

**PARISH OF SOUTHMINSTER
MAGAZINE OF THE
CHURCH OF ST LEONARD**

- C** Clothe yourself with Christ.
- O** Open your heart to the Spirit of God.
- V** Virtual worship is OK.
- I** Identify an appropriate plan for the future.
- D** Discipleship means learning whether together or apart.

JULY 2020

**Clothe yourselves with Christ
Romans 13 : 14**

- 3 ReflectionThe Vicar
- 5 Bishop Stephen's Confirmation as Archbishop of York
- 6 The Hamster WheelBrenda Sheppard
- 8 A reflection from Bishop Peter
- 10 Churches may be opening again - latest news
- 11 Rotas, Flower Arrangements, Prayer for Southminster
- 12-13 Services in July for St Leonard's and Steeple churches
- 14 Services for Tillingham, Dengie, Bradwell and St Lawrence
Report about IGNITE weekend
Details about St Peter - and other **Peters** Kath Dunstan
- 16 End of a Journey, start of a new one Jenny Pratt
- 17 Another New Journey Harry Payne
- 18 Course in Christian Studies
- 19 A notice about our offerings to God
- 20 Render unto Caesar..... Chris Martin
- 21 Replenish Charity - prayer update Rebecca Johnson
- 22 What would be 'NORMAL' for St Leonard's Church
- 23 Some local prayer needs:
Other parishes; Southminster community; Steeple community;
children
- 24 What's What

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

*Articles for the August magazine by
Sunday July 12th
please, to Kath Dunstan.
New contributors will be welcome.*

Reflection

Clothe yourselves with Christ.
Romans 13: 14

In these past few weeks and months we have all adopted new ways of living, new routines for our households that have become habits. Living in isolated conditions means that the daily timetable has changed, shopping has a different experience and exercise has become our 'liberty' for the day.

It is said that it takes three weeks to develop a habit and three days to break a habit: some of the habits will need to be broken in the Vicarage – the biscuit barrel will be staying in the cupboard for a while and Solero ice-lollies won't be getting into the freezer! All of the precautions have been for our good, to save lives, and to protect the vulnerable and safeguard our NHS. Some of the benefits have been evident all around as people are more considerate, courteous and respectful of other people.

These are the habits that need to be maintained as we come out from lockdown and, speaking to some of the villagers in the street, it is something that most people *want to continue* – a fellowship with their neighbours.

These are Godly attributes; in the gospel of Luke chapter 10 Jesus tells his disciples to "Love your neighbour as yourself" and earlier in chapter 6 He tells them to "love your enemies" too! We are being Christ-like when we love in the way that Jesus loved others.

One of the new habits that we have all adopted is washing our hands more regularly, not only more often but more thoroughly. I no longer need to sing 'Happy Birthday' to know that I have spent long enough washing, it has become a new routine that barely needs thought. One drawback is that we have needed to buy moisturiser as our hands dry out with all the washing!

This got me thinking about the lotions that we use to 'love ourselves'. To take care of the body (the temple) that God has given to us; and these thoughts led me further, to consider sun cream. We don't think about it too much during the winter months, yet when the climate changes it becomes very important; to save us from burning and being uncomfortable, as well as protecting us from something that can be more dangerous. When we are in a foreign country it becomes a habit each day to apply good quality sun cream in the morning after washing and before going out, and re-applying during the day where necessary. We then know that we have protection round and about us without worrying about the consequences.

If we are looking after the temple in the physical, how much *more* we need to look after the temple in the spiritual, what do we need to put on to protect our spiritual life? Paul writes to the Ephesian church to encourage this kind of thinking which is epitomised in the sixth chapter when he is talking of the armour of God. But from chapter four onwards Paul is telling the Christians in Ephesus to clothe themselves with Christ.

Chapter 4: 22 onwards

You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires;²³ to be made new in the attitude of your minds;²⁴ and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

Putting off the old self is washing, cleansing which is what we do in confession, that is, ridding ourselves of sin; then 'put on' Christ is to receive from Him forgiveness and also the grace and strength to live through the day...clothe ourselves 'in' Him. As we do this *each* day we are prepared for anything that might harm us, we have put on Christ to protect us from all the hidden dangers that might come. Putting on Christ means that we are putting on His righteousness, His protection, His Holiness and His goodness for the day, every day... best we don't ignore it!

Peter

Confirmation of Election of Bishop Stephen as the 98th Archbishop of York

The Church of England have announced that Bishop Stephen will be confirmed as the 98th Archbishop of York on 9th July in a service broadcast by video. Details of how you can watch the service online will be available.

The Hamster Wheel

Have you ever felt like a hamster on a wheel, going round and round in circles and getting nowhere? We too can feel as if we are like the hamster in this time of lockdown when we sometimes hear conflicting advice and future guidance and it feels like we go round and round and get nowhere fast.



I have been reading in the book of Exodus about the time when the Israelites were let go by Pharaoh after living in Egypt. They had come to live in Egypt during a famine due to the fact that Joseph (an Israelite) had become a high official in the court of Pharaoh and his family were welcomed. (Genesis 45). Eventually the Israelites in Egypt became so numerous that Pharaoh feared their presence and feared they would turn against the Egyptians so he gradually forced them to become his slaves. God saw the plight of his people and through many plagues Pharaoh was forced to let them go from Egypt and so they went with Moses to find the promised land of Canaan.

We also read in the book of Exodus how the Israelites wandered in the desert for 40 years. God led them in a roundabout way as he thought they might change their mind and want to return to Egypt if they went through Philistine country and faced war. (Exodus 13:17)



In the desert the Israelites grumbled against Moses and his brother Aaron because of lack of food and water, not trusting God to supply these necessities which He always did! They also bemoaned the fact that they were well fed in Egypt and in fact grumbled every time they faced a crisis ((Exodus 16 v2-3)

During this lockdown time it has been so hard to be out of routine. We are, at the time of writing this, allowed to have set limits of people numbers and locations to visit family and friends and to go out on day trips safely if necessary. I'm sure if we're honest there have been times when we have grumbled and long to go back to how life was. We feel at times, enslaved by government orders and medical advice. We, as were the Israelites, have been led into a situation where we feel enslaved by the virus and are in the hands of others, relying on them for advice and for our wellbeing and our lives.

During this time, we need to ask ourselves, "What have we learned and are still learning and do we see the world and our lives in a different way?" Let's get off the hamster wheel and ask God to put us on a new path to run the race set before us, knowing we are in His hands and He will provide our guidance and all our needs in an ever-changing world.



Brenda Sheppard

We live life forwards but we only understand life backwards

In recent days we have seen several public memorials to past local benefactors, whose riches were derived from the slave trade, unceremoniously torn down or vandalised. So how are we to respond when a memorial in one of our churches or churchyards has similar connections? We have already identified some within the diocese, and there will no doubt be more. We have ignored this ugly stain for centuries in some cases. No doubt these worthies did much good locally, but at what cost to millions of people far away? A diocesan strategy on this is being formed.

Memory is important, and there are some memories, both good and ill, personal and national, we cannot ever get away from. The Danish philosopher and theologian Soren Kierkegaard said, “we live life forwards, but we only understand life backwards.” Perspective and understanding usually only fully comes with time and distance. Yet in the case of the slave trade and its consequences, that understanding, and its necessary repentance and reparations have taken far too long.

The Black Lives Matter movement has rightly reminded us of our nation’s horrendous past responsibility for slavery that most of us would rather forget. Memory is at the heart of the Christian faith. The Old Testament is full of physical memorials to acts of God in the story of Israel’s release from slavery. The Lord Jesus, sharing bread and wine with his disciples said, ‘Do this in remembrance of me.’

The Greek of the New Testament uses the word *anamnesis*, which means not just looking back, but bringing the past into the present. We are to bring the sacrificial life and love of our crucified Lord into our present every time we share in his body and blood. It follows then that our past, even when forgiven, remains present and repentance and justice is required of us in reparation for our nation’s part in slavery.

I am ashamed to say, that it is only over the last few days that I have begun to fully research and understand how horrendous that involvement was, and how much profit this country made from treating other human beings as commodities and property, rather than people made in the image of God. More than that, the politics of the early 19th century ensured that when slavery was abolished in 1834, our government compensated the 46,000 British slave owners to the tune of £17billion at today's values. The slaves themselves of course received nothing! It was that outrageous sum of money, invested by ex-slave owners, that consequently led to the economic dominance and health of many of our British national institutions, some of which persist to this day.

It is an ironic juxtaposition that our current government has just decided to assimilate the Department for International Development into the Foreign Office, which may in due course threaten our national commitment to 0.7% of GDP being dedicated to overseas aid, and will definitely ensure our Overseas Aid budget, whatever its level in the future, will become more politically instrumental. It will increasingly have strings attached, when the truth is, we owe our former colonies in particular so much more in terms of grace and benefit.

Will we now more wholeheartedly respond to our shame and sorrow at this history, and the ongoing personal and institutional racism amongst us, to turn our words and emotions into action? In the days and weeks ahead I will be in touch about the practical ways we will take this forward as a diocese.

So what will we do now? We're in this together.

Bishop Peter

(Bishop of Barking & Acting Bishop of Chelmsford)

Latest news about churches reopening

Following the Government announcement that church buildings will be able to reopen for public worship from 4th July, providing physical distancing remains in place, the Bishop of London, Sarah Mullally, leader of the Church of England's Recovery Group, said:

"I welcome the Prime Minister's announcement today that we will soon be able to begin to meet and worship together in our church buildings again. The last three months have been an extraordinary time - the first period without public worship and sacraments in England in more than 800 years. There will be real joy as we begin to come together again – if even at a physical distance – but I know that many will be understandably cautious at this news.

"We will not be returning to normality overnight - this is the next step on a journey. We've been planning carefully, making detailed advice available for parishes to enable them to prepare to hold services when it is safe and practical to do so. It is important to say that the change in Government guidance is permissive, not prescriptive.

"I would particularly like to thank clergy and lay leaders for all they have done during the time our buildings have been closed. Not all church buildings will be ready to hold regular services from July 4th, but we are providing whatever support we can to enable them.

"There will still be restrictions and we must all still do everything we can to limit the spread of the virus to protect each other, especially the most vulnerable. The online services and dial-in worship offerings we have become used to will continue.

"This has been an incredibly difficult time for the whole country, especially for those who have been ill, who have suffered financial hardship, the loss of livelihoods and indeed, for many, those they love. We know that is not over and the Church has a task ahead to bring consolation and hope.

"Churches and cathedrals have risen to the challenges, finding new ways of meeting for worship, of serving our neighbours, and of reaching new people with the love of God. The challenge before us now is to take the next steps carefully and safely, without forgetting all that we've discovered about God and ourselves on the way."

POSSIBLE ROTA DETAILS: YOUR AVAILABILITY FOR 2 MONTHS

We don't know when we shall be able to start worshipping in church again, but, in order to be well-prepared, please let Paul Lucas know if you cannot be available on any of the following dates.

October 2020	4	11	18	25	
November 2020	1	8	15	22	29

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO FULFIL YOUR DUTY YOU SHOULD CHANGE WITH SOMEONE AND INFORM THE WARDENS OF THE ARRANGEMENT.

Kathy Pegg writes

As we said last month, Easter flowers were not available this year and the church was closed from about 3 weeks before Easter too. However, when the lockdown restrictions ease and our church building re-opens, we will be able to have a service of remembrance and thanksgiving which normally would have happened at Easter. An updated Memorial Scroll can be displayed at St Leonard's church and the building



will be decorated with an abundance of floral displays! If you haven't yet sponsored flowers for such a display it is not too late. We'll just await the end of lockdown.

PRAY FOR SOUTHMINSTER:

w/b	5 July	Central - East
w/b	12 July	Central - South
w/b	19 July	South - West
w/b	26 July	Central - West



Because of the directive from the UK Government and the Archbishops, on 23rd March, concerning the Coronavirus pandemic, churches will be closed for any public meetings until further notice.

Some details of the services which will happen on-line during July are listed opposite, so please use them so that we can all be involved in worship together, from home, at this very difficult time. The set readings and the special prayer (the collect) of the day are shown. These details apply both to Southminster and to Steeple.

To keep aware of what is happening, and to participate on line with services, log into the website <https://www.stleonardsouthminster.org.uk/> and <https://www.facebook.com/groups/stleonardstogetherapart/>

This link has been greatly appreciated by regular Church family members and also by people who have not, to date, attended our church services - whether because of timings or travelling distances or even doubts about their personal Christian faith. God works in amazing ways! In difficult times, like this, we need to 'allow' Him to point us in possible new directions and then to respond appropriately so that eventually we shall be rejoicing and giving Him the glory for all that has happened during this 'lock-down'.

Also, we have a WhatsApp group entitled "Together Apart Our Church". Lots of people are involved in that. Keep in touch (not literally of course!).

Sunday 5th July**Fourth Sunday after Trinity**

Zechariah 9 : 9 - 12

Matthew 11 : 16 - 19, 25 - end

Gracious Father, by the obedience of Jesus you brought salvation to our wayward world: draw us into harmony with your will, that we may find all things restored in Him, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Sunday 12th July**Fifth Sunday after Trinity**

Isaiah 55 : 10 - 13

Matthew 13 : 1 - 9, 18 - 23

Almighty God, send down upon your Church the riches of your Spirit, and kindle in all who minister the gospel your countless gifts of grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday 19th July**Sixth Sunday after Trinity**

Isaiah 44 : 6 - 8

Matthew 13 : 24 - 30, 36 - 43

Creator God, you made us all in your image: may we discern you in all that we see, and serve you in all that we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday 26th July**Seventh Sunday after Trinity**

1 Kings 3 : 5 - 12

Matthew 13 : 31 - 33, 44 - 52

Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow: though our faith is small as mustard seed, make it grow to your glory and the flourishing of your kingdom through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen.

Bradwell-Tillingham-Dengie and St Lawrence Churches

If our Churches are still closed for public worship our church services will be 'Joint Benefice Services' and will be online at; <https://e-voice.org.uk/bradwellchurch/sunday-services/>

If restrictions are removed and public worship is permitted please see <https://e-voice.org.uk/bradwellchurch/> for church services and times for Bradwell, Tillingham, St Lawrence and Dengie.

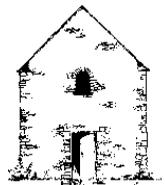
This website has been adapted to cover all the churches in Bradwell, Tillingham, St Lawrence and Dengie over this coronavirus pandemic period.



The special IGNITE weekend was successfully held on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th June - on line of course. There was a variety of music, poetry and worship provided by local people - and it demonstrated that despite the COVID difficulties we could all depend on God to guide and cheer us.

Thanks were expressed to Julian and Cassandra May for organising the event - and we in Southminster were thrilled that Jenny Pratt and Ken Dunstan were able to have slots in the programme which were appreciated.

Another service on line - on 21st June celebrated the 100th anniversary of the re-dedication of **St Peter's Chapel** by the Bishop of Chelmsford. If you missed it, then try logging in to <https://e-voice.org.uk/bradwellchurch/assets/documents/100years> so you can read about the history of the chapel and participate in the worship too. The sermon in that service was given by the Very Rev'd Nicholas Henshall, Dean of Chelmsford. He quoted the recently retired Chaplain of St Peter's, the Rev'd Brigid Main who had reminded us that the chapel



should not be seen as a shrine to St Cedd, but as a place from which people are sent to share the Gospel.

The Dean also reminded us that **Peter** is patron of the chapel and joint patron of Chelmsford cathedral. Instead of just thinking how wonderful **Peter** was, let's remember how often he got things wrong. He was slow to properly appreciate the full identity of Jesus and despite his commitment to follow Him **Peter** denied Him three times. As I thought about these Bible texts I also recalled how Jesus had given **Peter** a new name. He had been "Simon" until Jesus gave him the name that indicated a "rock" and that on that rock He would build His church. There are many stories in the Bible which show **Peter's** humanity but also eventually indicate his commitment to Jesus and his service to Him, despite facing difficulties.

This commitment to serving Jesus and building the Church on firm foundations led me to think of our local Church. In the present times we have several '**Peters**', and they are all working hard to fulfil Jesus' commission. Let's start with our own **Peter**, who has been vicar of Southminster & Steeple since 2015 and has recently become Area Dean. We thank God for **Peter's** loving care and pray for his continuing ministry here. Since Bishop Stephen left his Chelmsford position we have been cared for by another **Peter**, Bishop of Barking. We really appreciate yet another 'rock' on which the church is being built. More locally we have **Peter** Marshall at Steeple and **Pete** Adams at Southminster, both carrying out lay-duties well.

I couldn't resist checking the dictionary definition of the phrase 'to **peter** out', but you can do it for yourself. It doesn't apply to our **Peters**!

Kath Dunstan

End of a journey, start of a new one.

It's over, I've finished. No more essays, no more trying to work out 'moodle', no more reading bits of books looking for appropriate quotes, no more deadlines, no more, no more - yayyyyyy.

It's been a long journey since I first felt the call that I was on the edge of something new. This was at Spring Harvest seven years ago. I eventually did the CCS course starting in 2015 which lasted two years and then moved on to do the LLM training for a further three years. This was a real challenge, where I had to learn academic skills and computer skills I never really had. But perseverance prevailed and suddenly it's all over.

I shall miss my LLM friends, the staff and of course the food we were given. But I am excited to take up this new role and serve you and the church. The bishop (of Barking) will have to approve this position for me and I will get my licence on the 10th October. We don't know how this will happen yet because of the Corona virus. - watch this space.

I am very grateful for all the help and support you have given me over all these years. You have all been very encouraging and I am thankful for it. I am also thankful to God who has been with me throughout. The new journey begins and I am sure that God will be with us all wherever He takes us next.

Love you all - **Jenny**

Another New 'Journey'

Harry Payne

Oh dear, Coronavirus does us again! We had a family celebration for my 80th Birthday and Linda's 25th (!!) cancelled on March 21st because of Lockdown 2 days later. Not to worry we thought, we can make up for it at our 60th Wedding Anniversary on the 5th July, it may all be over by then! Some hope! We are in the 'at risk group', mainly for what may happen to us, more than what we might do to others. So we are stymied again.

The Coronavirus has caused a great deal of heartbreak to so many people, our upset is minor by comparison. We do hope you have not been too badly affected by the major upheavals we have all experienced.

I have set myself a challenge over the next little while. I want to walk 500,000 steps, that is approximately 250 miles, by the end of August. It will be for two causes close to our hearts. Any money I can raise, will be split evenly between 'End Polio Now' a Rotary Project., and the other, the Stroke Association. This is another charity that Rotary has worked with over the years. Since Lockdown was declared, two of our friends have had major strokes. Over the years, strokes have hit so many of our friends, some have survived, many have not. This will enable us to do 'something' tangible.

If you are able to support my efforts in some way, a small donation will help. Another way of offering support is by spreading details of my 'Just Giving' page among your friends. They too may be able to give support, in a small way. The more the details are spread around the better it is, so the recommendation goes. You can also find details on my Face Book page.



Would you like to share in a journey of discovery?

The COURSE IN CHRISTIAN STUDIES

is an opportunity to explore the Christian faith with others. The course runs over two years, is open to anyone over the age of 16 and is based on weekly meetings in local groups.

This year we will be running the first term of all face to face groups entirely via ZOOM, with the hope of moving back to local face to face groups in January 2021 if it is safe to do so and in accordance with government guidelines.

If you are new to ZOOM, *do not be discouraged*, we are offering a short training session on how to use ZOOM, followed by the CCS Taster/ Introductory event on 5th September starting at 10.30am

To register your interest in either or both events and receive an easy click on link invitation, email

Diane Hardy dhardy@chelmsford.anglican.org or
call her on 01245 294449

Is it difficult for you to commit to a regular
weekly meeting?

WHY NOT TRY THE ONLINE VERSION?
group learning when and where it suits you,
Further details available at
www.chelmsford.anglican.org/ccs

A notice about our offerings to God.

Many of us use the facility of the offering plate to give our gifts to God. As the church is closed for the moment it may be a good time to think about a standing order to the church so that we are still bringing our gift. Many of us are doing this already – Thank you, but those who may be wondering how they can continue their giving through Standing Order the details of the church bank are here:

St. Leonard's church: Barclays Bank Sort code: **20.54.30**
A/c No. **80825107** Made payable to: Southminster
Parochial Church Council.

St. Lawrence & All Saints church: Barclays Bank
Sort code: **20.54.30** A/c No. **60842494**
Made payable to Steeple Parochial Church Council.

May God bless our gifts to Him.

RENDER UNTO CAESAR

Some thoughts from Chris Martin

In the hope that the Editors will correct me if I'm wrong here but I believe it was over an argument about taxes that Jesus said something along the lines of "Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's and render unto God the things that are God's."

This is an interesting concept and implies to me that apart from the matter of what happens to taxes, it means there are some things for which humanity is to be credited and some things that are given by a higher power and we are meant to know which is which.

Does this mean that for some of the wonderful things going on around us we can thank humanity – or certain great people – and some aspects of our miraculous world are given from above?

Then by the same token, is humanity to blame when some major things go wrong...but where does a higher power come into it when there is a natural disaster such as an earthquake or, dare I say, a pandemic?

As individuals, when we are in a difficult situation, and for a time don't know what to do next to make things right or bearable, is it our innate human strength and brainpower that enables us to work out how to carry on and come out of the other side of our problem, or is it a power from above that helps us? One could argue that our innate human strength is God-given in the first place so either way we can't take the credit. But to me, it's a good example of when to ask "what is Caesar's and what is God's?"

I don't know the answers to these questions, being at this time in my life a seeker rather than a believer, and I have plenty more questions along those lines to which it would be great to have some answers.

The editor will be pleased to receive responses - or similar questions.

A Prayer Update from REPLENISH

Thank you for your prayer support over recent months/years.

As the restrictions are beginning to ease and people are allowed to go out and about, please pray for our clients as many of them are understandably anxious. Pray for our befreinders too as they try and navigate the way forward. Pray that we will all be given Gods wisdom , power and strength as we begin face to face contacts again. Pray also for God's protection .

Many of the befreindees have understandably found the length of the isolation hard and we need to start support again in a safe way. Please pray for G in Maldon who is struggling and has physical health problems too.

Pray for S who is having a depressive episode . Please lift her to the Lord and ask for his healing upon her.

Pray for M who is struggling with depression and is having problems with her neighbour.

Pray for R who suffers with depression and is eager to be able to get out and about again.

Pray for M who has mental health problems and also has had a stroke and is physically unable to mobilise. She is waiting for a house move to a ground floor so as she can get out. Pray that God will move this forward for her as she is totally isolated indoors at present.

Pray for the trustees as we start to think about how visits will restart and doing rotas again.

Over the lockdown there has been time to reflect on many things and there is a growing hunger for spiritual things. Pray that God will open people's hearts and minds and that there will be a turning back to God both in our nation and in our clients' lives. Pray for us as befreinders that we will be given a new boldness and opportunities to witness as appropriate.

Many thanks

Rebecca Johnson

Founder and Director of this Charity .

ST. LEONARD'S **NORMAL** REGULAR MIDWEEK EVENTS

At this difficult time we pray for all who are usually involved in these activities, both leaders and general participants.

The **Music Group** meets in church on Fridays at 7.45 pm & occasional Wednesdays. See weekly bulletins for details.

Bellringers meet occasionally in the tower but we don't have our own regular team now.

Henry Club - Church Cleaning Team - meets twice a month at 9.15 am (normally on Fridays)

CHURCH GROUNDS WORKING PARTY

Details of these will be in the weekly notices.

Midweek Morning Prayer services (Mon., Wed. and Fri.)

8:00 am (about half an hour) in the chapel.

Tuesdays 8.30 am "Just Prayer" also in the chapel.

HOME GROUPS

Normally they are Mondays at 10 am and Thursdays at 7.45 pm for 8 pm

ALPHA & ALPHA FOLLOW-ON

Groups usually meet at the Vicarage on Tuesdays at 7.30 pm
Check details on weekly bulletins.

Young people and children are always welcome, especially at 10.45 services, and Families are encouraged to attend the monthly **FAMILY CELEBRATION SERVICES**

Messy Church is once a month on Mondays.

Obviously our Parochial Church Council should meet bi-monthly and the recent Annual Meeting which had to be postponed will need prayers for its eventual happening.

Informal PCC meetings are now happening on Zoom.

We need to keep praying for all the other church folk in neighbouring parishes e.g. Dengie, Bradwell, Tillingham, St Lawrence, Creeksea, *Mayland, Burnham, Latchingdon, Althorne, Stow Maries, Cold Norton, North Fambridge*, especially *those who have no incumbent at present*.

Southminster Community also needs our prayers

Southminster Primary School; Pre-School;
Hillside Nursery; Parish Council; Medical Centre;
Residential Homes' staff and residents;
ChristChurch members; Dengie Food Pantry;
Memorial Hall Committee and groups who meet there:
Women's Institute; Chatterbox; Wishing Well Club;
Community Lunch Club; FOSCOS; Dancing groups
and all key workers on whom we depend in so many ways.

Let's not forget

The people of Steeple, who have regular gatherings which have been unable to happen during the Lockdown.

E.g. Coffee Cakes and Company

And other community gatherings in the Village Hall.

What will be happening about the

Vintage Vehicle Gathering this year?

Wait and see.

AND We haven't forgotten all the local children - many of whom would have attended the **Holiday Club** this month if we'd been able to hold it at St Leonard's.

We particularly pray for children who will be starting to attend a new school in September without having had the usual preparation - even without passing necessary exams.

WHAT'S WHAT Mission Statement

“To be a people offering praise and worship to God and serving him by being the Good News by our words and actions”

Web Site www.stleonardsouthminster.org.uk

Contact: vicar@stleonardsouthminster.org.uk

SADLY THERE WILL BE NO NORMAL PUBLIC WORSHIP

Sunday Services - will become 'worship at home'

(See pages 12-14 for details of special days and readings)

8:00 am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer 1662)

10:45 am Holy Communion or Morning Worship

(Our Prayer ministry for any needs will continue even though it happens 'at a distance'.)

Children and Young people are always welcomed especially for the **Family Celebration Services**



MESSY CHURCH is monthly on Mondays at 3.45 pm in church. The next one will be publicised as soon as it is allowed to happen.

'LITTLE LIONS' meet on Wednesday mornings in the Memorial Hall during term-time only. It is for babies/toddlers & their carers.



Morning Prayer (Mon., Wed. and Fri.) 8:00 am
and **Tuesdays at 8.30am** (Just Prayer)

There will be no 'gathering together' but an e-bulletin will be sent every week to all who would normally participate.

We will still worship our Lord, even if we do so from our own homes and in self-isolation. Let's trust Him to bring us through.