

# 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 newsletter combines:

- Notices for this week (p1 – p3)
- The church diary (including livestream & Zoom joining instructions) (p4)
- Prayers and readings for this Sunday’s morning service (p5)

## Connect Toddler Group

We had a lovely first session on Monday. For Covid related number limitations we have split ourselves in to two groups – Week A (Ardvaaks) and Week B (Bananas). We had 14 parents and even more children on Monday and hope that the Bananas have just as good a time next week. Well done and thankyou to all the support team.



## Lent Appeal

We are delighted to announce that the total raised this year was just over £1,700! This has been split between [Number 72](#) and the Bishop’s Lent appeal in Kagera Tanzania (details [here](#)). Number 72 wrote thanking us for the “*extremely generous Lent donation*” ... “*your very kind gift will assist us to support local families and individuals in crisis. We do give thanks to God for this wonderful provision and pray that you and court congregation will know his blessing as you reach out ...*”



## Christenings and Weddings

Our ministry team is starting to get busy preparing this years couples and preparing families for Christenings. Our wedding couples have been magnificent in the way they have dealt with the recent uncertainties. We also have rather a ‘backlog’ of Christenings. Accordingly please be aware that we may have one or two more Christenings than usual held during the 10.30am service, as well of course as the many services we take at 12.30pm.



## Long Melford Annual Meeting (APCM)

This will be held on Tuesday evening at Holy Trinity at 7.30pm and on Zoom. There has been so much going on despite the lockdown which is encouraging to reflect on. We also have the opportunity to thank, and to vote one or two people on to, our church council (PCC). You would be very welcome to come along.

[Click Here](#), or use Meeting ID: 825 9658 8632, Passcode: 761814.

## Deanery Newsletter

In preparation for our deanery service on the 25<sup>th</sup> July (at Holy Trinity) why not have a browse through our Deanery Newsletter which can be found [here](#). Please pray for all the churches in the Sudbury Deanery as they likewise respond to the challenges of the Pandemic.



## Chadbrook Cheer!

For details of all forthcoming events please [click here](#).

On **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> April at 6pm** Julie Thomson will reveal “**What a Parish Recorder does**”. On 20<sup>th</sup> May there will be a guided tour of the Foxearth Nature Reserve at 11am; the warden will conduct the tour which will last about 2 hours; you can do as much as you feel comfortable with, we will give more details nearer the time.



<https://arocha.org.uk/our-activities/practical-conservation/foxearth-meadows/>

More walks are planned to Arger Fen (12<sup>th</sup> June) and Dawes Hall. And Simon Edge, our edgy and humorous local novelist, has offered to give a talk on ‘Is St Edmund buried under the Lady Chapel?’ Date to be announced.

Please let Vicky ([chadbrookoffice@gmail.com](mailto:chadbrookoffice@gmail.com)) know if you are interested in joining any Chadbrook Cheer events. If you, or anyone you know, might be willing to lead an activity, or want help linking to Zoom, please get in touch with Ian [mcdonald@spa-ltd.co.uk](mailto:mcdonald@spa-ltd.co.uk) or 07748 655301.

The book club will carry on monthly along with at least one other event each month. Please do let Ian know what you would like to see from Chadbrook Cheer in the future.

## Andy’s 100 mile April Pram Push

Andy Edgecombe is hoping to raise £500 for a small charity which helps save babies lives. ICP Support has been helping pregnant mothers suffering from Intrahepatic Cholestasis of Pregnancy (ICP) for 30 years. Money is needed for research into this liver condition which can cause premature birth and also stillbirth. There is no treatment, apart from close monitoring and early induction. Unbearable itching is the main symptom. You may see Andy pushing a buggy in Long Melford daily in April. If you would like to contribute or for more info please visit [justgiving/fundraising/andy-edgecombe](http://justgiving/fundraising/andy-edgecombe).



Alternatively please send cash or a cheque (payable to ICP Support) and post to : Mrs A Edgecombe, 41 Sampson Drive, Long Melford, Sudbury, Suffolk. CO10 9TF.

### Church Shop

The church shop at Holy Trinity is now open, and has a new card reader. A huge thankyou to all who serve (and welcome visitors) in this way. We are still looking for a volunteer to cover the shop on the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday morning of every month. If anyone would be able to help in this way could they let me know via my email [sarahjoneslloyd@gmail.com](mailto:sarahjoneslloyd@gmail.com).

### Lawshall Consultation

The PCC-appointed teams are continuing with thinking through the opportunities and implications of joining with Lawshall, and we are very much looking forward to a meeting with the Lawshall PCC later this month. We are planning to present preliminary findings with our congregations on the following dates:

**Long Melford** – during the 10.30m service on the 9<sup>th</sup> May

**Alpheton and Shimpling** – during the APCM at 7.30pm on Tues 11<sup>th</sup> May.



*(from the Guardian newspaper)*

## Diary

Sun 25 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	<b>Holy Communion at Holy Trinity</b> with Live Stream *
	11.45am	Coffee after the Service **
	3.00pm	St George's Day Service
Mon 26 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Connect Toddler Group (provisional)
Tues 27 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Morning Prayer #
	7.30pm	LM APCM at Holy Trinity
Thurs 29 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Chadbrook Cheer "What a Parish Recorder does"
Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	10.30am	<b>Holy Communion at Holy Trinity</b> with Live Stream *
	11.45am	Coffee after the Service **

### \* 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.

### \*\* Coffee after The Service

Zoom Meeting ID: 833 5925 6347, Passcode: 682003, or [click this link](#)

### # Morning Prayer

Zoom Meeting ID: 810 2345 2032, Password: 283350, or [click this link](#)

### Dates for your Diary

- Tues 11<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm - Alpheton and Shimpling Annual Meeting (APCM)
- Sun 25<sup>th</sup> July at 10.30am - Deanery Service



## Collect (prayer for the day)

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

## First Reading

**Acts 4:5-12**

The next day the rulers, the elders and the teachers of the law met in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup> Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and others of the high priest's family. <sup>7</sup> They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: 'By what power or what name did you do this?' <sup>8</sup> Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: 'Rulers and elders of the people! <sup>9</sup> If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed, <sup>10</sup> then know this, you and all the people of Israel: it is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. <sup>11</sup> Jesus is "the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone."

<sup>12</sup> Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.'

*This is the word of the Lord*

**Thanks be to God**

## Gospel Reading

**John 10:11-18**

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

**Glory to you, O Lord**

'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup> The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. <sup>13</sup> The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

<sup>14</sup> 'I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me – <sup>15</sup> just as the Father knows me and I know the Father – and I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup> I have other sheep that are not of this sheepfold. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. <sup>17</sup> The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life – only to take it up again. <sup>18</sup> No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.'

*This is the Gospel of the Lord*

**Praise to You O Christ**

## Post Communion Prayer

Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## Suggestions for Prayer

- We remember before God those who have recently died and those who mourn. In particular we pray for the Queen and the Royal Family as they grieve.

- We pray for our country to be wise as lockdown lifts.
- For the St Edmunds Way Benefice (north of Shimpling) which is going to be re-organised when Rev Jeremy Parsons leaves this summer.