

Coming Shortly



HARVEST FESTIVAL DATES

Sarnesfield 25th October 11.00 am

Byford 25th October 5.00 pm

The Living Word is a Bible study on the set readings www.thelivingword.uk. A linked 'Explaining' article explores this week's theme: Holiness and the Great Commandment <http://bit.ly/linkpageoct25>

Staunton & Weobley Group ministry & team

Weekday Services

Monday 2nd November 5pm - All Souls' Service

Sunday Services 1st November

10.30 am Weobley Parish Church

All Saints Morning Praise

10.30 am Letton

Holy Communion (BCP)

11..00 am Norton Canon

Holy Communion (BCP)

5.00 pm Monnington-on-Wye

All Souls' Service I

5.30 pm - Zoom Evening Prayer (BCP)

Retired Clergy and Reader

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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 25th October 2020

'The most valuable treasure that this earth affords'

This is how something given to the Queen on her coronation was described. It was a copy of the Bible. This Sunday is Bible Sunday, although really every Sunday is Bible Sunday, since its words underlie the readings, prayers and liturgy and (hopefully!) the sermons of our services.

Sadly, as listening to University Challenge and other quiz shows will reveal, this treasure is undiscovered or neglected by the vast majority of British people, even churchgoers.

Why is the Bible such a treasure? It is full of rich language, stories and poetry which have entered the English language and literature, but it is more than that. It gives us rules for life, although it is more than that. It helps us wrestle with the big questions of life, although it is more than that. It shows us that God is ultimately in charge of history, although it is more than that. It gives us insights into who we are as human beings, although it does more than that.

The main treasure of the Bible is that through it we can know about God and, even more, we can know God, because the Bible tells us about, and points us to, Jesus. You could become Mastermind champion at Bible knowledge but, without knowing Jesus for yourself through the Bible, it would all be 'Pointless'.

Let's use Bible Sunday to renew or start regular reading of the Bible for ourselves so that we get to know Jesus better, then we will find out what a treasure it is.

Peter Houghton

Theme

Kingdom holiness according to the Great Commandment

OT: [Leviticus 19:1-12](#)

God's people must learn the priority of relationships of love to take into their new land.

NT letter: [1 Thessalonians 2:1-8](#)

Paul defends the holy integrity of the message he brought, validated by strong opposition.

NT gospel: [Matthew 22:34-46](#)

Jesus restates the law for the kingdom with the profound simplicity of the Great Commandment.

Also read: Psalm 1

Sunday 25th October

10.30 am Weobley Parish Church

Holy Communion

10.30 am Staunton-on-Wye

Service of the Word

11.00 am Sarnesfield

Harvest Festival

5.00 pm Byford

Harvest Festival

5.30 pm - Zoom Service

Evening Prayer (BCP)

CW: Common Worship, modern words

BCP: Book of Common Prayer

Prayer focus

For healing

Jan Griffiths (Weobley)

Pat Claytor

Ian and Hilary Robinson (Weobley)

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 Byford, the Churchwardens Sue Hubbard and Maggi Denaro, and all the church community.

Those who provide music in our churches.

In the Diocese of Hereford:

Those who serve on the Diocesan Synod and all the other Diocesan Boards and Committees.

Ross & Archenfield Deanery

The Wider Church

Pray for the Church of the Province of West Africa.

The Collect

Last Sunday after Trinity

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: help us so to hear them, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word, we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ, 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 of Parishes Online Services

Sunday 25th October

Evening Prayer (BCP) on Zoom at 5.30 pm
Log-in available at 5.20 pm at the following link:

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

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

www.weobleyandstaunton.co.uk

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

News

Our New Rector

As many will be aware, interviewing for the post of Rector for the Weobley & Staunton Group of Parishes went ahead on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week. In short, the interviewing panel – which includes Representatives from each of the seven parishes, as well as the Bishop and Archdeacon and Patrons of the parishes - was unable to offer the post to a candidate, and that is of course a great disappointment.

Inevitably this will extend the process of finding our new Rector and already urgent conversations about 'next steps' are being held with the Deanery Leadership team and the Archdeacon and Bishop in Hereford.

So, disappointed but not defeated in any way. Our kind and hard-working clergy team have already made it plain that they are happy to continue to deliver our service rotas and pastoral care as they have done hitherto, and the Rural Dean Guy Wilkinson and the Deanery Leadership Team continue to offer the best of advice, counsel and practical support and we thank them all wholeheartedly for this. We are in an interregnum during an unprecedented pandemic but I feel – we feel – that it has been managed well so far – and that can continue if the parishioners, congregations and PCCs continue to work together, both parish by parish and as a Group.

Roger Marshall, Chair, Weobley and Staunton Group Benefice Council

All Souls' Day

The Benefice will be holding two services for All Souls' Day. The first will be next Sunday at Monnington-on-Wye at 5pm with Rev'd Susan Verwey. We will also be holding one on Monday 2nd November at 5pm at Weobley Parish Church with Rev'd John Thewlis.

The services will be reflective and we will commemorate our departed family and friends. Please use the contact list on page 4 to confirm with the appropriate member of the clergy team any names of those you wish to be remembered and read out at the service. People are very welcome to ask for a loved one to be remembered whether or not they are able to attend the service.