



# Parish of Newton Abbot and Ogwell

## WEEKLY NEWS

19th January 2025.

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany, Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

### FROM OUR RECTOR

Dear Friends,

Last week we looked at the first of three key factors that marked out the life of John Flavel, and that we would do well to seek to cultivate as we head into this new year. So having thought briefly about his strong faith, this week we turn to his great hope.

#### A GREAT HOPE

Almost every few days it seems that there are fresh warnings about the strain that various winter viruses are putting on the NHS. I've seen first hand the long rows of ambulances lined up outside A+E because there are no beds for the patients they have brought in. But even in the days of Covid, the threat to life was far lower than the *Preacherman of Dartmouth* faced in his day.

In the short biography I mentioned last week, Flavel records how he and his brother travelled to London and found the mass grave of plague victims into which the bodies of their parents had been thrown. How they saw fresh bodies being carried in on carts. How they coated their shoes with lime before leaving, to try and prevent the disease spreading. Those were desperate days. Add to that the threat to life for those preaching the gospel outside the established church, either from beatings or imprisonment in disease-riddled prisons, and to describe life as precarious would not be an exaggeration.

If we are truly honest, life today is only slightly less precarious. We generally assume that we will live long and healthy lives, and many of us are blessed with that, but the harsh truth is that our lives could end at any moment. A blood clot. A car crash. A simple fall and hit your head. Even in our relatively safe country life is, and will always be, precarious.

How does one live in times with that thought?

Many would close their eyes to the truth and pretend that they will live forever, refusing to speak or think of death. But if we do that, we are only fooling ourselves. Storing up problems for later.

What we need is a hope that is stronger than death. Such a hope would allow us to be honest about the facts of life and face the inevitability of our death with confidence, so that we can live wholeheartedly in the present with an unshakeable hope for the future. Flavel had that. He had learned, as St Paul did: that *for him to live was Christ, and to die was gain*. So, whilst John

Flavel never sought out danger nor put himself at risk, he refused to run and hide from God's calling on his life.

What about us?

Are we certain that by his death on the cross Jesus accomplished all that is necessary for us to be forgiven and have eternal life? Do we know for certain that Jesus is our Saviour? Is our trust in God so strong, that it allows us to live with risk and be willing to face loss all for the sake of Christ, if that is what God calls us to do?

For the unbeliever death is something to be feared. A monster that cannot be conquered, no matter how many times we sing 'Imagine' or 'Somewhere over the rainbow.'

But for the Christian, the one with a solid and active trust in our death-defeating super-saviour, death can truly to be said to have lost its sting. That means that life can be lived without terror or apprehension, and death, when it comes, can be embraced as a friend, a pleasant doorway through which we can pass with confidence because we know that the Good Shepherd who has walked with us through life will take us through death and into his eternal kingdom, where we will be with him forever. As Flavel himself put it: '[Jesus, our head, is already in heaven; and if the head be above water, the body cannot drown.](#)'

So how great is your hope? The more we look to Jesus, the more we consider his death and resurrection, the more we know of his Word and promises, the stronger our hope will grow.

**Songs for the week:**

[Almost Home \(Live from Sing! 21\) - Keith & Kristyn Getty, Matt Boswell, & Matt Papa ft Shane & Shane](#)

[12. Messiah - Than shall be brought to pass & O death, where is thy sting? & But thanks be to God](#)

Grace and peace,

*Dave*

**Readings for 19<sup>th</sup> January:**

1<sup>st</sup> Epistle to Timothy, Chapter 5, verses 1 to 10

Mark, Chapter 8, verses 1 to 321

**Please pray for:**

**Our Church**, our parish, benefice and diocese, our Rector Dave Brown, Team Vicars Gareth Regan and Fr. Matthew Cashmore, and all others who carry out their own form of ministry.

**The Church in the Province of the West Indies.**

**On World Religion Day**, we give thanks for respectful and productive relationships with other faith groups, whilst still professing our faith in Christ who is the way the truth and the life. We pray for all those who are persecuted because of their faith, and for an end to violence caused by religious conflict.

**Our King**, His Majesty King Charles III, members of the Royal Family and our government.

**Residents of Ogwell** including: Larksmead Way, Brownings Walk, Merrywood, Cleaveland Rise, Reynell Road, Luxton Road, Berkshire Close, Coniston Road, Croft Road, Sunny Hollow and Croft Close.

**The sick and suffering including:** Judy Brown, Noah Maynard, Cherie Glover, Sheila Fletcher, Coral Bewsher, John and Joyce Sutherland, Hannah, Jackie, Joshua, Jayne Harrison-Roberts, Anna Crocker and others who are unwell in residential and nursing homes, their own homes, and in hospital. \*


**Ben**, Sarah and family as they care for Noah.

**The families and friends of the recently deceased.**

\* **Please email** [prayer@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:prayer@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk) to let us know about anyone needing our prayers.

## NEWS AND NOTICES

**St Bartholemew's Church is closed for redecoration. The Sunday Service this week will be held in the Ogwell Memorial Hall.**



**HOPE | EXPLORED**

**Hope Explored** is an informal and relaxed 3-week course, looking at the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. We believe that in Jesus we find **real hope** and a joyful expectation for the **future**, based on true events in the **past**, which changes everything about our **present**.

It's for anyone who wants to find hope, peace and purpose in life.

It's run by ordinary Christian people local to you and is completely free.

You don't need to know anything about the Bible, you won't be asked to pray or sing.

You can ask any question you like, or you can just sit and listen.

Whoever you are, whatever you're thinking, **Hope Explored** is a place for you to discover the hope of a future that is better than you could ever imagine. **Why not come and find out more?**

We're starting 2 separate courses in January, both at **St Paul's Church**, Devon Square, in the centre of Newton Abbot.

**Tuesday evenings** from 7:30pm to 9pm on 21<sup>st</sup> + 28<sup>th</sup> January and 11<sup>th</sup> February.

**Friday mornings** from 11:30am to 1pm on 24<sup>th</sup> + 31<sup>st</sup> January and 7<sup>th</sup> February.

To book a place or to find out more, email [office@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:office@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk) or call 01626 211346.

Visit <https://hope.explo.red> to find out more.

**Prayer Gatherings.** The next MORNING PRAYER GATHERING will be on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January from 9:15 a.m.-10 a.m. The next EVENING PRAYER GATHERING will be on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January at 7:45 p.m. Both will be at St Paul's.

**PCC Meeting:** Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January at 7 p.m. at Abbotsbury Church. Please pray for the PCC as they meet.

**Promoting Prayer in Lent.** A message from the Diocese. Sally Dakin will be hosting a session on Zoom on Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup> from 7.30-9pm for those who are interested in promoting prayer in Lent.

It'll be similar to last year's pre-Lent meeting, again beginning with a short meditation.

Come and share your experiences, ideas & resources and take away some ideas for helping people to make the most of Lent, whether as individuals, groups or congregations - or as those on the edge of church life.

Anyone who'd like to attend should email [davina.salt@exeter.anglican.org](mailto:davina.salt@exeter.anglican.org)

**The All-Saints' Highweek 100 Club** Monthly draw took place last Sunday. Winners were: 1<sup>st</sup> Prize, Brian Harding - £45, 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize, Angela Chillmaid - £25. There are a few numbers available to fill the 100 memberships. If you wish to take part, please contact Reg Cross.

## **FUNERALS and INTERMENTS**

**Jacqueline Toye.** Funeral. 23<sup>rd</sup> January at 10:00 a.m. at St Mary's Church, Wolborough, followed by committal at Ogwell Cross Cemetery.

**Mary Calderwood.** Interment of Ashes. 25<sup>th</sup> May at 11:30 a.m. at All Saints' Church.

## **COMING EVENTS**

**Men's Breakfast.** Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January, 9:00 a.m. at the Leisure Lounge Café.

**Craft Club.** 21<sup>st</sup> January, 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> February, 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> March at 2 p.m. at St Paul's Church.

**Christian Unity Service.** The Avenue Church, on 26<sup>th</sup> January.

**Parochial Church Council Meeting.** 29<sup>th</sup> January at 7 p.m. at Abbotsbury Church.

**Charity Coffee Morning** at St Paul's Church, 25<sup>th</sup> January from 10 a.m.

**Coffee Morning** at St Bartholemew's Church, 31<sup>st</sup> January from 10 a.m.

**Women's Breakfast.** Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> February at 9:30 a.m. at The Country Table, Bank Street, Newton Abbot.

**2025 Lenten Lunches.** Every Wednesday at 12 noon from 12<sup>th</sup> March to 9<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at The Avenue Church.

**Donizetti's opera 'Anne Boleyn'** at Abbotsbury Church on Saturday 29 March 2025 performed by Red Earth Opera. See [redearthopera@gmail.com](mailto:redearthopera@gmail.com)

**Benefice Service.** Abbotsbury Church, 30<sup>th</sup> March at 10:30 a.m.

**Evensong.** St Bartholemew's Church, 30<sup>th</sup> March at 5:30 p.m.

## REGULAR CHURCH SERVICES

### 19<sup>th</sup> January

Abbotsbury Church, All Age Service at 9:30 a.m.

St Bartholemew's Church, Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m. **in Ogwell Memorial Hall.**

St Paul's Church, Service of the Word at 11 a.m.

St Mary's Church, Holy Communion at 11 a.m.

St Luke's Church, Mass at 11 a.m.

### 26<sup>th</sup> January

Abbotsbury Church, Service of the Word at 9:30 a.m.

All Saints' Church, Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.

St Paul's Church, Holy Communion at 11 a.m.

St Luke's Church, Mass at 11 a.m.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> February

Abbotsbury Church, Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.

St Bartholemew's Church, Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.

St Paul's Church, Service of the Word at 11 a.m.

St Mary's Church, Matins at 11 a.m.

St Luke's Church, Mass at 11 a.m.

**EVERY WEDNESDAY** 10 a.m. Holy Communion at St Paul's Church, Devon Square  
**and** 10 a.m. Said Mass at St Luke's Church, Milber.

**EVERY FRIDAY** 10 a.m. Said Mass at St Luke's Church, Milber.

**ALL WEEK** St Bartholomew's Church in Ogwell is open during daylight hours for private prayer.

## PRAYER GATHERINGS at St Paul's Church.

20<sup>th</sup> January at 9:15 a.m.

27<sup>th</sup> January at 7:45 p.m.

3<sup>rd</sup> February at 9:15 a.m.

## PARISH CONTACTS

**Team Rector: Rev Dave Brown.** Day off Thursday

[rector@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:rector@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk) 01626 335862

**Team Vicar and Vicar of St Luke's, Milber: Fr. Matthew Cashmore.** Day off Monday

[father@slsj.co.uk](mailto:father@slsj.co.uk) 07555 924862

**Team Vicar: Rev Gareth Regan:** Day Off: Friday.

[gareth@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:gareth@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk) 01626 201237

**Licensed Lay Minister:**

**Keith Butler:** [puffin@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:puffin@blueyonder.co.uk) 07980 457919

**Lay minister for St Luke's, Graham Whittle** [family@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:family@hotmail.co.uk)

**Churchwardens:**

All Saints': **Michael Gillibrand**

Abbotsbury: **Douglas Machin** [d.m.machin2016@gmail.com](mailto:d.m.machin2016@gmail.com)

St Mary's **Sharon Lawrence** 07794 108166

St. Paul's **Lorna Tresidder** [lornatresidder@icloud.com](mailto:lornatresidder@icloud.com)

St Bartholomew's **Stella Llewellyn** [stellallewellyn@icloud.com](mailto:stellallewellyn@icloud.com) 01626 906814 and

**Gwyn Hughes.** [gwynhughes@icloud.com](mailto:gwynhughes@icloud.com) 01626 365028

**Anna Chaplain: Mei Lan Machin.** [d.m.machin2013@gmail.com](mailto:d.m.machin2013@gmail.com) 07926 991578

**Organists: Clive Sawers** 07967 148794 [clivesawers@aol.com](mailto:clivesawers@aol.com)

**Steve Cox** 079 686 21511 [stephen.cox54@talktalk.net](mailto:stephen.cox54@talktalk.net)

**Parochial Church Council Secretary: Barbara Garrick** 07910 207358

[barbara\\_garrick@yahoo.com](mailto:barbara_garrick@yahoo.com)

**Safeguarding Lead: Rob Palmer** 07792 081776 [treb0r@hotmail.com](mailto:treb0r@hotmail.com)

**Weekly Parish News** by Email. **John Calderwood.** [news@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:news@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk)  
01626 361952

**Other Communications Media** (website and social media)

[comms@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:comms@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk)

**Prayer List** Please let us know about anyone in need of prayers. Their name will be kept on the list for a month. Please email [prayer@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:prayer@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk)

**Parish website:** [www.newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](http://www.newtonabbotparishes.co.uk)

**Parish Office** at St Paul's Church, Devon Square. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday:  
10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Phone 01626 211346 or email [office@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:office@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk).

## OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS

**Newton Abbot Town Council.** 01626 201120 [www.newtonabbot-tc.gov.uk](http://www.newtonabbot-tc.gov.uk)

**Shopmobility, Ring & Ride, Community cars** – 01626 335775

**Teignbridge Council** – 01626 361101, [www.teignbridge.gov.uk](http://www.teignbridge.gov.uk)

**Footnote.** Thank you very much to those of you who have sent me contributions. Relevant photos are very welcome.

I aim to circulate each weekly issue on Wednesday to give notice of the coming weekend's events and perhaps report what happened last weekend.

Please let me have any news of past events, notice of future activities or any other information that may be interesting or useful for our Church members, by Tuesday for the next issue.

If you know of anyone who does not receive this weekly email, but wishes to do so, please ask them to email me or contact the office.

John Calderwood [news@newtonbbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:news@newtonbbotparishes.co.uk)