



# Parish of Newton Abbot and Ogwell

## WEEKLY NEWS

14<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

### FROM OUR RECTOR

Dear Friends,

Having established what we think the Bible is: God's self-revelation of himself to us telling us all we need for life in this world and containing '*all things necessary to salvation*' for the next, our question today is this: How do we decide what is taught on Sundays? After all, the Bible is a big book!

Many Anglican Churches use what is called the Lectionary to answer this question. The Lectionary offers a set of readings for every day, and in particular for every Sunday, running over a 3-year cycle. It sets out four readings for each Sunday: an Old Testament passage; a Psalm (or other Bible song); a New Testament reading; and a Gospel reading (Matthew, Mark or Luke – with readings from John being spread over all three years).

That all sounds great, doesn't it. However, there are some problems with using it.

**1: The lectionary misses a lot of things out.** Even with having 4 readings every Sunday (and we only have 2) large parts of the Bible are never included. If 4 whole chapters were read each Sunday on the 3-year cycle (and often readings are far shorter than that), just 624 chapters would be read out of the 1,189 chapters the Bible contains.

The lectionary also has a habit of missing out sections within the readings it does choose. On many occasions, these make a substantial difference to how the text should be read and understood. None of this is helpful to us in understanding God's will for our lives.

**2: The lectionary jumps around so the flow of books and arguments is disrupted.** Most of had to study English Literature at some point, and that involved reading texts- poems, letters or novels from beginning to end. After all, that's the only way to really understand what we are reading. But because the lectionary has a 3-year cycle, it cannot take the time to work through whole books or letters and that leaves us with a disjointed and selective reading of the selection of books that it does choose to include. You can see an example of this in the table below showing the lectionary readings for October this year.

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
Lamentations 1.1-6 Psalm 137	Jeremiah 29.1,4-7 Psalm 66.1-11	Jeremiah 31.27-34 Psalm 119.97-104	Joel 2.23-32 Psalm 65

2 Timothy 1.1-14 Luke 17.5-10	2 Timothy 2.8-15 Luke 17.11-19	2 Timothy 3.14 - 4.5 Luke 18.1-8	2 Timothy 4.6-8,16-18 Luke 18.9-14
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As you can see, the only continuous readings are those from Luke's Gospel, but even then, chapter 17 verses 20-37 are missed out. The Old Testament jumps from Lamentations to Jeremiah to Joel, and as you can see, there are large gaps in how 2 Timothy is covered. If the Bible is God's Word to us, if it is all '*God-breathed and useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,*' then missing bits out and jumping around makes understanding the Bible rightly, very difficult.

**3: The lectionary pushes clergy to only preach on the gospels.** Because the non-Gospel readings jump around so much, many clergy decide that the easiest thing to do is stick with the Gospel readings, as that saves time and energy on explaining new contexts. But to do that misses out the delights (and the challenges!) of grappling with books and sections that would never be covered by the lectionary. Just as we need a varied diet to stay physically healthy, so to grow mature and strong in our faith we need the whole counsel of God from the scriptures, Old and New Testaments, poetry and gospels, law and prophecy, history and apocalypse in order to truly understand God in all his glory.

If we were to have daily services using all the extra daily readings, and also had multiple different services on a Sunday, the lectionary would give us that kind of diet. But we don't. So to maintain a good balance of what is read and taught and to allow us to really get to grips with what the Bible is saying, we use our own plan for Sunday services. This involves:

- Having just 2 readings a Sunday, one of which is always a gospel, so that reasonable time can be given to explaining what we have heard read.
- Preaching from both New and Old Testaments and making sure that different genres are covered across the year. (*This year we've had sermon series from Revelation, Mark, Isaiah, 1 Corinthians, and the Psalms. Our Parish Weekend at Home also took us to Ephesians- as well as the topical series on suffering*)
- Working our way through whole books over time, not jumping about, so we can rightly understand God's Word to us.
- Occasional series on themes, to allow us to take a wider Biblical view on topics.

We do use the lectionary for Christmas and Easter and for certain high days each year. We also have special series that fit with the seasons - such as our Lent series on suffering, or last year's Advent series on the Light of Christ. And we always use the lectionary on Wednesday mornings!

Over the course of the next few weeks Gareth and I will be planning the preaching programme for the next year, and so if there are books of the Bible you feel we are neglecting, or topics that you feel we haven't covered, do come and talk to us. We're happy having topical series from time to time as we did last Lent.

Next week we'll start to address some of the questions about the trustworthiness and relevance of the Bible, but I hope this explanation as to why our preaching programme is the way it is will have answered some of your questions.

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.

**Peace in Ukraine and Israel.**

**The Anglican Church of South America.**

**On Education Sunday**, our network of Church of England schools and academies, as well as the children and families, youth workers in our churches engaging with schools, and school staff.

**Residents in the following streets:** Marsh Road, Mayfield Crescent, Mayflower Avenue, Meadow Halt, Meadow Rise, Meadow Side, Mellons Close, Mellons Walk and Mellows Meadow.

**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, 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](mailto:prayer@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk) to let us know about anyone needing our prayers.

## **Readings for 14<sup>th</sup> September**

John, Chapter 10: Verses 22 to 30 and Isaiah chapter 19

## **NEWS AND NOTICES**

**Parish News.** I am taking a holiday from production of the Parish News for the next 2 issues. Our curate, Rev Jonathon Bealey, has kindly offered to take over the role during that time. please email [news@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:news@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk) as usual. Emails to that address should reach him. Alternatively, you can contact him at [curate@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:curate@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk) or phone [07886567732](tel:07886567732). John

## **Prayer Gatherings.**

Our next **evening Parish Prayer Gathering** will be on **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September from 7:45pm-9pm** at St Paul's Church. Our next morning Parish Prayer Gathering will be on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September at St Paul's Church, starting at 9:15am.

**The West Ogwell Church Open Afternoon** with the theme of Architecture and Mindfulness will be on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2025, 2 to 4 p.m. For details see [West Ogwell Open Afternoon: Architecture and Mindfulness](#)



DEVON HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

*Ride & Stride*

**Saturday 13 September**

**Support Devon Historic Churches Trust**

Bike or walk to explore the countryside & historic churches on a lovely September weekend! Get sponsored by friends and family - funds 50-50 to DHCT and nominated church or group of churches.

Downloadable form from  
<https://devonhistoricchurches.co.uk/how-you-can-help-us/#friend-membership>

*Or just come on in! Invite friends and neighbours*

St Mary's open 11 - 4  
with a local historian on hand to answer questions

All Saints open 11 - 3

St Paul's open 10.30 - 1.30

Abbotsbury open 10 - 2

St Bartholomew's open in daylight hours

[www.newtonabbotparishes.com](http://www.newtonabbotparishes.com)



**Teign u3a**  
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Newton Abbot

# Positive Ageing

***Come and meet us on our stand outside Austins***

**10.00am-12.30pm**

**Wednesday 24 September 2025**



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**Share learning and pursue educational, creative  
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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!

The 7-session course starts on  
**Wednesday 1st October**

Sessions run from 7:30pm to about 9pm

The course will take place at  
**Abbotsbury Church, Waverley Road**  
Newton Abbot. TQ12 2ND

For more information or to book a place on  
this **FREE** course

call us on **01626 211346** or email  
[office@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:office@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk)

For more details on the course see  
[www.identitycourse.com](http://www.identitycourse.com)



# IDENTITY

Who is God? Who are we?

Organised by the Anglican Churches in Newton Abbot and Ogwell: [www.newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](http://www.newtonabbotparishes.co.uk)

Our new curate, Rev Jon Bealey will be leading this course... contact him for more details...

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## COMING EVENTS

**Lunch with God.** 12<sup>th</sup> September, 12:30 p.m. Golden Lion Square.

**Arts and Crafts Exhibition & Trail.** Raising funds for the repair & restoration of the bells At Broadhempston church, 12<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> September 2025, 10am to 4pm each day. Contact [mywynpam@gmail.com](mailto:mywynpam@gmail.com).

**Traditional Choral Evensong.** 14<sup>th</sup> September at 6 p.m. at St Mary's Church, Abbotsockerswell.

**Women's Breakfast.** Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> September at 9:30 a.m. at The Clock Tower Coffee Shop, Wolborough Street, Newton Abbot.

**Craft Club.** 16<sup>th</sup> September at 2 p.m. at St Paul's Church.

**Evensong Choir Practice.** 18<sup>th</sup> September, 7 p.m. at St John's Church, Bovey Tracey.

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

**My Mountain Life** – Talk by Simon Yates. 19<sup>th</sup> September, 7:30 p.m. in Abbotsbury Church. Tickets and details from [wegottickets.com/event/666711](http://wegottickets.com/event/666711)

**Men's Breakfast.** Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September, 9:00 a.m. at the Leisure Lounge Café.

**U3A Stand** outside Austins 24<sup>th</sup> September 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**Charity Coffee Morning.** St Bartholomew's Church, Ogwell on 26<sup>th</sup> September at 10:30 a.m. In aid of Macmillan Cancer Support.

**Charity Coffee Morning.** St Paul's Church on 27<sup>th</sup> September, at 10 a.m. in aid of Homeless in Teignbridge. Donations for the raffle would be appreciated.

**God, the Bible and Everything (in 60 minutes)!** Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 7 p.m. at the Church of St Peter, St Paul and St Thomas of Canterbury, East Street. Bovey Tracey, TQ13 9EP. Tickets and details from:  
[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/god-the-bible-and-everything-in-60-minutes-tickets-1499291574459](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/god-the-bible-and-everything-in-60-minutes-tickets-1499291574459)

**Joint Parish Service** for the fifth Sunday of the month on 30<sup>th</sup> November at 10:30 a.m. at St Mary's Church, Wolborough.

**Evensong at St Luke's Church, Milber** - Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November at 5:30 p.m.

**Murder Mystery** - Tragedy at the Village Tea Party – with supper. Denbury Village Hall TQ12 6DS, 29<sup>th</sup> November at 7 p.m. £25. To book contact [imwdayey@gmail.com](mailto:imwdayey@gmail.com) or phone 07767 771590. Profits to Denbury Church.

## CHURCH SERVICES

### 14<sup>th</sup> September

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.

### 21<sup>st</sup> September

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.

### 28<sup>th</sup> September

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

**30<sup>th</sup> November** (5<sup>th</sup> Sunday)

Parish Communion, St Mary's Church, Wolborough, at 10:30 a.m.

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

## PRAYER GATHERINGS

15<sup>th</sup> September 7:45 p.m. at St Paul's Church.

22<sup>nd</sup> September 9:15 a.m. at St Paul's Church.

29<sup>th</sup> September 7:45 p.m. at St Mary's Church.

## FUNERALS AND INTERMENTS

**Valerie Anne Steer.** Interment of ashes on 18<sup>th</sup> September at 10 a.m. at St Mary's Church, Wolborough.

**Sheila Margaret Platt.** Funeral on 18<sup>th</sup> September 11 a.m. at All Saints' Church, High-week.

## PARISH CONTACTS

**Team Rector: Rev Dave Brown.** Day off Thursday

[rector@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto:father@slsj.co.uk) 07555 924862

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

[gareth@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:gareth@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk)

01626 201237

**Curate: Rev Jonathan Bealey**

[curate@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:curate@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk)

07886567732

**Licensed Lay Minister:**

**Keith Butler:** [puffin@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:puffin@blueyonder.co.uk)

07980 457919

**Lay minister for St Luke's, Graham Whittle**

[family@hotmail.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto:lornatresidder@icloud.com)

St Bartholomew's **Stella Llewellyn** [stellallewellyn@icloud.com](mailto:stellallewellyn@icloud.com) 01626 906814

and **Gwyn Hughes.** [gwynhughes@icloud.com](mailto:gwynhughes@icloud.com) 01626 365028

**Anna Chaplains: Mei Lan Machin.** [d.m.machin2013@gmail.com](mailto:d.m.machin2013@gmail.com) 07926 991578

**Kim Martin** [kimbo58@gmail.com](mailto:kimbo58@gmail.com)

**Organists:**

**Steve Cox** 079 686 21511 or 01626 854228 [stephen.cox54@talktalk.net](mailto:stephen.cox54@talktalk.net)

**Clive Sawers** 07967 148794 [clivesawers@aol.com](mailto:clivesawers@aol.com)

**Parochial Church Council Secretary: Barbara Garrick** 07910 207358

[barbara\\_garrick@yahoo.com](mailto:barbara_garrick@yahoo.com)

**Safeguarding Lead: Rob Palmer** 07792 081776 [treb0r@hotmail.com](mailto:treb0r@hotmail.com)

**Weekly Parish News by Email. John Calderwood.** [news@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:news@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk)  
07760 226488

**Other Communications Media** (website and social media)  
[comms@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto:prayer@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk)

**Parish website:** [www.newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](http://www.newtonabbotparishes.co.uk)

**Parish Office** at St Paul's Church, Devon Square. From 15<sup>th</sup> September, Monday to Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Phone 01626 211346 or email [office@newtonabbot-parishes.co.uk](mailto:office@newtonabbot-parishes.co.uk).

## OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS

**Newton Abbot Town Council.** 01626 201120 [www.newtonabbot-tc.gov.uk](http://www.newtonabbot-tc.gov.uk)

**Shopmobility, Ring & Ride, Community cars** – 01626 335775

**Teignbridge Council** – 01626 361101, [www.teignbridge.gov.uk](http://www.teignbridge.gov.uk)

**THAT Foodbank.** 8 Queensway House, Queensway, Newton Abbot. TQ12 4BA. Tel: 01626 437310, email: [office@thatfoodbank.com](mailto:office@thatfoodbank.com) Web: [www.thatfoodbank.com](http://www.thatfoodbank.com)

**Footnote.** Thank you very much to those of you who have sent me contributions. Relevant photos are very welcome, especially if anyone has photographs of the Duck Race! As you can see above, John, who normally puts this publication together, is taking a well-deserved break at the moment, currently enjoying the jet-setting lifestyle. If you have any news of past events, notices of future activities, or any other information that may be interesting or useful to our Church members, please submit it by Monday for the next issue. I can be reached at [curate@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:curate@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk)

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.

[news@newtonbbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:news@newtonbbotparishes.co.uk)