

Coming shortly

We are very pleased to inform you we have managed to put together both Zoom services and church services for the rest of July and we thank our clergy team for their dedication and commitment to the Benefice. The services are as follows:

Live Zoom services will continue every Sunday but will be at an early time of **9.30 am** and will be reviewed accordingly.

Church Services:

July 26th Holy Communion BCP 10.30 am Weobley Church
July 26th Morning Prayer 9 am Sarnesfield Church
July 26th Evening Prayer 5 pm Byford Church

Wearing Face-coverings in Church

We have just received guidance from the Church of England that the wearing of face-coverings in church is recommended although not mandatory. Our feeling is that this is a matter that touches on personal responsibility and we noticed that the majority of the congregation at Weobley last Sunday felt comfortable wearing masks.

The Living Word People & Steeple insert gives Bible readings with commentary to read and think about during the week for the *following* Sunday. Explaining... Our assurance in the kingdom of God <https://bit.ly/July27article>

Staunton & Weobley Group ministry & team

Weekday Services

There are currently no weekday services

Sunday Services 2nd August

10.30 am Weobley Parish Church

Morning Praise

11.00 am Norton Canon

Holy Communion BCP

Zoom Service

9.30 am - Matins BCP

Retired Clergy and Reader

Revd Susan Verwey 01981 500626
s.verwey@btopenworld.com

Revd Martin Loveless 01981 500311
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Henry Verwey 01981 500626
jh.verwey@btopenworld.com

Group admin and publicity

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

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 26th July 2020

What do you want?

It's a common theme in fairy stories; someone gets granted a wish, or sometimes three wishes! Solomon in our Old Testament reading was in this position when he dreamed that night in Gibeon. I wonder what you or I would have answered?

It would be easy to ask for perfectly good things like health, enough money to live comfortably, friends, good family relationships, but are any of these top priorities. Read the unfortunately little-read book of Ecclesiastes and you will see a reflection of what many people, who have all these, feel today - a lack of ultimate satisfaction. Notice the contrast in our reading from Romans 8, which I always think should be read in a Churchillian deep, gravelly, defiant voice, such as he used in his famous 'We shall fight on the beaches' speech. It challenged us with its confidence that, even if the reverse of any or all of these things happens to us, we can rest assured of God's love in Jesus, which nothing can take away, the knowledge and experience of which is what we should most desire.

As St Augustine said 'You have made us for Yourself, and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in You'.

What do you want? What do you really, really want?

Rev'd Peter Houghton

Theme

God's kingdom order is also His assurance.

1 Kings 3:5-12

God assures Solomon that his request for a wise and discerning heart will be granted.

Romans 8:26-39

If we are in relationship with God, we have assurance that God, out of His love, is working to bring His good.

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Nothing we seek is as valuable as God's life-giving and transforming kingdom.

Also:

Psalm 119: 129-136

Services Sunday 26th July

9.00 am Sarnesfield

Morning Prayer

10.30 am Weobley

Holy Communion BCP

5.00 pm Byford

Evening Prayer

Prayer focus

For healing

Jan Griffiths (Weobley) Pat Claytor

For comfort in new surroundings:

Doreen Watson

God's comfort in bereavement :

David Games and his family

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 Staunton, the Parish Church Council and all the church community.

Those who arrange flowers in our churches.

In the Diocese of Hereford:

The Dean, Chapter and congregation of Hereford Cathedral

Ross and Archenfield Deanery

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 those responsible for preparing the Lambeth Conference which was due to be taking place now. Pray for them as they consider the implications of postponement in the light of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Collect

7th Sunday after Trinity

Lord of all power and might,
the author and giver of all good things:
graft in our hearts the love of your name,
increase in us true religion,
nourish us with all goodness,
and of your great mercy keep us in the same;
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 Sunday

We carry on our live Zoom Eucharist (CW) Service this Sunday at 9.30 am.

Log in available from 9.20 am.

The link for **Sunday 26th July** is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81946640814>

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

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.

News

Zoom Services - Let us know your thoughts!

As we move towards holding more services in our churches, we have been thinking about how we can move forward with Zoom services, ensuring we have enough staff to hold both physical and virtual services. As a majority of our churches hold services between 9-11 am, it may be that it is a preferable alternative to hold an Evening Prayer service at 6pm. We would of course very much value your opinion on this and ask you to email the Group Administrator by Sunday evening at: admin@weobleyandstaunton.co.uk with your thoughts so we can discuss it at our next clergy meeting on Monday morning. We will keep you posted.



Services in August

We have recently completed the service schedule for August and are delighted to confirm that all of our parish churches that would normally hold services in August have services scheduled, for which you can find details below. Please note these services are subject to change and for up-to-date information please check your People and Steeple each week or refer to our website:

www.weobleyandstaunton.co.uk or *Weobley and Staunton Group of Parishes* Facebook page.

Weobley Parish Church 2nd, 9th, 16th 23rd, 30th August (Group Service) all 10.30 am

Norton Canon : 2nd August - 11 am

Sarnesfield: 23rd August - 9 am

Staunton-on-Wye: 9th and 23rd August - 10.30 am (open air services)

Letton: 16th August 10.30 am

Byford : 23rd August - 5 pm