



# People & Steeple

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

Staunton-on-Wye, Byford, Monnington, Letton



Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2020



We are pleased to say that Weobley Parish Church will now be open for individual private prayer in the Chancel daily from Monday 15 June between the hours of 10.00 and 3.00pm. It is vitally important that everyone continues to respect the social-distancing rules. Access to the church will be through the Chancel door adjacent to the Preaching Cross. Please bring your own Bible or Prayer Book as under COVID-19 rules we cannot leave any out for shared use.

Wendy Hereford, Weobley PCC.

## News

Please note the Administrator is on annual leave until 28<sup>th</sup> June. Please look at the website page for further details about who to contact as the role will be worked out between volunteers. [www.weobleyandstaunton.co.uk](http://www.weobleyandstaunton.co.uk)

**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](http://www.thelivingword.uk) – new edition online every Wednesday, for the week following. See also separate page;

<https://bit.ly/2BXiHkE>

## Staunton & Weobley Group ministry & team

### Retired Clergy and Reader

Rev'd Susan Verwey 01981 500626  
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Rev'd Martin Loveless 01981 500311  
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Rev'd Charles Overton 01544 327912  
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### Group admin and publicity

Emma Noble 01432 761896 or 07954 706182  
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Byford, Monnington, Letton websites:  
Rob Howell robhowell67@gmail.com

For more news, see also [www.weobleyandstaunton.co.uk](http://www.weobleyandstaunton.co.uk) or Facebook

Copy for next week no later than Wednesday to: [alison.greig@gmail.com](mailto:alison.greig@gmail.com)

Well, what do you do with all your spare time during the present health crisis. If you are a health worker, or a teacher, or someone who is working remotely, it may be you actually have less spare time, not more... but for the rest of us?

I have certainly seen more television than usual, but one programme I always watch anyway is Springwatch, which I think has even been better this year than usual... less banter round a firepit and more focus on the extraordinary natural world around us. Chris Packham has been particularly engaging this year, presenting with his step-daughter Megan McCubbin. This week they explained how butterflies have hearts in their wings. The purpose of these small beating muscles is to pump the butterfly blood called haemolymph through the veins of butterfly wings in order to prevent the wings from overheating. Previously it was supposed that butterfly wings were lifeless membranes, like our hair or fingernails, but no! Science has revealed more wonders of our wonderful Lord's amazing creation.

Beating hearts in butterfly wings! Who knew? How much more, I wonder, have we yet to discover about the genius of God's creation? God is good indeed.

Rev'd Charles Overton

## 1 After Trinity

**Theme for the week:**  
Knowing God is knowing His partnership

**Psalm 100** — Joyful security comes from knowing God and living as His people

**Exodus 19:2-8** — Israel will be God's special possession and sign for others

**Romans 5:1-8** — Our faith through Jesus has brought us close to God, knowing He is with us in difficult times

**Matthew 9:35-10:8** — Jesus sends the twelve with His authority to proclaim the kingdom

## Prayer focus

### *For healing*

Jan Griffiths,  
David Games  
Pat Claytor

### **Recently Deceased**

Thelma Craddock

***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 Monnington, the Churchwarden Ray Phillips and all the church community.

The other clergy who help in ministry,  
Rev Chris Rhodes.

### *In the Diocese of Hereford:*

Our Rural Dean Guy Wilkinson and all those who serve on the Kington and Weobley Deanery Synod.

Abbeydore

### *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 Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma)*

## The Collect

Trinity Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June

O God,  
the strength of all those who put their trust in you,  
mercifully accept our prayers  
and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature  
we can do no good thing without you,  
grant us the help of your grace,  
that in the keeping of your commandments  
we may please you both in will and deed;  
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.

## Worship and Prayer



### Weobley and Staunton Group Live Service Every Sunday

We continue our live worship this Sunday with Morning Prayer at 10.30 am.  
Log in available from 10.20am. The link for Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June 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](http://www.weobleyandstaunton.co.uk)

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

**The easiest way to click on the Zoom link is via the website page.**

### Open Again

With the BBC - and other good news providers - trailing the news that churches can open again for individual private prayer from Monday the 15th, thoughts are turning to how to deliver this in a safe and manageable way. Safe cleaning - after a lengthy and unprecedented closure - is the first priority and while doing this, our wardens will have the opportunity to consider, in situ, how best to open the churches. Talking of closures, I was told that the last time our churches were closed in England was 1208. Something to research and share if you're minded; 800 hundred years ago and yet some of the churches in our group would have experienced this - and how extraordinary is that!

For a while yet, our churches won't be fully open and we will have to observe good guidance when entering for private prayer but these are the first shoots of spring, and let's be thankful for that as we move forward to the time when services can be conducted in our churches once again.

All of our parishes are busy considering how best to open, when to open and for how long and these plans will be shared with congregations and parishioners as soon as they are formulated and agreed. You can see that Weobley has already come up with its plan and this is set out on page 4 of this leaflet. Others will follow, but the best early advice is to speak with your churchwardens who will be able to tell you what your church is planning and when it will be open.

During the last few months we have exercised great patience while in church lockdown, and this will need to continue for a while yet but here we have the first signs of a new way ahead. Do please continue to exercise good common sense and follow the guidance your churches provide for you.