

Coming shortly

- 12 February 10.30am Second Tuesday Coffee, Weobley
- 12 February 2.30pm and 7.30pm Community Meetings, Norton Canon Village Hall
- 17 February 10.30am Stewardship Sunday with Richard Jones, Letton
- 26 February 5.30pm Letton PCC meeting, Swan Cottage
- 1 March 10.30am Women's World Day of Prayer, Weobley Parish Church
- 2 March 10.30am Coffee morning with pancakes and launch of "The Roof's the Limit", Staunton Village Hall

The Living Word People&Steeple insert 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 (Feb 10)

Weobley, 10.30am Holy Communion
CW

Note - there will be no Taizé Service

Incumbent and Group Rector

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

Retired Clergy and Reader

Revd Susan 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, February 3, 2019

From the Vicar

Welcome to our service of worship today! It is a time of great uncertainty and stress for our country, and thus a time for prayer. Prayer for God's wisdom to prevail in the minds of our leaders; prayer for the nation to discern falsehood from difficult truth, and prayer for the Christian Church in this land to be an agent of healing and reconciliation. In our church buildings, for the best part of a millennium, people have prayed at critical moments for the country. Let us do likewise today.

*Revd Sean Semple,
Group Rector*

Theme: The old order changes, the new covenant comes in Jesus

Malachi 3:1-5 — The Lord comes to purify and renew His people; even the most spiritual will be refined

[p.1012](#)

Luke 2:22-40 — Prophetic words are spoken over Jesus on His presentation at the Temple, that He is a light to the Gentiles and the glory of Israel

[p.1080](#)

Hebrews 2:14-18 — Jesus' sacrifice has broken the power of death and given the right to live free as God's children

[p.1254](#)

Also: Psalm 71:1-6

Services Sunday 3 February

Weobley, 10.30am Holy Communion BCP
Letton, 10.30am Holy Communion BCP
with Staunton congregation

BCP: Book of Common Prayer, traditional form. CW: Common Worship, modern words

Prayer focus

Situated as we are in a rural community, we as a Group of Parishes give thanks for all involved in farming and the rural economy, we pray for them, and give them our support.

For healing

Rob Page, and his wife Carole

Christine Penning

Margaret Smith - Weobley

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.

In our group of parishes

The Parish of Monnington, the Churchwarden Ray Phillips and all the church community

Those who arrange flowers in our churches

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

Jim Smith (Weobley)

Edgar Hall (Wendy Hereford's father)

Thanking God for answered prayer

John Nixon has been given the 'all clear' from his oesophageal cancer

Diocese of Hereford

Our Rural Dean Steve Hollinghurst and all those who serve on the Kington and Weobley Deanery Synod

Anglican church worldwide

The Anglican Church of Burundi

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.

We pray with confidence that God hears and answers our prayers. *We would also like to encourage each other by mentioning answers to prayer in this Prayer Focus. Please let Alison Greig know.*

News

Join a Bible study!

We hear the Bible every week in church. It's central to all we

believe and how we worship. The Church of England 39 Articles, established a while back in 1571, are so Bible-centric people died for them. The Bible is the number one way God speaks to us. So getting to know the Word by gathering around and exploring a passage with others has got to be a good thing.



We hear the passage – often three in quick succession. But do we actually hear, or does it (as Bishop Richard suggested recently) wash over us as another part of the religious language of the service? And is that what God wants?

Sitting in a pew doesn't give opportunity to reflect, and while the preacher's message should bring a focus and perhaps a challenge, there's no room to explore the bits that don't seem to make sense, or may not travel easily from Bible lands in Bible times to 21st century rural Herefordshire. That's where a Bible study group comes in. We all invite the Holy Spirit to be our teacher, and then learn from each other. It falls into place, and feeds the soul in a remarkable way. And it's a great way to get to know people better.

We are planning another Bible study to start soon – Weobley is in mind, but we can run them anywhere. The format is simple – a handout with some notes and prompts beforehand, a friendly host with a living room, a time convenient for all. It isn't about being right or wrong, because there are many shades of understanding, and God gives new insights all the time.

We need some people to give it a try, one or more hosts, and a time that works for all. Talk to Ian Greig or Sean over the coming weeks.

Spring Term Card

Your new term card is now available to keep you up-to-date with what is happening in our group of parishes up until the end of April. Please pick up extra copies for friends and neighbours if you would like to.



Group services

Our St Mary's, Staunton-on-Wye congregation continues to worship with our St John the Baptist, Letton congregation during February. There are also no services during the month at St Nicholas' Norton Canon, St John the Baptist Byford and St Mary's Monnington-on-Wye.

This week's events

Tuesday, February 5

2.00pm Julian Group. Contact hilary.hereford@gmail.com or 01544 319146 for venue.

Wednesday, February 6

6.30pm Monnington Annual Parochial Church Meeting, Dairy House

Thursday, February 7

7.30pm Weobley PCC meeting, Burton Wood Community Centre