

# 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 service on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2023

## A reflection from one of our Elders on The Prodigal Son

The son took his share of the inheritance and left home; he wasted his wealth and ended up in squalor; he realised the error of his ways and returned home rather sheepishly; his father welcomed him with open arms and feasting; the other son was jealous and the father extended the same love to him (Luke 15, 11-32). Let us pray now for all families suffering turmoil, including the Royal Family, especially the King, the Queen Consort, William, Kate, Harry and Meghan; may they all share in the Lord's loving forgiveness and, in time and by God's grace, come together with feasting.

## Oxford Preacher next Sunday

Next Sunday (22<sup>nd</sup> Jan) Rev Brian Mountford is coming to preach at the 10.30am service at Holy Trinity. Brian was Vicar of St Mary's - the official Oxford University Church - for 25 years. He has recently retired. At St Mary's he ministered to the great and the good as well as being thoroughly engaged with students. He has written several books including "Church Going Gone" and "Generation Z" which have a recurring concern about how many young people claim to have no religion and how this has come about. Do come hear him and his wife Annette who founded "Family Links" helps parents change unhappy lives into more positive ones.

## Wood Treatment at Holy Trinity

Please note that the main body of the church will be closed between Wed 18<sup>th</sup> & Fri 20<sup>th</sup> January for treatment of the wood. Apologies for any inconvenience that this may cause. No services are planned at this time - we will keep the Lady Chapel open for prayer.

## Ukraine Appeal

Due to the worsening situation in Ukraine my colleagues at Rapid Aid for Ukraine are organising another aid convoy to that country at the end of this month, donations of warm winter clothing for adults, medical items, baby consumables, feminine hygiene items and hats and gloves are particularly needed, so please if you are able to support the suffering people of Ukraine donate at The Woolpatch, Co-op or Budgens Long Melford. Cash donations may also be made at Budgens. Thank you. Cllr John Nunn

## Confirmations and Adult Baptisms – 5<sup>th</sup> March

Over the last few weeks it has been very encouraging meeting with people either coming to faith in Christ or wanting to confirm their faith having been Christened as a child. We are looking to hold a Baptism / Confirmation service with the Bishop on the 5<sup>th</sup> March. If you would like to be considered as a candidate or have questions please contact the Rector on 01787 310845 or email [revmattis@gmail.com](mailto:revmattis@gmail.com).



## January Services

We have some interesting speakers in January and pray that we will find our connection to the Rock in this season of shifting and shaking. Please note that there will be an traditional evening service in Lawshall at 6.30pm on Sunday the 29<sup>th</sup> but there will be no midweek service in Lawshall.

### 4 o'clock community events in January

**8th Jan** at 4.00pm at Lawshall Church - Café Church will be exploring **Mental health**, particularly for children. Our speaker will be a counsellor and there will be an opportunity for questions and answers.

**15<sup>th</sup> Jan** – **Stargazing walk** meeting at the Rectory in Long Melford at **5.00pm**

**22<sup>nd</sup> Jan** – Shine **Informal Worship** at Holy Trinity Church at 4.00pm. With a band, craft and refreshments.

**29<sup>th</sup> Jan** – **Fundraising** for a Thai Orphanage with our Ukrainian friend Maria – 4.00pm at St Catherine's

Suitable for children and adults. For more info contact Nicky – [chadbrooklightwave@gamil.com](mailto:chadbrooklightwave@gamil.com) or 07938 681 319

## Bell Tower Fame!

With apologies that this notice has been missed out the last couple of weeks ... some of you will have seen in the New Year in listening to Radio 4. I was delighted to learn that Holy Trinity featured when a recording of the Bells played by the Suffolk Guild of Ringers was used to welcome in 2023. The Bell team have good fun every Wednesday evening at practice, if you fancy go do not hesitate to contact Linda on 01787 379 236.

## Video blog from a local organic farm

For the latest update please click [here](#).

## Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2023

The Week of Prayer is international and offers local opportunities to meet and pray with fellow Christians of different denominations. The theme this year is *Be-Longing: Praying for Unity amidst Injustice*.

In Sudbury and District, we keep the eight days from Saturday 21 January to Saturday 28 January, and for the first time since 2020 we mark each day with a physical event.

*The Week of Prayer is an annual worldwide event. It is a great joy to meet with members of other churches; please come to as many of these days as you can.*

For Sudbury & District:

Day 1: Saturday 21st January, 8 – 9:30 am, *Prayer Breakfast at All Saints', Sudbury*

Day 2: Sunday 22nd January, 6:30 pm, *United Service at St Gregory's. Speaker: Joel Taylor, Senior Pastor, Stour Valley Vineyard Church*

Day 3: Monday 23rd January, 12:30, *Suffolk Road Church (short service + light lunch)*

Day 4: Tuesday 24th January, 12:30, *Cornard Christian Fellowship (short service, light lunch)*

Day 5: Wednesday 25th January, 12:30, *Lavenham Church (short service + light lunch)*

Day 6: Thursday 26th January, 7 for 7.30pm, *Open Forum, Stour Valley Vineyard, Tudor Rd. Sara Merritt will talk about "Rising Hope" and "Fairtrade"*

Day 7: Friday 27th January, 12:30, *Sudbury Catholic Church (short service + light lunch)*

Day 8: Saturday 28th January, 8 – 9:30 am, *Prayer Breakfast at Sudbury Baptist Church*

*Refreshments will be provided after most services.*

## Happy New Year from easyfundraising

We've raised almost £400 already - and that's in just a few months of approximately 8 people who have signed up and bought things online. Please make supporting Holy Trinity Church Long Melford Organ Fund on #easyfundraising your 2023 resolution! It's easy, FREE and makes such a BIG difference to us. Over 7,000 brands will donate to us every time you shop online. Plus, once you've raised your first £5, easyfundraising will double it! Sign up [here](#). How many of the congregation use the internet to buy shopping/holidays/compare and buy house/car insurance - and all of these products generate free donations to our cause. At NO cost to the purchaser. Please ask to be shown what to do!

If you're planning ahead and booking a holiday, please use #easyfundraising! You can raise a BIG donation for Holy Trinity Church Long Melford Organ Fund at no extra cost to yourself! Plus, for a limited time, book with selected travel brands and you'll be entered into their giveaway for your chance to WIN £1,000 spending money!

## THE EMERGERS TAKEOVER PART 2



Following their extraordinary takeover of Bury Cathedral, **The Emergers** joined by a **host of guests (including organist Nigel Brown)** are coming to Long Melford for a unique evening of folk, blues and classical merriment.

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2023 – Holy Trinity Long Melford**

**Tickets £12 available from [www.whatsonwestsuffolk.co.uk](http://www.whatsonwestsuffolk.co.uk)**

**All proceeds to Holy Trinity and St. Nicholas Hospice**

**Bar opens at 6pm – music finishes at 10pm**  
[www.facebook.com/theemergers](http://www.facebook.com/theemergers)

## RIP Christopher Sansbury

It is with sadness and thanksgiving that we announce the death of Rev Canon Christopher Sansbury, Rector of Holy Trinity Church from 1978 to 1999. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family. May he rest in peace and rise in Glory. The funeral is planned to take place in Lavenham where Christopher has been living in recent years. Details are still not confirmed but will be made available asap.

## Rota update

The rota has recently been updated, I would be very grateful if you could please let me know of any duties you wish to change or are unavailable for. Thank you Vicky

## Diary

Sun 15 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Holy Communion at Shimpling
	10.30am	Holy Communion at Holy Trinity <small>with live Stream</small> *
	10.30am	Holy Communion at The Willows, Lawshall
	5.00pm	Stargazing Walk from Holy Trinity
Mon 16 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Connect Baby & Toddler group at St Catherine's
	2.30pm	Funeral at West Suffolk Crematorium – Reg McKenna
	7.30pm	A&S Home Group
Tues 17 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Morning Prayer via zoom #
	11.00am	Burial of Ashes at Holy Trinity – Clive Barratt
	7.30pm	A&S PCC
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Holy Communion at Steeds Meadow
	2.00pm	Holy Communion at Melford Court
	7.00pm	Bell Practice at Holy Trinity
Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Choir Practice at Holy Trinity
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Fusion Youth Group at St Catherine's
Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30am	Holy Communion at Holy Trinity <small>with live Stream</small> *
	4.00pm	Shine Informal Worship at Holy Trinity

### \* Livestream Joining Instructions

- Google the five words "Holy Trinity Long Melford Facebook".
- Click on the top link ([or simply 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 this link](#)

## Suggestions for Prayer

- We pray for all involved in the recent stabbing incident in Haverhill, especially those who knew the victim Harley Barfield who many knew from their school Stour Valley
- We pray for a peaceful end to the war in Ukraine and for those living in Suffolk away from home.
- We pray for families under strain, particularly the Royal Family.
- We pray for those moving away from the parish to pastures new.
- We remember before God those who have recently died and those who mourn. We especially remember the family and friends of David Leeming, Jayne Lines, Reg McKenna, James Mapston, Eileen Milner, Benjamin Perkins, Christopher Sansbury, Henry Smith, and Lancelot Sparkes.

## Collect (prayer for the day)

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new: transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Creator of the heavens, who led the Magi by a star to worship the Christ-child: guide and sustain us, that we may find our journey's end in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## Reading

### 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, <sup>2</sup>To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be his holy people, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ—their Lord and ours: <sup>3</sup>Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup>I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. <sup>5</sup>For in him you have been enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge— <sup>6</sup>God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. <sup>7</sup>Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. <sup>8</sup>He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Gospel Reading

### John 1:29-42

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

**Glory to you, O Lord**

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! <sup>30</sup>This is the one I meant when I said, 'A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.' <sup>31</sup>I myself did not know him, but the reason I came baptizing with water was that he might be revealed to Israel."

<sup>32</sup>Then John gave this testimony: "I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. <sup>33</sup>And I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>34</sup>I have seen and I testify that this is God's Chosen One."

<sup>35</sup>The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. <sup>36</sup>When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!"

<sup>37</sup> When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup> Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, "What do you want?" They said, "Rabbi" (which means "Teacher"), "where are you staying?"

<sup>39</sup> "Come," he replied, "and you will see." So they went and saw where he was staying, and they spent that day with him. It was about four in the afternoon.

<sup>40</sup> Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. <sup>41</sup> The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ). <sup>42</sup> And he brought him to Jesus.

Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas" (which, when translated, is Peter).

*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 of glory, you nourish us with your Word who is the bread of life: fill us with your Holy Spirit that through us the light of your glory may shine in all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**