

Coming shortly

- 2 Jan 10.30am Holy Communion (BCP), Weobley
- 8 Jan 10.30am Second Tuesday Coffee, Weobley Parish Church
- 8 Jan 2.00pm Funeral of Robert Dewhurst, late of Weobley Marsh, Weobley Parish Church

New Term Card - coming shortly, but needs your input. If you have any events for the term card (quarterly diary) covering months January to April 2019 please let Alison Greig have the details (name of event, date, time and venue) as soon as possible, so that they can be included. Thank you.

The Living Word insert to People&Steeple gives Bible readings

with commentary to read and think about during the week.

Staunton & Weobley Group ministry & team

Weekday Services

Weobley, Monday to Thursday,
Morning Prayer, 9.00am
Evening Prayer, 4.00pm

Weekday Communion BCP, Weobley,
first Wednesday 10.30am

Healing Service with Communion,
Weobley, last Tuesday 10.30am

Sunday Services next week (Jan 6)

Weobley, 10.30am All Age Eucharist
CW

Letton, 10.30am Holy Communion
BCP

Incumbent and Group Rector

Revd Sean A. J. Semple
The Vicarage, Church Road, Weobley HR4 8SD
01544 318415 sajsemples@gmail.com
Usual day off: Friday

Retired Clergy and Reader

Revd Susan Verwey 01981 500626
s.verwey@btopenworld.com
Revd Martin Loveless 01981 500311
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Revd Charles Overton 01544 327912
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Henry Verwey 01981 500626
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Group admin and publicity

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Byford, Monnington, Letton websites:
Rob Howell robhowell67@gmail.com

Copy for next week no later than Wednesday evening please to: alison.greig@gmail.com

For more news, see also www.weobleyandstaunton.co.uk or Facebook



People & Steeple

News and contacts for the Weobley & Staunton Group of Parishes

Weobley, Sarnesfield, Norton Canon,
Staunton-on-Wye, Byford, Monnington, Letton



Sunday, December 23 & 30, 2018

From the Vicar

Welcome to our Christmas services and a very blessed and merry Christmas to you! Christmas has become a joyous celebration of many things, and our church services focus us and draw us back to the reason for our celebration: the birth of Jesus Christ. His birth is proof of God's desire to be in this world and part of it, and not in a comfortable and easy way. Rather God entered the world in the infant Jesus – a peasant child born rough while his parents were travelling. It is a story that is both poignant and powerful, and it reminds us that God will not avoid the most difficult places of our own lives. Invite him in this Christmas, and experience his joy.

Revd Sean Semple,
Group Rector

Theme: D = Defer to the Lordship of Christ

Micah 5:2-5a — A great ruler will emerge from humble origins Page 984

Hebrews 10:5-10 — Knowing the Lord transforms our worship Page 1259

Luke 1:39-45, 46-55 — Elizabeth's unborn baby jumps leaps for its Messiah Page 1078

Dec 25: Grace and glory appear to us

Isaiah 9:2-7 – God's light dawns on a nation Page 744

Titus 2:11-14 – Christians can live above themselves Page 1251

Luke 2:1-14 – God's glory shines Page 1079

Theme Dec 30: Grace and glory grow in us

1 Samuel 2:18-20,26 – The tabernacle apprentice grows Page 325

Colossians 3:12-17 – We are to grow in Jesus' character Page 1236

Luke 2:41-52 – The boy Jesus debates with rabbis Page 1081

Services Sunday 23 December

Weobley, 10.30am Holy Communion BCP

Weobley, 6.30pm Carol Service

Services Sunday 30 December

Weobley, 10.30am Holy Communion CW

Prayer focus

The Weobley and Staunton Group of Parishes serves a rural community and we give thanks for all involved in agriculture, we pray for them, and seek ways to support them.

For healing

Derek and Maggie Parker – Staunton
Marion and Chris Harrison and family – Weobley

Sarah Hurds – Weobley

David Williams (Carolyn Stocker's brother)

If you know of anyone who is unwell, please let Sean or any of the clergy know.

We also like to mention answers to prayer. Please let Alison Greig know.

In our group of parishes

Arabella Moore baptised in Weobley yesterday, 22 December

The Parish of Weobley, the Churchwarden Gary Griffiths and all the church community

The Parish of Letton, the Churchwarden Derys Maddox and all the church community

Those who tend our graveyards

Those involved in Fund-raising for our churches

For God's comfort in bereavement - family and friends of:

Robert Dewhurst (Weobley Marsh)

Derek South (Weobley)

Anne Smith (Staunton-on-Wye)

Evelyn Morgan (Staunton-on-Wye)

Diocese of Hereford

The Deanery of Clun Forest
The Deanery of Conover

Anglican church worldwide

Kubwa - (Abuja, Nigeria)

Kyushu - (Japan)

The wider Church

All other churches in Herefordshire, nationally and across the world who share with us to proclaim God's love to the world.

Advent Season

As we light our Advent candles each Sunday they symbolise different blessings that the coming of Jesus brings into our lives - "Hope"; "Peace"; "Love" and "Joy". On Christmas Day we light the "Christ candle" as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ - God with us.



Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy

Priest: As we light our advent candle

All: Light of the world, shine on us.

Priest: As we prepare for Christmas time

All: Light of the world, shine on us.

Priest: In this world of pain and darkness,

All: Light of the world, shine through us.

Priest: To all the people who don't know you,

All: Light of the world, shine through us.

Priest: Jesus you are coming again,

All: Light of the world, light the way.

Priest: In our service here today

All: Light of the world, light the way.

News

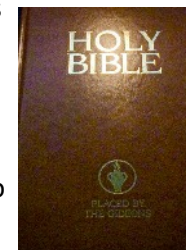
Bishop presiding at January service

On January 13, 2019, the Bishop of Hereford, the Rt Rev Richard Frith, will be presiding at the morning Eucharist at Weobley at 10.30. All parishioners in our Group are encouraged to attend this service. Bishop Richard retires at the end of 2019 and so this is likely to be one of the last occasions that we will see him at one of our services.

Gift of church pew Bibles

A practical emphasis brought by Sean during this Advent season has been to get more familiar with the Bible and to discover God's word from our own

reading. We are grateful to David Williams for the gift of NIV Bibles from hotel Gideon Bibles that have come up for routine replacement. These are offered with a hymn book at the door



of Weobley church each Sunday and the readings referenced with page numbers (see p.1) to make them easy to follow.

This week's events



Monday, December 24

4.00pm Crib Service, Staunton Village Hall

5.30pm Crib Service, Weobley

9.00pm Not the Midnight Mass, Letton

11.00pm Midnight Mass, Monnington

11.30pm Midnight Mass, Weobley

Tuesday, December 25

9.00am Christmas Day Eucharist, Sarnesfield

9.00am Christmas Day Eucharist, Norton Canon

10.30am Christmas Day Eucharist, Weobley

11.30am Christmas Day Service, Byford (with Staunton)

Wednesday January 2

10.30am Holy Communion, Weobley