



# Parish of Newton Abbot and Ogwell

## WEEKLY NEWS

28th September 2025.

### FROM OUR RECTOR

Dear friends,

Issue 40: 24<sup>th</sup> September, 2025.

Last week we looked at 5 reasons to trust the Bible- and especially the Old Testament. Today our eyes turn to the New Testament. Here are 5 reasons why we should trust the New Testament to tell us the truth of Jesus and what it means to follow him:

**1: Style: It's written as history.** Many of us have realistic fiction on our bookshelves. Whether spy novels or love stories, they are written realistically to the period in which they are set. But at the time of Jesus, this genre was many centuries away from being invented. 2000 years ago, writing was either fantasy fiction like Greek myths or historical reporting. The Bible is clearly not a fantasy fiction, and in fact the gospels and Acts (the history books of the New Testament) claim to be a true record of all that happened. (See Luke 1:1-4 and John 20: 30-31). The New Testament was written as history so we should read it as it is

**2: Honesty: It's full of the flaws and failings of the disciples.** If you were inventing a religion and writing down stories to try and convince people to believe a lie, you would not write the New Testament as we have it. For example, the flaws and failings of the disciples and early leaders, their doubts and missteps, are there for all to see. Nor would you have the first witnesses to the resurrection being women. Their testimony was not acceptable in court. Neither would you include descriptions of the disagreements within the early church. All of this makes the Christian message, the church, and its leaders look bad. The honesty of the New Testament speaks volumes about its trustworthiness.

**3: Contemporary: It's written so close to the times in which the events occurred.** Some people claim that the New Testament, and especially the gospels, were written a long time after the events and are just a myth. Perhaps Jesus did some amazing things, they say, but as the message was passed on the half-remembered stories were embellished until eventually the myth of Jesus was created. But that is simply not true. Myths take centuries to develop, but all of the gospels were written within living memory of Jesus' life, death and resurrection, so that those who were there could have contradicted the accounts of what was included. What's more, those who wrote the gospels were either eyewitnesses or spoke to eyewitnesses who were there themselves. The closeness to the action helps us trust what the Bible says to be true.

**4: Archaeology: It's backed up by discoveries.** Whether it is the place names mentioned in the New Testament or the names of the people that are used, or events taking place in the wider world, time and time again the Bible's history and the way it describes the world tallies with archaeological discoveries and what we know about life in that region 2000 years ago. For

example, an inscription confirm Pilate's title as a prefect or governor. A long-missing pool with 5 covered colonnades was discovered in the late 1950s, backing up the description of such a place in John 5. And non-Christian historians, like Josephus and Tacitus, speak of the key events of Jesus life. As I said last week, there has never been an archaeological discovery that has proved that what the Bible says is untrue. In fact, quite the opposite. Archaeology supports the Bible.

**5: History: It makes sense of how history has unfolded.** There's no doubt that the New Testament contains things that the 21st century sceptical mind finds hard to accept. This is especially true about the resurrection of Jesus. Dead people, and especially those killed in a public and brutal way, don't come back from the dead. Yet the only thing that makes sense of the growth of the Christian faith and the willingness of the disciples who claimed to have seen Jesus alive to keep holding on to that claim, is that Jesus actually rose again, as the Bible said he did. Plenty of people die for things they believe to be true. No one risks their life for something they know to be a lie unless there is some other reward waiting. Unless Jesus was raised, the disciples faced death for nothing. But praise God Jesus was raised! And that fact explains how history has unfolded and helps us believe everything else the New Testament has to teach us.

Next week we'll look at how we know the Bible hasn't changed over time. In the meantime, you might want to take a look at one of these books. They are all available from our online book partner whose website you can access here: <https://uk.10ofthose.com> or you can order them from Choice Words or other booksellers. Copies of them will soon be available in our Church lending library as well.



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.**

**Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan**

**For the churches of** the Culm Valley Mission Community, their clergy Ben Maynard, Nigel Fry, LLM Chris Russell, and for all who live and worship in Willand, Uffculme, and Kentisbeare. Residents in the following streets: Mill Close, Mill Lane, Milton Road, Moore Close, Moorland View, Moorlands Close, Mount Pleasant Road, Nelson Place

**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, Joyce Lander and her family, Jacob, Sally Fulcher, Marie Graham, Martyn, David Littlewood, Max and Sarah, Andrew Markham 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 28<sup>th</sup> September**

John, Chapter 11:1-16 and Isa 29

## **NEWS AND NOTICES**

Youth Night is this Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September at The Avenue. 730-9pm with food and hot chocs. For ages 11-17.

I have been asked to remind you that milk bottle tops are still wanted by the Hospice and stamps by the RNIB. If you have any saved could you please hand them into the office.

### **Parish Giving**

**Please note that the PGS website will be taken offline from 3pm Monday 13 October, remaining unavailable until the new system launches on Thursday 30 October.**

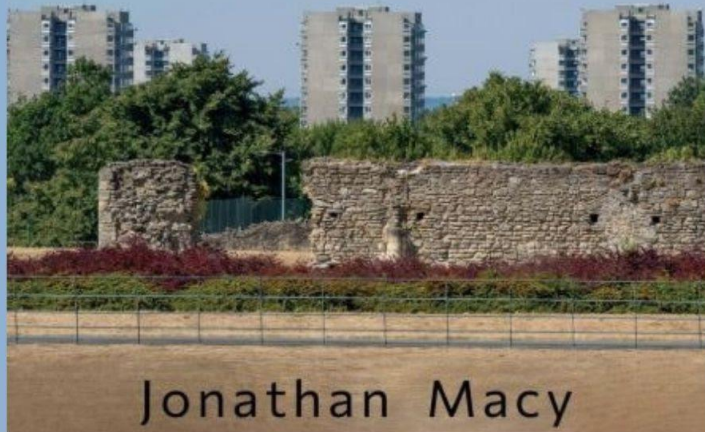
During this time, we will be unable to register or amend regular or one-off gifts. Those using contactless devices connected to PGS will be unaffected.

### **THE CHRISTMAS JOURNEY 2025**

Our wonderful presentation of the Christmas story to 6/7 years olds in primary schools across the Parish will take place during the week commencing 1<sup>st</sup> December. We need about 25 volunteers each session and are likely to have 6 sessions across the week (9:30-12noon or 1-2:45) as well as needing people to help set up and take down. Sign-up sheets will be available at our churches this weekend. Alternatively, you may contact Judy via email at [mrsvicar16@gmail.com](mailto:mrsvicar16@gmail.com). Do get involved!

# SOWING SEEDS WITH SONGS OF JOY

Growing God's Garden  
In Forgotten Places



Jonathan Macy

**A DEF day for churches  
seeking to reach the unreached  
Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September  
at Abbotsbury Church TQ12 2ND  
from 11am to 3pm  
*Please bring your own lunch  
Please use public car parks if you can***

**Next Joint Parish Service:** 30<sup>th</sup> November at 10:30 a.m. at St Mary's Church, Wolborough.

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

**The Parish Office hours** are changing from 1<sup>st</sup> September, when the office will normally be open Monday to Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

## COMING EVENTS

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

St Paul's Church on 27<sup>th</sup> September at 10 a.m. Donations for the raffle will be much appreciated. They can be taken to the Parish Office or brought on the day.

**Lunch with God.** 26<sup>th</sup> September, 12:30 p.m. Golden Lion Square.

St Paul's Church on 27<sup>th</sup> September at 10 a.m. Donations for the raffle will be much appreciated. They can be taken to the Parish Office or brought on the day.

**Craft Club.** 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> October at 2 p.m. at St Paul's Church.

**Women's Breakfast.** Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> October at 9:30 a.m. at The Clock Tower Coffee Shop, Wolborough Street, Newton Abbot.

**Traditional Choral Evensong.** 12<sup>th</sup> October at 6 p.m. at St Mary's Church, Abbotskerswell.

**Evensong Choir Practice.** 16<sup>th</sup> October, 7 p.m. at St John's Church, Bovey Tracey.

**Men's Breakfast.** Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October, 9:00 a.m. at the Leisure Lounge Café.

**Joint Parish Service** for the fifth Sunday of the month on 30<sup>th</sup> November at 10:30 a.m. at All Saints' Church, Highweek.

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



**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)

**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.

**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...



*Newton Abbot Parishes Announce*

# *A Harvest Supper + Quiz Night*

*St Paul's Hall*  
*Saturday 4th October*  
*From 6:30pm-9pm*

*Main course provided.  
Bring drinks + puddings to share!*

*TICKETS £5 EACH. All profits will be donated to THAT Foodbank.*

**TICKETS ON SALE FROM THE OFFICE OR FROM EACH CHURCH- SPACES LIMITED!**

## **CHURCH SERVICES**

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

Abbotsbury Church, Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.

All Saints 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.

### **5<sup>th</sup> October**

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.

### **12<sup>th</sup> October**

Abbotsbury Church, Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.

All Saints 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.  
No service at St Mary's on 12th October.

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

**HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICES:** Our Harvest Festival Services will be taking place on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October (apart from Highweek which will be the week after). Please think about purchasing 1 or 2 extra items over the coming weeks and bring them along to church on Harvest Sunday. All the produce will be donated to THAT Foodbank in Newton Abbot.

They are currently very short of 🍲 Squash, 🍡 Rice Pudding & Custard, ☕ Sugar & Coffee and 🍚 Microwavable Rice. But all tins and packet foods will be most welcome.

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

Parish Communion, All Saints' Church, Highweek, at 10:30 a.m. Evensong,  
St Luke's Church, Milber, at 5:30 p.m.

## PARISH PRAYER GATHERINGS:

Our next **evening Parish Prayer Gathering** will be on **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September from 7:45pm-9pm** at St Paul's Church.

Our next **morning Parish Prayer Gathering** will be on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October at St Paul's Church, starting at 9:15am.

## FUNERALS AND INTERMENTS



## 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. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. **From 1<sup>st</sup> September** the office will normally be open Monday to Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Phone 01626 211346 or email [office@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:office@newtonabbotparishes.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.

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