



Parish of Newton Abbot and Ogwell

WEEKLY NEWS

16th November 2025. 2nd Sunday before Advent

FROM OUR RECTOR

Dear Friends,

In April, Bishop Sarah Mullally, currently the Bishop of London, will become the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury. I don't envy her one iota, not least because such a public role brings with it an incredible level of scrutiny not just on what she does and says, but also on everything that she has already done and already said! Who of us would enjoy that level of public scrutiny?

To a lesser extent, everyone who takes up a leadership role in God's church opens themselves up to a certain level of scrutiny. The lives of clergy today are still, as it was in the days of St Paul's, 'put on display' (See 1 Corinthians 4) for all to see.

Now there is a sense that that is right and proper. Church leaders are meant to live out the character and teachings of Jesus. To teach one thing yet live differently is blatant hypocrisy, and that will attract no one to Jesus! Yet I've often heard of clergy who are criticised for other things: for taking time off, having hobbies, not being available 24-7, attending the wrong sort of concert, driving the wrong kind of car etc. etc. I've been criticised numerous times for teaching what the Bible teaches! As in times of war, those who raise their heads become targets, so given the scrutiny, criticism and the challenge and demands of the work, one might ask why anyone would volunteer for such a task?

St Paul gives the answer in the second of the Bible's Trustworthy sayings in 1 Timothy 3:1: ***Here is a trustworthy saying: Whoever aspires to be an overseer desires a noble task.***

Given the scrutiny, difficulties and challenges, what makes the task a noble one?

Paul answers that question in his 2nd letter to the Corinthians. In chapter 3 of that letter Paul calls it a *glorious ministry* that brings righteousness, freedom and glory as the gospel of Jesus is preached and believed. In chapter 4, Paul speaks of the gospel as bringing mercy, truth and light. He's honest that such great treasure is in jars of clay (imperfect ministers and apostles) but he rejoices in the message that he has been given to declare. In fact, he says that this is part of the glory of the gospel, because it shows *'that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.'* (2 Cor 4:7)

So why would anyone want to be a vicar or evangelist or deacon or bishop? Because as we serve God and proclaim Jesus, we are sharing something of inestimable value and divine power. A message that can bring light into the darkest places, change the hardest of hearts, bring down the strongest defences and whose impact will last into eternity!

It's not an easy calling, but then the call for all of us to take up our cross and follow Jesus isn't an easy calling. It demands sacrifice and dying to self, and in a culture which largely rejects Jesus and his message it will attract criticism. But we press on because we know what Jesus has done for us, what he is now doing in and through us, and what he has prepared for us in the future. That's why Paul can say this:

Therefore, we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. (2 Cor 4: 16-17)

Whether God is calling you into some kind of licenced or ordained ministry, or whether your calling is to serve in some other way in the church and community (and it will be one or the other!) be of good cheer and good courage! Whatever the cost, it will be worth it, because we are involved in sharing the glorious, life-changing, hope-filing, joy-filled message of Jesus to those for whom Jesus died. And there is no more noble task than that!

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 Episcopal / Anglican Province of Alexandria.

On Safeguarding Sunday, we remember all victims of abuse and pray for healing. We give thanks for our parish safeguarding advisors, our diocesan safeguarding team and all who work to make our churches safe places. Help us to play our part, to have the bravery to speak up and look out for all those who are vulnerable.

Residents in the following streets: Roberts Way, Rosemary Avenue, Rosewarne Avenue, Rowan Close, Rowantree Road, Rundle Road, Saddleback Close, Salisbury Road and Sandford View.

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, Sarah, Ruth and Ted Parkhouse 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 16th November

Habakkuk Chapter 3: Verses 1 to 15

Mark Chapter 11: Verses 12 to 55.

NEWS AND NOTICES

Special Giving Appeal to Support Churches in Jamaica

I'm sure you will have all seen the devastation caused by the huge hurricane that hit the island of Jamaica just over a week ago. The damage has been widespread and catastrophic, and as a result, **BARNABAS AID**, one of our mission partners, has launched an appeal for funds to help the rebuilding efforts. You can read the full details here: <https://www.barnabasaid.org/gb/news/hurricane-melissa-devastates-jamaica-cuba-and-haiti/>

Normally, we might highlight the appeal in our weekly newsletter without giving it much extra attention, knowing that individual Christians may well support the cause, and that as a Parish we are already giving to Barnabas Aid as a collective.

However, on this occasion, we have some skin in the game, as two of the church family from St Paul's, Bryon and Carole Thompson, moved back to Jamaica only a few days after the hurricane. It therefore feels as if in supporting this appeal we are supporting 2 of our own family. I am trying to get in touch with Bryon and Carole, and if it turns out that they have specific needs we might, with permission of the PCC, direct some of the giving to them. I will let you know if that turns out to be the case.

For those of you who would like to give to this appeal there are various ways of doing it. You can, of course give directly through the link here: [Donate | Barnabas Aid](#). Or, next Sunday, you can bring money or a cheque in an envelope to church marked **Jamaica Appeal** and place it in the offering. You can also give by the card machines, but if you do, could you also email our treasurer - Clare to let her know that your donation is to be directed to this appeal. Her email is. cw.lillington@gmail.com

Thank you, and God bless you. Dave

Podcast of the Week: If you have ever thought how hard it is to get people to come to church to hear of Jesus, and wondered how you might encourage people to come, then this podcast is a must! Because it turns out that coming to church is both good for your health and that the teaching s of Jesus makes sense of the world. Listen to the conversation between host, Collin Hansen and guest, Rebecca McClaughlin. This talk is also available on YouTube!

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/podcasts/gospelbound/church-could-save-life/>

There is also a huge host of other great material on the Gospel Coalition site. Do take a look.

The Christmas Journey 2025: If you have signed up to be part of the team this year, you should already have received an email with details of the draft rota. Please contact Judy if you haven't received one or if there are any issues with the days you have been allotted. **Judy** on 335862 or email Mrsvicar16@gmail.com.

Also: If you are on the team- or you'd still like to be - the **Team Briefing** will take place on **Sunday 16th November at 3pm at Abbotsbury Church**. Please make every effort to come. The meeting should only take 1 hour.

Lunch with God got off to a great start last week with homemade soup and a talk from John 1: 1-14. This week the focus is on Jesus- the one who invites? Why not invite a friend of neighbour to come with you... There should be some flyers in all of our churches.

LUNCH WITH GOD

Honest and engaging talks from the Bible about Jesus and what it means to follow Him.

With **free** tea and coffee, and a bowl of hot soup.

(or bring your own lunch)

Wednesday lunchtimes from 12:15-1:45

At St Paul's Church Hall, Devon Square, Newton Abbot

Starting Wednesday 5th November

www.newtonabbotparishes.co.uk



Sundays can be busy. I know that. I'm a Vicar!

So often questions about God and Jesus and the meaning of life can get pushed aside. Only, often we never get round to thinking about them because life takes over and Sundays are well, just busy!

So let me invite you to spend a few minutes in the middle of the week thinking about those things that we never get around to.

From the start of November, St Paul's Church will be running

LUNCH WITH GOD.

A series of lunchtime meetings where you can enjoy some soup and have a cup of tea or coffee, and listen to a short talk about Jesus.

There will also be opportunities to ask questions if you'd like to.

Because lunchtimes vary, the talks will happen twice, about 12:40 and 1:10.

We'll provide some refreshments—or you can bring your own.

We'll have free Bibles on hand for you to use and take away.

So don't put those questions off any longer.

Come and join me for lunch with God and get to know Jesus.

Wednesday lunchtimes from 12:15-1:45 starting 5th November.

St Paul's Church Hall, Devon Square, Newton Abbot. TQ 12 2HN

Team Rector: Rev Dave Brown

Parking available. Good wheelchair access. www.newtonabbotparishes.co.uk



Parish Prayer Gatherings:

Our next morning Parish Prayer Gathering will be on **Monday 17th November at St Paul's Church, starting at 9:15am.**

Our next **evening Parish Prayer Gathering** will be **on Monday 24th November from 7:45pm-9pm** at St Paul's Church. Do come and join us.

Operation Christmas Child

St Paul's Church will be open at the following times to receive shoeboxes:



Wednesday 12th Nov 9 to 9.45 a.m.

Saturday 15th Nov 9 to 11 a.m.

Sunday 16th Nov 9 to 10.30 a.m.

You may also bring your box to a Sunday church service before 16th November.

If you are unable to fill a shoebox this year, you can donate directly to Samaritan's Purse at <https://occ.samaritans-purse.org.uk/>, as all funds will greatly help!



The Avenue Church

Saturday 29th November at 3:00 pm

For tickets please contact Sarah 07709424558

or Kay at the Church Office (*before 21st Nov*)

office@theavenuechurch.co.uk 01626 360400

Refreshments available Donations appreciated

All Welcome

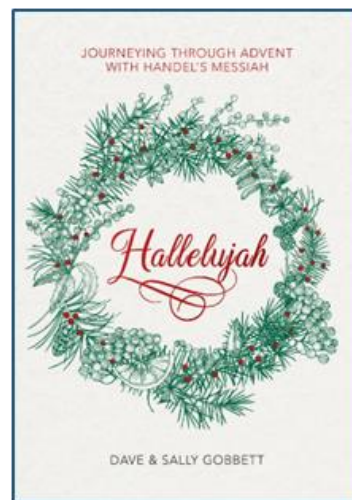
Suggested age guidance 12 - 102 years.

2025 Advent Book

Our **£1** Advent devotional for 2025 takes us through the words (and if you'd like, the music) of the Messiah- Handel's great masterpiece. Each day has a short reflection on some of the words from scripture that Handel uses in his music, along with the details of the part of the Messiah where the words are sung.

Whether you like Handel's music or not, the focus on various scriptures that point to Christ's first and second comings will encourage your heart and get you ready for a truly joyful celebration this Christmas.

Copies will be in church from this weekend. Just take one and slip £1 into the offering plate. It's the best bargain this Christmas!



The Christmas Fayre at St Paul's Church will be on 6th December. There will be no coffee morning at St Paul's in November.

WHO IS MY NEIGHBOUR?

Join us for an uplifting talk exploring a Christian response to the UK migration crisis—discover hope, compassion, and practical ways we can welcome, support, and journey alongside those seeking refuge

St Paul's Church Hall

Wednesday 26th November at 7:30pm.

Our speaker, Scott Bradridge, is a Christian outreach worker with internationals who has been working in an Exeter hotel housing asylum seekers over the past 2 years.

Refreshments will be served from 7pm

St Paul's Church. Devon Square.
Newton Abbot. TQ12 2HN




www.newtonabbotparishes.co.uk


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CAP Teignbridge
Debt Centre
Fundraiser

CAN YOU HELP?

We are raising funds to continue running this vital service with the support of Aviva's Community Fund.

Aviva will MATCH FUND every donation up to £250 **only until 2nd December 2025!**

Please could you prayerfully consider whether you could support us? Thank You.

With the support of churches and befrienders, we provide free debt help, practical and emotional support to families across Teignbridge.

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WWW.AVIVACOMMUNITYFUND.CO.UK/P/CAP-TEIGNBRIDGE-DEBT-CENTRE



THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
SUPPORT!

CAP
DEBT
HELP

COMING EVENTS

Lunch with God. Bible teaching. Every Wednesday at St Paul's Church Hall. 12:15 to 1:45 p.m. Free soup and hot drink.

Men's Breakfast. Saturday 15th November, 9:00 a.m. at the Leisure Lounge Café.

Craft Club. 18th November at 2 p.m. at St Paul's Church.

Who is my Neighbour. 26th November at 7:30 p.m. (refreshments from 7 p.m.) at St Paul's Church. Talk on the Christian response to immigration.

Charity Coffee Morning. St Bartholomew's Church, Ogwell on 28th November at 10:30 a.m.

Monthly Youth Group for ages 11 to 17. 28th November, 7:30 p.m. at The Avenue Church and 19th December at Abbotsbury Church.

Murder Mystery - Tragedy at the Village Tea Party – with supper. Denbury Village Hall TQ12 6DS, 29th November at 7 p.m. £25. To book contact imwdayey@gmail.com or phone 07767 771590. Profits to Denbury Church.

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

Evensong at St Luke's Church, Milber - Sunday 30th November at 5:30 p.m.

The Christmas Journey. Week beginning 1st December. **Volunteers needed**, please see forms in church or contact Judy directly by email at mrsvicar16@gmail.com.

Christmas Fayre. St Paul's Church on 6th December, at 10 a.m. in aid of Rowcroft Hospice.

Dog Carol Service. 6th December at 12 noon by the clock tower.

Women's Breakfast. Saturday, 13th December at 9:30 a.m. at The Clock Tower Coffee Shop, Wolborough Street, Newton Abbot.

Traditional Choral Evensong. 14th December at 6 p.m. at St Mary's Church, Abbotskerswell.

Grace Will Lead Me Home on Monday 15th December at 8 p.m. at the Auditorium, Exeter Phoenix. To book and for more information see <https://exeterphoenix.org.uk/events/grace-will-lead-me-home/>

Environment Film Festival. Saturday 17 January 2026, 12:30 p.m. to 5p.m. at Exeter Cathedral. [Click here](#) to book.

CHURCH SERVICES

16th November – Christ the King

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.

23rd November – First Sunday of Advent

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.

30th November (5th Sunday of November)

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

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

FUNERALS AND INTERMENTS

Roger Harrill 14th November at 1:30 p.m. at St Mary's Church, Wolborough: Funeral

Beulah Colwill 15th November at 12 noon at All Saints' Church, Highweek. Interment of Ashes.

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

Curate: Rev Jonathan Bealey curate@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk 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

and **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. The office is normally open Monday to Thursday, 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 Website: 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@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk