



Parish of Newton Abbot and Ogwell

WEEKLY NEWS

11th May 2025. Fourth Sunday of Easter

FROM OUR RECTOR

Dear Friends

I like detective stories. I enjoy watching the way they first collect the evidence and then piece it together. At first, all they have are questions. Who? Why? When? How? But by the time the story concludes, all the pieces have fallen into place.

We left Peter last week walking back from the empty tomb with his mind racing with so many questions. But by the end of the day, many of those questions had been answered and he knew without a shadow of a doubt that Jesus Christ had been raised from the dead and was very much alive.

Frustratingly, we don't know anything about Peter's first encounter with the risen Jesus. All we have is Luke 24: 34. The two disciples who met Jesus on the road to Emmaus had run back to Jerusalem to tell the other disciples the news. But when they got there, they found the eleven and those with them, assembled together and saying, "it is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." Perhaps Peter hung around at the tomb and saw Jesus speaking to Mary. Perhaps he went back to the tomb after Mary had come to the disciples and had a one-on-one encounter with him himself. We simply don't know. What we do know is that Peter met the risen Jesus before the disciples on the road to Emmaus returned, and then, together with the other disciples he encountered Jesus again in the upper room.

Luke's description of that meeting is interesting. There was joy and doubt. There was peace and confusion. Dead people don't normally come back to life again. People who have been brutally beaten and crucified don't walk around perfectly whole and happy just three days later. So no wonder the disciples found it all so hard to comprehend. And yet Jesus had risen! And the proof of it? Jesus spoke with them, allowed himself to be touched by them, and then he ate with them, as if to prove that he wasn't a ghost or something of their imagination. (See Luke 24: 36-49 and John 20: 19-23)

Over the next 40 days Jesus appeared to his disciples many times, we'll consider a few of those times in the coming weeks. And it was the fact of Jesus' physical resurrection that changed everything for them, and for all believers since.

So it's the resurrection that Peter cites as proof of Jesus' divine identity in his Pentecost Day sermon in Acts 2. It is the resurrection that forms the basis for our hope of forgiveness (see Acts 5:29-32) and it is the resurrection of Jesus which is the foundation for the Christian hope of life

after death. In fact, without the resurrection, the Apostle Paul says that Christians are to be pitied more than all people. (See 1 Corinthians 15: 14-19)

So how convinced are you of Jesus' physical resurrection? Perhaps, like Thomas, you'd really like to see for yourself! But whilst we may not be able to do that, we do have many eyewitness accounts in the Bible. As with many things in life, we don't actually need to see them before we believe them, for the evidence is overwhelming. We have the evidence of the eyewitness statements, the empty tomb itself and the evidence of the way this event changed the lives of the disciples and ended up changing the world. You and I would not have heard of Jesus unless the resurrection happened, because the disciples would have had no good news to tell. History itself, then, is perhaps the greatest evidence for the truth of the resurrection.

Peter saw and believed- and it changed his life. As we reflect on the events of the first Easter, perhaps we should ask ourselves to what extent the resurrection of Jesus has changed ours.

Grace and peace,

Dave

Readings for 11th May:

John, chapter 7, verses 14 to 24

Isaiah, chapter 6, verses 1 to 13

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 Nippon Sei Ko Kai

For the churches of the Modbury Mission Community, their clergy Oli Long, LLMs, Joyce Howitt, Gilbert Snook, and for all who live and worship in Ringmore, Modbury, Kingston, Bigbury, and Aveton Gifford. For pupils and staff at Aveton Gifford Church of England Primary School.

At the beginning of Christian Aid Week, pray for the work of Christian Aid, for those who work for or support the organisation, and the people the organisation seeks to help. See www.christian-aid.org

Residents in the following Streets: Bury Road, Bushell Road, Buttercombe Close, Camomile Way, Carew Gardens, Carlisle Street, Castle Way, Castlewood Avenue, Cedar Road, and Chelston 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, Julie, Marion Fishman and Martyn, 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.

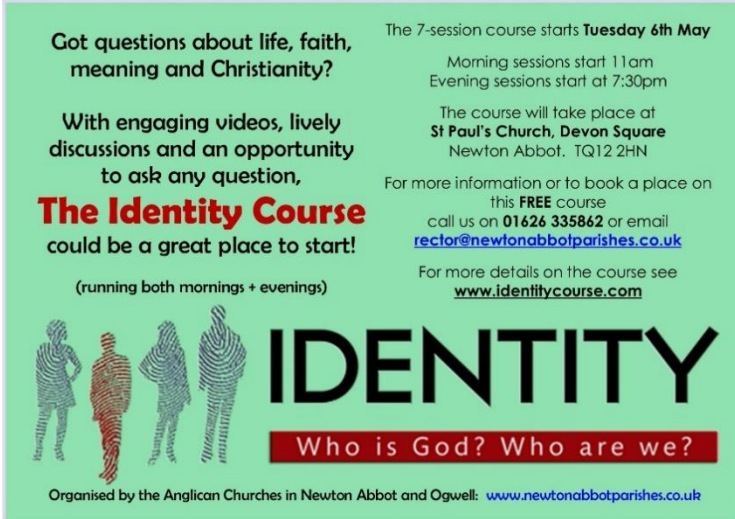
The families and friends of the recently deceased.

* **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 12th May, from 9:15-10am at St Paul's**. The next evening prayer gathering will be on Monday 19th May at Abbotsbury Church, starting at 7:45pm - and will continue our rotation of holding our evening prayer gatherings in all of our churches in turn. Do come and join us!

Our Next Identity Course has started - but it's not too late to join. We're only running the evening course... and it is now starting at 7pm!



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

Last Call for the Giving and Generosity Survey

The Parish has just 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. Details and booking forms are now available in all of our churches. Please consider coming along for the whole weekend, but even if you're only coming to the joint service and lunch on the Sunday, we need to know how many people are likely to be coming along.

Bingo. A session will be held at St Luke's Church on Friday 16th May at 7.30 p.m. £6 entry, cash prizes.

Pentecost Prayer Walk Around the 6 Churches of the Benefice.

On Saturday 7th June, we'll be walking around all of our 6 churches, pausing to pray in each one and at key points along the way. We'll be starting at St Luke's at 8:30am then walking to St Paul's, St Mary's, St Bart's, All Saints and ending at Abbotsbury around lunchtime. The timetable will come out nearer the time but do get the date in your diary now. And if you can't make the whole trip- that's fine! Just come and join us where you can.

Family Fest. Unfortunately, the Family Fest will not be taking place in 2025. I have been sent a long statement of explanation, but the crux of it seems to be the following:

"...because of the success of Family Fest and where it sits within the Diocese, we were asked to form an independent Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) which would provide a long-term foundation and governance for Family Fest.

"Despite our best efforts, and a lot of work, and because of a change to the way bank accounts run for charities, this has taken far longer than we expected, and is still not in place. This means the formation of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation is not complete."

Please let me know if you would like to see the full statement.

John

COMING EVENTS

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.

Bingo session at St Luke's Church 16th May at 7:30 p.m. at St Luke's Church.

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

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

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

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.

25th 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.

If you are not able to attend in person, you can watch services at Abbotsbury Church and St Paul's Church through [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCv8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8).

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

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

19th May, 7:45 p.m. at Abbotsbury Church

26th May, 9:15 a.m. at St Paul's Church

FUNERALS, MEMORIALS and INTERMENTS

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.

Terence Jordan. Interment of Ashes. 23rd May, at 12 noon.

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
07760 226488

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