

Coming shortly

- 14th March - 11 am Monnington-on-Wye, The Big Clean Up
- 25th March - Hereford Cathedral - Remembered in Prayer
- 29th March - 10.30 am, St Mary's Sarnesfield, Group Eucharist Service. (After service light refreshments and time for conversation).
- 2nd April, 12-2 pm Lent Lunch at The Salmon, Bridge Sollers, HR4 7JH. Hosted by Helen Cotterell and Lynn Compton (01981) 590605 07775 751122
- 2nd April - 6 pm Weobley High School 'Sing for the Soul', Weobley Parish Church.

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

Retired Clergy and Reader
Revd Susan Verwey 01981 500626
s.verwey@btopenworld.com

Tuesday 24th March 10.30 am
Healing Service Holy Communion BCP

Revd Martin Loveless 01981 500311
martinloveless@hotmail.com

Sunday Services 22nd March
10.30 am Weobley Parish Church

Revd Charles Overton 01544 327912
charlesoverton@hotmail.com

Mothering Sunday Family Eucharist

Henry Verwey 01981 500626
jh.verwey@btopenworld.com

3.00 pm - Norton Canon

Departed Mother's Day Service

Group admin and publicity
Emma Noble 01432 761896
admin@weobleyandstaunton.co.uk

10.30 am Staunton-on-Wye

Holy Communion

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

5.00 pm Byford - Evensong

Copy for next week no later than Wednesday to: admin@weobleyandstaunton.co.uk

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 15th March 2020

We are kept well-informed – perhaps too well-informed – about the spread of Coronavirus. We are so used to effective medicines and well-understood diseases that the news makes us feel very vulnerable.

It's nothing new to the elderly. I vividly remember the Asian flu epidemic of 1957, the last outbreak of smallpox in the early 1960s, and the terror of the Cuban missile crisis. Those with longer memories will recall tuberculosis, polio, and of course the Blitz. An earlier generation knew typhoid, cholera and Spanish flu.

Recent decades have removed such things from the western radar. Now they're back with a vengeance. People are not only fearful but offended. What does God think he's up to?

CS Lewis once wisely pointed out that all major religions came into being before the discovery of anaesthetics. Jesus himself was born into a world of chronic disease, widespread malnutrition and natural disaster. Yet he proclaimed the sovereignty, the mercy and the goodness of God.

The truth of his message does not change. Lent is a time for self-examination. It is an opportunity to lay to heart how vulnerable we are as individuals and as groups. And just how much we need God's love.

John Thewlis

Theme

God's sheer goodness to undeserving people

Exodus 17:1-7 – God shows grace to the grumbling tribes who need water, and delivers them again

Romans 5:1-11 — Teaching on what Christ did for all undeserving, ungodly sinners

John 4:5-42 — The gift of God in Jesus is love shown to the hostile Samaritans

Also read : Psalm 95

Services Sunday 15th March

10.30 am Weobley Parish Church - Holy Communion CW
10.30 am Letton - Matins

BCP: Book of Common Prayer, traditional form

CW: Common Worship, modern word

Prayer focus

For healing

Jan Griffiths (Weobley)
David Games
Pat Clayton

For God's comfort in bereavement

Dave Hackley

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.

Those involved in fundraising for our churches.

Diocese of Hereford

Conover
Diocesan officers and those who work in the Diocesan Offices.

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 Anglican Church worldwide
Pray for the Church of England.

The Collect

3rd Sunday of Lent 15 March 2020

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; 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.

News

Weobley Parish Church

You will be aware that although it is now open again, we recently felt obliged to lock the church during the day as a consequence of the growing incidence of vandalism. This was purely temporary whilst we decided what security measures we could put in place. This decision was taken reluctantly and only in consultation with the Rural Dean. To put it in context you may be interested in the litany of petty vandalism to which the church has been subjected. Money pilfered from a donation box, smashing of newly installed donation box, dog mess in a bag thrown into the organ, brass cross snapped off churchwarden's staff and stolen, torn pages in a prayer book and damage to a three panel wooden screen used for church information donated to the church.

This is by no means an exhaustive list but will, we hope, help you to understand the action we felt compelled to take to protect our beautiful church, which is, after all part of the heritage of Weobley. We would ask all members of the community to support us by reporting any unusual activity in the vicinity of the church to our Safer Neighbourhoods Officer on 101.

churches Together in Weobley

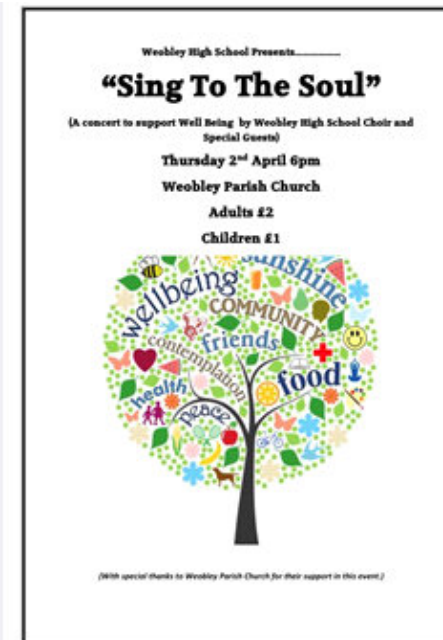
Lent meetings are as follows
(Wednesdays at 2.30 pm)

March 18th, 25th and April 1st
St Thomas's Presbytery
Kington Road, Weobley.
Everyone welcome.

WEOBLEY HIGH SCHOOL

"Sing To The Soul"

April 2nd 6 pm, Weobley Parish Church



Monnington - on -Wye
The Big Clean Up

Unfortunately the church in Monnington was recently flooded.. We are having a clean up on **Saturday 14th March at 11.00 am**. If you can help please just turn up with soft clothes, gloves, buckets and dusters.



So far this year we have hosted four Lent Lunches in support of Forage Aid. Our inal lunch is as follows;

Thurs 2nd April - Bridge Sollers/Byford

More details about the venue and the time are set out on page 4 in 'Coming Shortly'.

For more information on Forage Aid Please visit: www.forageaid.org.uk



Hereford Cathedral In our Prayers

With the prayers and good wishes of Chapter and the Cathedral Community

The Parishes of

Letton with Staunton-on-Wye, Mansell Gamage with Byford & Monnington-on-Wye, Weobley with Sarnesfield and Norton Canon

Will be remembered in Prayer at Hereford Cathedral on

25th March 2020