

## Coming shortly

- 1<sup>st</sup> December 4 pm Taize Service Weobley Parish Church
- 4<sup>th</sup> December 7.30 pm, Light up a Life Service, Weobley Parish Church
- 7<sup>th</sup> December 10.30 am, Christmas Fayre, St John the Baptist, Letton
- 8<sup>th</sup> December 3pm Toy Service with the Archdeacon , Norton Canon
- 8<sup>th</sup> December 4 pm, Carol Service, Staunton-on-Wye
- 8<sup>th</sup> December 5 pm, Carol Service, Byford
- 14<sup>th</sup> December 6.30 pm , Carol Service St John the Baptist, Letton

**The Living Word** People&Steeple during the week for the *following* insert gives Bible readings with Sunday. Extra copies with *this* commentary to read and think about *Sunday's readings* are by the door.

## Staunton & Weobley Group ministry & team

### Weekday Services

#### Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 10.30

Holy Communion (to be held at the home of Anne Lawrence, Glebe House, next to the Rectory).

### Sunday Services next week

#### 8<sup>th</sup> December

10.30 am Weobley

Eucharist (CW)

15.00 Norton Canon

Toy Service

16.00 Staunton-on-Wye

Carol Service

17.00 Byford, Carol Service

#### Retired Clergy and Reader

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#### Group admin and publicity

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For more news, see also [www.weobleyandstaunton.co.uk](http://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 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019

Forget how many shopping days it is until Christmas... my middle daughter starts to get excited about Christmas when she sees the annual Coca Cola Christmas advertising campaign.

Every year since 1995, when Elizabeth was eight years old, she has looked for the advert. By 1999 the advert was being shown in over 100 countries. This year it aired in UK for the first time on 24 November. The song always features the words, repeated over and over, "Holidays are coming..." It wouldn't be Christmas without the advert!

Well, the Church has been advertising the coming of Christmas for many centuries longer. The season of Advent begins today... four Sundays before Christmas. Advent literally means "Coming to (us)" It reminds us of the time Jesus came to earth to be our Saviour... born a babe in Bethlehem... and of how we look forward to celebrating that anniversary. But Advent also reminds us of Jesus' promise that he would come back again... in the end times. Early Christians eagerly awaited this second coming, but our generation has rather lost this focus. As we prepare to celebrate Christmas 2019... Advent, "Let us also be prepared for the second coming."

Rev Charles Overton

**Advent Sunday theme:** Be ready for Jesus

**Isaiah 2:1-5** – In a future time the world will be looking to its Lord

**Romans 13:11-14** – A wake-up call to live the way Jesus wants

**Matthew 24:36-44** – Make Jesus your Lord and be ready for His coming

### Services Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December

Weobley 10.30

Holy communion (BCP)

Weobley 16.00

Advent Taize Service

Letton 10.30

Holy Communion (BCP)

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

## Prayer focus

### *For healing*

Jan Griffiths (Weobley)

David Games

Harry Williams and his family

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

### *In our group of parishes*

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.

The Parish of Weobley, the Parish Church Council and all the church community.

Church Secretaries

*Diocese of Hereford*

Clun Forest

The Dean, Chapter and congregation of Hereford Cathedral.

### *The Anglican church worldwide*

Pray for mission agencies and their work throughout the Anglican Communion.

### *The wider Church*

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

## The Collect

### **1<sup>st</sup> December First Sunday of Advent**

ALMIGHTY God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty, to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, now and ever. Amen.

## News



**Second Tuesday Christmas  
Coffee Morning  
Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December  
10.30-12.00**

**Please do come along to join  
us for coffee, cake, conversation,  
Crafts and Christmas cards**

**EVERYONE WELCOME**



### **Christmas Choir**

Ladies and Gentlemen Singers from the Benefice, we are putting together a choir for the Christmas Carol Services, and would warmly welcome you all to our practices which take place on *Fridays 7 pm at Weobley Church.*

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### **SUNDAY 1st DECEMBER 4pm**

**Taize Service for Advent Sunday  
at the Church of St Peter and St Paul,  
Weobley.**

This service is an ecumenical service of music and prayer drawn from a christian community of brothers from many different countries, who live and worship together in Taize, France. The service reflects the unique but simple meditative singing which is easy to follow. The quiet, candlelit atmosphere lends itself to prayer and silence. All are very welcome.



### **LIGHT UP A LIFE**

**Weobley Parish Church**

**4<sup>th</sup> December 7.30 pm**

Remembering family, friends and colleagues, reflecting on the times we spent together.



### **NORTON CANON TOY SERVICE**

**Come and celebrate our Patron Saint's special day - 3.00 pm Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December – followed by tea, coffee, squash and biscuits. Donations of new toys will be accepted during the service and passed on to the Hereford Women's Refuge to brighten a distressed child's Christmas – children and families especially welcome.**

**Children are invited to bring along their favourite toy to be blessed during the service (quiet toys please)**



**St. John the Baptist Church, Letton**

**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FAYRE**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7th, 2019**

**10.30am - 1.30pm**

Gifts, cakes, games, raffle, vegetables, bric a brac, books and seasonal refreshments.

Raffle drawn - 1pm £50 first prize. Visit our historic church - open daily..