



People & Steeple

News and contacts for the Weobley & Staunton Group of Parishes

Weobley, Sarnesfield, Norton Canon,
Staunton-on-Wye, Byford, Monnington, Letton

Sunday 7th February 2021

All seven of our churches in the Group Benefice have a **Parish Giving Scheme** account and are receiving regular donations (monthly, quarterly for example) from supporters who have set up a direct debit in favour of their local parish church. The scheme does the paperwork and as an added bonus this includes claiming the Gift Aid and passing it on to the parish.

Small, regular gifts are invaluable for our churches and will be received with heartfelt gratitude. To find out more about the **Parish Giving Scheme** scheme you can visit the PGS website at: <https://www.parishgivingscheme.org.uk/>

Equally, you could have a word with the treasurer of your local parish who, if you decide to sign up will give you the parish's PGS code, and to get in contact with them do call our Group Administrator Emma Noble on 07954 706182 and she can give you a contact phone number.

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: 'How big is your God?', see <http://bit.ly/Feb7article>

Staunton & Weobley Group ministry & team

Sunday 14th February

10.30 am - Weobley Parish Church

Eucharist (CW)

10.30 am Zoom Service

Holy Communion (CW)

5.30 pm Zoom Service

Evening Prayer (BCP)

Retired Clergy and Reader

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

Rev'd Peter Houghton
Peter.houghton@kcl.ac.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

In some ways it seems like this year past has gone like a flash and at other times that it has dragged its heels like never before. What is sure is that it has been a year like none that most of us have ever known.

And that calls for reflection and pondering on what has happened to us, to our communities, to the world; and for reflection on what we want our future to be – more of the same or something different? If we want our lives and our worlds to be different, what do we need to do?

One approach is to use Lent to ponder these things. Lent is nearly upon us as Ash Wednesday approaches on 17th February. Lent is at heart a time for reflection, for giving up things that distract us or for taking up things that will help us to reflect.

We are offered a booklet this Lent with daily reflections, a prayer and brief biblical passage. It's called 'God's story, Our story' and it shows how our personal story is entwined with the stories of those around us and with what is called 'God's story' – how God in Jesus engages with our stories.

Copies are available in each of our parishes and each Sunday evening after our 5.30pm zoom Evensong, we'll have an opportunity to reflect together about the stories of the week. It's good to be able to share our reflections

Rev'd Guy Wilkinson



Readings

Proverbs - 8.1, 22-31

Psalms 104.26 - end

Colossians 1.15 - 20

John 1.1- 14

Sunday 7th February

10.30 am Sarnesfield

Holy Communion (BCP)
(Also livestreamed on Facebook)

10.30 am Zoom Service

Holy Communion (BCP)

5.30 pm Zoom Service

Evening Prayer (BCP)

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

All of our PCC members across the Benefice.

In the Diocese of Hereford:

The Chapter and congregation of Hereford Cathedral.

Bridgnorth Deanery

The Wider Community

The Anglican Church of Burundi

The Collect

2nd Sunday Before Lent

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever.

Worship & Prayer



Weobley and Staunton Group of Parishes Online Services

Facebook Livestream Holy Communion BCP Service
from Sarnesfield 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
The Weobley and Staunton Group of Parishes
Facebook Page
The Weobley and Staunton Group of Parishes
You Tube channel

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.

News

Sunday 7th February



As we continue our single Sunday communal service, we find ourselves at Sarnesfield for a Holy Communion (BCP) Service led by Rev'd John Thewlis. Strict Covid protocols will be in place. We will live-stream it from our Facebook page and it will then be available on YouTube shortly afterwards. On line, via Zoom, we will also hold our regular 10.30 am Holy Communion(BCP) Service led by Rev'd Susan Verwey and return to Zoom at 5.30 pm for our Evening Prayer, led by Rev'd Peter Houghton.

'...the good is close at hand'



Forecasting the future in these uncertain times is probably not something one would even want to have an each-way bet on just now! But, ever optimistic, I can only hope that the continuing good reports about new vaccines and the vaccination programme in Herefordshire should encourage us to see a brighter future. I think we now all know friends and relatives who have had at least one 'jab' and my good doctor friend tells me that we're moving well into the over-70 group hereabouts.

Recently, I was struck by Don Quixote's observation on the misfortunes of life that were afflicting himself and his friend Sancho Panza and thought I'd share it. Quite honestly, the way its been raining lately it could be applied literally but that aside I feel it applies to an outlook on life and this pandemic we could all take comfort from:

"All these squalls to which we have been subjected are signs that the weather will soon improve and things will go well for us, because it is not possible for the bad or good to endure forever, and from this it follows that since the bad has lasted so long a time, the good is close at hand".