



Parish of Newton Abbot and Ogwell

WEEKLY NEWS

25th May 2025. Sixth Sunday of Easter – Rogation Sunday

FROM OUR RECTOR

Dear Friends

We left Peter, the other disciples and Jesus gathered around the beach barbeque by the shores of the Sea of Galilee. The scene was set, and the time was right for Jesus and Peter to have their much-needed conversation.

But rather than asking Peter to explain all that happened on the night of his great betrayal, Jesus asks Peter a question. “*Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?*” (21:15) What are the ‘these’ that Jesus is speaking about? He could be referring to the other disciples, asking Peter if his devotion to his Lord is greater than theirs. But Peter has no way of knowing that. He can't look into their hearts. I think a better explanation is that Jesus is looking at the boats, the nets, the fish and the lake, everything which filled Peter's life before he was called to be a disciple and is asking him if his love and devotion to Jesus is greater than his desire to go back to his old life. Peter's response is clear: “Yes, Lord. You know that I love you.” “Feed my lambs,” Jesus replies.

It seems clear that Jesus has accepted Peter back into his fold and given him a task to do, but Jesus isn't finished. He asks Peter almost the same question twice more in verses 16 and 17: “*Simon, son of John, do you love me?*” and by the third time, Peter is hurt. Didn't Jesus hear him? Didn't he believe him? Why did he ask again and again?

I think the answer lies in Peter's denials. Three times Peter publicly denied being a friend of or even knowing Jesus. And so here, Peter is given an opportunity to publicly re-affirm his love for and commitment to Jesus in a way that puts those painful memories of the past. Peter's failure was catastrophic. His regret was real and deep. But Jesus' forgiveness dealt with Peter's failures and washed his guilt away. Jesus was gentle and direct, his forgiveness was complete and public, and it was just the start! For Jesus did not simply forgive Peter and leave it at that. Peter was forgiven, reinstated and commissioned. As with all those who come to Jesus for forgiveness, Jesus had a job for Peter to do.

It would be a hard calling and a costly calling. With the other disciples, Peter was tasked with proclaiming the good news of Jesus and caring for all those who came to follow him. And what better person to pastor and encourage baby Christians who often make mistakes and get things wrong, than the disciple whose failings were infamous, yet who had received grace and forgiveness to cover every sin.

And so, on that beach by the shore of the Sea of Galilee, Peter was given a clean heart and a new start. He still didn't get everything right. But he never again denied his Lord, even when his life was on the line.

What about us? All those whom Jesus forgives he also calls into his service. Not all are called to be pastors and teachers, but all who come to Jesus are called to be witnesses to God's grace and sharers of the good news that full and free forgiveness is available to all who come to Jesus. Peter would spend the rest of his life sharing that news and would die for sharing that news. How could he do otherwise? God's grace to Peter has been vast.

You and I have received grace in equal measure. I wonder if we realise just how extraordinary that is! Perhaps if we did, we would be more willing to speak up as Jesus tells us to, and to go wherever he calls us to, whatever the cost might be.

Dave

Readings for 25th May:

John, chapter 7, verses 33 to 44

Isaiah, chapter 11 verse 1 to chapter 12 verse 6

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 Anglican Church of Kenya

On Rogation Sunday, thank God for making the land fruitful. We pray for farmers and agricultural workers in Devon. Help us be conscious of how to be sustainable and generous with the resources you have given us.

Residents in the following Streets: Coach Place, Coach Road, College Road, Collett Way, Coniston Close, Coombeshead Road, Cornflower Way, Coronation Road, Coronation Road, St. Annes Court and Court Mews.

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, Marie Graham, Martyn, Joyce Lander, Eve Taylor, David Hayes 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. The series of Women's Breakfasts at the Rectory this summer is now **fully booked**, but if you'd like to go on a reserve list, please get in touch with Judy on 01626 335862 or by email on mrsvicar16@gmail.com

Parish Prayer Gatherings: We'll take a break for the Bank Holiday on Monday 26th May, but we will meet to pray again in the evening on Monday 2nd June from 7:45 p.m.- 9 p.m. at All Saints Highweek. The next morning prayer gathering will be on Monday 9th June at St Paul's Church, starting at 9:15 a.m. Do come and join us!

Church Weekend at Home with Rev Dr Paul Gardner. Details and booking forms are 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.

Pentecost Prayer Walk Around the 6 Churches of the Benefice.

On Saturday 7th June, the day before Pentecost - we'll be walking around all of the 6 churches in our benefice, pausing to pray in each one and at key points along the way. We'll be starting at **St Luke's at 10 a.m.** (*note the change of time*) 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.

Works Starting at All Saints Highweek.

Following a meeting with the contractors earlier this week, we are delighted to announce that the works to improve the toilet and catering facilities at All Saints will begin in early June. They are expected to be finished by early September. The work area inside the church will be fenced off and church members are asked not to visit the church during the week. However, although there will be some disruption during this time, Sunday services and evening bell ringing sessions will be able to take place as normal. Although the current toilet will be out of action for this period, a Portaloo will be available outside the church.



Sunday Afternoon Concerts

Denbury Folk presents

Mark Waistell

Singer/ Songwriter

"Beautiful...utterly universal and enthralling...magnificent tales of love...and loss. Mark's voice is soft, clear, smooth and distinctive. His lyrics are evocative of a life's experiences."
Folkcast

"Striking melodies and charismatic songs delivered by a voice that has substance and richness"
Folkwords

youtube.com/watch?v=fIFCJmdNEBI



Sunday 8th June, 2pm
St Mary's Church, Denbury

Tickets £12 from Rachel:
rachelbelringer@gmail.com/ 07751804007
In aid of Denbury Church

Parish Prayer Gatherings: We'll take a break for the Bank Holiday and meet to pray in the evening on Monday 2nd June from 7:45 p.m. to 9.p.m at All Saints Highweek. Do come and join us!

Reflection on the ministry of Anna Chaplain during my time holding services in residential homes

Sharing The Love

The hymn sheets are passed around,
The music is ready.
Jill is sleeping; Joyce sits.
The silence is broken by The Chase.
No one is watching. Television goes off.
Others arrive. Some in wheelchairs; one or two slowly walk in using frames.
'Good afternoon lovely to be back'.
'Thank you, Kim, for coming. It's lovely to see you.'
'Let us Pray'
We sing a hymn. Blessed Assurance Jesus is mine. Lips move, and out comes sound.
Smiles, all join in.
Colin watches and mimes the words; saliva unbidden, falls in a pool on his lap.
Born of His Spirit, washed in His Blood.
Jill wakes up with the singing, smiling,
Sorry to bother you could I have some water. "Here is water Jill" says Dave
She clasps the glass. Lifting it to Jill's lips her hands shaking a little.
"Have a sip Jill, that's right".
'On the road to Emmaus'. The passage is read aloud.
The tea trolley is being prepared in the distance.
A carer comes in and escorts a resident to the toilet.
'As they talked and discussed these things Jesus himself came up'
'Where's my tea?' asks Barbara as she wakes up.
The trolley is coming shortly
'They came and told us they had seen a vision of angels who said he was alive'
I pray for Ethel's grandson terminally ill with cancer
Listen to Jeanette who has no family and feels alone at times.
"We're all mad here" she says, and smiles.
And may the Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all.
Sheila, as you sit dozing,
You are a blessing to me.
"Jill what a blessing you are and what a lovely smile".
Joyce asks me to come and sit with her. I go and chat.
"Thank you so much" as she holds my hand.
What a blessing these men and women are to me. What joy they give to me.
Blessings all mine with thousand beside.
Peace surround you all.
Peace to share with friend and stranger.
The peace and blessing of God be with us all; Now and for evermore.

COMING EVENTS

Charity Coffee Morning at St Bartholemew's Church, on 30th May at 10 a.m. in aid of Cancer Research.

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

Craft Club. 3rd and 17th June at 2 p.m. at St Paul's Church.

PCC Meeting. 4th June, 7 p.m. at Abbotsbury Church.

Pentecost Prayer Walk 7th June. Starting at St Luke's Church at **10 a.m.**

Summer with the Father, 7th June, 5th July and 9th August, 8:30 to 10 a.m. for women at 5 Coach Place. **Now fully booked.** For waiting list contact Judy on 01626 335862 or email mrsvicar16@gmail.com .

Denbury Folk Concert. 8th June at 2 p.m. at St Mary's Church, Denbury. Contact rachel-belringer@gmail.com or phone 07751804007.

Traditional Choral Evensong. 8th June at 6 p.m. at St Mary's Church, Abbotskerswell.

Women's Breakfast. Saturday, 14th June at 9:30 a.m. at The Country Table, Bank Street, Newton Abbot.

Mission Shed Social Justice. Saturday 14 June, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Abbotsbury Church. For details and to book [Click here](#)

Men's Breakfast. Saturday 21st June, 9:00 a.m. at the Leisure Lounge Café.

Parish Weekend at Home. 27th to 29th June. Details and booking forms available in our churches.

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

Parish Lunch on 29th June at St Paul's Church. Details and booking arrangements in the Parish Weekend at Home leaflet.

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

REGULAR CHURCH SERVICES

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.

1st June

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.

8th June

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](#).

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
30 th November	St Luke's Milber	30 th November	All Saints Highweek

PRAYER GATHERINGS

26th May, Bank holiday break.
2nd June, 7:45 p.m. at All Saints' Church, Highweek.
9th June, 9:15 a.m. at St Paul's Church.

FUNERALS, MEMORIALS and INTERMENTS

Terence Jordan. Interment of Ashes. 23rd May, at 12 noon, at All Saints' Church, Highweek.
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@sjsj.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@newtonbbotparishes.co.uk