

News



Wonderful Weobley

Famed for the height and design of its church spire, St Paul and St Paul can be seen from every vantage point within in miles of Weobley. And how lucky are we to have living in the village, Tom Pennington, a keen and much-published amateur photographer. This photo of the church spire set against a wonderful winter sky is one of Tom's and can be seen more vividly on our Facebook site: Weobley & Staunton Group of Parishes. Do visit, give it a 'like' and who know what more we may get.

The Living Word is a Bible study on the set readings www.thelivingword.uk. A linked article explores the message from this week's theme: 'Apprentice — You're chosen!', see <http://bit.ly/Jan17article>

Staunton & Weobley Group ministry & team

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Sunday 24th January

10.30 am Weobley Parish Church
Holy Communion BCP

10.30 am Zoom Morning Service
Holy Communion BCP

5.30 pm Zoom Service
Evening Prayer BCP

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 17th January 2021

The Februaries used to be a highly contagious university malady. It appeared as the Wise Men left and lasted until the first daffodils. Along with coronavirus, it now looks to be here with us and knocking on many a door.

There are two ways of dealing with it. The first is to think positive thoughts — it'll soon be spring, things aren't so bad, other people are much worse off. If that works for you, then stop reading : God verily binds up and God verily heals.

The second way is more difficult. Because we can read about them in a matter of minutes, it's easy to forget the hard times of being a Christian — the forty days of Jesus in the wilderness, the journeys of S.Paul, the terror of the Garden of Gethsemane. Actually going through the days and the miles and the agony is a very different matter.

The body of Christ can only expect to share in the sufferings of Christ. That's a hard saying. Yet if lockdown, fears and the Februaries help us to lay its truth to heart, we shall be the more grateful for the new life that also belongs to Christ's body.

Rev'd John Thewlis

Called to live differently

OT: 1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19-20

The apprentice Samuel's encounter with God calling him at night.

Revelation 5.1 - 10

NT gospel: John 1:43-51

The first disciples find Nathanael and Jesus shares a word about what he has been reading.

Also read: Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

Sunday 17th January

10.30 am Weobley Church

**Eucharist CW- also live
Streamed on Facebook.**

**10.30 am Zoom Holy Communion
BCP**

**5.30 pm Zoom Evening Prayer
BCP**

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.

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 Letton, the Churchwarden Derys Maddox, the Treasurer, Tracy Whiting and all the church community.

Those involved in fund-raising for our churches.

In the Diocese of Hereford:

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

Ledbury Deanery

The Wider Community

The Anglican Church of Australia

The Collect

Second Sunday of Epiphany

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new: transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; 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 & Prayer



Weobley and Staunton Group of Parishes Online Services

Facebook Live Stream at Weobley Parish Church at 10.30 am.

Zoom Holy Communion (BCP) 10.30 am
Zoom Evening Prayer (BCP) 5.30 pm

The Zoom link is

<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.

www.weobleyandstaunton.co.uk

Live stream available via

Weobley and Staunton Group of Parishes

Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/weobleyandstaunton>

News

Debut live-streaming from Weobley Church

This Sunday, Rev'd Guy Wilkinson will be live-streaming to Facebook the 10.30am Public Worship from St Peter and St Paul and so there will be the opportunity to view this live on Sunday morning, or of course at any time of your choosing if you can't be 'there' at 10.30am. While it is a public worship service, we are very conscious that these are unprecedented times and we can imagine how many who would wish to be in church just think that now is not the time to be taking undue risks with our health and so, whether viewing on Facebook or attending Rev'd Susan Verwey's online Communion service [On Zoom at 10.30am also] we may be distanced in tangible ways but still united in spirit and one another's thoughts. Should a small number who perhaps have no access to the internet wish to come to church in person, they are of course welcome but we must emphasise the need to exercise the most stringent mask-wearing, hand-sanitising protocols and remind ourselves that we cannot socialise either in the church or outside.

When we're back to normal - and we are beginning to know friends and congregants in our parishes who have had vaccinations (some twice) - there is every certainty that we will want to return to church and meet and worship with our friends as we always have done. And soon*/quite soon*/sometime in the Spring* (* delete as appropriate!) we will be able to do that but the great thing about online technology is that for now and on into the future we can also offer services in different formats, at different times of the day or night and so engage with a wider audience in a more modern way. There is much to look forward to in 2021 and some of it will be new. Exciting times indeed!



Signing up for something new

One of the things we've noticed at Sarnesfield Open Weekends is that we get a good number of 'first-time visitors' popping in for a cup of tea, slice of cake and a very welcome nose round! And much of that is down to the 'road-side' advertising we do in the week before the weekend. Thinking about that and being on the side of the A4112, we felt we should have signs proclaiming our regular services and, as you can see from this picture, the first of what will become a library of options has been designed and finished by two of Sarnesfield's skilled artisans - joiner Richard Putland and metalworker Richard Leech. Rather like old-fashioned railway signals we can put them up and take them down in moments and we hope - when we can get back to 'normal' - we can attract more passing pilgrims to join us at St Mary's once they've seen our signs as they travel past the church.

A man of many skills is Richard Leech and every five years or so, he has been our go-to contractor to clamber up on to the roof and clear the moss and ferns that so enjoy taking up residence. Completed just before Christmas, we've not really had the chance to show it off but the church is looking great and the number of tiles we need to replace is thankfully very modest and manageable. A job for the Spring we think!