



Parish of Newton Abbot and Ogwell

WEEKLY NEWS

16th February 2025.

6th Sunday of Epiphany - Septuagesima

FROM OUR RECTOR

Dear Friends,

“Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.” 1 Corinthians 12: 12-13

We often think about this verse in relation to a single worshipping community or Church. Different members have been given different gifts by God to use for the building up of his kingdom, and the body of Christ in that place functions best when all those gifts are used together without favouring or lording one kind of gift over another. It's also a challenge to make sure that we are playing our part in our church. Outside of those who are still settling in, examining the Christian faith, or who are too elderly or infirm to play an active role, everyone in a church should be active in loving and giving and serving. Is that true of you, I wonder?

But the analogy of a well-functioning body also carries over to our multi-church Parish. It still requires everyone to play their part, and it requires even more collaboration for that work to be effective in building God's kingdom.

At our recent PCC meeting we spent some time thinking about the benefits and difficulties of being a multi-church parish, and how we can either make the most of the benefits or mitigate the difficulties. Over the next two weeks I'll be reflecting on these issues and suggesting some solutions. Can I encourage you in your individual worshipping communities to do the same?

Joys and blessings of being 1 Parish of 5 Churches.

Reflecting together at our PCC meeting, we shared many of the benefits. Here are a few:

- We can have a variety of worship styles in different places- allowing everyone to find a spiritual home that suits their preferred style.
- We can pool resources for larger events- such as the Christmas Journey- which a single church would not have been able to do on their own- or Church Weekends at Home.
- We share our PCC Secretary, Treasurer, Safeguarding Team- posts that would be hard to fill if each church stood on its own.
- We share and benefit from the physical, financial and human resources we have between us. For example- we share a choir between Ogwell and Highweek and we share organists; St Paul's and Abbotsbury offer large meeting spaces we can all use; we have a benefice

office providing parish-wide admin support; and the large income from the hall rentals and car park at St Paul's, the mast at Highweek and the WEC grants benefit our whole Parish.

- We share in discipleship and evangelistic courses, ensuring larger and more vibrant groups, rather than having to run them separately with smaller numbers.

I hope you can see the benefits of being in a 5-church Parish from these few examples. But these are still a tiny proportion of the things that we do together. Here are some more!

<i>Website</i>	<i>Mission partners</i>	<i>Schools work</i>	<i>Wedding prep</i>
<i>Baptism prep</i>	<i>Nursing homes visits</i>	<i>Prayer gatherings</i>	<i>Town outreach</i>
<i>Funerals</i>	<i>Men's/women's breakfasts</i>	<i>Evensongs</i>	<i>Care of buildings</i>
<i>Shared services</i>	<i>1 parish share between us!</i>	<i>A shared clergy team</i>	

I wonder, do we see these things as something we do together, or something that a single church does? Are we upset that some things are based in another building or being led by people from a different church, or do we rejoice that our Parish does such things?

Recognising what we are already doing together and seeing that we would be unable to do such things if we were 5 single parishes is a good first step to celebrating our 5-Church Parish. Do we do that? Or are we so focused on our own worshipping community that we don't really give the wider parish much of a thought?

The second step is to **get involved** in some of these cross-parish initiatives. All of us can be praying for the things I've mentioned, but how about getting involved in just one shared mission activity? Could you join the small team visiting nursing homes and help with the singing? Could you offer to support our baptism preparation, or join the team who do town-centre outreach? And will you commit yourself not to take a Sunday off when we have a 5th Sunday service, but to make it a priority to gather with your brothers and sisters from across the Parish and come and worship the LORD together? If you have any other ideas, do please let me know!

It is as we give and serve and love and worship God together that God's glory will be revealed in us and Christ's Church is built. That's something truly wonderful, and something our town and villages desperately need to see.

God has called us to fulfil his mission in this place as 1 Parish with 5 Churches. Let's do his work joyfully and willing together.

Grace and peace,

Dave

Readings for 16th February:

1st Epistle to Timothy, Chapter 6, verses 6 to 10

Mark, Chapter 9, verses 14 to 32

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 of Bangladesh

The Bovey Valley Mission Community

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

Residents of Broadlands including Neville Road, Brownhills Road, Coronation Road and St Mary's Court.

The sick and suffering including: Judy Brown, Noah Maynard, Cherie Glover, Sheila Fletcher, Coral Bewsher, John and Joyce Sutherland, Jackie, Joshua, Jayne Harrison-Roberts, Anna Crocker, Simon, Jenny and James Le Pyne Williams, Tom, 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 to let us know about anyone needing our prayers.

NEWS AND NOTICES

Parish Prayer Gatherings The next **MORNING PRAYER GATHERING** will be on **Monday 17th February from 9:15am-10am**. The next **EVENING PRAYER GATHERING** will be on Monday 24th February at 7:45pm. Both will be at St Paul's.

Benefice Evensong at St Mary's Wolborough on Sunday 23rd February - starting at 5:30pm. Do come and join us.

Lent Devotional: From this Sunday our Lent devotional will be available. Offering readings and recollections for each of the 40-days of Lent, and priced at just £1, it would be a wonderful investment for the coming season. Details are below.

Matt Searles: In Quietness and Trust:

Early in his ministry, Jesus gave his followers a description of how he wants his people to live. Rather than seeking to ascend to God, Christian discipleship is a downward flourishing; a counter-cultural way of blessing. These 40 devotions, with a daily reading and short reflection, will guide you through the beatitudes Jesus gave in the Sermon on the Mount. This Easter, join Jesus on his path to the cross, and see that his way – though so different to the way of the world – leads to freedom, joy, and life.

This book has eight groups of five devotions, with each group focusing on the theme of one of the beatitudes from Matthew's gospel. Each day there is a verse or passage from Scripture with an accompanying devotion, a prayer and a song. The songs can be found online, but you can also find them on a Spotify playlist called 'In Quietness and Trust - Lent Playlist'.

Anna Crocker is staying at the Mallands Care Home, Odle Hill, Abbotskerswell, TQ12 5NL. She will be 90 on 25th February.

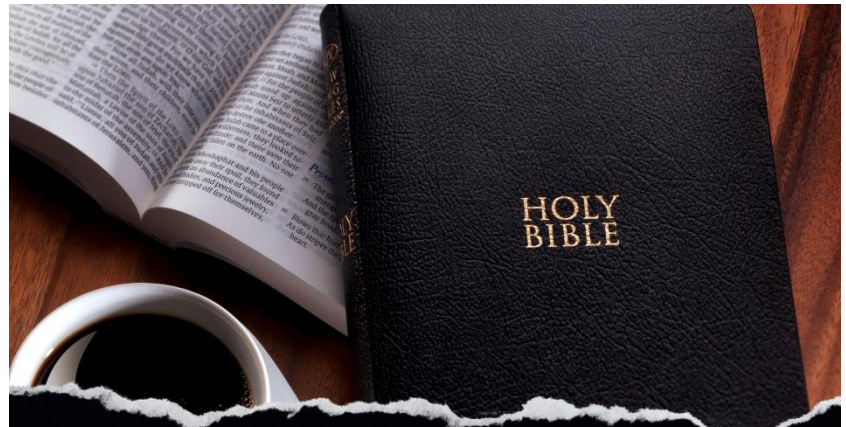
Joy Nankervill celebrated her 100th birthday on Monday.

What is The Bible Course?

Big, complex, old ... just some of the words people use to describe the Bible. Sound familiar? That's where The Bible Course comes in. The course will increase your confidence, equip you to read the Bible better and help you to see its relevance to daily life. The course provides a birds-eye view of the world's bestselling book. With interactive sessions, it combines video teaching, group discussion, personal reflection and daily readings.


Key features

- *The Bible Course helps you see how the books of the Bible are part of one big story*
- *Using a unique storyline, The Bible Course will show you how key events, books and characters fit together.*



BIBLE COURSE

Join us for the Bible Society's Bible Course
8 weeks after Midweek Communion At St Paul's

 26 FEB , 2025 11:00 AM

This epic journey through the Bible will help your church explore God's big story one step at a time.

JOIN NOW



newtonabbotparishes.co.uk



St Paul's, Devon Square,
Newton Abbot

Parish Electoral Roll: The complete revision of the electoral roll this year.

Every six years, everyone who wishes to join or remain on the roll must fill in an application form. If you are not familiar with the electoral roll, it's a way of identifying with the parish as the place where you believe you have been called to worship and serve. Basically it's 'church membership' allowing you to vote for members of the PCC and church wardens at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in May, and to serve on the PCC or as a church warden if you are nominated and elected.

It doesn't cost anything to join, although we encourage you to prayerfully consider regular giving – information on the Parish Giving Scheme is available in your church.

So, if you're over 16, baptised or confirmed in the Church of England, (or baptised in another trinitarian Christian denomination), living and regularly worshipping in our churches, there's nothing to prevent you from joining.

Forms are available in your church from this Sunday, please complete and return your form as soon as possible. If you require further information please speak to the clergy, your churchwarden or PCC members.

Barbara Garrick (Secretary to the Newton Abbot and Ogwell PCC)

Anne Boleyn

At the end of March, Abbotsbury Church will be welcoming its first visit from Red Earth Opera with a rendition of Donizetti's Anna Bolena. This was one of Donizetti's four operas dealing with aspects of Tudor history and it was so well received that afterwards his former tutor felt able to call him "Maestro."

The performance, which will be in English at Abbotsbury Church on 29th March, will be the world premiere of this particular translation, and was written especially for Red Earth Opera by its musical director Jane Anderson-Brown. Jane founded Red Earth Opera (reg charity 1144469) as a project company some ten or so years ago in the South Devon area.

Since that time, Red Earth Opera has become known as a highly respected operatic group which has grown from a small collection of keen musicians to an extremely popular and very competent company. It is able to showcase young professional soloists who are backed by a vibrant chorus and extremely competent

orchestra, whilst allowing audiences to hear music of a very high quality at affordable prices. Soloists and musicians travel from a wide area, from Wales, from London and the Home Counties, Cornwall and Devon.

Red Earth Opera has presented several full operas, as well as concerts featuring popular operatic excerpts, nearly always in English. They have performed throughout much of South Devon and in the Exeter district. Recent works have included Purcell's Dido and Aeneas, and Bellini's The Capulets and the Montagues (sung in English) as well as gala concerts of well-known and less well-known opera pieces. Audiences have expressed such sentiments as "I didn't realise opera could be so much fun."

So come and enjoy a Night at the Opera in your own locality, without having to travel far. Beautiful music, excellent singing, a full orchestra, and a comfortable venue. What could be better?

Tickets are £18/15 available at the door or at www.ticketsource.co.uk/southdevonsingers or at 07790889709. Performances start at 7.30 at Abbotsbury Church on Saturday 29th March and at Chudleigh Church on Sunday 30th March.



sung in English

Anne Boleyn

Donizetti

Anne Boleyn Joelene Griffith
Jane Seymour Annie George
Richard Percy Ceri Davies
Henry VIII Harrison Morton-Deaville

Musical Director Jane Anderson-Brown
Stage Director Susan Gunn-Johnson
Red Earth Opera chorus and orchestra

7.30 p.m.

Saturday 29th March Abbotsbury Church
NEWTON ABBOT TQ12 2ND

Sunday 30th March Chudleigh Parish Church
CHUDLEIGH TQ13 0HX

TICKETS £18 /£15

ticketsource.co.uk/southdevonsingers
Box Office enquiries 07790889709

RED EARTH OPERA
www.redearthopera.net and www.facebook.com/RedEarthOpera/
redearthopera@gmail.com

The Torbay Singers

Abbotsbury Church, Newton Abbot, TQ12 2ND

Saturday 5th April 2025, 7pm

Mystery and Light

a programme of English choral music

*including Howells: Requiem, Vaughan Williams: Five Mystical Songs,
Elgar: Lux Aeterna and music by Parry and Stanford*



Musical Director **Matthew Cann**
Baritone **Philip Lancaster**
Organist **Christopher Too** (organ scholar at St Paul's Cathedral)

Tickets £15 in advance, £18 on the door (free for under 25s in full time education)
Booking at www.torbaysingers.org

COMING EVENTS

Men's Breakfast. Saturday 15nd February, 9:00 a.m. at the Leisure Lounge Café.

Craft Club. 18th February, 4th and 18th March at 2 p.m. at St Paul's Church.

Charity Coffee Morning. 22nd February at 10 a.m. at St Paul's Church.

Evensong. St Mary's Church, 23rd February at 5:30 p.m.

Bible Course. Starting 26th February for 8 consecutive Wednesdays. 11 a.m. at St Paul's Church.

Women's Breakfast. Saturday, 8th March at 9:30 a.m. at The Country Table, Bank Street, Newton Abbot.

2025 Lenten Lunches. Every Wednesday at 12 noon from 12th March to 9th April 2025 at The Avenue Church.

Donizetti's opera 'Anne Boleyn' at Abbotsbury Church on Saturday 29 March 2025 at 7:30 p.m. performed by Red Earth Opera. Book at www.ticketsource.co.uk/southdevonsingers

Benefice Service (5th Sunday of March). Abbotsbury Church, 30th March at 10:30 a.m.

Mystery and Light - English Choral Music presented by the Torbay Singers at Abbotsbury Church on 5th April at 7 p.m. Tickets £15 from www.ticketsource.co.uk/southdevonsingers or £18 on the door.

Evensong - Future Services: St Bartholomew's Church on 27th April, All Saints' Church 6th July, and West Ogwell on 31st August. All at 5:30 p.m.

REGULAR CHURCH SERVICES

16th February

Abbotsbury Church, All Age Service 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, Holy Communion at 11 a.m.

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

23rd February

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.

St Paul's Church, Evensong at 5:30 p.m.

2nd March

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.

If you are not able to attend in person, you can watch services at Abbotsbury Church and St Paul's church through [YouTube](#).
The links are available at <https://newtonabbotparishes.co.uk/noticeboard/news/>

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 normally open during daylight hours for private prayer.

PRAYER GATHERINGS at St Paul's Church.

17th February at 9:15 a.m.

24th February at 7:45 a.m.

3rd March at 9:15 a.m.

FUNERALS and INTERMENTS

Reginal John Down. Funeral service on 27th February at St Michael's Church, Kingsteignton 2 p.m. Burial at All Saints' Church, at 3:30 p.m.

Penelope Ann Pine. Memorial Service. 26th March at 3:00 p.m. at All Saints' Church.

Mary Calderwood. Interment of Ashes. 25th May at 11:30 a.m. at All Saints' Church.

PARISH CONTACTS

Team Rector: Rev Dave Brown. Day off Thursday

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 07555 924862

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

gareth@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk 01626 201237

Licensed Lay Minister:

Keith Butler: puffin@blueyonder.co.uk 07980 457919

Lay minister for St Luke's, Graham Whittle family@hotmail.co.uk

Churchwardens:

All Saints': **Michael Gillibrand**

Abbotsbury: **Douglas Machin** d.m.machin2016@gmail.com

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

St. Paul's **Lorna Tresidder** lornatresidder@icloud.com

St Bartholomew's **Stella Llewellyn** stellallewellyn@icloud.com 01626 906814 and
Gwyn Hughes. gwynhughes@icloud.com 01626 365028

Anna Chaplain: Mei Lan Machin. d.m.machin2013@gmail.com 07926 991578

Organists: Clive Sawers 07967 148794 clivesawers@aol.com
Steve Cox 079 686 21511 stephen.cox54@talktalk.net

Parochial Church Council Secretary: Barbara Garrick 07910 207358
barbara_garrick@yahoo.com

Safeguarding Lead: Rob Palmer 07792 081776 treb0r@hotmail.com

Weekly Parish News by Email. **John Calderwood.** news@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk
01626 361952

Other Communications Media (website and social media)
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

Parish website: 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.

OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS

Newton Abbot Town Council. 01626 201120 www.newtonabbot-tc.gov.uk

Shopmobility, Ring & Ride, Community cars – 01626 335775

Teignbridge Council – 01626 361101, 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@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk