

# 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. This notice sheet covers the next two weeks and combines:

- Notices
- The church diary (including livestream & Zoom joining instructions),
- Prayers and readings for the morning services on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> July 2025.

## (anticipated) Congratulations!

We are absolutely thrilled that Charlotte Harkness has discerned a calling to ordination. By faith, and with a lot of hard work and juggling many commitments, Charlotte will be ordained Deacon at the Cathedral at 11am on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June. Please pray for Charlotte as she makes her ordination vows.

I think it is being livestreamed but have not been able to confirm this - it will be [here](#) if you want to try to tune in.

*(The photo is of the Ordination retreat with our newly nominated bishop - see overleaf).*



## Clopton Rose Service

A particular welcome to the Clopton Rose Service on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> at 10.30am ... to Councillor Sue Monks, the Mayor of Hadleigh, and to our very own John Watts - the Chair of the Friends of Long Melford Church Building Trust. Some background ...

*In 1436 William Clopton, Lord of Toppesfield Manor, granted the town of Hadleigh the guildhall and market land, for the rent of one mark a year. This rent was later converted to a single rose. In 1984 Jean Clopton discovered that the rent was many years overdue and asked Hadleigh to pay up! The people of Hadleigh duly did and have done so every year since. This payment is still considered one of the oldest rents payable anywhere in the country.*



## New Bishop announced

The King has approved the nomination of The Right Revd Dr Joanne Woolway Grenfell, for election as Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich. Previously she has been Bishop of Stepney, an area bishop in the Diocese of London, since 2019. She is also the lead bishop for safeguarding in the Church of England. Married with three children, Bishop Joanne will be the first woman to lead the St Edmundsbury and Ipswich Diocese.

Click [here](#) for a quick video welcome.



### What a Wonderful World!

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June, 4-6pm

Please bring a picnic & blanket

Rectory Field

Holy Trinity Church Long Melford

*(past church tower, through wooden gate)*

(what 3 words) ///joked.dolphins.writing



Free but  
donations  
gratefully  
received



Any questions please call  
Pam on 07890 880 976



Basic  
refreshments  
provided

## Children & Young People at Church

This week I attended a webinar which shared the findings of recent nationwide research (completed May 2025). Nearly 1500 parents with children aged 0-5 took part. I found it so encouraging. Here are some of my highlights as well as areas I/we can work on as a church community:

- ❖ 80% of parents have had some connection with church activities – through toddler groups (55%), community fun days and fetes, Messy Church, Sunday School, celebrations, family services, nursery and a whole host of other events.
- ❖ A huge proportion of parents feel it is important to have a basic knowledge of Bible stories.
- ❖ Most people attend events initially because they think their children will enjoy them, their friends are going and they think they will teach good values. However, 23% of those on the fringes (not active Christians, or non-believers) want their youngsters to have an awareness of God.
- ❖ Personal invite is still the biggest reason for coming to events: friends; family; community; neighbours; another parent, though social media also plays a big part.
- ❖ 46% of 'unreached' parents with no faith and not attending any church events, say they may come if there was a leaflet through the letterbox, or if someone spoke to them about it. Posters would also be useful. Big reasons for not attending: *"Will we be welcome?"* and *"Will my child fit in?"*
- ❖ 80% of Active Christians and Fringe parents *do* report feeling very welcome and over half feel they belong at *their* church, in whatever form it takes.
- ❖ Although 8 out of 10 Christian parents do invite others to events run by the church (and over 50% have invited to Sunday School, festivals etc.), they do not find it easy to share their faith with non-Christians.
- ❖ Finding Jesus.co.uk has more recent research: 72% of adults newly come to faith can trace it back to some Church-run event they attended in their youth.

There is so much here to excite, but also so much we as a community can do. So, in the words of the well-known children's song- BE BOLD, BE STRONG, FOR THE LORD YOUR GOD IS WITH YOU!

Thank you and may God Bless you, Pam.

## Confirmation Classes

If you are considering getting confirmed the Rector is planning some confirmation classes in autumn. Please speak to Matthew if you would like to come along - even if you are just asking questions and want to find out more.

**FaithChat** Please note that the date of the next meeting has moved to 19 July - 10.30 at the Tweeds as usual. If you would like to find out more about this discussion group on matters of faith please contact Malcolm or Judith on 01787 315689.

## A huge thank you....

...to everyone who contributed to the baby boxes that are now on their way to the Ukraine. Each completed, beautifully covered box contained a blanket, hat, jackets, mittens, booties, baby wipes, lotion, soap, etc and a present for mum together with a message of love and support from us.

It has been a long journey that started over a year ago here in Long Melford after I heard directly from the organiser of this project, Wendy Warrington, of the plight of many new mums in Ukraine who are giving birth to premature babies due to the conflict.

This is a picture of the boxes being handed over to Jonny who will be accompanying them, on their journey, together with a whole load of specialist equipment and supplies. *Revd Judith Offord*



## Pet Services on the 6<sup>th</sup> July

(please note that these will not be communion services - however the 9.00am service at Alpheton will be a communion service).

# Pet Services

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July

10.30am Holy Trinity Long Melford

4.00p, All Saints Church, Lawshall

*Please bring your pets for a blessing  
(or pictures of pets past and present)*

Refreshments afterwards







### Suggestions for prayer include:

- We pray for Charlotte Harkness and all being ordained as a Deacon.
- We pray for the Right Revd Dr Joanne Grenfell as she seeks to serve in Suffolk.
- We pray for the children of our villages together with our own children and grandchildren awaiting examination results that they may have the grades to take them on to the next stage they have planned for their lives.
- We pray for world leaders that they would remain humble, seek peace, and be open to the Spirit of God.
- We remember before God those who have recently died and we pray for those who mourn including the family & friends of Shirley Bailey, Catrina Brooks, David Carter, Margaret Taylor, & Jillian Ward.
- We pray for those in need of God's presence or his healing touch including Barbara Brady, David Bremer, Phillip Cole, Robert Hawkins, baby Munroe, and Mary Tuffen.





Sharpen your pencils and your wits for...  
**THE 2ND ANNUAL STAINED GLASS FUND**

**Friday 11th July**

**6.30pm**  
**Holy Trinity**  
**Church**  
doors open 6pm



**WITH SUPPER & WINE**

Hosted by tiara-maker to the stars  
**ANDREW PRINCE**

**£15 per head, min 4 per team (max 6)**

Price includes cold supper\* and soft drinks  
Wine available by the glass or bottle

For tickets call Simon on 07765 898650  
or email [simon@simon-edge.com](mailto:simon@simon-edge.com)

All proceeds go to conserve Long Melford's  
medieval stained glass  
– a unique national treasure



\*Vegetarian option available

## Song Circle Summer Concert



**Saturday 19th July**

**Holy Trinity Church, LONG MELFORD**

5pm (doors open at 4.45)

Adult tickets £5.50 in advance at  
Ticket Source (scan code)

Or £7.50 on the door, Children Free

image: [samcannonart.co.uk](http://samcannonart.co.uk)

**Diary**

Sun 29 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Communion at Holy Trinity with Clopton Rose Ceremony*
	4.00pm	Messy Church - Glebe Land, Melford
	6.30pm	Communion at Lawshall
Mon 30 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Connect baby & toddler group at St Catherine's
Tues 1 <sup>st</sup> July	9.00am	Morning Prayer #
	2.00pm	Interment of Ashes at Holy Trinity
	7.30pm	Lawshall PCC
Wed 2 <sup>nd</sup>	11.00am	Melford Music Rehearsal
	1.10pm	Melford Music Recital at Holy Trinity
	7.30pm	A&S PCC
Thurs 3 <sup>rd</sup>	9.00am	Piano tuning at Holy Trinity
	11.15am	Church Tour at Holy Trinity
	7.00pm	Choir Practice
Fri 4 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Fusion Youth Group (will notify if date is changed)
Sun 6 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Communion at Alpheton
	10.30am	Pet Service at Holy Trinity *
	4.00pm	Pet Service at Lawshall
	6.30pm	Choral Evensong at Holy Trinity*
Mon 7 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Connect baby & toddler group at St Catherine's
	2.30pm	Funeral at Holy Trinity – Gillian Ward
	7.30pm	Melford PCC
	7.30pm	A&S Homegroup
Tues 8 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Morning Prayer #
Wed 9 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Coffee Caravan at Alpheton Village Hall
	11.00am	Melford Music Rehearsal
	1.10pm	Melford Music Recital at Holy Trinity
Thurs 10 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Choir Practice Holy Trinity
Fri 11 <sup>th</sup>	2.15pm	Church Tour at Holy Trinity
	6.30pm	Evening Quiz at Holy Trinity
	7.30pm	Fusion Plus (date might be changed)
Sat 12 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am	Prayer Breakfast at Holy Trinity
Sun 13 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Communion at Holy Trinity *
	4.00pm	Shine Informal Worship 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: 816 5338 9796, Passcode: 289895, or click [here](#).

**Dates for your Diary include:**

Sat 5 <sup>th</sup> July	2.00pm	Lawshall Flower Show
Sun 6 <sup>th</sup> July	10.30am	Pet Service Long Melford
Sun 6 <sup>th</sup> July	4.00pm	Pet Service Lawshall
Fri 11 <sup>th</sup> July	6.30pm	Quiz night at Holy Trinity - supporting the Glass Fund
Sat 12 <sup>th</sup> July	<i>daytime</i>	Melford Village Fair
Sun 10 <sup>th</sup> Aug	<i>afternoon</i>	‘More tea vicar?’ Garden Party at Ford Hall, Bridge Street
Sat 10 <sup>th</sup> Oct	<i>evening</i>	‘The Emergers’ will be playing for a fundraiser at Lawshall church



Readings for the 29<sup>th</sup> June –Trinity 2/Clopton Rose Ceremony**Collect (prayer for the day)**

Lord, you have taught us that all our doings without love are nothing worth: send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whoever lives is counted dead before you. Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

**First Reading****Acts 12:1-11**

It was about this time that King Herod arrested some who belonged to the church, intending to persecute them. <sup>2</sup> He had James, the brother of John, put to death with the sword. <sup>3</sup> When he saw that this met with approval among the Jews, he proceeded to seize Peter also. This happened during the Festival of Unleavened Bread. <sup>4</sup> After arresting him, he put him in prison, handing him over to be guarded by four squads of four soldiers each. Herod intended to bring him out for public trial after the Passover.

<sup>5</sup> So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was earnestly praying to God for him.

<sup>6</sup> The night before Herod was to bring him to trial, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries stood guard at the entrance. <sup>7</sup> Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up. 'Quick, get up!' he said, and the chains fell off Peter's wrists.

<sup>8</sup> Then the angel said to him, 'Put on your clothes and sandals.' And Peter did so. 'Wrap your cloak round you and follow me,' the angel told him. <sup>9</sup> Peter followed him out of the prison, but he had no idea that what the angel was doing was really happening; he thought he was seeing a vision. <sup>10</sup> They passed the first and second guards and came to the iron gate leading to the city. It opened for them by itself, and they went through it. When they had walked the length of one street, suddenly the angel left him.

<sup>11</sup> Then Peter came to himself and said, 'Now I know without a doubt that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from Herod's clutches and from everything the Jewish people were hoping would happen.'

*This is the word of the Lord*

**Thanks be to God**

**Old Testament Reading****Zechariah 4**

Then the angel who talked with me returned and woke me up, like someone awakened from sleep. <sup>2</sup> He asked me, 'What do you see?'

I answered, 'I see a solid gold lampstand with a bowl at the top and seven lamps on it, with seven channels to the lamps. <sup>3</sup> Also there are two olive trees by it, one on the right of the bowl and the other on its left.'

<sup>4</sup> I asked the angel who talked with me, 'What are these, my lord?'

<sup>5</sup> He answered, 'Do you not know what these are?'

'No, my lord,' I replied.

<sup>6</sup> So he said to me, 'This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: "Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit," says the Lord Almighty.

<sup>7</sup> 'What are you, mighty mountain? Before Zerubbabel you will become level ground. Then he will bring out the capstone to shouts of "God bless it! God bless it!"'

<sup>8</sup> Then the word of the Lord came to me: <sup>9</sup> 'The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this temple; his hands will also complete it. Then you will know that the Lord Almighty has sent me to you.

<sup>10</sup> 'Who dares despise the day of small things, since the seven eyes of the Lord that range throughout the earth will rejoice when they see the chosen capstone in the hand of Zerubbabel?'

<sup>11</sup> Then I asked the angel, 'What are these two olive trees on the right and the left of the lampstand?'

<sup>12</sup> Again I asked him, 'What are these two olive branches beside the two gold pipes that pour out golden oil?'

<sup>13</sup> He replied, 'Do you not know what these are?'

'No, my lord,' I said.

<sup>14</sup> So he said, 'These are the two who are anointed to serve the Lord of all the earth.'

## Gospel Reading

## Matthew 16:13-19

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

**Glory to you, O Lord**

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?'

<sup>14</sup> They replied, 'Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.'

<sup>15</sup> 'But what about you?' he asked. 'Who do you say I am?'

<sup>16</sup> Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.'

<sup>17</sup> Jesus replied, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup> And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. <sup>19</sup> I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.'

*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

Loving Father, we thank you for feeding us at the supper of your Son: sustain us with your Spirit, that we may serve you here on earth until our joy is complete in heaven, and we share in the eternal banquet with Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Readings for the 6<sup>th</sup> July - Trinity 3**Collect (prayer for the day)**

God our saviour, look on this wounded world in pity and in power; hold us fast to your promises of peace won for us by your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

**First Reading 9.00am & 6.30pm****Galatians 6:7-16**

Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. <sup>8</sup>Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. <sup>9</sup>Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. <sup>10</sup>Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

<sup>11</sup>See what large letters I use as I write to you with my own hand!

<sup>12</sup>Those who want to impress people by means of the flesh are trying to compel you to be circumcised. The only reason they do this is to avoid being persecuted for the cross of Christ. <sup>13</sup>Not even those who are circumcised keep the law, yet they want you to be circumcised that they may boast about your circumcision in the flesh. <sup>14</sup>May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. <sup>15</sup>Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is the new creation. <sup>16</sup>Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule – to the Israel of God.

*This is the word of the Lord*

***Thanks be to God***

**Gospel Reading 9.00am & 6.30pm****Luke 10:1-11,16-20**

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

Glory to you, O Lord

They sailed to the region of the Gerasenes, which is across the lake from Galilee. <sup>27</sup>When Jesus stepped ashore, he was met by a demon-possessed man from the town. For a long time this man had not worn clothes or lived in a house, but had lived in the tombs. <sup>28</sup>When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell at his feet, shouting at the top of his voice, 'What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, don't torture me!' <sup>29</sup>For Jesus had commanded the impure spirit to come out of the man. Many times it had seized him, and though he was chained hand and foot and kept under guard, he had broken his chains and had been driven by the demon into solitary places.

<sup>30</sup>Jesus asked him, 'What is your name?'

'Legion,' he replied, because many demons had gone into him. <sup>31</sup>And they begged Jesus repeatedly not to order them to go into the Abyss.

<sup>32</sup>A large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside. The demons begged Jesus to let them go into the pigs, and he gave them permission. <sup>33</sup>When the demons came out of the man, they went into the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

<sup>34</sup>When those tending the pigs saw what had happened, they ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, <sup>35</sup>and the people went out to see what had happened. When they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone out, sitting at Jesus' feet, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. <sup>36</sup>Those who had seen it told the people how the demon-possessed man had been cured. <sup>37</sup>Then all the people of the region of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them, because they were overcome with fear. So he got into the boat and left.

<sup>38</sup>The man from whom the demons had gone out begged to go with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, <sup>39</sup>'Return home and tell how much God has done for you.' So the man went away and told all over the town how much Jesus had done for him.

*This is the Gospel of the Lord*

***Praise to You O Christ***

## **Gospel Reading 10.30am & 4.00pm**

## **1 John 4:7-21**

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

Glory to you, O Lord

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup>This is how God showed his love among us: he sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

<sup>13</sup>This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Saviour of the world. <sup>15</sup>If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. <sup>16</sup>And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. <sup>17</sup>This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: in this world we are like Jesus. <sup>18</sup>There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

<sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup>And he has given us this command: anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

*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**

O God, whose beauty is beyond our imagining and whose power we cannot comprehend: show us your glory as far as we can grasp it, and shield us from knowing more than we can bear until we may look upon you without fear; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen**