



WHAT'S ON? In the Parish of Upper Deal & Great Mongeham

Conversion of Paul - Sunday 25th January 2026

For all the news, join our weekly email update, please contact
stleonardsoffice@btinternet.com

St Leonard's	St Martin's	St Nicholas'	St Richard's
8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am Family Service with Holy Communion	11.00am Family Service with Holy Communion	9.30am Family Service without Holy Communion	Next service, Sun 1st Feb, 10.00am Family Service with Communion and Youth Choir

WEEKLY PARISH COMMUNION Please join us on Tuesdays, 12 noon, in St Leonard's church after the Coffee Morning.



St Leonard's

52 The people that in darkness sat (omit vv2&3)
118 Firmly I believe & truly
305 For all the saints
268 Hail true Body, born of Mary
125 O for a thousand tongues to sing

This week's music...

St Martin's

152 Dear Lord & Father of mankind
820 When I survey the wondrous cross
499 Make me a channel of your peace
200 Forth in the peace of Christ we go

St Nicholas'

52 The people that in darkness sat
247 I heard the voice of Jesus say
96 Bright the vision that delighted
214 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

The Collect

Almighty God, who caused the light of the gospel to shine throughout the world through the preaching of your servant Saint Paul: grant that we who celebrate his wonderful conversion may follow him in bearing witness to your truth; 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. **Amen.**

PRINCIPAL READINGS

First reading: Acts 9. 1-22

9 Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. ³ As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

⁵ "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.

"I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. ⁶ "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

⁷ The men travelling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything. ¹⁰ In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, “Ananias!”

“Yes, Lord,” he answered. ¹¹ The Lord told him, “Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. ¹² In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight.” ¹³ “Lord,” Ananias answered, “I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem. ¹⁴ And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name.”

¹⁵ But the Lord said to Ananias, “Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. ¹⁶ I will show him how much he must suffer for my name.” ¹⁷ Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” ¹⁸ Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul’s eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptised, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus. ²⁰ At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God. ²¹ All those who heard him were astonished and asked, “Isn’t he the man who raised havoc in Jerusalem among those who call on this name? And hasn’t he come here to take them as prisoners to the chief priests?” ²² Yet Saul grew more and more powerful and baffled the Jews living in Damascus by proving that Jesus is the Messiah.

Psalm 67. 1-5

¹ May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us—

² so that your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations.

³ May the peoples praise you, God; may all the peoples praise you.

⁴ May the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you rule the peoples with equity and guide the nations of the earth.

⁵ May the peoples praise you, God; may all the peoples praise you.

Second reading: Galatians 1. 11-16a

¹¹ I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel I preached is not of human origin. ¹² I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ. ¹³ For you have heard of my previous way of life in Judaism, how intensely I persecuted the church of God and tried to destroy it. ¹⁴ I was advancing in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people and was extremely zealous for the traditions of my fathers. ¹⁵ But when God, who set me apart from my mother’s womb and called me by his grace, was pleased ¹⁶ to reveal his Son in me so that I might preach him among the Gentiles, my immediate response was not to consult any human being.

Gospel: Matthew 19. 27-end

²⁷ Peter answered him, “We have left everything to follow you! What then will there be for us?” ²⁸ Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the

Son of Man sits on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. ²⁹ And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life. ³⁰ But many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first.

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED ESPECIALLY FOR: Dennis Burney, Karen Fairclough, David Flewker, Mavis Harris, Michael Chambers, Michael Finney, Baby Lola, Baby Esmae, Tanneke Berwick, Margaret Thurgood, Andrew Russell, Heather Brennon, Barbara Sharman, Jean Gear, Dave James, Joan Finney, Ian Instone & his family. Adrian Morley, Wendy Turner, Elizabeth McConnell, Caroline Richards, Steve Milne, Jacob Alger. Also, Father George & all those in Antananarivo, Madagascar.

(Please let Wendy in the office know when names may be removed.)

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY DIED Lord, hold them in your arms, bless and care for them. We ask that you also give peace and comfort to their families and friends and keep them in your loving strength as they come to terms with their loss.

Next Week's Services – Sunday 1st February 2026

<u>St Leonard's</u>	<u>St Martin's</u>	<u>St Nicholas'</u>	<u>St Richard's</u>
8.00am Holy Communion 10.00am Family Service without Holy Communion	11.00am Family Service without Holy Communion 4.30pm Choral Evensong for Candlemas with 'Cheerful Voices' 2pm Rehearsal	9.30am Family Service with Holy Communion	10.00am Family Service with Communion & Youth Choir & refreshments

MORNING PRAYER WEEKLY 9.30-9.55am

St Richard's Mon, St Leonard's Tues, St Martin's Weds, St Nicholas' Thurs

SAVE THE DATE!

BELONGING COURSE A very interesting 6 week course began this week & continues on Tues 27/1/26 until 24/2, 6.30-8.00pm at the Rectory planned & led by Julie M. Please see flyer for more info and join in when you can.

EVENSONG FOR CANDLEMAS On Sunday 1st Feb, at St Martin's, 4.30pm (rehearsal at 2pm), there will be an **extra candlelit evensong for February** led by a local visiting choir, 'With Cheerful Voice'. For more details of the Choir &

how you can join in with the singing, please contact Phil Price phil@withcheerfulvoices.org.uk or 07814 720086. Refreshments will be served afterwards. The heating is going on early so the church should be cosy. **COFFEE MORNING FUNDRAISER** Tuesday 17th Feb. 9.30 – noon in the Social Centre. The season kicks off with funds raised going to Emmaus.

NOTICES

SAFEGUARDING Please raise safeguarding concerns immediately with our Safeguarding Officer, Mandy Forrest 01304 372521 or 07999 910197

YOUTH CHOIR continues on the first Sunday of the month, 10-11.30am at St Richard's for all children 7yrs & upwards. Snacks will be served

JAMAICA FUND Bishop Rose has asked us to pray and give what we can for Jamaica. If you would like to contribute to a Parish collection please give cash donations in marked envelopes or bank transfer donations with a clear reference to that effect. We have collected £77 so far. Thank you.

ST LEONARD'S CHURCH HEATING We are very grateful for donations towards the cost for the times when we will have to heat the church. Thank you.

WHATSAPP GROUP Please use the link to join the new parish **WhatsApp** gp. https://chat.whatsapp.com/IYnolTbxt0eB0mzyIEbmRE?mode=ac_t

ST RICHARD'S HIRE has a new email for bookings strichardshire@gmail.com

VOCATIONAL TRAINING Please continue to pray for Rev John Wakeman, Rev Nick Tomaszewski, Stephen Manion & Julie Murrow.

CHURCH BANK DETAILS

Paying tithes and pledges electronically is easy. The details you need to know are below. We would also be delighted if you would complete the Gift Aid form if you pay tax, so that your monetary gifts would benefit from tax relief. The QR code below is a quick and safe way to donate to parish funds too. Thank you.

Account Name: Upper Deal and Gt. Mongeham PCC

Sort Code: 40-19-10 **Account No:** 31141228

Parish Giving Scheme URL:



<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/upper-deal-w-great-mongeham-deal/>
treasurerudgm@outlook.com



God of Mission,

Who alone brings growth to your Church.

Send your Holy Spirit to give,

Vision for our planning,

Wisdom to our actions,

Joy to our worship and power to our witness.

Help our church to grow in numbers,

in spiritual commitment to you

And in service to our local community,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.