



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.

www.thelivingword.uk – new edition online every Wednesday, for the week following.

Staunton & Weobley Group ministry & team

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 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 24th May 2020



In the Church's year there are a number of 'in-between' times when we have moved past one significant moment but have not yet arrived at another. Holy Saturday between Good Friday and Easter Day is one such; the ten days between Ascension Day and Pentecost is another time when we are held in a kind of suspension – part anticipation, part uncertainty about where we are.

What should we do with these in-between times? We can use them to look back, to live in the present and to look forward to what is to come. This in-between time gives us the opportunity to look back to the joys of Easter and resurrection; it enables us to make use of the 'Thy Kingdom Come' season of prayer for five people we name in our hearts; and it is a time to look forward to the great Pentecost festival of the Holy Spirit, the birthday of the Church.

There's another sense in which we are 'in-between' with the restrictions of the corona virus epidemic. We can use this time to look back and to look forward and ask ourselves four questions: (1) what have I/we lost that we need to regain in the weeks and months ahead? (2) what have we lost that needs to remain lost – left behind in another country? (3) what have I/we gained that we need to retain in the future? (4) what have we gained recently that was useful for this season but needs to be lost if we are to move forward?

Rev'd Guy Wilkinson



Theme For the Week

Sunday after Ascension: Living in the power of God as those who are His

Acts 1:6-14 — Jesus promises the empowering of the Holy Spirit, who reveals the truth about God and enables us to tell others

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11 — We resist the devil's threats and tests, in God's greater power

John 17:1-11 — Protected by the power of Jesus' name and knowing the Father

Psalms 68:1-10, 32-35 — The power of God the Lord Almighty in historic acts and presence now

Prayer focus

For healing

Jan Griffiths
David Games
Pat Claytor

If you know of anyone who is unwell, or if you would like us to pray for anyone whatever the reason, 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 Norton Canon, the Churchwardens Kim Hendricksen and Judy Pritchard, and all the church community.

Bell Ringers

In the Diocese of Hereford;

Diocesan officers and those who work in the Diocesan Offices

Ludlow

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 all members of the Anglican Communion around the world.

The Collect

**Seventh Sunday of Easter 24 May 2020
Sunday after Ascension Day**

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, 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 Group Live Service Every Sunday

We continue our live worship this Sunday. The link for Sunday 24th May at 10.30 Morning Prayer.:

<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.*

Thy Kingdom Come

Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray between Ascension Day (21 May) and Pentecost (31 May) for more people to come to know Jesus.

Praying for people to come to know the love, hope and peace found in Christ is at the heart of Thy Kingdom Come.

Daily Prayer for Thy Kingdom Come is a great way to set up regular, daily patterns of prayer to hold these people in prayer – whether you are doing so on your own, as a household, or joining with a small group or as a church virtually.

Their resource is available in a range of offline and free online formats:

The booklet – in full-colour and complete with services, psalms and readings – is available now from Church House Publishing for just £1.99 with Free UK Delivery when you order online.

The free app for iOS and Android – containing audio for Morning, Evening, Day and Night Prayer from the booklet for all 11 days. The app has been updated with 2020 Sunday psalms and readings and a new feature that allows you to set reminders for any or all the services at times that suit you. Download for Android or iOS.

A podcast – featuring all eight hours of the Daily Prayer for Thy Kingdom Come audio is available on this page as well as via iTunes, Spotify and other podcast providers.

Smart speaker – from Thursday 21 May (Ascension Day), you can also get Alexa and Google Home to 'Ask the Church of England for today's Thy Kingdom Come' to hear a short service of Prayer During the Day (before 7pm) and Night Prayer (after 7pm) throughout the 11 days.