

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 get in touch. Our administrator Vicky is available on 07804 558160. This notice sheet covers the next 2 weeks and combines:

- Notices
- The church diary (including livestream & Zoom joining instructions)
- Prayers and readings for the services on Sunday's 17th & 24th November 2024

This Week / Safeguarding

This has been a sad week for the Church of England, however our first thoughts must go to the victims of abuse, and in particular those abused from a position of trust. At parish level we go to great lengths to make our church services and activities safe for vulnerable people - young and old alike and I will elaborate on this at the 10.30am service on Sunday (which happens to be 'Safeguarding Sunday'). If you have any questions, or indeed if you want to talk to someone, please do not hesitate to get in contact with myself (01787 310 845) or our Safeguarding Officer Cheryl (07943 811030). If you want to talk to someone independently, please visit [Home - Safe Spaces England and Wales safespaces@firstlight.org.uk](https://www.firstlight.org.uk), or call [0300 303 1056](tel:03003031056). Please also note that Safeguarding information is available on church notice boards and on our websites.

Revd Lawson

Postponed Elders Commissioning Service

Due to a perfect storm of misunderstanding & miscommunication, unfortunately it will not be possible for the Elder's to be commissioned or re-commissioned on Sunday. We will be worshipping as usual and look forward to welcoming Archdeacon David to commission our Elders in due course.

PCC and Ministry Team Away Day

It already seems a long time ago, however here is a summary of our time away together on the 2nd Nov. Throughout the day there was plenty of time to talk with one another and for questions and answers, and it was encouraging to see relationships developing between people from all of the parishes in our benefice.

We started with a period of worship led by Judith.

Kevin then went on to outline the five marks of mission which every Priest and Reader signs up to in the CofE: these are in summary TELL – TEACH – TEND – TRANSFORM – TREASURE (for more read [here](#)). Kevin gave more details about 'Treasure' (which is about being good stewards of God's creation) by sharing information about an exciting project he is involved in at Cambridge Business Park. This is called [Carbon 13](#) which aims to help support and develop businesses which have viable ideas with which to remove millions of tonnes of Carbon from the atmosphere each year.

Nicky then explained more about the 4 o'clock community and how there are large sections of society which are not easily reached by our more traditional forms of worship. However, that is not so say we should throw out traditional church worship, which is still often very effective. Indeed Nicky went on to explain how it is

possible for 'fresh expressions' of church to work alongside traditional forms of worship; particularly in a rural context, there can be a complementary and mutually supportive relationship between the two (as evidenced in our own benefice in a number of ways).

In the afternoon Revd Katie de Bourcier from the Diocese facilitated two group exercises (yes the dreaded get in groups with pens and present something!). These focussed on two things. Firstly, each parish was asked to draw a timeline of key events in the church history up to the present day and then look ahead into the hopes for the future. Some timelines started a long time ago with the Saxons(!) however the more recent events revealed some interesting perspectives on how to minister in each of our villages.

Secondly, we were asked to consider how people from different backgrounds in each of our villages might be drawn towards the church family, how they could learn more about the Christian faith, and then have their faith nurtured. This was encouraging as we do seem to have a variety of routes available, however there are also some gaps to plug!

We ended with prayer and a blessing.

May I thank everyone for their time and their contributions, and please pray for our PCCs and Ministry Team who give their time generously as volunteers.

Fusion Fireworks

We have a fantastic fireworks night last week with 38 attending!! As well as all the usual hot dogs and marshmallows, there was some spontaneous singing which was both entertaining and really rather moving. Well done to Pam and all the team.



RIP Anne Clubb

We are very sad to announce that Anne Clubb this week. Anne was a much loved Melfordian, and regular worshipper at Holy Trinity. May she Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.

Decorating the Long Melford Church Tree

The Holy Trinity tree will be decorated on Saturday 7th December in the morning starting 10.00am. Please come along and join this fun event where I am sure there will be some refreshments. With thanks once again to the Hyde Parker family for donating the tree.

Lights of Remembrance Services

Both services will be on Sunday 8th Dec: at Alpheton Village Hall at 4.30pm, and at Holy Trinity at 6.30pm (refreshments from 6.00pm). Please see the form on the back page if you would like a name to be remembered (*please see flyer on the last page*).

Christingles

The Christingle service at Holy Trinity will take place on Sunday 1st December at 10.30am. We would really appreciate it is someone could volunteer to assist in the sourcing and making of approx. 20 Christingles please let Vicky know chadbrookoffice@gmail.com or 07804 558160.

Shimpling Christmas Market

Please join us on Saturday 7th December, 10.00-1.00 at Shimpling Village Hall for a Christmas Coffee Morning with stalls selling wreaths, Christmas bakes, crafts and gifts. In aid of A&S churches

Invitational Christmas Choir

The choir at Holy Trinity Church, Long Melford is extending an invitation to those who would like join them for the Main Carol Service on 22nd Dec at 6.30pm. The rehearsals will be on Thurs 5th (tbc), Thurs 12th & Thurs 19th Dec at 7.00pm, with a final rehearsal before the service at 5.15pm. If you would like to encourage children to have a sing, and would like to bring them along, they are welcome too. I would suggest 8yrs +and above. I'd be grateful if adults could accompany any children to the rehearsals, (and stay) for safeguarding reasons, and I do need to know in advance of any children coming, to make arrangements to meet and register them. If you would like to know more – then either email me on nwbrown@btinternet.com, or come and say hello at the organ console after a service.

Newsletter emails

There seem to be an increasing number of emails not arriving at their intended address each week, with our administrator receiving the message below. In the first instance could you please check your junk email and check that it is not being redirected there. Many Thanks Vicky

“Message Blocked Your message to ‘email address’ has been blocked. See technical details below for more information. Your message looks like SPAM or has been reported as SPAM”

A Church Near You (ACNY)

We are currently updating the information for all of our churches on the ACNY websites, which is a nationally supported website platform available to all Church of England churches. This system has the advantage of allowing people to easily transfer church services into their electronic diaries. This will be an ongoing job – please bear with us whilst this is taking place.

Suggestions for Prayer

- We pray for all victims of abuse; whose suffering is hard to imagine.
- We pray for those in positions of power, in the church and in other institutions, that will do all they can to protect the vulnerable, and to bring perpetrators of abuse to justice.
- We pray for Justin Welby who, when he resigned, was honest about his own weaknesses and took responsibility for institutional failings. Recognising that none of us are perfect, may we pray for all who bear the responsibility of leadership, that God will help them to act with integrity.
- We pray for lasting peace in the Holy Land, for a resolution to the war in Ukraine, and a ceasing of hostilities in other places of violence and hatred including the unrest in towns and cities in our own country.
- We remember before God those who have recently died and those who mourn including Anne Clubb.
- We pray for those in need of God's presence or his healing touch including Barbara Brady, David Bremer, Robert Hawkins, baby Munroe & Gordon Wright.

Lawshall Christmas Tree Festival

Christmas Tree Festival

Lawshall Village Hall
Saturday 7th December From 2pm

Come along and vote for your favourite tree!

Tombola
Refreshments

To reserve a tree contact
Wendy: 07900 617 833
grandmacoe@yaho.co.uk

Proceeds to be shared equally between All Saints' Church and Lawshall Village Hall

Melford Christmas Fayre

At 4.00 pm do join Rev Matthew for carols and tree lighting on the Little Green near the Bull.

Festive Long Melford

Saturday 30th November 2024 10am - 4pm

Programme of events

- 11:45am** Punch and Judy at Cock & Bell
- 12pm-1pm** Mrs Claus at Clark & Son
- 12:30pm** Punch & Judy at Cock & Bell
- 11:30pm-** Boxted Silver Band at
- 1:30pm** Long Melford Tea Rooms
- 1pm** Morris Dancers at Clark & Son
- 1pm-2pm** Mrs Claus at Cafe Hygge
- 1pm-2pm** Elsa and Ana at Brown Sugar
- 2pm** Beau Dance & Choir by the Tree
- 1:30pm-** Long Melford Silver Band at
- 3:30pm** Blackwells
- 2pm** Punch & Judy at Cock & Bell
- 2pm-3pm** Mrs Claus & Elves at The Bull
- 3:15pm-** Rock Choir around the Christmas
- 4:30pm** Tree
- 4pm** Carols & Lanterns around the Tree

Church Tours
The Black Lion

Farmers Market

Project 7
Hot Food/Drink
The Bull
11am-3pm
Children's Rides
Face Painting
Craft Fair
BBQ
Pop Up Children's
Photo Op!
Brown Sugar
Elsa & Ana

Blackwells
Silver Band

Cock and Bell
Punch and Judy

Mansel Hall
Festive Fayre
Mulled Wine
Mince Pies

All day throughout the village
Miss Balloonist
Face Painting
Morris Dancers

Fire Station
Fire Engine
Crafts

Library
Festive Event

Eliza's Pantry
The Grinch

Clark and Son
Butchers
Bar Rumba
Morris Dancers

Long Melford Tea Room
Boxted Silver Band

Breakout
Pop up Gift Shop

Nethergate
Pop Up Bar

Village Hall
Santa's Grotto
Messy Church Crafts
Primary School Fair

Donkey Rides

The Swan
Mrs Claus & Elves

Cafe Hygge
Mrs Claus

Book here to visit Santa's Grotto
www.pta-events.co.uk/flumps/

Promoting a safer church

The care and protection of children, young people and adults involved in Church activities is the responsibility of everyone who participates in the life of the Church

**House of Bishops
Safeguarding Policy
for children, young people and adults**

IF YOU ARE CONCERNED

that someone you know is at risk of, or is being abused, or presents a risk to others, please seek advice from a Safeguarding Adviser or if necessary report the matter to the Local Authority Social Care Services or the Police without delay.

Local contacts available to speak to if you have any concerns:

Name: CHERYL MORGAN
Role: SAFEGUARDING OFFICER
Tel: 07943 81030
E-mail: 0305CAM@CMA7.COM

Name:
Role:
Tel:
E-mail:

Name: **Karen Galloway**
Role: **Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser**
Tel: **07785 621319**
E-mail: **karen.galloway@cofesuffolk.org**

**Local Authority Social Services:
0808 800 4005**

**IF THERE IS IMMEDIATE RISK OR DANGER
PLEASE CONTACT THE POLICE VIA 999
IN AN EMERGENCY OR 101**

OUR COMMITMENTS

- Promoting a safer environment and culture
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children and vulnerable adults
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse or other affected persons
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns/allegations of abuse and other affected persons
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk.

HELPLINES

- NSPCC: 0808 800 5000
- Childline: 0800 1111
- Stop It Now: 0808 1000 900
- NAPAC: 0808 801 0331
- Samaritans: 116 123
- Family Lives: 0808 800 2222
- National Domestic Violence Helpline: 0808 2000 247
- Action On Elder Abuse: 080 8808 8141



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich

Diary

Sun 17 th	9.00am	Communion at Shimpling
	10.30am	Communion at Holy Trinity *
	4.00pm	Shine informal worship at Holy Trinity
Mon 18 th	9.30am	Connect baby & Toddler Group at St Catherine's
	7.30pm	A&S Home Group
Tues 19 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer via zoom #
Wed 20 th	10.00am	Communion at Steeds Meadow
	2.00pm	Communion at Melford Court
Thurs 21 st	7.00pm	Choir Practice at Holy Trinity
Sat 23 rd	10.00pm	Funeral at Holy Trinity – David Clarke
Sun 24 th	10.30am	Communion at Holy Trinity *
	4.00pm	Hands Together Christmas Craft
	6.30pm	Evening Communion at Lawshall
Mon 25 th	9.30am	Connect Baby & Toddler Group at St Catherine's
Tues 26 th	9.00am	Morning Prayer via zoom #
Wed 27 th	12.00pm	Interment of Ashes at Holy Trinity – Joan Ledgerton
Thurs 28 th	7.00pm	Choir Practice at Holy Trinity
Fri 29 th	2.45pm	Lawshall School Christingle Service
Sat 30 th	all day	Messy Church at Melford Christmas Fayre
	11.00am	Wedding at Alpheton – Alek & Sophie
Sun 1 st Dec	9.00am	Communion at Alpheton
	10.30am	Family Advent Service at Holy Trinity with baptism *
	6.30pm	Traditional Advent Carol Service at Holy Trinity *

*** Livestream Joining Instructions**

- Google the five words “Holy Trinity Long Melford Facebook” or [click here](#) to open the church’s Facebook page (scroll down a bit to see the feed).
- 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](#).

For the 17th December - Collect (prayer for the day)

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

First Reading

Hebrews 10:11-25

Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. ¹² But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, ¹³ and since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool. ¹⁴ For by one sacrifice he has made perfect for ever those who are being made holy.

¹⁵ The Holy Spirit also testifies to us about this. First he says:

¹⁶ 'This is the covenant I will make with them after that time, says the Lord. I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds.'

¹⁷ Then he adds: 'Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more.'

¹⁸ And where these have been forgiven, sacrifice for sin is no longer necessary.

¹⁹ Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading

Mark 13:1-8

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

Glory to you, O Lord

As Jesus was leaving the temple, one of his disciples said to him, 'Look, Teacher! What massive stones! What magnificent buildings!'

² 'Do you see all these great buildings?' replied Jesus. 'Not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down.'

³ As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴ 'Tell us, when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that they are all about to be fulfilled?'

⁵ Jesus said to them: 'Watch out that no one deceives you. ⁶ Many will come in my name, claiming, "I am he," and will deceive many. ⁷ When you hear of wars and rumours of wars, do not be alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. ⁸ Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places, and famines. These are the beginning of birth-pains.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You O Christ

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

Post Communion Prayer

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope: bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen**

Readings for Sunday 24th November

Sunday next Advent

Collect (prayer for the day)

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works,
may by you be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

First Reading

Revelation 1:4b-8

John,

To the seven churches in the province of Asia:

Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶ and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father – to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

⁷ ‘Look, he is coming with the clouds,’

and ‘every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him’;

and all peoples on earth ‘will mourn because of him.’

So shall it be! Amen.

⁸ ‘I am the Alpha and the Omega,’ says the Lord God, ‘who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.’

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading

John 18:33-37

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Glory to you, O Lord

Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked him, ‘Are you the king of the Jews?’

³⁴ ‘Is that your own idea,’ Jesus asked, ‘or did others talk to you about me?’

³⁵ ‘Am I a Jew?’ Pilate replied. ‘Your own people and chief priests handed you over to me. What is it you have done?’

³⁶ Jesus said, ‘My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place.’

³⁷ ‘You are a king, then!’ said Pilate.

Jesus answered, ‘You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You O Christ

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

Post Communion Prayer

God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end; for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, one glory. **Amen**

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sat 30 th Nov 11.00-3.30pm	Messy Church, Melford Village Hall <i>Part of the Christmas Fayre</i>
Sun 1 st Dec 10.30am	Family Advent Communion, Melford <i>family friendly communion service</i>
Sun 1 st 6.30pm	Traditional Advent Carols, Melford <i>choral service with readings & reflections</i>
Sat 7 th 10-1.00pm	Shimpling Christmas Fayre <i>festive fun & stalls, Shimpling Village Hall</i>
Sat 7 th 2-6.00pm	Christmas Tree Festival, Lawshall <i>Lawshall Village Hall, followed by carols at 6.00pm & pop up choir from 7.00pm</i>
Sun 8 th 4.00pm	Advent Wild Church <i>venue tbc</i>
Sun 8 th 4.30pm	Lights of Remembrance, Alpheton Village Hall <i>remembering loved ones, refreshments after in Village Hall</i>
Sun 8 th 6.30pm	Lights of Remembrance, Melford <i>remembering loved ones, refreshments from 6.00pm</i>
Fri 13 th 8.00pm tbc	Beer & Carols Shimpling (tbc) <i>at the Bush Pub</i>
Sun 22 nd 4.00pm	Alpheton Carol Service <i>come and sing some well-known carols</i>
Sun 22 nd 6.30pm	Main Melford Carol Service <i>come and sing some well-known carols</i>
Mon 23 rd 6.30pm	Lawshall Carol Service <i>come and sing some well-known carols, refreshments after at the Swan</i>
Tues 24 th 3.00pm	Crib Service, Melford <i>family friendly service, nativity dress optional!</i>
Tues 24 th 6.00pm	Shimpling Carol Service <i>come and sing some well-known carols</i>
Tues 24 th 10.45pm	Midnight Mass, Melford <i>an atmospheric communion service</i>
Wed 25 th 10.30am	Family Christmas Day Communion, Melford <i>please bring presents to show!</i>
Sun 29 th 10.30am	Benefice Communion at Holy Trinity, Long Melford <i>a simple communion service</i>

LIGHTS OF REMEMBRANCE 2024



The “Lights of Remembrance” Christmas services are a time to remember those loved ones not with us at Christmas time. We will hold be holding two short services of remembrance, when we shall light up a tree to remember those who have died.

Sun 8th Dec at 4.30pm, Alpheton Village Hall followed by Refreshments

Sun 8th Dec at 6:30pm, Holy Trinity Long Melford (refreshments from 6.00pm)

If you wish to dedicate a light, please call Vicky, Parish Administrator, on 07804 558160 or email chadbrookoffice@gmail.com with the name you wish to be remembered and at which service.

Alternatively, please hand this slip to one of our church wardens

I wish to dedicate.....lights at **Alpheton / Long Melford** (*please mark clearly*)

Name.....

Address.....

Tel.No.....

In memory of (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)