inevitably, a few tears. Tears of pride as children looked back on all they had achieved, and tears of sadness as staff said goodbye to pupils they have nurtured,

encouraged and cared for over many years.

It was a moving reminder that education is about far more than lessons and exams. Behind every child's success stand teachers, teaching assistants and support staff whose patience, encouragement and unwavering belief have helped each young person grow in confidence and character.

As another school year draws to a close, we offer our heartfelt thanks to every member of the Middleforth team for their dedication and care. We pray that the summer holidays will bring them a well-earned opportunity to rest, recharge and enjoy time with family and friends before the excitement begins all over again in September.

May the light they have helped to kindle in so many young lives continue to shine brightly in the years ahead.

St. Leonard's Afternoon Tea

To be held on

Sunday 2 August 2026

in the Church Hall
from 2pm

Please sign up on
the sheet at the
back of church
- Don't miss out
spaces are filling
up quickly.

£15
per person



ALL PROCEEDS TO THE CHURCH FUNDS

Part three: Generous Choices

extraordinary moments, but by the small choices we make each day.

One of the ideas Rev Janet be exploring this week comes from the sixteenth-century astronomer Nicolaus Copernicus. For centuries, people believed that the sun revolved around the earth. Copernicus challenged that assumption and showed that, in fact, it is the earth that revolves around the sun. It completely changed the way people understood the universe.

That discovery also poses a wonderful spiritual question. What sits at the centre of my life?

We all have something around which our lives naturally revolve. It may be our family, our



work, our ambitions, our worries, our reputation, or simply ourselves. Yet the invitation of the Christian life is to place Christ at the very centre. When he is at the centre, everything else begins to find its proper place.

Ruth chapter 3 is full of people making generous choices.

Naomi begins to look beyond her own grief and plans a hopeful future for Ruth. Ruth makes a courageous and selfless decision that puts love before personal advantage. Boaz responds with kindness, integrity and compassion. None of them acts out of duty alone. Their choices are shaped by a deep concern for one another, and through those choices God quietly brings blessing, healing and hope.

Perhaps that is one of the great lessons of Ruth. Generosity is not simply something we do from time to time. It is a way of seeing the world and a way of living. It grows out of grateful hearts that recognise God's goodness and then seek to reflect that goodness in the lives of others.

As we continue this journey together, perhaps we might each take a moment to ask ourselves a simple question: What choices am I making each day? Are they drawing me closer to Christ and helping me become the person he is calling me to be?

We look forward to welcoming you this Sunday as we continue to discover, through the beautiful story of Ruth, that generous discipleship is ultimately about living with Christ at the centre of our lives. When that happens, generosity becomes not an obligation, but a joyful response to the generosity of God.

Welcome to the jungle?

If you've ever wondered what lies beyond the vicarage gate, the answer, at the moment is something resembling a small rainforest!

On Saturday 25th July from 10.00am, we're planning a Vicarage garden tidy-up, and we'd love a few willing volunteers to help tame the jungle. There'll be plenty of weeding, pruning, chopping back and general tidying, with jobs to suit all abilities.

As a small thank you, Rev Simon will be firing up the barbecue to provide food and refreshments for everyone who lends a hand. It's a great opportunity to enjoy some fellowship, get a bit of fresh air.

If you can spare some time that Saturday – we would be delighted to see you. Please have a word with Rev Simon if you'd like to know more or are able to come along.

Many hands make light work and with a little help, we might even find the garden again!



SAVE THE DATE
JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE OUR
DIOCESAN CENTENARY WEEKEND
A WEEKEND OF FUN, FRIENDSHIP AND CELEBRATION FOR OUR COMMUNITY

FRIDAY 11 SEPTEMBER Quiz Night WITH HOT POT SUPPER Bring your friends and make up a team!	SATURDAY 12 SEPTEMBER Family Fun Day FOR ALL AGES Come along and bring the family!
SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER Celebration Service A JOYFUL CELEBRATION OF FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE All are welcome!	

All events are free but some may be ticketed for catering reasons.

Keep an eye on our social media for more details

St Leonard's Family Church, Marshall's Brow, Penwortham PR1 9JA

In Association with Preston Arts Festival

**Preston
Symphony
Orchestra**

Musical Director
Marco Giudici
Leader
Peter Blackburn

Supercalifragilistic- expialidocious

Preston Symphony Orchestra perform your favourite music from Stage and Screen.

Selections from Mary Poppins, Jesus Christ Superstar, Cats, Chicago, and many others...

Including new music specially composed and conducted by our friend Bill Connor.

An evening not to be missed!

Sunday 4th October 2026 at 7pm

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

Tickets Adults: £15; U18: £8
www.ticketsource.co.uk/preston-symphony-orchestra



BLOOM & PLAY TINY TOWN

STAY & PLAY SESSIONS



Come and explore our pop-up role play town, filled with beautiful wooden play equipment, ride-on toys and fancy dress. Designed for little ones to imagine, learn and play, children can step into their very own mini town featuring:



All centred around a community park complete with an ice cream van, picnic area, post box and cosy reading corner – a calm, welcoming space particularly suited to babies and younger explorers.

90-MINUTE SESSIONS		
Friday 24th July	10:00am & 12:15pm	St Peter's Church Hall, Chorley (PR6 0HP)
Friday 7th August	10:00am & 12:15pm	St Peter's Church Hall, Chorley (PR6 0HP)
Friday 14th August	10:00am & 12:15pm	St Leonard's Church Hall, Penwortham (PR1 9JA)
Saturday 29th August	10:00am & 12:15pm	St Peter's Church Hall, Chorley (PR6 0HP)

Under 1 year **£3.50** Ages 1-6 years **£7.50** Discounts available for multiple child bookings. Complimentary refreshments included. **DESIGNED FOR CHILDREN AGED 0-6 YEARS**

SPACES ARE LIMITED – FIND BLOOM & PLAY TINY TOWN ON FACEBOOK TO BOOK!

Step Together in Faith WALK TO CHURCH Month

DURING July

A Healthy Step for You,
A Stronger Step in Faith.



GOOD FOR YOU
Walk for your health and well-being.



GOOD FOR OUR COMMUNITY
Build connections and care for others.



GOOD FOR YOUR FAITH
A step closer to God, together.

LEAVE WORRIES BEHIND.
TAKE STEPS OF
Faith

LET'S WALK TOGETHER!



WALK
for Health



WALK
for Community



WALK
for Christ

EVERY STEP MATTERS. ALL ARE WELCOME!

PRIME SPORTS KIDS SUMMER CAMP

£1 SUMMER BOOKINGS

AFTERNOON MULTI SPORTS SESSIONS ARE BACK!
KINGSFOLD VENUE ONLY

VENUE: Penwortham Community Centre, Kingsfold Drive, PR1 9EQ

AGES: Open to children aged 4 – 13

WHEN: Afternoon session only 1:30pm – 6pm

PRICE: Just £1 per booking. Afternoon session only

JUST £1 PER BOOKING

★ FUN ★ FRIENDS ★ ACTIVE

LIMITED £1 PLACES AVAILABLE!

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