



PARISH GIVING SCHEME

All seven of our churches in the Group Benefice have a Parish Giving Scheme account and are receiving regular donations (monthly, quarterly for example) - some large, some small, but all invaluable – from supporters who have set up a direct debit in favour of their local parish church. The scheme does the paperwork and as an added bonus this includes claiming the Gift Aid and passing it on to the parish.

To find out more about the scheme you can visit the PGS website at: <https://www.parishgivingscheme.org.uk/> Equally, you could have a word with the treasurer of your local parish who, if you decide to sign up will give you the parish's PGS code, and to get in contact with them do call our Group Administrator Emma Noble on 01432 761896 and she can give you a contact phone number.

Unarguably, these are difficult times, but as we know, while our churches are closed, the Church is still open and anything we can do to help our local parish keep ready for the days when we're back together again will be received with heartfelt gratitude. Do please give the scheme some careful consideration, and thank you of course.

The Living Word People & Steeple insert gives Bible readings with commentary to read and think about during the week for the *following* Sunday.

Also online at thelivingword.uk..
The link for this week's short message is:
<https://thelivingword.uk/how-god-helps-us-to-know-him-personally/>

Staunton & Weobley Group ministry & team

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

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

People & Steeple

News and contacts for the Weobley & Staunton Group of Parishes
Weobley, Sarnesfield, Norton Canon,

Staunton-on-Wye, Byford, Monnington, Letton

Sunday 17th May 2020

One of the odd things about our present 'lockdown' lifestyle is that I find myself slightly lacking some of the regular routines of life. Do you find the same? I sometimes get confused about what day of the week it is, and more than usually caught out wondering exactly why it was that I went to the fridge... and yet I feel both busy and tired. Is that the lockdown effect, or is it just me getting old?

Anyway, one thing I am doing more of than usual is watching films on the television. This week I watched one that was really gripping and thought provoking. "Risen" was released in 2016 and described as a "Biblical Drama with Joseph Fiennes. A Roman legionary is ordered to find the missing body of the crucified Yeshua, who is rumoured to be a Jewish messiah." It is set in the weeks between Good Friday and Ascension Day, AD33. spoiler alert... he failed to find it! The film has high drama, moments of humour and joy and a positive presentation of the Christian message, all from an angle I had never really considered. If you haven't seen it, I strongly recommend it to you.

Look out for it being repeated on Film4.

Rev'd Charles Overton

Theme For the Week

Easter 6: Knowing God personally, and telling others

(Genesis 8.20 - 9.17)

Acts 17:22-31 — The Athenians discover how they can know the 'unknown' and living God

1 Peter 3:13-22 — Baptism is a sign of coming to know God personally in rebirth, and opportunity to tell others why we belong to Christ

John 14:15-21 — The promise of the Holy Spirit, the continuing presence of Jesus, who makes the reality of God known

Psalms 66:8-20 — Praise for God who is known through His faithful love

Prayer focus

For healing

Jan Griffiths
David Games
Pat Claytor

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 Sarnesfield, the Churchwardens Hilary Havard and Viv Leech, and all the church community.

Intercessors and Readers

In the Diocese of Hereford;

The Dean, Chapter and congregation of Hereford Cathedral

Conover

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.

Pray for the Anglican Church of Korea.

The Collect

Sixth Sunday of Easter 17 May 2020

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; 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.

Ascension Day 21 May 2020

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that as we believe your only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens, so we in heart and mind may also ascend and with him continually dwell; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Worship and Prayer



Weobley and Staunton Live Service Every Sunday

We continue our live worship this Sunday. The link for Sunday 17th May at 10.30 Holy Communion is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81946640814>

The corresponding service sheet can be found on the group website (under Week by week tab, then click on Services) should you wish to print it off

www.weobleyandstaunton.co.uk

Also Facebook - *Weobley and Staunton Group of Parishes.*

Notes from Weobley.

When I left New Zealand at the end of March, autumn was rapidly approaching and yet, little more than a day later I was back in springtime in Weobley and so pleased to be home. And what a spring it has been! When I take my circuitous walk every morning to the shop for my paper, I often walk across the churchyard and along the road behind and I'm amazed by the profusion of wild flowers this spring and heartened by the friendliness of the people I meet. Every one is ready to chat whilst maintaining social distancing.

During these worrying times I can't think of anywhere I would rather be than Weobley. Of course, we are all missing our families but a support system for those who need it was very quickly set up in the village to shop or collect prescriptions etc. It is, of course, difficult to be sure that everyone is safe and well but everyone tries and the PCC instituted a system to phone all members of our church occasionally. The food bank has been well supported and we mustn't forget that there are people locally in need of its help. The local shops have been amazing and we have a choice of takeaway meals available.

We are so pleased to have Guy's support as well as that of our regular clergy and it's great to see friends at our zoom Sunday services.

We have all been very sad to have the church closed and this has delayed work inside, some of which is essential. We look forward to some relaxation of the restrictions so that we can begin to clean the church and prepare it for the day when we can all meet again in our lovely ancient church.

Pat Millington

