

St Leonard's Church, Ryton-on-Dunsmore:
Newsletter June 2026

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“I’m very thankful for those that I see in rural ministry, and also encouraged,” says Archbishop Sarah Mullally. Rural is different, and should be celebrated, “I always feel that the small rural parish church isn’t a failed church: it’s a flourishing, small, rural church.” Quoted in the Church Times, April 10 2026.

You can hire our church hall for either one-off occasions or regular meetings. Contact Emma Hunt
stleonardschurcryton@gmail.com

Benefice SERVICES: June 2026

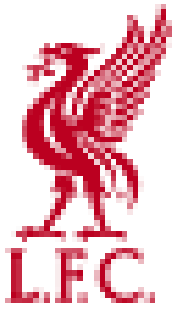
DATE	Wolston	Church Lawford	Ryton
June 7: Trinity 1	11.00am: Holy Communion.	9.15am: Family Service.	5.00pm: Messy Church.
June 14: Trinity 2	11.00am: Morning Worship.	5.00pm: Evening Prayer.	9.15am: Parish Communion.
June 21: Trinity 3	11.00am: Morning Worship.	9.15am: Holy Communion	5.00pm: Holy Communion.
June 28: Trinity 4	11.00 am: Holy Communion.	5.00 pm: Holy Communion.	9.15am: Morning Service.
July 5: Trinity 5	11.00am: Morning Worship.	9.15am: Family Service.	5.00pm: Messy Church.
July 12: Trinity 6	11.00am: Family Service.	5.00pm: Holy Communion.	9.15am: Parish Communion.

At Ryton:, Wednesday, June 9 and Wednesday, July 8: 11.30 am: Holy Communion. This service is of course open to everyone- not just Lunch Club members.

At 10:30 on Thursday morning every week there is a service of Holy Communion at St. Margaret's church, Wolston. Also, of course, open to everyone.

From our Minister, the Revd Malcolm Ingham.

All change



I'm a Liverpool fan. I know that's a risky thing to say this close to Coventry, but there you have it and next season we will be facing each other in the Premier League, but who will be Liverpool's manager when we do? Arne Slot has only been at LFC for two years, but his recent performance has left some people asking questions and he might not be around for the start of the next season. Today, as I write, the news is also full of potential leadership challenges for Sir Keir Starmer who has been in Number 10 for a similar amount of time. Many of his party are unhappy with his leadership and some are lining up to take his place.

I've now been vicar of Wolston and Church Lawford for just over two years as well and Ryton for a year and a half, but for me too it is time to move on. Over that time, I felt very strongly that God was calling me here to bring together the three parishes as one benefice and to address some difficult challenges that arose. I have been able to start those processes, but that has come at a personal cost and it does mean that there comes a point at which it right to move on and hand over to someone else who can build on the foundations that have been laid. That time, for us, has come and the choice has been ours, no request to move on due to poor performance, no leadership challenge

Whilst we have been here we have met and got to know lots of lovely people in the benefice and it was not an easy decision to make. So it is with sadness that we will be moving on at some point in the late summer but excitement at what God has in store, not only for us, but also for you.

Best wishes, Malcolm



From the Church registers:

April 27 at St. Leonard's Church: The Funeral of
Marieta Medcraft

May 20 at St. Leonard's Church: Burial of ashes of
Kay Davenport.

May they rest in peace.

Ryton Festival.

On 13th June St Leonard's Church will have a stall at the Ryton Festival on the recreation ground. It starts at 12.00 noon. We need donations of cakes for the cake stall. We also need donations of bottles for the bottle tombola. Please contribute bottles. Soft drinks, water and beer/wine bottles are all welcome, we need a good mix. Bottles can be left at church or at 99 High Street. We need them by 9th June at the latest. Please give generously. If you would like to donate a raffle prize that would be welcome too. We will need help setting up (8.30 am) and then in two hour shifts from 10.00 am to man the stall, please contact Carolyn carolyn.f.reily@gmail.com if you are able to help.



Lunch Club.

A 2 course meal costs £5 and transport is available. There is an opportunity for you to attend the short, said Communion Service at 11.30 am. Next Lunch Club June 10 at 12.00 noon. Please contact Hazel on 02476 456711.

Coffee Morning



This is becoming a very popular event. Why not come and join us for coffee, tea, cake and biscuits in the Church Centre? The June meeting will be on June 24 from 10 am to 12 noon.

Please bring your friends. We suggest a £2 donation.

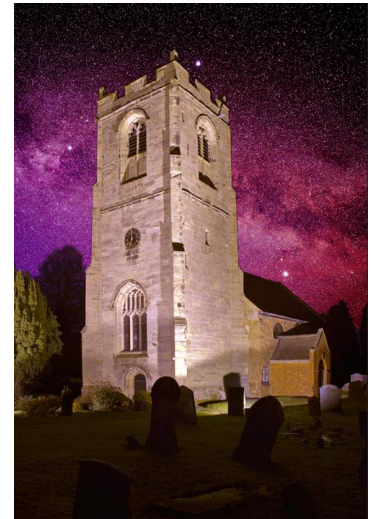
Contact Hazel on 02476 456711 about Lunch Club and Coffee Mornings.

Church Floodlighting.

June 11: Birthday Memories of Ron Backholler.

Many thanks to June Backholler for devising and organising the Floodlighting scheme over many years.

- **Would you like to floodlight our beautiful church in memory of a loved one, or in celebration of a special event? If so, please contact June with the details. Voluntary donations in aid of church funds are welcome: details from June, or from Janet Smith on 02476 306224.**



CHOIR The Ryton Choir is still happening!

From Choir leader Barbara Marsh: *We meet on Wednesday evenings, meeting at 99 High St Ryton from 7 - 8pm.*

We're now called 'Ryton Village Voices' and sing a wide variety of pieces, from church music through sea shanties to popular classics. New members are always welcome.

Contact Ba on geoffandba@gmail.com Tel 02476 304295

**ACTION MEDICAL RESEARCH : Sylvia Dixon writes:
Thank you to everyone who supported our Plant and Cake sale on
Saturday 16th of May. Thanks to you we raised an amazing
£1,061.00.**



St. Leonard's Church, Ryton-on-Dunsmore Did You Know?

Our lovely church was founded in 1080 and is one of the oldest churches in Warwickshire. Imagine the styles of villagers' costumes, over the ages, walking through the Norman doorway.

It costs nearly £2,000 per month to keep that door open. This only includes essentials such as the Insurance, Heating, Lighting, Water, Cleaning, Churchyard Maintenance and Parish Share.

We want to keep that beautiful door open for our community- but we cannot do it on our own!

WAYS YOU CAN HELP US

- 1. Come and join our friendly congregation at one of our weekly services – children are always welcome.**
 - 2. Make regular donations through the envelope scheme or Direct Debit. Sort Code: 09 01 54, Account Number 99403282, please put Appeal and your surname as the reference. Cheques payable to St Leonard's Church, Ryton**
 - 3. Make a one-off donation.**
 - 4. Support our fundraising activities.**
 - 5. Consider leaving a gift to St Leonard's in your will.**
- Find out more at www.stleonardschurchryton.org.uk**

Ryton Evergreens 50+ Club

We are a very friendly group, who meet on the First Tuesday of the month from 2 pm to 4 pm in the village hall.

Transport and refreshments are provided; we would love to welcome new members.

We have Talks, Quizzes, Games and Raffles- please come along.

For further information contact Bill on 07790 078774 or Doug on 07599 280178.

St Leonard's Church Clock

Many people will be wondering what's happened to the church clock. Geoff Marsh writes:

The Church Clock has a problem!

When the clock was moved on an hour for the hour change last month its minute hand mysteriously stopped rotating.

Shortly afterwards the minute hand fell off the clock completely.

It turns out that the three foot long steel shaft which moves the hand has completely corroded through and broken.

Smiths of Derby, who carry out the annual maintenance on the clock, have been to investigate and at the time of writing we are awaiting their report and estimate of the cost for the repair.

As the repair will involve having to manufacture a new shaft and access the face of the clock to fit it either with scaffolding or ropes, we are concerned that it could be quite expensive.

The corroded and broken church clock minute hand.





Church Noticeboard: The main noticeboard was getting a bit dilapidated, and Geoff and Ba Marsh have kindly undertaken the task of renovating it. They finished the task earlier in April and convey their thanks to Councillor Dale Keeling for organising the new 'St Leonard's' sign and providing the wood for it and to Mick Sloyan of Stretton who did the engraving free-of-charge.

Geoff adds: *One piece of good news is that we have rehung the doors to the noticeboard so you don't now need a stick from the cherry tree to wedge them shut!*

Sincere thanks to Geoff and Ba for heading up this very successful project.

Ryton on Dunsmore History Group.

We hope you will join us and help support your history group, preserving Ryton's rich and historical heritage. For more information, contact Steve Garrett, on 07587699234 or e mail carrotfromryton@gmail.com



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Thank you!

- Thank you to Janet Smith, who faithfully keeps up the tradition of “Auntie Jean”, so beloved by all, and makes sure that there are always beautiful flower arrangements in church.
- We would like to invite others to cover some

weeks, perhaps in memory of a loved one, or to celebrate a special anniversary or other happy event. You can arrange this either by coming into church to do the arrangement in person, or by making a donation and Janet will do it for you.

- Suggested donation amount: £5-10. Contact Janet on Tel. 02476 306224, mobile 07471 416636 to arrange your date(s)



Messy Church- 1st Sunday of the Month at 5.00 pm

making and doing talking and singing fun and thoughtful
friendly and welcoming something for all ages
refreshments

Come and join us!

Next services: June 7 & July 5 at 5.00 pm.

Recycle your used printer cartridges



John Church writes: We can now take all ink cartridges, laser and toner cartridges, although we only get paid for the chunky types; the others are disposed of without going into land fill.

If anyone has the chunky printer cartridges that we can recycle, please let me have them- there is a plastic box for them just outside the Ryton Church Centre door. At Bubbenhall, please leave your cartridges at the back of church, or with Craig Greenway.

Stop Press: I have received notification from recycle 4 charity that we will be receiving £25.00 for our recycled printing cartridges.

Our churchyard: Tidy up sessions.



The Churchyard Tidy Up normally takes place on the third Saturday of each month from 10am - 12pm. The work is undertaken by volunteers who give their time to keep the churchyard in an attractive and pleasant state. The jobs include mowing, strimming, hedge cutting, cleaning seats, clearing paths, pruning and weeding.

We have the tools to use, all we need now is a few more volunteers. You don't even have to have 'green fingers' to support the team. If you can help, please contact Steve Witter on 07887 833369 or just turn up on the day. Refreshments will be provided. Thank you!



Thank you to everyone who volunteers and helps to keep the churchyard tidy. If you can't manage our regular meeting times but would like to help at a different time, please get in touch with Steve. There are a few people that do this, and it is very much appreciated.

theWI

TWIRLS

Ryton-on-Dunsmore Outing

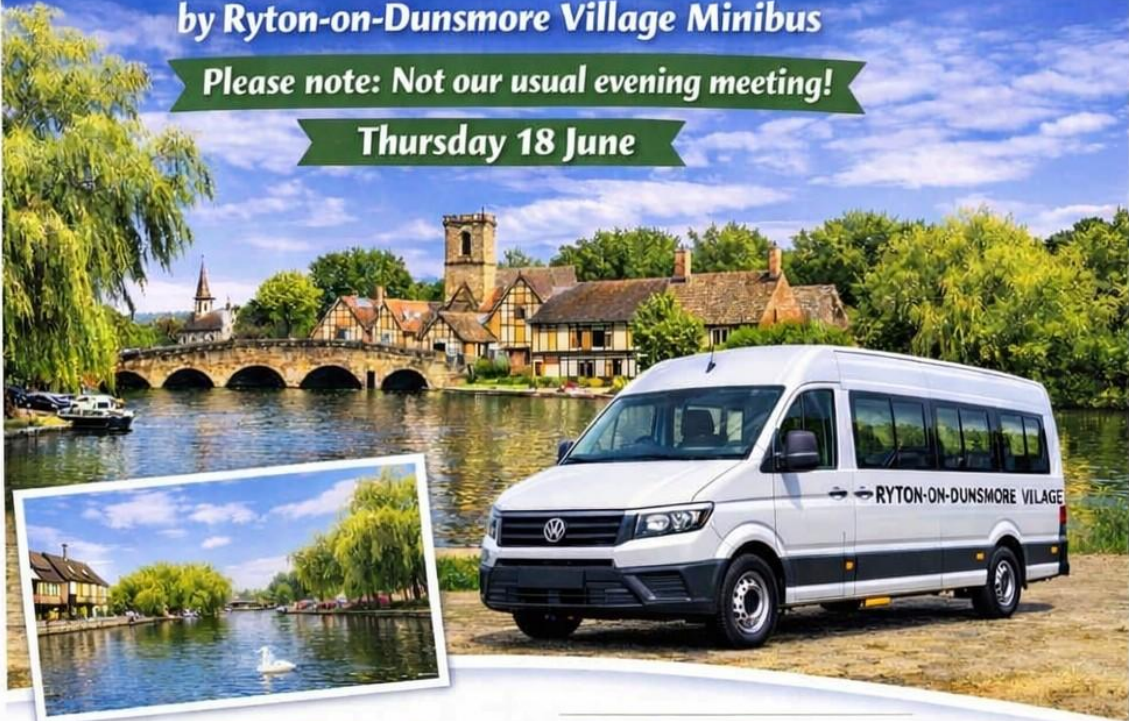
— Special Day Trip —

Historic Stratford-upon-Avon

by Ryton-on-Dunsmore Village Minibus

Please note: Not our usual evening meeting!

Thursday 18 June



- A self-guided walk
- A stroll by the river
- Or a little shopping trip?

Your choice!

Members: Free

Friends / Visitors: £6

Depart: Blacksmiths Arms, High Street, Ryton-on-Dunsmore 1.00 pm

Return: 5.00 pm from Stratford-upon-Avon

Limited spaces must be booked in advance

Email to book: twirlsrytonondunsmorewi@gmail.com

All Ladies Welcome!



A reflection from Rosemary:

Moses, God and Computers .

One of the best-known stories in the Bible is how Moses went up the mountain and talked to God, who gave him a set of instructions for life. The Ten Commandments. These Commandments were carved into two big stone tablets. Moses took the stone tablets, and after a couple of setbacks, presented them to the Hebrew nation, who took them as the basis for how they should live their lives in harmony with God and with their neighbours.

The first setback was when Moses dropped the stone tablets and broke them, so he had to go back to God and ask for another set.....

Here's a sketch which imagines the conversation between God and Moses taking place in the computer age.

“Excuse me, Sir.”

“Is that you again, Moses?”

“I’m afraid it is, sir.”

“What is it this time, Moses? More computer problems?”

“How did you guess?”

“I don’t have to guess, Moses. I know everything. Remember?”

“Oh, yeah. I forgot.”

“Tell me what you want, Moses.”

“But you already know everything. Remember?”

“Moses!”

“Sorry, sir.”

“Well, go ahead, Moses. Spit it out.”

“Well, I have a question, sir. You know those ‘ten things’ you sent me?”

“You mean the Commandments, Moses?”

“That’s it. I was wondering if they were important.”

“What do you mean ‘were important’, Moses? Of course, they’re important. Otherwise I wouldn’t have sent them to you.”

“Well, sorry, but I lost them. I could say the dog ate them, but of course you would see right through that.”

“What do you mean ‘you lost them’? Do you mean “broke them?” Are you trying to tell me you didn’t save them, Moses?”

“No, sir. I forgot.”

“You should always save, Moses.”

“Yeah, I know. You told me that before. I was going to, but I forgot. I did send them to some people before I lost them though.”

“And did you hear back from any of them?”

“You already know I did. Well, there was that one woman who said she never uses words like: ‘Thou shalt not’? Can she change the words a little bit?”

“Yes, Moses. As long as she doesn’t change the meaning.”

“And what about the man who thought your attitude was a little harsh- he thought you should call them the ‘Ten Suggestions,’ or let people pick one or two to try for a while?”

“Moses, I’ll pretend I didn’t hear that.”

“I think that means ‘no.’ Well, what about the guy who said I was hamming him?”

“I think the right term is ‘spamming,’ Moses.”

“Oh, yeah. I e-mailed him back and told him I don’t even eat that stuff, and I have no idea how you can send it to someone through a computer.”

“And what did he say?”

“You know what he said. He used Your name in vain, Sir. You don’t think he might have sent me one of those - er - plague things, and that’s the reason I lost those er...commandments, whatever, do you?”

“They’re called ‘viruses,’ Moses. Not “plagues””

“Whatever! This computer stuff is a bit much for me. Can’t we just go back to those stone tablets? It was hard on my back taking them out and reading them each day, but at least I never lost them.”

“No, you just broke them. We’re going to do it the new way, Moses.”

“I was afraid you would say that, sir.”

“Moses, what did I tell you to do if you messed up?”

“You told me to hold up this rat and stretch it out toward the computer.”

“It’s a mouse, Moses. Not a rat. A Mouse! Mouse! And did you do that?”

“No, I decided to try technical support first. After all, who knows more about this stuff than you, and I really like your office hours. By the way, sir, did Noah have two of these mice on the ark?”

“No, Moses.”

“One other thing. Why didn’t you name them ‘frogs’ instead of ‘mice,’ because didn’t you tell me the thing they sit on is a pad? Like a water lily leaf?”

“I didn’t name them, Moses. Man named them, and you can call yours a frog if you want to.”

“Oh, that explains it. Kind of like Adam, naming the animals, yes? Sir? I bet some woman told him to call it a mouse. After all, didn’t some woman called Eve name one of the computers Apple?”

“Turn the computer off, Moses. I’m sending you another set of stone tablets.”

Whether you get them sent to you by email, or carved onto stone tablets, or read them in your Bible, the Ten Commandments are God's tried and tested blueprint for a good and happy life. For life lived in harmony with yourself and with the people you meet. For the kind of life that God, who loves us, knows will make us happy and fulfilled people.

Here's a reminder of what they say:

1. **Don't love anyone more than God.**
2. **Don't value any object more than God.**
3. **Don't swear.**
4. **Take some time off work regularly.**
- 5 **Look after your Mum and Dad.**
- 6 **Don't kill.**
7. **Don't sleep around.**
- 8 **Don't steal.**
9. **Don't tell lies about people.**
10. **Don't be jealous.**

Let us pray: Lord God, help us to see that following your commandments brings a life that is fulfilled and happy.

And then help us to follow them. Amen

Moses' nightmare....?





Thank You

for your generosity






The giving of Parish Share has made a real difference in 2025. By working together and pooling resources we are able to ensure ministry throughout the whole diocese, including in our less affluent parishes. The total parish share given in 2025 was £5,074,443 which made up around half of the diocesan total annual income.

Parish Share helps to...



Your generosity has...

enabled areas of support for parishes in 2025 including:

-  56 supported in their governance and structures
-  74 supported via the Parish HR Service
-  88 Clergy supported with grants for retreats, wellbeing and spiritual direction.
-  29 grants facilitated for building works worth over £222k
-  80 Churches supported with digital giving



Tailpiece:



Handwritten signature
@nakedpastor

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE JULY- AUGUST NEWSLETTER BY JUNE 20th PLEASE!

Do you receive your Newsletter by email? **Please encourage others to do so too!**

- Email version normally reaches you before the printed version.
- Less work for our committed band of volunteer deliverers, (to whom we are most grateful)
- Easier to read.
- No charge.
- Email version often contains material which there wasn't room for in the printed version, e.g. extra news, pictures, cartoons, jokes...
- Environmentally friendly if you choose not to print it out, instead saving it to refer to when you want to.

Rosemary's email is rosiking2963@gmail.com If you would like to receive the newsletter by email, but aren't yet on the recipients' list, please just get in touch.

