

# WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY



If this is your first newsletter, welcome ... if you have any questions about the church family, the Christian faith, or about our children's work, please do not hesitate to call Matthew the Rector on 01787 310 845.

This notice sheet covers the next week and combines:

- Notices
- The church diary (including livestream & Zoom joining instructions)
- Prayers and readings for the services on Sunday 5th November

## Reflection

I may have commented on this in the past but it is well worth saying again ... when Jesus appeared to his disciples after his crucifixion his whole body had been transformed from death to life (alleluia!). Surely the power of God in the one who healed to many and who raised others from the dead could have dealt with the wounds in his hands and feet and in his side? My point is that it must have been deliberate that the wounds stayed. The resurrected Christ, the one who we call to in our pain, chose to keep his wounds. He wants us to know that he identifies with us in our suffering. *Rev Lawson*



## 4 o'clock community

For a number of exceptional reasons we regret that we have had to **cancel** the Firepit & Fireworks social this Sunday at 4.00pm. Please feel free to join us for our Family Communion at 10.30am at Holy Trinity when we will be thinking about St Edmund; we will try to have a firepit event in due course. Please note that at the next Shine Informal Worship on the 19<sup>th</sup> Nov at 4.00pm is a confirmation with Bishop Mike.

*Any questions please contact Nicky – 07938 681 319 or [chadbrooklightwave@gmail.com](mailto:chadbrooklightwave@gmail.com)*

## All Souls Evensong - 5<sup>th</sup> November 2023

All Souls Evensong service will be held at Holy Trinity on Sunday 5th November at 6.30pm, this service will be livestreamed.

## Remembrance Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> Nov

There will be three services across our Benefice next Sunday for Remembrance/Armistice Day, please note the later than usual time of the service at Holy Trinity

9.00am	Remembrance – Shimpling
10.30am	Remembrance – Lawshall
<b>10.50am</b>	Remembrance – Holy Trinity



Please note that in light of the limited space at Holy Trinity due to the scaffolding (which incidentally is on track to be down in time for Christmas – Hooray!), we plan to stream the service in the Lady Chapel and broadcast the Audio into the graveyard.

## Prayer Vigil for the Middle East

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> Nov, 4.30-6.00pm at **St Gregory's Church in Sudbury**. A prayer meeting arranged by Churches together in Sudbury and District. The Vigil is open to all, to come and go as they wish. It will be largely in silence: a time to gather together with others of like mind to bring the agony of this conflict to God in our individual prayers. We pray for all involved in this terrible tragedy to find peace together.

## Middle East Crisis Appeal

Due to the current situation in Gaza and Israel, **Christian Aid** have launched an emergency appeal working through their development partners in the Middle East. Their long-established partners in the region are on the ground now, ready to respond as soon as it is safe to do so. But the impact of the crisis is huge, and they need help to reach as many people as possible. Your donation today could help provide vital emergency supplies such as medical relief, food, and shelter. With a simple gift right now, you can reach those most affected caught up in the conflict. You can donate by visiting their website for more details: [christianaid.org.uk](http://christianaid.org.uk). Thank you. Richard Blyth.

Please join us for a

**VIGIL FOR  
MIDDLE EAST  
PEACE**

at St Gregory's Church  
**This Sunday 5<sup>th</sup>**  
**4.30 – 6pm**

**Come when you can –  
leave when you must!**

Supported by  
Churches Together in Sudbury & District

## Clarification re Shimpling Services in November

We will be having the Remembrance service for Alpheton and Shimpling on the 12<sup>th</sup> November at Shimpling Church. Our regular Shimpling communion service will also still be taking place on the third Sunday of the month on the 19<sup>th</sup> November at 9.00am. We hope to see you there and all welcome.

## The Late Matt Perry

Something from Facebook (sorry - cannot 100% verify source).

*In his memoir, actor Matthew Perry detailed 14 stints in rehab, 15 stomach surgeries and more than 60 attempts at detox. He also talked about a powerful encounter with God. After hitting rock bottom, Perry describes reaching out in desperation: "God, please help me," I whispered. "Show me that you are here. God, please help me." As I kneeled, the light slowly began to get bigger, and bigger, until it was so big that it encompassed the entire room... What was happening? And why was I starting to feel better? I started to cry. I mean, I really started to cry - that shoulder-shaking kind of uncontrollable weeping. I wasn't crying because I was sad. I was crying because for the first time in my life, I felt OK. I felt safe, taken care of. Decades of struggling with God, and wrestling with life, and sadness, all was being washed away, like a river of pain gone into oblivion. I had been in the presence of God. I was certain of it. And this time I had prayed for the right thing: help."*

May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

## Parking – Holy Trinity

The gates on the Green should be open on Sunday but it is a bit squelch so please do allow a bit more time for parking if possible.



## Safari Supper

The Stained Glass Fundraising Group in Long Melford are planning a Safari Supper. This will take place on **Friday 10th November** and will consist of 3 parts: Drinks at one location, A meal at another and finally coffee and drinks for all together in the church. If all goes to plan this date should coincide with the most recently completed window being back and the scaffolding down so we can celebrate the return of the newly restored window. If you would like to attend please put your name on the list at the back of Holy Trinity church. The price for the evening including plentiful food, wine and a contribution to the fund is £25

## Drawing near to God in Advent: prayer, postures and practices

Tuesday 28 November 7.00pm - 8.30pm, online. Bishop Mike will lead four Zoom sessions through Advent looking at aspects of prayer (e.g. praise, intercession...), Christian postures (e.g. peace, joy...) and associated practices to help us grow closer to God over Advent. These will run on Tuesday 28 November | Tuesday 5 December | Thursday 14 December and Tuesday 19 December. There will be plenty of time for questions and discussion. All are very welcome! Book [here](#).

## A Huge Thank You

On behalf of Matthew, Deborah and myself, I would like to thank Catherine Ashard for all the volunteering work she has done in the church. Catherine has been an amazing support to me and has regularly locked the church up twice a week, checked the oil in the candles, emptied the dishwasher along with some cleaning and probably many other jobs that I am unaware of. We will miss her very much but fully understand her need to take a step back and we wish her all the best for the future. *Cheryl, Church Warden*



## RIP Robin Hockett

Robin has been a regular attender at Holy Trinity for many years. After a period of illness during which his wife Jennifer has been a great support, Robin is now at peace with God. Robin was always such a gentleman. He was kind, good humoured, gentle, faithful, and content. It goes without saying that he will be very much missed and our thoughts and prayers are with Jennifer, Robin's family, and all who are grieving. Robin's funeral will be at Holy Trinity on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November in the morning at 10.30am.

## Easyfundraising

Please sign up to support Holy Trinity Church Long Melford Organ Fund on #easyfundraising today to increase our chances of winning from a £3,000 prize fund in their new giveaway! Each new person who joins counts as an entry. It's completely free and winning would really make a big difference to us! Please sign up [here](#).

## Diary

Sun 5 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Communion at Alpheton
	10.30am	Family Service at Holy Trinity with livestream *
	(4.00pm	Firepit service <b>cancelled</b> )
	6.30pm	All Souls Evensong at Holy Trinity *
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Connect baby & toddler group at St Catherine's
	7.30pm	A&S Homegroup
Tues 7 <sup>st</sup>	9.00am	Morning Prayer via zoom #
	10.30am	Funeral at Lawshall – John Bloomfield
Wed 8 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Coffee Caravan at Shimpling Village Hall
	7.00pm	Remembrance Rehearsal at Holy Trinity
	7.30pm	Bell Practice at Holy Trinity
Thurs 9 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Choir Practice at Holy Trinity
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Safari Supper
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Remembrance Service at Shimpling
	10.30am	Remembrance Service at Lawshall
	<b>10.50am</b>	Remembrance Service at Holy Trinity*

### \* Livestream Joining Instructions

- Google the five words “Holy Trinity Long Melford Facebook”.
- Click on the top link [or click here](#) to open the church’s Facebook page and scroll down a bit.
- Please note that you do not need a Facebook account yourself in order to watch the livestream.
- # Morning Prayer Zoom Meeting ID: 810 2345 2032, Password: 283350, or click [here](#).

## Dates for your Diary

Sun	19 <sup>th</sup> Nov	4.00pm	Shine Informal Worship at Holy Trinity with confirmation
Sat	10 <sup>th</sup> Feb '24	All Day	Benefice Away Day - Assington Hall

Please see the poster on the back page for **Christmas services and events**

**Collect (prayer for the day)**

God of glory, touch our lips with the fire of your Spirit, that we with all creation may rejoice to sing your praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**First Reading 9.00am****Revelation 7:9-17**

After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup> And they cried out in a loud voice:

‘Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.’

<sup>11</sup> All the angels were standing round the throne and round the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, <sup>12</sup> saying: ‘Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honour and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!’

<sup>13</sup> Then one of the elders asked me, ‘These in white robes – who are they, and where did they come from?’

<sup>14</sup> I answered, ‘Sir, you know.’ And he said, ‘These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. <sup>15</sup> Therefore,

‘they are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. <sup>16</sup> “Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat down on them,” nor any scorching heat. <sup>17</sup> For the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd; “he will lead them to springs of living water.” “And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

*This is the word of the Lord*

**Thanks be to God**

**Gospel Reading 9.00am****Matthew 5:1-12**

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew*

**Glory to you, O Lord**

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, <sup>2</sup> and he began to teach them.

He said:

<sup>3</sup> ‘Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup> Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup> Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup> Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup> Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

<sup>8</sup> Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup> Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup> Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup> ‘Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

*This is the Gospel of the Lord*

**Praise to You O Christ**

## First reading 10.30am

## Psalm 31:1-5

<sup>1</sup>In you, LORD, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup>Turn your ear to me, come quickly to my rescue; be my rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me.

<sup>3</sup>Since you are my rock and my fortress, for the sake of your name lead and guide me.

<sup>4</sup>Keep me free from the trap that is set for me, for you are my refuge.

<sup>5</sup>Into your hands I commit my spirit; deliver me, LORD, my faithful God.

*This is the word of the Lord*

**Thanks be to God**

## Second Reading 10.30am

## Romans 8:35-39

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? <sup>36</sup>As it is written:

‘For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.’

<sup>37</sup>No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons,<sup>[b]</sup> neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, <sup>39</sup>neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*This is the word of the Lord*

**Thanks be to God**

*(Bible readings courtesy of Bible Gateway, New International Version UK (NIVUK))*

## Post Communion Prayer

Lord of heaven, in this eucharist you have brought us near to an innumerable company of angels and to the spirits of the saints made perfect: as in this food of our earthly pilgrimage we have shared their fellowship, so may we come to share their joy in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## Suggestions for Prayer

- We pray for a lasting peace in the Holy Land, for those grieving, for those who are afraid, for those who are despairing.
- We pray for all caught up in in the Ukraine war.
- We remember before God those who have recently died and those who mourn. In particular we remember the family and friends of John Bloomfield, Imelda Heywood & Robin Hockett
- We pray for those who are in need of God’s healing in mind, body or spirit.

*We pray without ceasing for justice, reconciliation, peace, and an end to hatred and war. We also pray for God to change the hearts of all leaders and decision-makers in our countries and around the world, for we are in dire need of hearts that love, show mercy, and are willing to live in unity with others – hearts that respect human dignity and choose life rather than death.*

*We entrust the countries of our Lord’s earthly home into the hands of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, asking him to have mercy on us all and to give us his peace and blessing. Amen*

Hosam Naoum, Anglican Archbishop in Jerusalem.



## CHRISTMAS SERVICES

- Sat 25<sup>th</sup> Nov      **Messy Church, Melford Village Hall**  
12-4pm            *part of the Melford Christmas Fayre*
- Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec        **Lights of Remembrance, Alpheton Green**  
3.30pm            *remembering loved ones, refreshments after in Village Hall*
- Sat 2<sup>nd</sup>              **Christmas Tree Lighting, Lawshall**  
6.00pm            *Lawshall Village Hall*
- Sun 3<sup>rd</sup>              **Traditional Advent Carols, Melford**  
6.30pm            *choral service with readings & reflections*
- Sat 9<sup>th</sup>              **Shimpling Christmas Market**  
11-1pm            *festive fun & stalls, Shimpling Village Hall*
- Sat 9<sup>th</sup>              **Lights of Remembrance, Melford**  
6.30pm            *remembering loved ones, refreshments from 6.00pm*
- Sat 16<sup>th</sup>            **Beer & Carols Shimpling (TBC)**  
tba                 *at the Bush Pub*
- Sun 17<sup>th</sup>            **Alpheton Carol Service**  
4.00pm            *come and sing some well-known carols*
- Sun 17<sup>th</sup>            **Melford Carol Service**  
6.30pm            *come and sing some well-known carols*
- Fri 22<sup>nd</sup>            **Lawshall Carol Service**  
6.30pm            *come and sing some well-known carols*
- Sun 24<sup>th</sup>            **Crib Service, Melford**  
3.00pm            *family friendly service, nativity dress optional!*
- Sun 24<sup>th</sup>            **Shimpling Carol Service**  
6.00pm            *come and sing some well-known carols*
- Sun 24<sup>th</sup>            **Midnight Mass, Melford**  
**10.45pm**         *an atmospheric communion service*
- Mon 25<sup>th</sup>           **Family Christmas Day Communion, Melford**  
10.30am          *please bring presents to show!*