



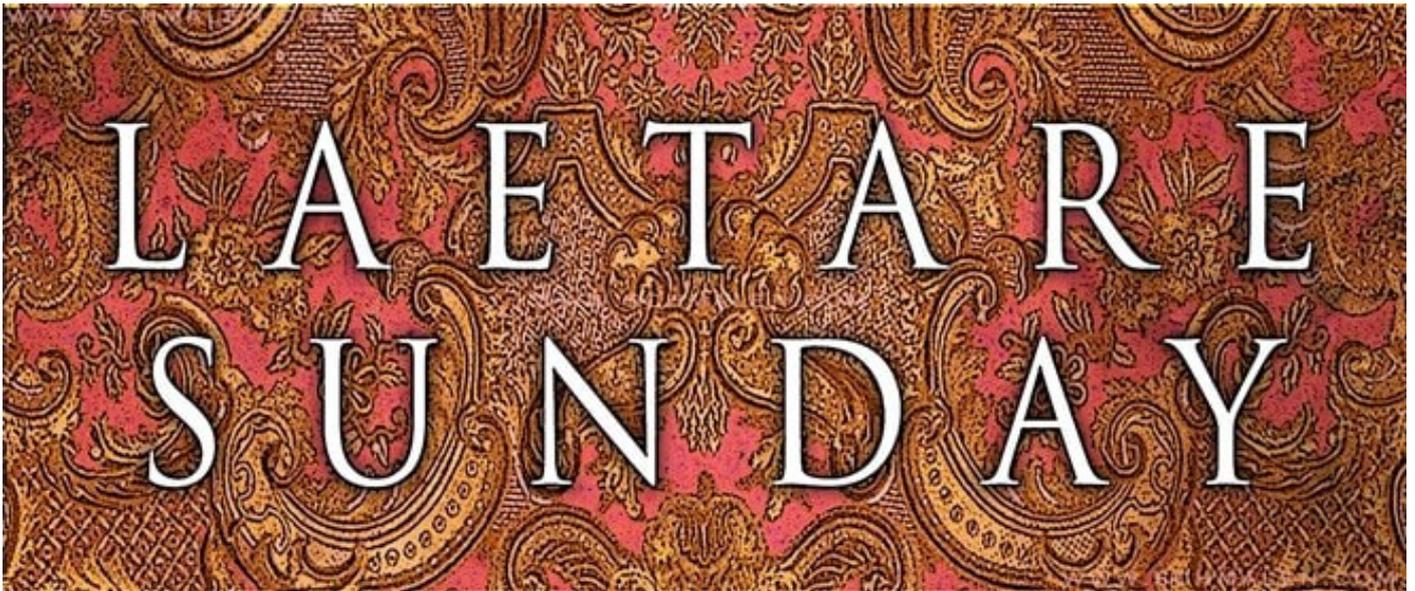
# Christ Church

St Leonards on Sea

'Lætare, Ierusalem, et conventum facite, omnes qui diligitis eam; gaudete cum lætitia, qui in tristitia fuistis, ut exsultetis, et satiemini ab uberibus consolationis vestræ.' (cf. Isaiah 66.10-11)

*Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her! Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast!*

(Words of the Entrance Antiphon for Laetare Sunday)



**Sung Mass**

*With Sunday School*

**10.30am**

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March**

## **Welcome to Christ Church!**

**Whoever you are and wherever you are from, know you are very welcome to join us for our worship this morning.**

**Today is Laetare Sunday – a day of respite and refreshment from the rigours of Lenten fasting and restrictions, which is reflected in the use of rose vestments, as well as the return of flowers and some additional music.**

**You are very welcome to join us for our worship this morning, and to stay afterwards for special 'Laetare' refreshments.**

**The Blessed Sacrament is exposed for Adoration on the Altar from 10am, during which time we also offer Morning Prayer. All are welcome to join, using the booklets at the back of church.**

**If you do not wish to pray, please at least keep a prayerful silence so as not to disturb others at prayer & preparing for Mass**

**Please remember to be reverent when Our Lord is exposed on the altar and not to disrespect Him.**

**Children & families are very welcome here: our Sunday School meets at the back of Church and there is also a 'Children's Chapel' space with books and toys in the South Aisle, for young children and their parents to use at any point during Mass. Toilets are available at the back of church and in the crypt, accessed via the stairs at the end of the South Aisle.**

During the Mass - *'Talk to God before Mass, and each other afterwards!'*

Please follow the directions to *sit, stand or kneel in italics* and join with the words in bold. Please remember that people are trying to pray before Mass, so keep silence as much as possible and don't disturb those at prayer. Please also remember that the time after receiving Holy Communion is for prayer and contemplation – not to have conversations.

### Holy Communion

At the Giving of Holy Communion, if you are confirmed and wish to receive the Sacrament, please come forward to receive Communion via the main aisle following the directions of the sidesmen.

Everyone is very welcome to come forward for a blessing: if you would like one, please bow your head.

Holy Communion is offered at the communion rail in both forms. Please kneel, unless you are unable. The Host is received on the tongue, (or if preferred on the hands). If you wish to receive from the Chalice, please assist the Eucharistic Ministers by guiding the Chalice towards your lips and not bowing your head forward.

**Stay in touch:**

[christchurchstleonards.co.uk/subsc](http://christchurchstleonards.co.uk/subsc)  
[ribe-to-our-newsletter](http://christchurchstleonards.co.uk/subsc)



**Support our church & ministry  
in the community**

[christchurchstleonards.co.uk/donate](http://christchurchstleonards.co.uk/donate)



Please stand when the bell rings for the entry of the sanctuary party & Introit Hymn

1 I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
'Come unto me and rest;  
Lay down, thou weary one, lay  
down  
Thy head upon my breast:'  
I came to Jesus as I was,  
Weary, and worn, and sad;  
I found in him a resting place,  
And he has made me glad.

2 I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
'Behold, I freely give  
The living water, thirsty one;  
Stoop down, and drink, and live:  
I came to Jesus, and I drank  
Of that life-giving stream;  
My thirst was quenched, my soul  
revived,  
And now I live in him.

3 I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
'I am this dark world's Light;  
Look unto me, thy morn shall rise,  
And all thy day be bright:'  
I looked to Jesus, and I found  
In him my Star, my Sun;  
And in that light of life I'll walk  
Till travelling days are done.

*THE LENT PROSE IS SUNG AS THE ALTAR IS CENSED*

## The Greeting

In the name of the Father ✠ and of the Son  
and of the Holy Spirit



A-men.

The Lord be with you.



And also with you.

*The Priest introduces the Mass and invites the children of the parish come forward to receive their bible and blessing, and the items to prepare their altar.*

## **The Penitential Rite: The Asperges**

Dear brothers and sisters let us humbly beseech the Lord our God to bless this water he has created, which will be sprinkled on us as a memorial of our Baptism. May he help us by his grace to remain faithful to the Spirit we have received.

*All pray in silence briefly. The Priest then continues:*

Almighty ever-living God, who willed that through water, the fountain of life and the source of purification, even souls should be cleansed and receive the gift of eternal life; be pleased, we pray, to bless [+] this water, by which we seek protection on this your day, O Lord. Renew the living spring of your grace within us and grant that by this water we may be defended from all ills of spirit and body, and so approach you with hearts made clean and worthily receive salvation. Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*While the Choir sings the chant, the Priest sprinkles himself and the people.*

**Antiphon: Thou shalt purge me, O Lord, with hyssop, and I shall be clean: thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.**

Have mercy upon me, O God: after thy great goodness.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**Antiphon: Thou shalt purge me, O Lord, with hyssop, and I shall be clean: thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.**

*The Priest pronounces the absolution: Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, ✠ pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

*The Priest sings the Collect:*

O God, who through your Word  
reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way,  
grant, we pray,  
that with prompt devotion and eager faith  
the Christian people may hasten  
toward the solemn celebrations to come.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

*I Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9.1-41*

*Please sit* for the readings

**First Reading** A reading from the First Book of Samuel  
The word of the Lord      **Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 23 R/ The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want**

1 The Lord is my shepherd; therefore can I lack nothing.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

3 He shall refresh my soul and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full.

6 Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

**Second Reading** A reading from Letter to the Ephesians

The word of the Lord    **Thanks be to God**

*Please stand* for the Gospel Acclamation: Praise to you, O Christ, King of Eternal Glory! **Praise to you, O Christ, King of Eternal Glory!**

*Please turn to face the Gospel*, proclaimed from the midst of the people

The Lord be with you    **And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel (✠) of Our Lord Jesus Christ (✠) according to St John (✠)  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Gospel of the Lord    **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

*Please sit* for the Homily - *The homily is followed by a time of silent reflection.*

**The Creed** – *please stand.*

**I believe in God the Father almighty,**

**maker of heaven and earth:**

**and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,**

*who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, (all bow)*

*born of the Virgin Mary,*

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, dead, and buried.**

**He descended into hell;**

**the third day he rose again from the dead;**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty;**

**from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost;**

**the holy catholic Church;**

**the communion of saints;**

**the forgiveness of sins;**

**the resurrection of the body, ✠**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Please remain standing for the **Intercessions**

After each petition: Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

As we pray for the dead: Rest eternal, grant unto them O Lord,  
**and let light perpetual shine upon them.**

After the final petition we entrust all our prayer and petitions to the unceasing prayers of the Saints in heaven, especially to the Blessed Virgin Mary who we greet saying: **Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.**

The Priest concludes the prayer, and all respond: **Amen**

## **The Peace**

The Priest introduces the peace, then shares it with the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you **And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace

All share a sign of peace with those near them

Please then sit for the offertory hymn as bread and wine are brought forward for the preparation of the altar.

During this hymn a collection is taken towards the costs of Christ Church's ministries – if you don't have cash, there is a contactless reader by the entrance or you can donate online here:

[christchurchstleonards.co.uk/donate](http://christchurchstleonards.co.uk/donate)



# THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

*Please stand* when the congregation is censed by the thurifer.

## Offertory Hymn

1 My song is love unknown,  
My Saviour's love to me,  
Love to the loveless shown,  
That they might lovely be.  
O, who am I,  
That for my sake  
My Lord should take  
Frail flesh, and die?

2 He came from his blest throne,  
Salvation to bestow:  
But men made strange, and none  
The longed-for Christ would  
know.  
But O, my Friend,  
My Friend indeed,  
Who at my need  
His life did spend!

3 Sometimes they strew his way,  
And his sweet praises sing;  
Resounding all the day  
Hosannas to their King.  
Then 'Crucify!'  
Is all their breath,  
And for his death  
They thirst and cry.

4 Why, what hath my Lord done?  
What makes this rage and spite?  
He made the lame to run,  
He gave the blind their sight.  
Sweet injuries!  
Yet they at these  
Themselves displease,  
And 'gainst him rise.

5 They rise, and needs will have  
My dear Lord made away;  
A murderer they save,  
The Prince of Life they slay.  
Yet cheerful he  
To suffering goes,  
That he his foes  
From thence might free.

6 In life no house, no home,  
My Lord on earth might have;  
In death no friendly tomb,  
But what a stranger gave.  
What may I say?  
Heav'n was his home;  
But mine the tomb  
Wherein he lay

.

7 Here might I stay and sing,  
No story so divine;  
Never was love, dear King,  
Never was grief like thine!  
This is my Friend,  
In whose sweet praise  
I all my days  
Could gladly spend.

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God our almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

*The Priest offers the Prayer over the Gifts, and all respond. Amen.*

### **Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord be with you                      **And also with you**  
Lift up your hearts                      **We lift them up to the Lord**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God  
**It is right to give Him thanks and praise**

*The Priest continues with the Opening (Preface) of the Prayer of Thanksgiving at the end of which the choir leads the **Sanctus***

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

*Please kneel as the Priest continues the Prayer of Thanksgiving.*

*He first invokes the Holy Spirit to sanctify the offerings of bread and wine.*

*He then recalls the Lord's actions the night before he died. A bell is rung as the Priest elevates the consecrated Host and Chalice.*

*He then says:*

Great is the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*The Priest continues with the Eucharistic Prayer.*

*At the end, all respond:*



**The Lord's Prayer**

Please remain kneeling as all pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

*As the Priest breaks the Host, he says:*

**We break this bread, to share in the Body of Christ**

**Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.**

*As the Body of Christ is broken, the choir lead the Agnus Dei*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.**

**Giving of Communion**

Please remain kneeling as the Priest shows the Body of Christ

**Behold the Lamb of God. Behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.**

**Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

*Before coming forward to receive Holy Communion, all pray together:*

**We do not presume to come to this thy table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy table. But thou art the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

*As the Priest receives Holy Communion, a bell is rung & the people begin to come forward. If you are confirmed and wish to receive Holy Communion, please come forward via the main aisle, following the directions of the stewards.*

***All are welcome to come forward for a blessing: if you would like one, please bow your head.***

*Holy Communion is offered in both forms at the Communion Rail. Please kneel, unless you are unable. The Host is received on the tongue (or, if preferred, on the hands.) If you wish to receive from the Chalice, please assist the Eucharistic Ministers by guiding the Chalice towards your lips and not bowing your head forward. If you don't wish to receive from the Chalice, you can return to your seat after receiving the Host.*

***Intinction (dipping the Host in the Chalice) is not permitted.***

*During the receiving of Holy Communion, the Choir sing an **Anthem**  
**The Secret of Christ - Shephard***

*All then join in the **Communion Hymn***

**1. Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,**

**That saved a wretch; like me!**

**I once was lost, but now am found,**

**Was blind, but now I see.**

**2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,**

**And grace my fears relieved;**

**How precious did that grace appear**

**The hour I first believed!**

**3 The Lord hath promised good  
to me,  
His word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures.**

**4 When we've been there ten  
thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's  
praise  
Than when we first begun.**

*As the Sacred Vessels are cleansed, the Priest & servers lead the people in the  
Prayer of Thanksgiving after Holy Communion*

**Almighty God, we thank thee for feeding us with the body and blood  
of thy Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer thee our souls and  
bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of thy Spirit to  
live and work to thy praise and glory. Amen.**

*The Priest & servers then return to the Sanctuary for a time of silent prayer.*

***Please stand for the Priest to sing the Prayer after Communion***

O God, who enlighten everyone who comes into this world,  
illuminate our hearts, we pray,  
with the splendour of your grace,  
that we may always ponder  
what is worthy and pleasing to your majesty  
and love you in all sincerity.  
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

***Please sit for the Notices***

Please stand for **The Blessing and Dismissal**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you**

Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing

Look upon those who call to you, O Lord,  
and sustain the weak;  
give life by your unfailing light  
to those who walk in the shadow of death,  
and bring those rescued by your mercy from every evil  
to reach the highest good.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

May the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

The Mass is ended, let us go in the peace of Christ!

**Thanks be to God!**

*As the Sanctuary party prepares to depart, all sing the* **Recessional Hymn**

**1 Love Divine, all loves  
excelling,  
Joy of heaven, to earth come  
down,  
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
All thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
Pure unbounded love thou art;  
Visit us with thy salvation,  
Enter every trembling heart.**

**2 Come, almighty to deliver,  
Let us all thy life receive;  
Suddenly return, and never,  
Never more thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always  
blessing,  
Serve thee as thy hosts above,  
Pray, and praise thee, without  
ceasing,  
Glory in thy perfect love.**

**3 Finish, then thy new creation,  
Pure and spotless let us be;  
Let us see thy great salvation,  
Perfectly restored in thee,  
Changed from glory into glory,  
Till in heaven we take our place,  
Till we cast our crowns before thee,  
Lost in wonder, love, and praise!**

*As the procession approaches the Image of Our Lady, **all turn** to focus on the Blessed Virgin as the Priest leads the singing of **the Angelus***

The angel of the Lord brought glad tidings to Mary

**And she conceived by the Holy Ghost**

**Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.**

**Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen**

Behold the handmaid of the Lord **Be it unto me according to thy word**

**Hail Mary...**

*(all bow) And the Word was made flesh* **And dwelt among us.**

**Hail Mary....**

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God

**That we may be worthy of the promises of Christ**

*The Priest sings the collect, and all respond* **Amen.**

**As Laetare Sunday is a break in Lenten restraint, the Organ Voluntary follows.**

**Please join us after the Mass at the back of church for refreshments.**

*Make sure to take a copy of the 'Week Ahead' booklet which gives details of the times of worship this week at Christ Church, as well as upcoming events.*

 ChChStLeonards

 @chchstleonards

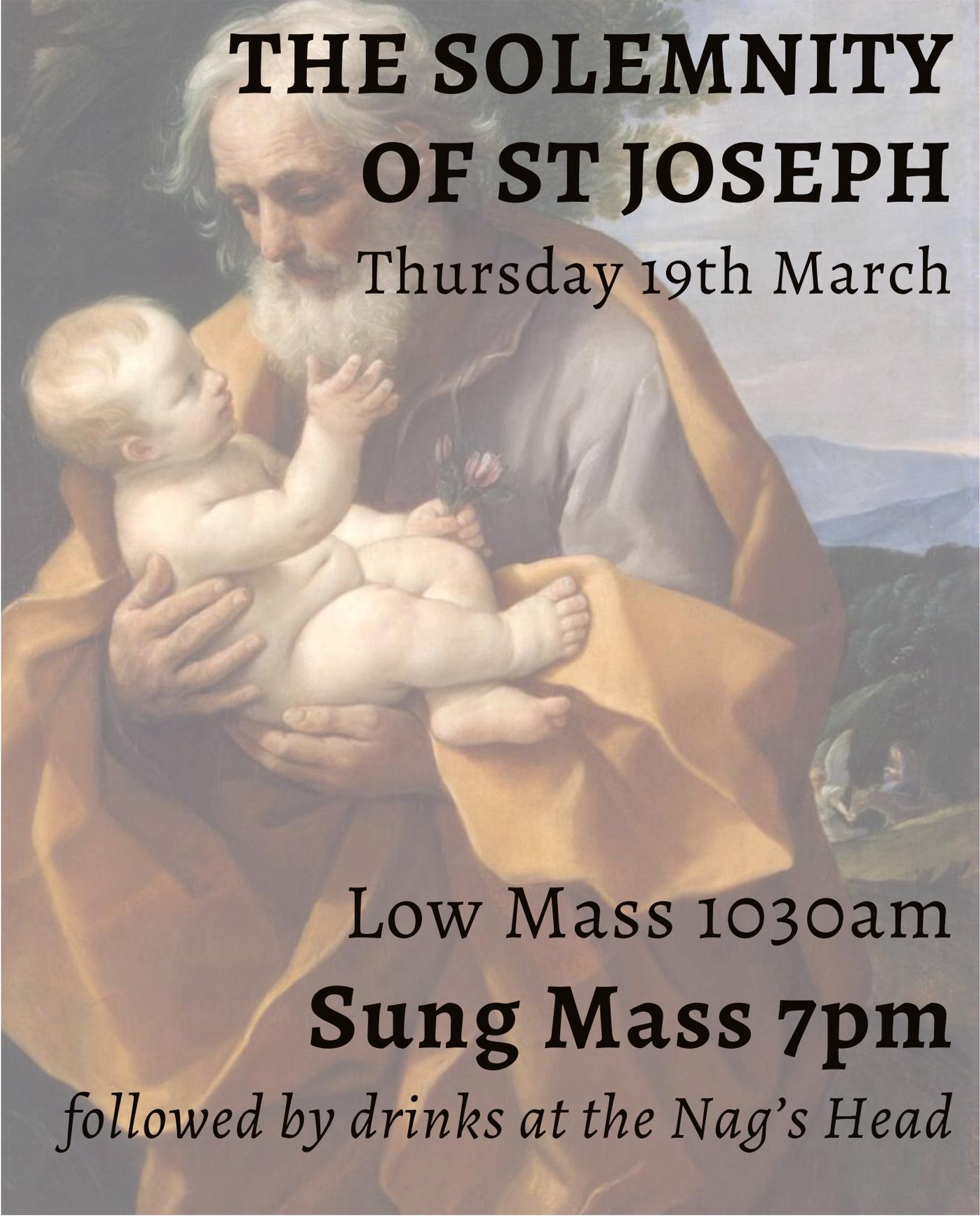
[christchurchstleonards.co.uk](http://christchurchstleonards.co.uk)



**Christ Church**

St Leonards on Sea

ENTRANCE ON  
SILCHESTER  
ROAD  
TN38 0JB



# THE SOLEMNITY OF ST JOSEPH

Thursday 19th March

Low Mass 1030am

**Sung Mass 7pm**

*followed by drinks at the Nag's Head*