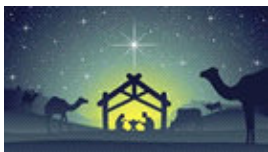


Coming up



Christmas Services

- 13th December 3 pm Carol Service - Staunton-on-Wye
- 18th December 7 pm Carol Service - Norton Canon
- 19th December 10.45 am Carol Service - Rose Garden, Weobley
- 24th December 4 pm Crib Service - Staunton-on-Wye
- 24th December 9 pm Not at Midnight Mass - Letton
- 24th December 11.15 pm Midnight Mass - Monnington-on-Wye
- 25th December 9.00 am Christmas Day Eucharist - Sarnesfield
- 25th December 9.00 am Christmas Day Eucharist - Norton Canon
- 25th December 10.30 am Christmas Day Eucharist - Weobley
- 25th December 11.00 am Christmas Day Eucharist - Byford

The Living Word is a Bible study on the set readings www.thelivingword.uk. A linked 'Explaining' article explores this week's theme: 'Seeing where Jesus is present', see <https://bit.ly/Dec13article>

Staunton & Weobley Group ministry & team

Sunday Services 20th December

10.30 am Weobley Parish Church

Eucharist

10.30 am Letton Church

Matins

5.30 pm -Evening Prayer (BCP)

Zoom Service

Retired Clergy and Reader

Rev'd Susan Verwey 01981 500626
s.verwey@btopenworld.com

Rev'd Martin Loveless 01981 500311
martinloveless@hotmail.com

Rev'd Charles Overton 01544 327912
charlesoverton@hotmail.com

Henry Verwey 01981 500626
jh.verwey@btopenworld.com

Rev'd John Thewlis (01432) 830134
jct@thewlis.org.uk

Group admin and publicity

Emma Noble 07954 706182
admin@weobleyandstaunton.co.uk

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 13th December 2020

A couple of Zooms ago I took a risk and talked about death. It's a traditional Advent theme that nowadays we neglect. Although we all know that death comes to us all, death isn't the daily companion it used to be —or the way it still is in other parts of the world. The pandemic is altering that : as it should.

Modern society basically sees death as an outrage or something to resist; "do not go gentle into that good night." Christian doctrine does not. The significance of life has changed because of Christmas. The significance of death has changed because of Good Friday and Easter.

The pain of parting is real. We understandably fear the moment when our sinful eyes meet the eyes of Jesus. These are not things to relish. But Advent reminds us that the Christian faith is about a journey, through life, through death, to fulfilment in the presence of God. Despite all the perils and fears, there is a wonderful end in view.

*Lift your eyes, ye sons of light!
Zion's city is in sight!
There our endless home shall be!
There our Lord we soon shall see!*

Rev'd John Thewlis



Theme

Anticipating Jesus by seeing what He is doing

OT: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 — Seeing Jesus coming to proclaim favour, salvation and freedom in a new covenant.

NT letter: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 — Give space for the Spirit of Jesus in worship with rejoicing and prophetic words for all to test.

NT gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28 — John comes, not as the light, but as the voice calling people to see the light of Jesus.

And also read: Psalm 126

Sunday 13th December

10.30 am Weobley Church
Eucharist (CW)

3.00 pm Staunton-On-Wye
Carol Service

5.30 pm Zoom Service
Evening Prayer

CW: Common Worship, modern words
BCP: Book of Common Prayer

Prayer focus

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.

For healing

Pat Claytor
Peter Griiffiths
Rose Pember (recovering from a broken hip)

For Comfort

The Jordan family

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 contribute to *People and Steeple* and other media.

In the Diocese of Hereford:

Bishop Richard of Hereford; Derek, Archdeacon of Hereford.

Abbeydore Deanery

The Wider Falkland Islands (Extra-Provincial to the Archbishop of Canterbury).

The Collect

The Third Sunday of Advent

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Worship and Prayer



Weobley and Staunton Group of Parishes Online Services

Evening Prayer (BCP) on Zoom at 5.30 pm with Rev'd ohn Thewlis

The link for the service can be found below:

<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



Norton Canon Christmas Angels

Norton Canon PCC is fundraising for St Nicholas Church by hanging sponsored Angels around the church. You can sponsor one in your name or the name of a loved one by making a donation to the church either by cash, cheque or BACS. For further information please email Kim Hendricksen:

kim.hend57@icloud.com

Come and see the Christmas Angels at our carol service
On the 19th December at 7pm.



Thank you those that supported our Seasonal Raffle - You donated a fantastic amount in the region of £750, which is three times the amount we normally make on the raffle. So a huge 'thank you' to you all and we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and look forward to seeing you back in St Johns in easier times very soon