



WELLOW & SHERFIELD ENGLISH Parish Newsletter



Letter from the Area Dean

Apart from increases in the cost of living, 2022 is starting to look like a much better year than the last two! All of March falls in Lent (Ash Wednesday is on 2nd March) and a range of Lent Courses is available across the Deanery. Some are online and some in-person, do have a hunt for something to suit!

In Romsey Deanery we have had a sudden bundle of requests for Confirmation. So, on 10th April there is to be a Confirmation Service for those who want to be confirmed (4 p.m. in St Leonard's, Sherfield English). If you, or someone in your family, want to be confirmed (or find out more about what is involved) then please contact me. Already we have nearly a dozen teenagers and several adults who want to be confirmed (spanning over 60 years in ages) – why not join them?! One option for preparation starts at 4pm on Sunday 13th March, so do get in touch. romseyareadean@gmail.com 01794 340635

Your Area Dean, James Pitkin

Confirmation is a special church service in which a person confirms the promises that were made when they were baptized. If you were baptized at a christening when you were a child, your parents and godparents made these promises on your behalf. At a confirmation service, you make these promises for yourself. Your friends and family as well as the local Christian community will be there to promise to support and pray for you. The local bishop (Bishop Debbie) will lay their hands on your head and ask God's Holy Spirit to give you the strength and commitment to live God's way for the rest of your life.

www.churchofengland.org/life-events/confirmations/confirmation-faqs

Letters from Churchwardens

St Margaret's, East with West Wellow

The month of March brings us into Lent but with the certainty of Easter to come. As we soldier on in our interregnum we know this will also come to an end, albeit the promise for that remains as September rather than April.

I have invited the newly appointed Deputy Archdeacon to come to Wellow to see our village at first hand. I do worry that Diocesan Committees and panels sometimes take decisions in Winchester without really understanding the needs and character of this special Parish. I apologise if I do them an injustice.

Richard and I thank you all who keep the life and spirit of our parish alive and well. Thanks also to our visiting priests and organists. We are surviving without a Vicar but we need a resident Vicar to flourish.

Roy Perry, St Margaret's Churchwarden

Christine Pettet

Please join us for a **Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Christine Pettet** on Friday 8th April at 12 noon at Romsey Abbey, followed by a buffet lunch at Wellow Golf Club.

RSVP Tim Denison 01295 690099 by 25th March (timothy.denison@btinternet.com)

To share memories or give a short tribute during the service, please contact Christopher on 01962 869082 by Friday 25th March.

The service will also be streamed on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/lavnzOf2V9w>

St Leonard's, Sherfield English

Last year, if I'm honest, I refused to give up anything for Lent. In the middle of a long lockdown I rather felt that enough sacrifices had been made, and my husband was firmly of the opinion that if I deprived myself of chocolate or alcohol then I was likely to become unbearable to live with. He was probably right! This year normal service has been resumed, but as well as my personal abstinence from chocolate and biscuits we have used the season to make changes at St Leonard's. Since we were allowed back into the church in July 2020, we have been strict on the wearing of face masks, even as the use of them became optional elsewhere. We now feel safe enough to give up this restriction where people feel comfortable to do so. Whilst they have undoubtedly kept us safe, I have watched enough of our congregation struggle to see through misted glasses, struggle to recognise people, struggle to hear without being able to lip-read, and struggle to sing the hymns we love through two layers of cloth. Being able now to see the smiles on people's faces as we greet each other each Sunday feels like such a huge step towards more settled times.

At the end of last month, the village lost one of its much loved and long-standing residents in Mrs Pauline James. Many of you will remember Pauline from her days as landlady at the Hatchet, and mother to its current popular landlady, Liz Murray. Although she had had to give it up a few years ago for health reasons, Pauline was for many years an active member of the PCC and a generous supporter of St Leonard's Church. Our thoughts are with Liz and all of Pauline's family. She will be much missed.

From old generations to the new – on Sunday 10th April at 4pm we are delighted to be welcoming Bishop Debbie Sellin, acting as diocesan Bishop of Winchester, for a confirmation service at St Leonard's. There are currently 12 candidates (8 teenagers and 4 adults), and as far as memory serves, this is our first confirmation service in some 40 years. Candidates have come not just from Sherfield but also from Wellow, Lockerley and East and West Tytherley (the latter being the Thorngate parishes we are expected to join in due course). It is wonderful, as we head into Spring and towards Easter, to look forward to new beginnings and fresh growth within our church.

Clare Durham, St Leonard's Churchwarden

St Margaret's Services and Events

St Margaret's Services, Celebrants, Readers and Sidespersons for March 2022; NB change of week for Matins

Parishioners should look out for Lesley's e-mail *Bulletins* for up-to-date information and in case of unforeseen change. If you would like to be added to her distribution list, please ask (lesley_mackay@outlook.com OR 01794322570)

March 2022	Celebrant	Reader 1	Reader 2	Sidesperson
6 Holy Communion 9.15 a.m.	Oliver Bayley	Ann Jarrett	Debbie Waldron	Ann Jarrett
13 Holy Communion 9.15 a.m.	Mike Burson Thomas	Carl Donnelly	David Rowe	Margery Thomas
20 Holy Communion 8.15 a.m. Matins 9.15 a.m.	Oliver Bayley	Lesley Mackay	Sue Amey	Sheila Scott or deputy
27 Mothering Sunday 9.15 a.m. with Holy Communion	Oliver Bayley	John Parr	Sue Harder	John Parr

Our next fund-raising event will be St Margaret's Annual Lecture in the Village Hall on Saturday 19th March.

This will be given by Professor Margaret Cox, on *The Lost Soldiers of Fromelle 1916, Finding and Naming the Dead*. Tickets are now available from Margery Thomas (322794), Ann Jarrett (322469) and Lesley Mackay (322570).

The **Annual Nightingale Service** is planned for **15th May** (Sermon by the Bishop of Southampton). Full details of the day later. There are plans for a **Bingo Night, Quizzes, a Flower Festival and an Open Gardens Weekend**. We shall keep you posted.

Meanwhile, every week in the Church Rooms : (Transport can be arranged if needed)
Soup Lunch, Tuesday from 12 noon; Coffee and Chat, Thursday from 10.30 a.m.

Important: Church Electoral Roll. Apply now if you would like to join the roll – or leave it!

During April both St Margaret's and St Leonard's have to submit updated electoral rolls (the Revision) to Winchester Diocese. Each year at this time we ask church members to let us know if they want their entry changed. This means that if for some reason they want to come off the roll they should let the Electoral Roll Officer know. *Likewise anyone wishing to join the roll should approach the Officer for an application form.* Our Electoral Roll Officers are Richard Amey at St Margaret's (dickamey@compuserve.com 01794 322782) and Julia Noble at St Leonard's (julia@manorfarm pork.co.uk 01794 322497).

St Leonard's Services and Events

6th March at 11 a.m. - Eucharist (Rev'd James Pitkin)
13th March at 11 a.m. - Morning Prayer
20th March at 11 a.m. - Morning Prayer
27th March at 11 a.m. - Family Service for Mothering Sunday
3rd April at 11 a.m. - Eucharist (Revd James Pitkin)

There will be a working party at the church on Saturday 12th March from 10.30 a.m.

Would volunteers please come to help reattach the metal hanging rings on the kneelers (basic sewing skills only required) and/or to help tidy the church car park (basic gardening skills)!

We also have a coffee morning on 2nd April at the church between 10.30 a.m. and 12 noon.

Lectionary Listings for use in both Churches

Date	Sunday	Old Testament Reading	Psalm	New Testament Reading	Gospel Reading
6 Mar	Lent 1	Deuteronomy 26.1-11	Psalm 91.1-2,9-16*	Romans 10.8b-13	Luke 4.1-13
13 Mar	Lent 2	Genesis 15.1-12,17-18	Psalm 27	Philippians 3.17 - 4.1	Luke 13.31-35
20 Mar	Lent 3	Isaiah 55.1-9	Psalm 63.1-9	1 Corinthians 10.1-13	Luke 13.1-9
27 Mar	Mothering Sunday	Exodus 2.1-10 OR 1 Samuel 1.20-28	Psalm 34.11-20 OR Psalm 127.1-4	2 Corinthians 1.3-7 OR Colossians 3.12-17	Luke 2.33-35 OR John 19.25-27
3 Apr	Lent 5	Isaiah 43.16-21	Psalm 126	Philippians 3.4b-14	John 12.1-8

St Margaret's Church, East with West Wellow and St Leonard's Church, Sherfield English

<https://www.sherfieldenglish.org.uk/st-leonards-church>

<https://www.stmargaretswellow.co.uk/>

CONTACT DETAILS

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St Leonard's, Sherfield English, Churchwardens

Miss Julia Noble: julia@manorfarm pork.co.uk 01794 322497 – Mrs Clare Durham: clare@mdurham.co.uk 01794 524484