

Sunday March 14 2010

Welcome



OAKLEY WITH WOOTTON

Sunday 14
The fourth Sunday in Lent
 Mothering Sunday
8.00 am Holy Communion (Prayer Book) at St. Leonard's
10.00 am All Age Service
7.00 pm Living Free 4/7 at 16 Croft Road

Monday 15
8.00 pm
Annual Parochial Church Meeting in St. Leonard's Church - Refreshments from 7.45pm

Tuesday 16
10.00am
 Pippins at the Green Hut
7.30pm
 Life Group

Wednesday 17
10.00am Life Groups
3.30 pm ALF - After School Club at Oakley Junior School
7.45pm Youth Cells
 FIC 5 in St Leonard's Church
8.00pm Life Groups

Thursday 18
10.00am Life Groups
7.30pm
 Alpha Plus 7 at 7 Matthews Way
8.00pm Life

Saturday 20
8.00 am - 9.00 am
 Worship, Listening Prayer at Holbrook House

Sunday 21
The fifth Sunday of Lent
8.00 am Holy Communion (prayer book) at St. Leonard's Church
10.00 am Morning Service
3.00-4.00 pm Prayer time in St. Leonard's Church
7.00 pm Living Free 5/7 at 16 Croft Road

Your Guide to this service

PRAYER NEEDS There is always an opportunity to receive prayer at the end of the service; please make your way to the side of the organ where members of the ministry team will be waiting.

COLLECTION We do not take a collection during the service but you are welcome to place a gift in the plate as you enter or leave the church. For visitors or those who do not give regularly, there are envelopes and pencils in each pew, which enable us to reclaim the tax on any occasional amount, increasing what you give. We see the giving of money as a response to God's love for us, and many of our members give by standing order and gift aid.

Monday March 15 at 8.00pm

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

TOMORROW!

In St Leonard's Church
Refreshments will be available from 7.45 p.m.
 We look forward to gathering together as God's people to hear news of our church's work and witness over the past year, to give thanks and praise to God for all He has done, and to look forward together to the future. Please bring your copy of the Annual Report to the meeting.

DON'T MISS IT!

Sunday March 21 3.00-4.00pm

NEW!

Praying for a new Rector
St. Leonard's Church
 Please come and pray for God's provision for a new incumbent.
 Marilyn Scott (781436)

Saturday April 17

NEW!



morning move
WE shall soon be moving back into the Centre- and all the equipment and furniture needs to get back first! On **Saturday April 17** we are planning a morning move. **Graeme Wheeler** ☎781556 would love to know you are coming so that he can organise everything to run as smoothly as possible. There are many different jobs -the centre chairs and tables need dusting and cleaning, crockery needs checking, washing and storing, etc., so it's not all heavy lifting! Please join in and help for any time you can between 9.00 am and 12.00 Noon. Thanks! *Carole.*

Easter Services

NEW!

Maundy Thursday April 1

7.00 pm A celebration of the Last Supper with foot washing IN ST LEONARD'S CENTRE. This will be suitable for all ages.

Good Friday April 2

10.00 am Good Friday walk.
 This annual event involves members of all ages from the different churches in Oakley, and is to pray for and bless individuals and families in the village. We shall be starting from Glamis Close, walking a route that takes us to the Methodist Chapel for a service at **11.15 am**. Everyone is welcome for all or part of this time.
2.00 -3.00pm Crosswatch at St. Leonard's Church.
 A short service remembering Jesus' last hour on the cross.

EASTER DAY APRIL 4

8.00 am Holy Communion (Prayer book) at St. Leonard's
8.45 am Communion for Easter Day at St. Lawrence Wootton
10.00 am All Age Easter Celebration at St. Leonard's
11.15 am Shortened Communion at St. Leonard's.

WE GO SHOPPING EACH WEEK...

AND BUY ONE EXTRA NON-PERISHABLE ITEM

BRING THAT ITEM TO CHURCH...

AND COLLECTIVELY THAT ITEM IS ONE OF MANY - PERHAPS A HUNDRED EACH WEEK! AND AT NO GREAT COST TO ANY ONE INDIVIDUAL. WHY NOT GIVE IT A GO FROM NEXT WEEK?

Besom
BESOM exists to bring together those who have and can give, with those who are in need and there are many people and families in need in Basingstoke. We collect items of non-perishable food in a box in the church porch each week, which we then take to Besom to distribute to those who most need it. Please contact them direct if you have items to give- ☎ 01256 862400

<http://www.oakley.ndirect.co.uk/>

STAY informed with Christian Concern For Our Nation's weekly e-mail which can be ordered from www.ccfon.org.

An update on Church Finances from our Deanery synod

THE Church of England is the biggest voluntary organisation in England. Apart from providing a church in almost every community, through the church schools the C of E coordinates the education of almost a million children. Amongst other things, the C of E employs more qualified youth workers than all the local authorities.

It is a common fallacy that the C of E is funded in some way by the government or some vast wealth accumulated during the middle ages! This could not be further from the truth. In Hampshire (Diocese of Winchester) 97% of the church's operations are funded from the giving of ordinary church goers, who keep their churches open on behalf of their communities.

Like many other organisations, the C of E is currently under financial pressure – largely due to the challenges of funding pensions for clergy and other employees and to meet the requirements of government legislation. In Hampshire our 2010 spending plans have had to be cut from £12 million to £10.5 million. Cuts and job losses are inevitable. A pay freeze has already been imposed. Staff supporting the church's training and conference operation at Old Alresford Place have been made redundant. The Diocese central support team has been reduced by eight posts. Pension scheme benefits have been reduced and the final salary scheme for lay staff is being closed.

It is likely that we will have to reduce the clergy in parishes over the next few years from 180 to about 150 (30 jobs). Unfortunately churches in and around Basingstoke will not be able to escape these cuts.

John Davies. Chair of Deanery Synod

Please pray for wisdom for those who administer the budget at Diocesan level, and for grace and generosity to be shown by each parish

ST. LEONARD'S CENTRE

UPDATES



The financial situation

St. Leonard's Centre is now very close to becoming a reality. If you have pledged to give financially to the centre then it would help if you could make your gifts as soon as you are able. This will allow us to keep a loan we have arranged with the Winchester Diocese to a minimum.

Amazing provision has been made for this project in a very short time with most of the cost already provided or pledged.

If you would like to make a gift to help cover the remaining cost then please contact Michael Edwards or any member of the project team. Cheques are payable to "St. Leonard's Centre Building Project".

Bookings and charges

Bookings for rooms will be open from March 10, when the hire charges will also be available. Rooms will be available for dates from May 3 onwards. These will all be made through the Church Office 782724

Opening Service

Bishop Michael is coming to join us at 10am on Sunday May 2 for a celebration service to mark the opening of the Centre. Please note the date!

Praying for the Project:

Please pray that the loan from the Diocese can be repaid quickly- that money will come in to cover the remaining costs.

Please pray for all the final work being done, outside and inside the Centre; for safety for those involved in the current work- plumbers, electricians, decorators, carpet layers, those involved with fencing and turfing; the many and varied tasks involved in final preparations.

Please pray for the management team as they plan the organisation and running of the Centre.



THANK YOU!

TODAY

TO all those who picked flowers and created posies for today's Mothering Sunday service.

May 9 - 15

NEW!

Christian Aid Week

CHRISTIAN Aid Week is seven amazing days of fundraising, action and prayer. It's a time when communities all over the country get together to raise funds to make real and lasting changes in the lives of some of the world's poorest people.

The week started out as the churches' response to the horrors of the refugee crisis in Europe after the Second World War.

The different churches in the UK and Ireland got together and started fundraising – sending the money through partner organisations who were best placed to make a difference on the ground.

It has now become the country's biggest 'house-to-house' collection – with 300,000 volunteers going from door to door every year delivering envelopes and picking them back up from householders in the week.

If you would like to get involved this year with delivering, collecting or helping to organise it all then please contact **Richard Butler** ☎781571 or **Michael Edwards** ☎780219.

PRAYER TRIPLETS AND PARTNERSHIPS

NEW!

SUPPORTING one another and being supported in prayer is a great blessing. Time, place, and frequency of meeting is arranged by you, and the aim is to encourage and be encouraged in every way. There are many testimonies of God's power working as a result of two or three praying together!

If you would like to be linked up with one or two others in this way please speak to **Jan Klein** (ladies) on ☎782169 or **Nigel Pierce** (men) ☎780264.

Thank God for

✿ God's tenderness and compassion

“As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you.” Isaiah 66:13

Please pray for:

✿ God's strength and sustenance for mothers and fathers who have to bring up families on their own

✿ Parents who have experienced the loss of a child.

✿ The work of 'Care for the family' in support of family life in all aspects. (Look at www.careforthefamily.org.uk)