

St Leonard's Church, Ryton-on-Dunsmore:

Newsletter September 2026

Vicar: Vacancy.

Reader: Mrs. Rosemary King. Tel: 01788 573067
Mobile: 0787766612 email: rosiking2963@gmail.com

Churchwardens: Mr John Church. Tel 07522 868523
email j.church108@icloud.com

Ms Emma Hunt. stleonardschurcryton@gmail.com

General enquiries: stleonardschurcryton@gmail.com



The Norman door to St Leonard's Church , where so many generations of Rytonians have come to worship. Follow in their footsteps over the ancient threshold, join your Ryton heritage at a service in your parish church.

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

Benefice SERVICES: September 2026

DATE	Wolston	Church Lawford	Ryton
September 6: Trinity 14	11.00am: Family Service. 3.00pm: Messy Church.	9.15am: Family Service.	9.30am: Family Worship.
September 13: Trinity 15	11.00am: Morning Worship.	5.00pm: Evening Prayer.	9.15 am: Parish Communion.
September 20: Trinity 16	11.00am: Morning Worship.	9.15am: Holy Communion.	5.00pm: Holy Communion
September 27: Trinity 17	11.00 am: Holy Communion.	5.00 pm: Harvest.	9.15am: Morning Prayer.
October 4 Trinity 18	11.00am: Family Service	9.30am: Family Service.	9.30am: Family Worship.
October 11 Trinity 19	11.00am: Morning Worship.	9.30am: Holy Communion.	9.30am: Harvest Festival.

At Ryton:, Wednesday, September 9: 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.

Our Vicar, the Revd Malcolm Ingham, will be transferring to a new parish on October 1st. His email address and phone number are no longer active. Please send enquiries to stleonardschurchryton@gmail.com
We're sorry to be losing him and wish him every happiness in this next stage in his ministry. Please look out for the inevitable changes in service times and other events in the months ahead when we shall be without a Vicar.



From the Church registers:

Friday, August 14 at St. Leonard's Church: The Funeral of **Richard Mann.**

May he rest in peace.



Monday, August 17 at St. Leonard's Church: The Marriage of **Lucy and Carl Reynolds.**

God bless them in their life together.

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

Your PCC members and Church Wardens.

At the Annual General Meeting on May 28 the following were elected to be Churchwardens and to serve on the Parochial Church Council for the next year:

Church Wardens

John Church	j.church108@icloud.com	07522868523
Emma Hunt	stleonardschurchcryton@gmail.com	

Parochial Church Council Members

Gill Church	gmchurch50@gmail.com	07522 868524
Mike Spencer	aimike@btopenworld.com	07912 521084
Linda McAlpine	lindarangers@yahoo.co.uk	07850 411260
Ba Marsh	geoffandba@gmail.com	07813 618035
Megan Bargewell	meganbargewell@gmail.com	
Janet Smith	janolwyn@hotmail.co.uk	02476306224

Rosemary King Lay Reader	rosiking2963@gmail.com	07877666123
David Wells Treasurer		
Carolyn Reily Secretary	carolyn.f.reily@gmail.com	07879 756203

Lunch Club.

Have you ever thought about joining us for 2 course meal with a soft drink and a coffee or tea and a raffle ticket, all for £5? The next meal will be held on September 9th at 12 noon in St Leonard's Church Centre. **There will be no Lunch Club in October.**

Please ring me (Hazel) on 02476 456711 the week before if you would like to come along.

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 September 9th at 12.00 noon. Please contact Hazel on 02476 456711.

Coffee Morning



This is another popular gathering in the church centre. It is held on the 4th Wednesday of each month – September 23rd and October 28th - between 10am and 12 noon. Bring your friends and neighbours. We suggest a £2 donation for coffee, tea and cake or biscuits.

We look forward to seeing you.

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

At St Leonard's Church
Ryton on Dunsmore
Saturday 12th September @ 5 pm

A cartoon illustration of a red BBQ grill with a silver fork and spatula resting on it. A yellow banner with the text 'September BBQ' is draped across the front of the grill. Below the grill is a pile of red charcoal briquettes with orange and yellow flames rising from them.

£12 adult: Steak and 2 Sausages
£5 for Children: 2 sausages and Burger
Salads, Breadrolls, Puddings included
Bring your own drinks.

Tickets from Ba Marsh, Carolyn, Linda, Emma
Ba Marsh: 024 7630 4295 or geoffandba@gmail.com
Carolyn: 07879 756203 carolyn.f.reily@gmail.com
Linda: 07850411260 lindarangers@yahoo.com
Emma: 07519447251 emhunt98@gmail.com

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.

Evergreens' Harvest Festival will be on Tuesday, October 6 in the VILLAGE HALL, beginning at 2.00pm. The service will be led by the Revd Allan Scrivener- the honey vicar! Everybody welcome to come along- Evergreens members and non-members!



**Harvest Supper on
Friday 9 October at 7.00
pm in the Church
Centre to coincide with
the Harvest Festival on
Sunday 11 October.**

**In addition to the
Harvest Festival, we are
hosting a Harvest**

Supper in the Church Centre at 7.00 pm on Friday 9th October, price for adults is £7.50 and children under 12 £3.00. There will be a vegetarian option if requested in advance, for the main course.

Please bring your own drinks, tea and coffee will be available.

Hot meal, possibly a beef casserole with potatoes or crusty bread and vegetables. Offers of desserts would be gratefully accepted!

A vegetarian option will also be available.

**£7.50 for adults and £3 for children,
Bring your own drinks.**

FAMILY WORSHIP

St Leonard's Church



**FIRST SUNDAY
OF EVERY MONTH**



9.30 am

A relaxed and welcoming
service for everyone.



MAKING AND DOING



TALKING AND SINGING



FUN AND THOUGHTFUL



FRIENDLY AND WELCOMING



SOMETHING FOR ALL AGES



REFRESHMENTS



Come and Join Us!



NEXT SERVICES:

6 SEPTEMBER and 4 OCTOBER

at 9.30 am.

Contact geoffandba@gmail.com 02476304295

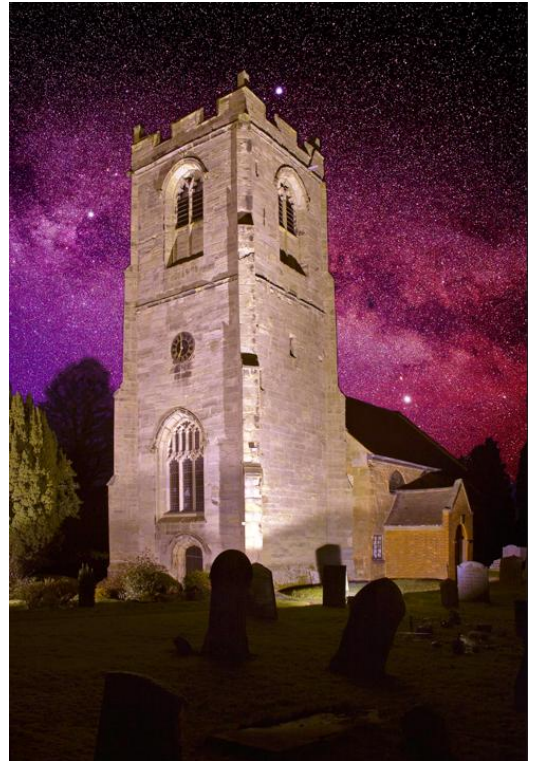
Church Floodlighting.

**August 4: Loving Memories of
Iris Hinton.**

**September 9: Birthday Memories of
Lynne Goodwin.**

***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.**



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.

We recently received notification from recycle 4 charity that we will be receiving £25.00 for our recycled printing cartridges.

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



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



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.



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)

Our churchyard: Tidy up sessions.

Congratulations and many thanks to members of the tidy-up team who turned out in the intense heat to bring order to our churchyard.

A message from Steve Witter: The weather has been against the current Churchyard volunteers with

rain when we don't need it and now excessive sunshine. Anyone that can spare an hour would be welcome to turn up on the third Saturday of the month or drop Steve Witter a message (on 07887 833369) and he can add you to the WhatsApp group so you get all the updates.



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.

A reflection from Rosemary: **Fed by Ravens: Finding Hope in a Dry Season**

Those of us who are lucky enough to have attended Sunday School will probably remember the story about the prophet Elijah being fed by ravens.



It was fun colouring in a sheet depicting this event.

As a child, you just accept it as something that really happened- after all, your teacher said it did, and you've coloured in that lovely picture. When you grow up though, you do wonder whether such a thing could really have happened, don't you? Ravens are not the most generous of creatures; they're more likely to snatch your bread away like greedy seagulls, than to bring you fresh supplies.

Well, whether you accept this story as fact or legend, this summer's parched lawns and hosepipe bans have given us a small taste of something the Bible describes with striking realism: drought as a shared, communal trial.

In 1 Kings 17, Elijah faces exactly this - a drought so severe it threatens to destroy the whole land - and yet the story that unfolds is not one of despair, but of astonishing provision.

God sends Elijah to hide by the Wadi Cherith, promising, of all things, that ravens will feed him. It's a wonderfully unlikely image: scavenger birds, morning and evening, delivering bread and meat to a solitary prophet in a landscape drying up around him. Ravens aren't obvious agents of mercy- in fact they were considered unclean by Jewish law- yet God chooses precisely this creature to demonstrate that provision can come from the most unexpected quarters, and that no created thing is beyond being pressed into gracious service.

There's real encouragement here for us today. When the Wadi itself finally dries up, Elijah isn't left stranded; he's sent onward, to the widow of Zarephath, where the meal and oil "shall not run out." The pattern across the whole narrative is one of provision that keeps arriving in fresh and surprising forms, even as circumstances keep changing.

Our own drought is a smaller affair, but it invites the same posture: attentiveness to where sustenance is quietly arriving, gratitude for the ordinary "ravens": the sustenance-bringers in our lives- neighbours, foodbanks, allotment-sharers, the reservoir engineers working overtime- and confidence that dry seasons are not the whole story.

Rain returns. The wadi refills. And in the meantime, we're asked to trust that provision, however it comes, has not stopped.

So, as we watch the water butts and wait for cloud, perhaps this is a good time to notice our own ravens, and give thanks for them.



TWIRLS

RYTON-ON-DUNSMORE

Ladies of Ryton

Are you keen to maintain your independence driving safely in the future?
Do you secretly worry about when/if you will need to renew your driving licence?

Join us with ladies from
Warwickshire Road Safety
helpful advice on how we can drive safely for longer from our village location.

Bring your own drinks and nibbles
twirlsrytonondunsmewi@gmail.com
07710388199

All Ladies Welcome, bring a friend!

Thursday September 17th at 7.30pm
St Leonards Church Centre,
Ryton-on-Dunsmore CV8 3ET

Members free
Visitors and Friends £6
Raffle £1 per ticket or £3 for 5 tickets

LYOS MI

LEAMINGTON SPA

Bring your own drinks and nibbles

All Ladies Welcome, bring a friend!

For your diary:

TWIRLS RYTON-ON-DUNSMORE FUNDRAISER



UNSUNG HEROES
Wine Tasting
WITH *Donna*
with Cheese and biscuits

FRIDAY
SEPTEMBER 25TH
7pm till 9pm

ST LEONARDS CHURCH CENTRE
RYTON-ON-DUNSMORE
CV8 3ET

£27
PER PERSON
PAYABLE ON BOOKING

RAFFLE
Prizes!

18+
EVERYONE
OVER 18 WELCOME!

Join us and try some amazing wines from unexpected places and test your knowledge with a fun quiz.

SPACES ARE LIMITED, TO BOOK CONTACT:
twirlsrytonondunsmorewi@gmail.com
07710 388199

CONNECT WITH DONNA
ON SOCIAL MEDIA AT
justaboutwine2024

St. Leonards Church, Ryton-on-Dunsmore

Christmas Fayre

RYTON-ON-DUNSMORE VILLAGE HALL CV8 3EY

21 | 11AM - 1PM
NOVEMBER | ENTRY £1
RAFFLE FREE WITH ENTRY

CRAFTS | REFRESHMENTS | SANTA

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE CHURCH

Tailpiece:

***IN his youth, the playwright George Bernard Shaw was a confessed atheist, famous for the paradoxical sentence :
“ I am an atheist, and I thank God for it.”***

Later in life, he read the Bible, and changed his views, saying::

***“The Bible is the most dangerous book on earth.
Keep it under lock and keys. DO NOT LET YOUR
CHILDREN HAVE ACCESS TO IT!***

**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE OCTOBER NEWSLETTER BY
SEPTEMBER 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.