



Parish of Newton Abbot and Ogwell

WEEKLY NEWS

4th May 2025. Third Sunday of Easter

FROM OUR RECTOR

Dear Friends

One of the reasons that we hold so many different services across Holy Week is that it gives us time to enter into the story. To celebrate with the crowds on Palm Sunday, to share the Last Supper meal with Jesus and his disciples then walk with them into the Garden of Gethsemane. On Good Friday we pause and gather at Golgotha, looking up and seeing Jesus hanging on the cross for us, before gathering on Easter Sunday to celebrate Jesus' glorious resurrection.

If you joined in that series of events this Easter, I'm sure you found it moving. But the emotions we experience will only be a fraction of what the disciples went through, yet none of them had the same kind of emotional rollercoaster of a journey as Peter.

Peter always wore his heart on his sleeve. Passionate, forthright and bold, Peter's devotion to Jesus was obvious. Yet his boldness often led him to go further with his words than his understanding or heart could cope with. That was certainly true throughout that first Holy Week. Peter expressed his devotion to Jesus boldly, claiming that he would die for Jesus and then not only ran away with the others, but then denied even knowing his Lord three times. They were all distraught at Jesus' death, but I suspect none more so than Peter. Jesus had stared right at Peter before the cock crowed three times. How that must have hurt him. How Peter would have loved the opportunity to say he was sorry. But on Good Friday there seemed no chance of that.

But on that first Easter Sunday everything changed. The women went to the tomb and found it open and empty and ran back to fetch the disciples. Peter and John ran to the tomb, and although Peter was the slowest of the two, when he reached the tomb, he didn't wait, but went straight in. John 20 records that Peter "*saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head, which was lying in its place, separate from the linen.*" In the next verse, John went in, and we are told that he "*saw and believed,*" but Peter's thoughts are left unsaid.

I suspect that he didn't know what to make of all he saw. The neatness of the tomb meant that this was not grave robbers. But the absence of a body left so many questions. Perhaps Peter remembered the times when Jesus had explained to him and the other disciples exactly what would happen, that he would rise, but it didn't quite make sense. I'm sure Peter wanted it to be true, he wanted Jesus to be alive, but it must have seemed too much to ask. Too good to be true.

I wonder if it feels that way to us. We've all grown up in an age which discourages belief in the supernatural, and it's very easy to be infected with a sceptical virus that says this kind of thing

can't happen. We want to hold on to Jesus and his wonderful teaching. He's obviously a great example to follow, but the resurrection? The healings? The calming of the storm and casting out demons? Can a modern person really believe that?

But without the resurrection Jesus is clearly a fraud. He claimed to be God come to earth. He claimed to be the Resurrection and the Life. He claimed that he would give his life as a ransom for many, as a sacrifice for the sins of the world. He claimed to be going to prepare a place for us, that all those who trust in him might be with him forever. None of that is true if Jesus was still dead, and his body was lying in some unknown grave.

So, by all means wonder **how** it can be true. Write down your questions and wrestle with the answers. In your imagination, go with Peter to the empty tomb and let the wonder of it settle in, and what you'll find is this: the only way to make sense of the last 2000 years of world history is to accept that on that first Easter Day, Jesus did indeed rise from the grave.

As we'll reflect on next week, Peter became an eyewitness to that fact, and he spent the rest of his life proclaiming it's truth. May we do the same.

Grace and peace,

Dave

Readings for 4th May:

John, chapter 7, verses 1 to 13

Isaiah, chapter 5, verses 1 to 30

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.

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

The Church of Ireland

On National Sports Sunday, Thank God for the work of Sports Chaplaincy. We give thanks for churches in Devon who provide sports activities and groups for their local community. We pray for connections between the church and the community to flourish through this work.

Residents in the following Streets: Buckland Barton Cottages, Buckland Barton House, Buckland Brake, Buckland Heights, Buckland Road, Buckland View, Buller Road, Bunting Close, Burnley Close, Burnley Road.

The sick and suffering including: 9-month-old Joey Hilton, Noah Maynard, Cherie Glover, Sheila Fletcher, John and Joyce Sutherland, Jackie, Joshua, Anna Crocker, Barbara-Ann, David and Julie, 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



SUMMER WITH THE FATHER

An invitation for women of the Parish to come together and enjoy a continental breakfast and hear more about the Fatherhood of God.

On Saturdays 7th June, 5th July and 9th August from 8:30am-10am

Venue:
The Rectory: 5 Coach Place, Newton Abbot.

To book your place, please contact Judy on 01626 335862 or email mrsvicar16@gmail.com

Following on from last year's Summer with the Shepherd – an invitation for the women of the Parish to hear more about the Fatherhood of God.

Details here:

The first of a series of afternoon teas at the Rectory - starting with those who are part of the congregation at All Saints Highweek.

RSVP
ASAP!

AN INVITATION TO ALL AT ALL SAINTS HIGHWEEK

PLEASE COME FOR

AFTERNOON TEA AT THE RECTORY

FRIDAY 9TH MAY FROM 3PM

5 COACH PLACE, TQ12 1ES

RSVP: 01626 335862

OR EMAIL revdmbrown@gmail.com



Election of Churchwardens, PCC and Deanery Synods Representatives.

Nomination papers for churchwardens, Parochial Church Council (PCC) representatives and Deanery Synods representatives are now available in our churches. At the Annual Meeting on 14th May, a churchwarden and one PCC representative can be elected for each of our five churches. There is one deanery synod representative needed for the whole parish; we already have two. Please check that anyone you wish to nominate is on the electoral roll. The electoral roll draft will also be available for you to check your entry, but no new members can be added until after the Annual Meeting.

Parish Prayer Gatherings: There will be a prayer gathering on **May bank holiday, Monday 5th May** at St Mary's Wolborough, starting at 7:45 p.m. and will start us on a rotation of holding our evening prayer gatherings in all of our churches in turn.

The next morning prayer gathering will be on Monday 12th May, from 9:15 to 10 a.m. at St Paul's. Do come and join us!

Our Next Identity Course starts on 6th May. Details here!

Got questions about life, faith, meaning and Christianity?

With engaging videos, lively discussions and an opportunity to ask any question,

The Identity Course could be a great place to start!

(running both mornings + evenings)


The 7-session course starts **Tuesday 6th May**

Morning sessions start 11am
Evening sessions start at 7:30pm

The course will take place at
St Paul's Church, Devon Square
Newton Abbot. TQ12 2HN

For more information or to book a place on this **FREE** course
call us on **01626 335862** or email
rector@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk

For more details on the course see
www.identitycourse.com



IDENTITY

Who is God? Who are we?

Organised by the Anglican Churches in Newton Abbot and Ogwell: www.newtonabbotparishes.co.uk

The Jesus Revolution For those of you who have a Netflix subscription, can I recommend The Jesus Revolution as a film to enjoy and to stir you to pray. It tells the story of the huge Christian revival that took place in the USA amongst the hippies at the end of the 60s and the start of the 70s. It's thought to be the greatest spiritual revival in American history. Many thought the dropping out and taking drugs was an act of rebellion, but one young preacher saw their lifestyle as a sign that they were searching for God, but in all the wrong places. It stirred my heart to see God work a revival like that amongst the young people of our town and country. May it do the same to yours!

There's still time to take part in the **Giving and Generosity Survey**.

The Parish has signed up to a new initiative in the Church of England called Cornerstone, which aims to help us manage our finances more effectively and to get better at communicating information across the parish. As part of setting ourselves up on the system, I'd like to ask if you take 5 minutes to complete a short survey.

Each of our 5 churches has its own code number, but it is the same link for each church. Details are below:

St Mary's, Abbotsbury- 615305
All Saints, Highweek- 615304
St Bartholomew's, Ogwell- 615313
St Mary's, Wolborough- 615317
St Paul's, Newton Abbot- 615319

The link is: <https://forms.office.com/e/CysxHx2G9E>

All of the results are anonymous and will be automatically collated to build a picture of where we are right now. Thank you.

Church Weekend at Home with Rev Dr Paul Gardner. 27th to 29th June. Details and booking forms will be available from this coming weekend. Please consider coming along for the whole weekend.

As Sunday 29th June will be the fifth Sunday of the month, there will be a joint service for the Benefice at 10:30 a.m. at St Paul's Church, Devon Square. That service will include Jonathon Bealey's induction as a Deacon and as our new Curate. There will be a lunch to celebrate both this event and the Weekend at Home event. Advance booking for the lunch will be required; details will follow.

Reading Through the Bible Year 2. If you're on Year 2 of our Bible readings (on the yellow sheet) you may have noticed that I've inadvertently missed off Numbers chapters 27-36. Can I suggest that for weeks 19 and 20, you either read an extra chapter a day, or that you read 5 extra chapters over the next couple of weekends to fill in gap!

COMING EVENTS

Craft Club. 6th and 20th May at 2 p.m. at St Paul's Church.

Exploring Hospital Chaplaincy Course, Friday 9th, Saturday 10th and Friday 16th May. Contact for more details 01803 654186 tsdft.chaplains@nhs.net (*attendance on all 3 days is required*)

Women's Breakfast. Saturday, 10th May at 9:30 a.m. at The Country Table, Bank Street, Newton Abbot.

Traditional Choral Evensong. 11th May at 6 p.m. at St Mary's Church, Abbotskerswell.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting. (APCM) Wednesday 14th May, 7 p.m. at **St Paul's** Church.

Men's Breakfast. Saturday 17th May, 9:00 a.m. at the Leisure Lounge Café.

Charity Coffee Morning at St Bartholemew's Church, on 30th May at 10 a.m.

Charity Coffee Morning at St Paul's Church on 31st May, at 10 a.m. in aid of Teignbridge Talking Newspapers.

Church at Home Weekend. 27th to 29th June. Details and booking arrangements to follow.

Induction as Deacon. Jon Bealey is to be inducted on 29th June during the 10:30 a.m. Benefice service at St Paul's Church.

Benefice Lunch on 29th June at St Paul's Church. Details and booking arrangements to follow.

Evensong on 6th July at 5:30 p.m. at All Saints' Church, Highweek.

REGULAR CHURCH SERVICES

4th May

Abbotsbury Church, Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.
St Bartholomew's Church, Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.
St Mary's Church, Matins at 11 a.m.
St Paul's Church, Service of the Word at 11 a.m.
St Luke's Church, Mass at 11 a.m.

11th May

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.

18th May

Abbotsbury Church, All Age Service at 9:30 a.m.
St Bartholomew's Church, Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.
St Mary's Church, Holy Communion at 11 a.m.
St Paul's Church, Service of the Word 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 for private prayer during daylight hours.

OTHER SERVICES

Evensongs at 5:30 p.m.		5 th Sunday services at 10:30 a.m.	
6 th July	All Saints Highweek	29 th June	St Paul's
31 st August	West Ogwell	31 st August	St Bart's
20 th November	St Luke's Milber	30 th November	All Saints Highweek

PRAYER GATHERINGS

5th May (bank holiday), 7:45 p.m. at St Mary's Church, Wolborough.

12th May 9:15 a.m. at St Paul's Church.

19th May, 7:45 p.m.

FUNERALS, MEMORIALS and INTERMENTS

June Hazel Larbalestier. Funeral service on 1st May at 12:30 p.m. at All Saints' Church, Highweek, followed by committal at the Ogwell Cross Cemetery.

Vera May Hill. Funeral Service on 1st May at 3:30 p.m. at St Bartholomew's Church, Ogwell.

Sylvia Watts. Funeral Service on 8th May at 2 p.m. at All Saints' Church, Highweek.

Peggy Elizabeth Garner. Funeral Service, on 14th May at 11:00 a.m. at St Mary's Church, Wolborough.

Ann Josephine Rook. Funeral Service on 15th May at 11:30 a.m. at Torquay Crematorium.

Jean Pearce. Funeral Service on 15th May at 1:30 p.m. at St Paul's Church.

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

Deanna Fox. Funeral Service on 7th June at 11:00 a.m. at All Saints' Church, Highweek.

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

Kim Martin kimbo58@gmail.com

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