

## Ash Wednesday



Although we will not be having our usual Shrove Tuesday pancakes in church this year, we will be holding a small Ash Wednesday Service at Weobley Parish Church at 11.00 am on 17<sup>th</sup> February for those that do not have the facility to watch it via Facebook live-stream. There will be ashing but it will be by ash being dropped into the hands of penitents who will then mark the cross on their own forehead.

As well as being live-streamed it will also be available to watch on our website and YouTube channel shortly afterwards.

The Living Word is a Bible study on the set readings [www.thelivingword.uk](http://www.thelivingword.uk). A linked article explores the message from this week's theme: 'God's presence comes with heaven's brilliance', see <http://bit.ly/Feb14article>

## Staunton & Weobley Group ministry & team

### Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February 11 am

#### 11.00 am Weobley Parish Church

Ash Wednesday Service (live-streamed)

### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February

#### 10.30 am - Weobley Parish Church

Holy Communion (BCP)

#### 10.30 am Zoom Service

Holy Communion (BCP)

#### 5.30 pm Zoom Service

Evening Prayer (BCP)

#### Retired Clergy and Reader

Rev'd Susan Verwey 01981 500626  
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#### Group admin and publicity

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Copy for next week no later than Wednesday to: [admin@weobleyandstaunton.co.uk](mailto:admin@weobleyandstaunton.co.uk)

For more news, see also [www.weobleyandstaunton.co.uk](http://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 14<sup>th</sup> February 2021

The *Financial Times* uses complicated language. You'd expect its readers to be intelligent and educated. But the comments section can make you pause and reflect.

Anonymity doesn't help. It allows shocking prejudice to be expressed. We should expect differences of opinion. But all too often, closed minds simply seem to yell (politely) at other closed minds. One wonders how often discussion brings about real change.

This has become obvious in the past few days over the vaccine crisis with the EU. Some correspondents clearly think that the EU can do nothing right, others that HM government can do nothing right —and it doesn't matter what evidence is put before them. If this is how they conduct their business affairs, then we should all be worried.

Nothing in this life is perfect. No-one's ideas are perfect either. We've got to make the best of this world whenever we can't make this world better. It's not just about listening. It's about being able to say you weren't as clever as you thought ; and about being able to say that you simply got it wrong. Jesus once said, *He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone. verb.sap.*

Rev'd John Thewlis



Heaven reveals God's glory

**OT: 2 Kings 2:1-12**

Elijah's ministry ends as he is swept up to heaven.0j

**NT letter: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6**

How the glory of Christ is hidden at first.

**NT gospel: Mark 9:2-9**

Heaven opens to reveal the glory of heaven on Jesus.

And also read: Psalm 50:1-6

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February**

**10.30 am Weobley Eucharist (CW)**

(Also livestreamed on Facebook)

**10.30 am Zoom Service**  
Holy Communion ( CW)

**5.30 pm Zoom Service**  
Evening Prayer ( BCP )

BCP: Book of Common Prayer  
CW Common Worship

## 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*

Desiree Potter (Sarnesfield)

*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-on-Wye, the Parish Church Council, the Churchwarden Ian Wood and all the church community.

Those who provide music in our churches across the Benefice.

*In the Diocese of Hereford:*

Diocesan officers and those who work in the Diocesan Offices.

Clun Forest Deanery

*The Wider Community*

The Anglican Church of Canada

## The Collect

### Sunday Next Before Lent

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

### Ash Wednesday

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: create and make in us new and contrite hearts that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; 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 Livestream Eucharist (CW) Service from Weobley Church at 10.30 am  
(Available to watch at You Tube shortly after)

Zoom Holy Communion BCP at 10.30 am.

Zoom Evening Prayer at 5.30 pm

[www.weobleyandstaunton.co.uk](http://www.weobleyandstaunton.co.uk)  
The Weobley and Staunton Group of Parishes  
Facebook Page  
The Weobley and Staunton Group of Parishes  
You Tube channel



### Welcome Rev'd Philip Harvey - Our New Rector

The Group is delighted to be looking forward to welcoming Rev'd Harvey and his wife Penelope to our rural home, in early April we hope. Here we can share a brief introductory biography we received from Philip.

'Penelope and I are looking forward to our move into the Hereford Diocese, getting to know you in the Weobley and Staunton Group and writing this next chapter of ministry in God's service together.

I grew up in a large Christian family in Sydney, Australia and worked as a teacher of English, History and Drama in several schools before teaching and leading in international schools in Germany, Oman and Luxembourg. While in Luxembourg I was sponsored by the Diocese of Europe and undertook my ministry training with the Eastern Region Ministry Course and Durham University. I then served in Sprowston, an urban parish of Norwich. My travels and experiences have been across a range of churches, cultures and spiritual traditions.

I like outdoor pursuits that put me in touch with the natural world: gardening, walking and cycling. My musical tastes are diverse, ranging from baroque to jazz and I play the guitar, flute and harmonica. My favourite areas of reading include history, theology and biography, while my favourite foods are Mediterranean and almost anything cooked slowly in red wine. I tend to be experimental in the kitchen, which is occasionally a good thing and sometimes not so good.

Penelope (also a teacher) and I have two adult children. Our son Blake lives in Canberra and our daughter Caitlin lives in Bristol. We also have three young grandchildren, who are a source of real joy.

We would value your prayers and support as we make this transition, and look forward to meeting many of you in April'.



### Churches Together in Weobley Lent Study Group

The CTIW Lent Study Group starts on the 24th February at 3pm on Zoom, to be led by Father Simon - more details and joining instructions will follow in *People and Steeple* next week.