

Coming Shortly

Services in April

Morning

- Sunday 18th - 10.30 am, Matins at Letton
- Sunday 25th - 9.00 am, Service of the Word at Sarnesfield
- Sunday 25th - 10.30 am, Eucharist (CW) at Staunton-on-Wye
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Evening

- Each Sunday evening throughout April and May we will be holding an online home Evening Prayer Service at 5.30pm via zoom.
- Sunday 25th - 5 pm, Evensong at Byford
- Monday 26th - 7pm (tbc), Installation Service for Rev'd Philip Harvey.

Restoration work continues at St Peter and St Paul, Weobley and it may not be possible to hold this service in Weobley Church. A final decision will be made soon and the host church announced in good time. As coronavirus protocols will limit the number we will be able to host in-church for this service, we will be live-streaming the service to our Facebook page so that congregants of the seven parishes will be able to join with the service.

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: 'To know Jesus is to have fellowship in Him', see <http://bit.ly/April11article>

Staunton & Weobley Group ministry & team

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18th April 2021

**10.30 am St John the Baptist, Letton
Matins.**

**5.30pm Home 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 April 11 2021

I weep bitter [crocodile?] tears as I pen my last Vicar's Word before Fr Harvey's induction. Writing something sensible in 200 words isn't easy, as he'll soon discover. I wish him a fluid pen, a flexible keyboard and an accurate mouse.

This is therefore my last opportunity to say that, over these two years, I've been overwhelmed by the excellence of my colleagues and the faithfulness of each congregation. The ministers who've been serving you are wonderfully different and extremely talented: you have absorbed all our quirks like Christians. Long may you be able to do so. And long may your invitations to us keep coming.

Please give your new incumbent elbow-room and show him kindness. Don't expect him to perform miracles — he's only got mere mortals to work with, and he's a mere mortal himself. He has a big and complex job to do in an unfamiliar place. When you think he's got it wrong, tell him so clearly, and then do your best to back him up. When you think he's right, you must tell him that as well. Together you will live the gospel and build the kingdom.

God bless each one of you.

Rev'd John Thewlis

The fellowship of belonging to Jesus

OT: Psalm 133 and Acts 4:32-35
The believers experience a profound sense of unity, sharing what they own.

NT letter: 1 John 1:1-2:2
Believing God and living by His values brings fellowship with Him and all other believers.

NT gospel: John 20:19-31

Jesus appears with a scarred body and sends the disciples on mission with an impartation of the Spirit.

Sunday April 11

**10.30 am Staunton-on-Wye
Eucharist (CW)**

**5.30 pm Home 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.

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 Monnington-on-Wye, the Churchwarden Ray Phillips and all the church community.

The Rev'd Phillip Harvey, Rev'd Susan Verwey, Rev'd John Thewlis, Rev'd Peter Houghton, Rev'd Charles Overton, Rev'd Chris Rhodes and our Lay Reader, Henry Verwey.

In the Diocese of Hereford:

Our Rural Dean, Rev'd Guy Wilkinson, and all those who serve on the Kington and Weobley Deanery.

Kington and Weobley Deanery

The Wider Community

The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean.

The Collect

2nd Sunday of Easter

Almighty Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification: grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ 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

Physical, in-church Eucharist (CW) Service from Staunton-on-Wye at 10.30 am.
(available to watch on Facebook shortly after)

Online (Zoom) Evening Prayer (BCP) at 5.30 pm

www.weobleyandstaunton.co.uk
The Weobley and Staunton Group of Parishes Facebook Page
<https://www.facebook.com/weobleyandstaunton>
The Weobley and Staunton Group of Parishes YouTube channel
<https://youtube.com/channel/UCehMLgFS1arjc0mmY6L8TcA>

The Zoom link is
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81946640814>

The Service sheet is on the group website. Under the 'week by week' tab, click on Services.

News



Arrived and settling in!

Thank you for the warm welcome and cards and food that Penny and I have received from various folk across the benefice. The move from Norwich has gone fairly smoothly so far (we are still sorting and unpacking at present) and we look forward to meeting you all in the near future. Many blessings, **Philip and Penelope**

Singing in the Sun



Easter Sunday morning brought with it beautiful sunshine and at a number of our parishes all congregations were able to sing hymns in the churchyard. By all accounts some were a little rusty and some very energised but just to have the chance to be back singing *Thine is the Glory* was a great pleasure.

At Monnington the peacocks joined in and passing walkers were gently pleased! Also at Monnington, in keeping with the 'small choir' protocols, two young university students home for Easter sang a Schubert setting of *The Lord's my Shepherd* and the Flower Duet from *Delibes' Lakme*. The service was recorded and we hope it will be on the Group's Facebook site soon.

At Norton Canon, after also singing in the churchyard, the congregation (and the treasurer!) took advantage of the sunshine to draw the parish church lottery and then search for Easter eggs, and deliver Easter Bunnies to some of the children in the Village. At Sarnesfield, pilgrims from Weobley were welcomed and they too had the chance to sing outside. A chilly, 9am start may have tuned down the volume just a little!



A Family Communion at Staunton was enjoyed by the congregation and four year-old Bella, the granddaughter of one of the church community, showed off her Easter Garden with a commentary on the different elements that she and her grandmother had introduced to the design.

Overall, it was lovely to be back 'in church' and with protocols carefully observed, communities

were able to take gentle steps towards re-uniting in friendship. The two-person, small choir contribution to any service is an idea that comes highly commended to all our parishes.

HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh

There will be a special service of prayer in St Thomas Catholic Church, 20 Kington Rd Weobley this Sunday, 11th April at 4pm to pray for the divine repose of Prince Philip and the divine consolation of HM Queen Elizabeth and her family. All welcome. Covid restrictions will apply to this event.