



Parish of Newton Abbot and Ogwell

WEEKLY NEWS

20th July 2025.

FROM OUR RECTOR

Dear Friends,

I don't know who you would have on your top 10 heroes of faith from the Old Testament, but I suspect the first one listed in Hebrews 11 would be a bit of a surprise. Why is it? It is Abel- one of the sons of Adam and Eve and the first murder victim in world history! So why is Abel there?

Remember that those on the list are being commended for their faith, and helpfully, Hebrews 11 verses 1 to 3 tell what that kind of faith is:

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. ² This is what the ancients were commended for. ³ By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

So Biblical faith has a number of elements. As the Hope Explored course puts it:

It is a **confident hope in the future** (*a future we cannot yet see*)
based on true events in the past (*the fact that the universe was created at God's command*)
that changes everything about our present.

For Abel, it meant that he was willing to bring to God a sacrifice of his choicest animals: "*fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock.*" and to offer them as a sacrifice. (See Genesis 4:4) This would have been a costly act of worship. And don't miss the detail there: this was an act of **worship**, not a sacrifice for sin. As the harvest came, so both brothers offered to God an offering of thanksgiving, giving back to God some of what God He had given to them. Cain offered some of the fruits of the soil, but Abel, rather than keeping the best for himself, offered to God the choicest elements of his herds.

Why was Abel willing to do that? Because of his confident hope in the future and his trust that the God who had blessed him with so much would continue to care for him and provide for all his needs. Abel knew that all his days and all his needs were in the hands of a powerful, good and generous God. So, he need not hold on to things, he could give generously and trust God for what comes next.

In the same way, our level of thankfulness to God and our confidence in God's love and care and his future provision will also have a huge impact on our giving, whether money, time or talents. The more we remember what God has done for us in the past (especially through Jesus), and the more we fix our eyes on what God has prepared for those who love him in the future (I'm

thinking of eternity here), the more we will willingly give and serve with a generosity of heart that rivals Abel's.

In some ways then, our willingness to give and serve generously in proportion to that which God has given us, is a marker of our faith and thankfulness. Will be as faithful as Abel? When it comes to generosity and trust, Abel is a hero we should aim to emulate.

Grace and peace,

Dave

Please pray for:

Our Church, our parish, benefice and diocese, our Rector Dave Brown, Team Vicars Gareth Regan and Fr. Matthew Cashmore, Curate Jon Bealey, 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 Pakistan (United)

For the churches of the Stokenham Mission Community, LLM Sarah Pain, and for all who live and worship in Stokenham with Sherford and Beesands.

Residents in the following streets: Hawkins Road, Hawthorn Close, Haydon Court, Haytor Drive, Haytor Grove, Haytor Terrace, Hazel Close and Heath Park.

The sick and suffering including: Joey Hilton, Noah Maynard, Cherie Glover, Sheila Fletcher, John and Joyce Sutherland, Jackie, Joshua, Anna Crocker, Barbara-Ann, David, Julie, Sally Fulcher, Marie Graham, Martyn, Joyce Lander, Eve Taylor, David Littlewood, Max and Sarah, 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.

Readings for 20th June

John chapter 8: verses 21 to 30

1 Corinthians chapter 6: verses 12 to 20

NEWS AND NOTICES

Parish Prayer Gatherings: Our next morning Parish Prayer Gathering will be on Monday 21st July at St Paul's Church, starting at 9:15 a.m.

The next evening Parish Prayer Gathering will be on Monday 28th July from 7:45 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Abbotsbury Church.

St Bartholemew's Church Songs of Praise. Last Sunday afternoon the St Barts congregation and friends celebrated the (almost) completion of building work and decoration to the church. The floral decorations were superb. There were eight glorious hymns of praise chosen by members of the congregation and sung with gusto by the many people present, with a variety of interesting readings in between. As usual, there were excellent refreshments afterwards. Many thanks to everyone involved in the arrangements for this joyful event.

John



Make a Difference – Volunteer Today!

Do you have a heart for helping others? A few hours of your time can change lives – including your own.

At THAT Foodbank we believe in the power of community. We're looking for passionate, driven volunteers to join our mission, values and vision and make a real impact. Whether it's lending a hand, sharing a skill, or simply showing up with a smile, **you** can be the reason someone's day – or life – gets better.



Why Volunteer?

- ✓ Make a meaningful difference
- ✓ Gain valuable experience
- ✓ Meet amazing people
- ✓ Discover your strengths
- ✓ Be part of something bigger

No experience? No problem! We'll provide all the training and support you need. All we ask is your time, your heart, and your willingness to help.

🕒 Flexible hours | 📍 Local opportunities | 🤝 Community-driven

Don't wait. Be the change. Volunteer today.

Visit www.thatfoodbank.com now and contact us by phone, contact form, email or call in.

THAT Food Bank (Charity Number 1146610) 8 Queensway House, Queensway, Newton Abbot.
TQ12 4BA Tel: 01626 437310, email: office@thatfoodbank.com Web: www.thatfoodbank.com

Next Joint Parish Service: Sunday 31st August at 10:30am at St Bartholomew's Church Owell.

Next Benefice Evensong: Sunday 31st August at 5:30pm at West Ogwell Church.

Next Charity Coffee Morning. St Paul's Church on **2nd August**, at 10 a.m. in aid of Riding for the Disabled.

All welcome!

Most grateful thanks from Clive Sawers.

After over seventeen years as one of the organists in the Benefice, initially covering services at St Paul's, but later playing regularly at Highweek and Ogwell, I found that the workload had become too much for me to continue in the same way into yet another autumn and Christmas season with all the special services involved. So, it was with a heavy heart and much sadness, but also some relief that I tendered my resignation to the Rector in March to come into effect at the end of June. That period, just over three months, would provide some opportunity to regroup and work out a suitable way forward. As part of the process, I have offered to continue to play for the monthly BCP Holy Communion at St Mary's which I have always enjoyed, and I've offered to cover emergencies if I can.

Word spread rapidly about my intended departure following which I have received many kind comments from those for whom I have had the privilege to play. I've long since lost count of the number of services that I have covered since arriving at St Paul's, to which I can include a number of Carol Services at St Mary's and later St Bartholomew's during my early years; then when the new parish of Newton Abbot was established All Saints, Highweek was added to the list. I've only very occasionally played the magnificent organ at Abbotsbury Church for services.

As ever, organists are usually pretty shattered by the end of December and an interesting comment noted by a member of one of the Facebook groups was: "Is anyone else, like me, running on empty?" I certainly related to that, and while December 29 saw an excellent service at St Mary's with approaching 100 communicants, I noted later that afternoon that the music for a service streamed online from Ripon Cathedral was led entirely from the organ with no choir present who presumably had the Sunday off!

So, it can be a lonely job for any organist, made much more difficult for me by my increasing deafness; when Steve and I were delegated last September to help out at St Luke's, Milber, his greatest concern was that the hymns would not be announced. My response was rather simple, that I would probably not hear any announcement anyway! Very often we were expected to dash across town from either All Saints, or St Bartholomew's to arrive at St Luke's with about five minutes to spare and to check the details of the service and to be ready to start the opening hymn upon the ringing of the bell, which I wouldn't hear anyway! Fortunately, the congregation stands at that point which makes life easy enough as I can see very well from the organ loft.

I'm enormously grateful for all the encouragement and support from so many people in our congregations and for the acceptance on one or two rare occasions when I have inflicted some of my own hymns or hymn-tunes upon you. Some years ago, it was my carol "Let's go to Bethlehem!" and more recently "Praise to the Lord we sing today", first sung at All Saints, Highweek in March 2023. This latter was reproduced at High Leigh in July 2024 at the annual conference of the Hymn Society and has now been entered into a competition being run by Jubilate Hymns looking for new material potentially for inclusion in the hymnbooks; I really don't expect to see any hymn of mine included anywhere during my lifetime but perhaps my offspring might; and who knows, they might even collect some royalties!

Back to earth with a bump, let me thank you all again and particularly for the generous gift received on my final service at St Paul's which I am sure will contribute greatly towards the joy of

our lovely garden, now looking its best despite the dry weather. The magnificent Magnolia tree in the front garden has managed to retain many seed pods from the exuberant March flowering, and as these expand and weigh the branches down, the seeds will likely begin to fall out in the autumn and we'll try to grow some new Magnolias though we don't ever expect to see them flower in our lifetime.

Grace and peace to you all, Clive

COMING EVENTS

Evensong Choir Practice: 17th July, 7 p.m. at St John's Church, Bovey Tracey.

Lunch with God. 18th July, 12:30 p.m. Golden Lion Square.

Men's Breakfast. Saturday 19th July, 9:00 a.m. at the Leisure Lounge Café.

Sounds of Summer with Choir 86 in Forde Park on 20th July at 3 p.m.

Charity Coffee Morning. St Paul's Church on **2nd August**, at 10 a.m. in aid of **Riding for the Disabled**.

Craft Club. 5th and 19th August at 2 p.m. at St Paul's Church.

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

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

Traditional Choral Evensong. 10th August at 6 p.m. at St Mary's Church, Abbotskerswell.

Evensong at West Ogwell Church - Sunday 31st August 5:30-6:30 p.m. [Evensong at West Ogwell Church - Churches Conservation Trust](#)

West Ogwell Church Open Afternoon: Architecture and Mindfulness - Friday 19th September 2025, 2 to 4 p.m. [West Ogwell Open Afternoon: Architecture and Mindfulness](#)

My Mountain Life – Talk by Simon Yates. 19th September, 7:30 p.m. in Abbotsbury Church. Tickets and details from wegottickets.com/event/666711

CHURCH SERVICES

20th July

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.

27th July

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.

3rd August

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.

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.	
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

14th July 7:45 p.m. at St Mary's Church, Wolborough.

21st July 9:15 a.m. at St Paul's Church.

28th July 7:45 at Abbotsbury Church.

FUNERALS AND INTERMENTS

Rose Edith Chambers. Funeral on 19th July at 10:30 a.m. at St Paul's Church. Followed by committal at Ogwell Cross Cemetery.

Eileen Heath and Frederick Albert Heath. Funeral on 19th July at 11:30 a.m. at All Saints' Church, Highweek.

Susan Calvert. Funeral on 23rd July at 11:00 a.m. at All Saints' Church, Highweek.

Roger Harrill. Funeral on 5th August at 1:30 p.m. at St Mary's Church, Wolborough.

Mary Veronica Moore. Funeral on 8th August at 2:00 p.m. at St Paul's 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@sjsj.co.uk 07555 924862

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

gareth@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk 01626 201237

Curate: Rev Jonathan Bealey jonathan.bealey@gmail.com 07886567732

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: vacant

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:

Steve Cox 079 686 21511 or 01626 854228 stephen.cox54@talktalk.net

Clive Sawers 07967 148794 clivesawers@aol.com

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

THAT Foodbank. 8 Queensway House, Queensway, Newton Abbot. TQ12 4BA. Tel: 01626 437310, email: office@thatfoodbank.com Web: www.thatfoodbank.com

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