

Coming Shortly

- CITW Lent Bible Study, every Wednesday at 3.30 pm
Meeting ID: 396 392 6721 Password: 948071

Church Services for March and Easter Sunday

- Sunday 21st March - Church Service, Byford Church 10.30 am
- Sunday 28th March - Palm Sunday Service, Staunton-on-Wye 10.30am

- **Easter Sunday 4th April**

- 9am - Sarnesfield Church
- 9am - Norton Canon Church
- 10.30 am - Weobley Parish Church
- 10.30 am - Staunton-on-Wye Church
- 10.30 am - Byford Church
- 10.30 am - Letton Church
- 3.30 pm - Monnington-on-Wye



Holy Week

Holy Week begins on Monday 29th and while coronavirus protocols limit the level of physical engagement we can allow ourselves, it is the intention that Easter Sunday services will be held in all our parish churches; with strict protocols adhered to, of course. During the week, there will be online services via Zoom and from Monday to Wednesday there will be a celebration of the Stations of the Cross followed by Compline. On Maundy Thursday evening there will be a Holy Communion and on Good Friday morning there will be an Ecumenical Walk of Witness through Weobley, followed in the afternoon by a Passion Readings service. **Fuller details of these services will appear in**

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: 'Understanding God's grace in salvation', see <http://bit.ly/March14article>

Staunton & Weobley Group ministry & team

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Sunday 21st March

10.30 am - Byford Church

Holy Communion (CW)

10.30 am - Home Zoom Service

Holy Communion (CW)

5.30 pm Home Zoom Service

Evening Prayer (BCP) with
#LiveLent discussion.

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 14th March 2021



How God's descending grace meets our rising faith

OT: **Numbers 21:4-9**

Complaining brings a judgment of deadly snakebite before God's grace, through the bronze snake, prevails.

NT letter: **Ephesians 2:1-10**

Although deserving of God's wrath, by grace and through faith we are saved.

NT gospel: **John 3:13-21**

New life is God's gift to all who believe Jesus' sacrifice for us.

Also: **Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22**

We got rid of smallpox because huge numbers of people were vaccinated. It took centuries. The fight against coronavirus has only just begun. The evidence so far is that — except in exceptional cases that sometimes can't be predicted — the vaccines do no lasting harm and very great good. They are not perfect, and there will be bumps along the road. We're all taking part in a massive and urgent experiment. And Nobody should opt out.

The UK has so far been fortunate in the supply and roll-out of vaccines. And now we should ask, what's the best way to help other countries? The science seems to say that, once you've started to immunize a group, you must be efficient and properly follow it through. That's another strong reason not to opt out.

And what then? Europe, Asia and Australasia are in a better position to produce and administer vaccines than are Africa or South America. We should come to the aid of the latter as soon as we can. The Oxford-Zeneca vaccine is better suited to their circumstances than some others are; and, deliberately, it's cheaper. Rolling it out abroad is something for which all of us in the UK should work, lobby and pray for - hard.

Rev'd John Thewlis

Sunday 14th March

10.30 am Letton Church

Holy Communion (BCP)

Physical, recorded and posted to Facebook at 11.45.

10.30 am Home Zoom Service

Holy Communion (CW)

5.30 pm Home Zoom Service

Evening Prayer (BCP)
with Bishop Richard

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 those that have recently passed
John Anderson (Weobley), Alice Leech, (Weobley), Desiree Potter (Sarnesfield)

For God's comfort in bereavement
John's wife Lorraine and daughter Harriet, along with family and friends. The family and friends of Alice Leech, and the family and friends of Desiree Potter.

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 Sarnesfield, the Churchwardens Hilary Havard and Viv Leech, and all the church community.

Those who act as Vergers

In the Diocese of Hereford:

Chapter and congregation of Hereford Cathedral.

Telford Severn Gorge Deanery

The Wider Community
Iglesia Anglicana de Chile

The Collect

Mothering Sunday

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; 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.

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Merciful Lord, absolve your people from their offences, that through your bountiful goodness we may all be delivered from the chains of those sins which by our frailty we have committed; grant this, heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our blessed Lord and Saviour, 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

Physical Holy Communion (BCP) Service from Letton at 10.30 am
(available to watch on You Tube shortly after)

10.30 am Zoom Service

Zoom Evening Prayer at 5.30 pm with Rev'd Susan Verwey and Bishop Richard.
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

Bishop Richard visits The Weobley Group

The keen-eyed among you will have noticed that our 'new' Bishop Richard will be coming to Weobley this Sunday afternoon. But not in the way we're so often used to when Bishop's come visiting. Instead of meeting in person, Bishop Richard will be joining our online Group Evening Prayer Service which will be led by Rev'd Susan Verwey. The Bishop will give the homily and then stay with us for a virtual coffee and cake after the service has ended and has kindly offered to answer any questions we may wish to offer up. See you there!



#LiveLent

Members of the Group congregation have been enjoying following the #LiveLent story unfold, and it's worth a reminder that there won't be a discussion after Evening Prayer this Sunday, but 'normal service' will be renewed next Sunday 21st when Rev'd John Thewlis will be the officiant and lead the weekly theme discussion. If you've not joined with #LiveLent yet but would like to, more, free information can be found at: www.churchofengland.org/resources/livelent-2021-church-resourcesgods-story-our-story

Safely back to School



Over the last few weeks there have been mixed feelings and opinions expressed about the 'back to school' last Monday. As we know, at the heart of the return to the classroom has been a mass testing programme for the youngsters and at Weobley High School some 500 children will have three tests each over this week and next. A sizeable group of non-teaching volunteers has been assembled to test and record and up to Friday afternoon there had been not a single positive test from among 500 children tested.

This has to be an encouraging early statistic for the children, the school staff, and all the families. Lets hope the pattern continues and while we reflect on that we should offer a huge 'thank you' to the adult volunteers working with the children on the programme, and among them, a number of people very familiar to our church group - pictured above are Pru Lloyd, Emma Noble, our Church Group Administrator, Helen Saunders and Carol Heritage.