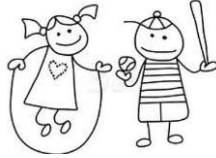


For children and young people

Little Fishes, St Leonard's Church Hall Monday 1.30 - 3pm.
Art, crafts, free play and singing for all-age pre-schoolers.
£1.50 per family includes refreshments.



Sunday Saints, for 4+, during 9.15 am Sunday service at **All Saints**.

Young Adults: meets fortnightly on Tuesdays at 8pm.

St Barnabas Sunday School meets during the 10.00 am Sunday service.

St Barnabas Baby Barnacles, 2.00pm, 1st & 3rd Wednesdays in term time.

Good Shepherd Junior Church and Crèche at services on 1st and 3rd Sundays.
Messy Church service every 2nd Sunday

ACTIVE, All Saints (Senior Youth Group for age 11+) meets on 1st and 3rd Sundays, 7.15 – 8.45pm

Messy Church by St Nicholas at Kilby Road Recreation Ground, Hockliffe, on an occasional basis. Facebook page Hockliffe Messy Play.

Bellringing Practice

All Saints: Monday 7.30 -9.30pm.

St Barnabas: Tuesday 7.45 -9.15pm; Thursday 5.00 pm (juniors)



Contact details

All Saints, Leighton Buzzard: Canon Grant Fellows
Parish Office 01525 381418; parish@allsaintslb.org.uk
www.allsaintslb.org.uk

St Barnabas, Linslade: Rev'd Dr Bernard Minton; Rev'd Wyn Jones
Parish Office: 01525 371802; parish@stbarnabaslinslade.uk
www.stbarnabaslinslade.uk

St Leonard's, Heath & Reach; St Michael's Eggington; St Nicholas' Hockliffe
Rev'd Noel McGeeney; Parish Office 07502 320025
stleonardheath@googlemail.com; www.saintleonardschurch.com

St Michael & All Angels, Billington; Good Shepherd, Greenleas School, Sandhills
Rev. Steve Marsh; 01525 838450

Ouzel Valley Team Ministry

TEAM NEWS

May 2018



Last month, this publication included news of St Michael's Eggington, and their decision to explore the possibility of becoming a Chapel of Ease. At their APCM this month, St Nicholas Hockliffe discussed the way forward for them too. This comes from their PCC:

In common with so many small churches around the country, St. Nicholas is having to face up to the future and contemplate some really difficult options.

The worshipping community here is dwindling. Weekly average attendance is now just eleven. Income is not increasing while the bills continue to rise. £1.36 and a button in the collection plate does not pay the clergy stipends. This is unsustainable, and as we move through 2018, we will discuss future plans for worship in this community.

A local charity, the Hillersdon Trust, has been working for several years with the Central Beds Council, Parish Council, and Neighbourhood Plan group, with some hope that the trust land might be sold both to assure the future of this church, and create a significant trust for the benefit of the wider community.

However, when CBC finally published their Local County Plan 6 weeks or so ago, the dream vanished in a puff of smoke. The local plan allocates 140 houses to the village, but does not include any on the Hillersdon Trust land. This is bitterly disappointing. The community will face all the disadvantages of development with none of the benefits which the community's own plan proposed. There is still a remote possibility that CBC can be persuaded to change their minds, but otherwise the PCC is left with a very difficult discussion about options for the future.

We have already supported the decision by our sister church of St Michael's Eggington to apply to become a Chapel of Ease under the protective wing of St Leonard's Heath & Reach. It will not be reasonable – or even possible – for St Leonard's to absorb two churches in this way, and so we must look at other options. Right now, it is very hard to see what these options might be, but we will take time to deliberate and hope that the Hillersdon development or some other significant source of funding may be forthcoming, to keep worship alive and well, and the spiritual and pastoral needs of this community catered for.



Quiet Services

Morning Prayer: Monday to Friday St Leonard's 8.45am
All Saints, 9am

Evening Prayer: Monday to Friday All Saints, 4.30pm

Mindfulness Meditation: Alternate Wednesdays St Leonard's Hall 7.30pm
(Please check the website for more information.)

Julian Meeting for Silent Prayer: Last Wednesday of the month,
Lady Chapel St Barnabas 4pm

Usual Midweek Communion Services – but check websites!

Monday	9.30am St Barnabas
Tuesday	9.30am St Barnabas 7.30pm All Saints (Service of Healing on 3 rd Tuesday) 7.30pm St Leonards
Wednesday	12.00pm All Saints
Thursday	10am St Barnabas 10.00 am All Saints (said with hymns)
Friday	8.30pm St Barnabas (Quiet Eucharist)
Saturday	9.00am All Saints



A Message from the Team clergy: we are tentatively arranging a Confirmation for post-Easter 2019. If it takes place it will be at the Church of the Good Shepherd. Courses are likely to take place in either late 2018 or the spring of next year. If you or anyone you know would like to consider being confirmed, please talk to the clergy.

Regular Social Events



Monthly Coffee mornings, 2nd Thursday, 10-12am,
St Leonard's Church Hall;

SMILE Elevenses 1st Wednesday, from 11am, Eggington church.

All Saints Spire Coffee Shop open Tuesday, Friday & Saturday 10 am - 3.30pm.

Lunch Club on the first Wednesday, 1.00pm, All Saints.
Tickets in advance from coffee shop.

New Beginnings Bereavement Support Café, offering friendship, support and understanding 1st Sunday of the month, 2.30-4pm The Spire Coffee Shop, All Saints.

Events and Happenings

12th May: Hog Roast and Fete in aid of St Michael's Eggington

Eggington House, Eggington LU7 9PH
Doors open 12 noon; tickets £15 Adult; £7.50 child (under 12)
from Martine 01525 210584; or eggingtonvillage@gmail.com

13th May:

A Service of Remembering for the recently bereaved All Saints 3pm

19th May:

St Leonard's May Fayre, St Leonard's Church Hall 1pm

21st – 24th May:

"Thy Kingdom Come" at All Saints. Come in and walk around a series of stations highlighting each of the seasons of the Church's year. See posters for times.



2nd June:

Eggington Village Pant Sale 10.30-1.00
Eggington Village Hall Plants; Cakes & home produce;
Refreshments. Proceeds to St Michael's maintenance fund.

17th June:

Cream teas St Nicholas Hockliffe, from 3pm
followed by Evensong with the choir of All Saints 6pm



24th June:

Cream Tea St Leonard's Church 3pm



There is an island which is disputed territory between Canada and Denmark. The militaries of both countries periodically visit to remove the other guy's flag and leave a bottle of Danish schnapps or Canadian whiskey. This is what happens when nice countries fight.

