



Parish of Newton Abbot and Ogwell

WEEKLY NEWS

23rd November 2025. Christ the King

In this edition:

- Notes from the Rector from the series of Trustworthy Sayings.
- Times of prayer gatherings for the next 2 weeks
- Reminder of the Barnabas Aid Jamaica Appeal
- Poster for our evening event next week: A Christian Response to Migration
- Podcast of the week: Militant atheists turn to Christ!
- Notes from our recent PCC meeting
- Details of our 2025 Advent Devotional - priced at just £1
- An outline of our sermon series for the coming year
- A reminder about Lunch with God
- Details of our Christmas Services
- An appeal from the local Christians Against Poverty

FROM OUR RECTOR

Dear Friends,

I wonder if you remember some of the snippets of advice that you were given as you were growing up. Look both ways when you cross the road. Don't play with fire. Make sure you eat your greens. They are good bits of practical wisdom. St Paul would agree, and in today's trustworthy saying he adds something else that we are often being told. Physical exercise is good for you! But the apostle doesn't stop there. He moves on from what is good for the body to what is of greater value for the soul.

For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come. This is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance. 1 Timothy 4:8-9

Most of us take note of things that will help keep us physically healthy. We try to make sure we get enough sleep; we watch our diet; we limit our alcohol intake - or at least we try. And, from time to time, we decide to get more exercise. Perhaps that is in spurts. I regularly start running again, each time working through the couch to 5K programme from start to finish. But since I really dislike running, I usually end up stopping soon after. Only to start again a few months later!

I wonder if my attitude to running sounds familiar to you in how you pursue the godliness that Paul speaks of here. We know deep down that growing closer to God and more like Christ is the best thing we can do, but if we're honest, our determination waxes and wanes. There are seasons of greater devotion to prayer and Bible reading, to attending church and serving God actively, but then things fade. Perhaps we stop enjoying those times as much as we did, so we don't continue. Perhaps life throws up challenges that mean that we have less free time, and so things that aid our pursuit of godliness are the first to go from our diaries. Perhaps later, like with my running, we decide to start again, but even that gets harder and harder to do that as the years go by.

In this trustworthy saying, St Paul would encourage us to reorder our priorities and make pursuing God our chief aim above all others. Physical activity has some value he says, and he's right. But pursuing God and his kingdom, seeking to grow in godliness and walk in God's ways has a value that surpasses all. It's good for this life: bringing greater joy and deeper peace; providing us with comfort and purpose, guidance and direction as we know more of God and experience more of God as His Word is applied to our hearts by the work of His Holy Spirit. But it is also great news for the life to come because pursuing Christ, walking in his ways, growing in his likeness is the best way we can *'make our calling and election sure.'* 2 Peter 1:10

As you've heard me say many times before, we are not saved by our good works or religious devotion, but a closeness to God and an ongoing transformation into the character of Jesus are wonderfully assuring signs that we are truly saved. In the same way that keeping up with a rigorous exercise programme shows that we are convinced that physical fitness matters, a steady, unfading pursuit of godliness shows that we truly believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that we now belong to him.

I usually wait until after Christmas to restart my running programme, but we can begin again with Christ any time. So, if your pursuit of godliness has waned of late, why not start afresh today. Make yourself a cup of tea or coffee. Find somewhere quiet to sit. Then open up your Bible and start reading, praying as you do that God would speak to you through His Word, and that He'd give you the grace and courage to obey.

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 in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

Stir-up Sunday is traditionally the day when Christmas puddings are made – as we approach the festive season, we pray for all those who are struggling to feed their families. We give thanks for churches running foodbanks, lunch clubs, warm spaces and other vital

outreach. Help us to be generous with what we have been given, just as you are generous to us.

Residents in the following streets: Sandringham Road, School Road, Scott Close, Seymour Road, Shaldon Road, Shaldon Road, Foxhollows, Sherborne Road and Shobbrook Hill.

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 23rd November

Habakkuk: Chapter 3, Verses 16 to 19

Mark: Chapter 11 Verse 27 to Chapter 12 verse 12.

NEWS AND NOTICES

Parish Prayer Gatherings: 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.

Our next **morning Parish Prayer Gathering** will be on **Monday 1st December at ABBOTSBURY CHURCH, starting at 9:15am.** This will have a focus on the Christmas Journey. Do come and join us!

Special Giving Appeal to Support Churches in Jamaica

Since our last newsletter I have heard from Bryon and Carole, and praise God, they are both well. The parts of the island where they live got off very lightly compared to areas in the north and west. So, any gifts given in aid of the Jamaica appeal will be going to Barnabas aid. You can read the full details here:

<https://www.barnabasaid.org/gb/news/hurricane-melissa-devastates-jamaica-cuba-and-haiti/>

This weekend is a final chance to give. 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: Not so long ago the new atheist movement, headed up by Richard Dawkins and others, seemed to be changing the spiritual direction of the country. But all that has changed. To get your head how and why, not watch the video below from our friends at SpeakLife. www.youtube.com/watch?v=S5RN3kzU3u0&t=7s

Notes from our PCC Meeting Earlier this Week

'How can we support our clergy and their families? How can we ensure the future and financial stability of our churches? These are two of the issues the PCC explored this week.

Rev Alan Jonas gave a presentation on the Clergy Care Covenant used in the Diocese of Guildford which suggests actions of clergy, congregation and diocese to support the well-being of clergy and their families. This is based on recommendations from General Synod in 2019 but has not yet been actioned in this diocese. We have agreed to pass this forward to our Deanery Synod, but in the meantime have taken to implement the covenant in our churches. We already support our clergy in, for example, making an annual retreat and in respecting their days off and our treasurer supported us in agreeing to a book fund of £400 yearly for them. These steps will be reviewed annually. Full details of this covenant will be available to you soon.

As we approach the end of 2025, our Parish's financial position is pleasing - thanks to you and praise to God! This year we have paid our Common Fund contributions to the diocese and funded long overdue work to make our churches warm and welcoming using legacies given in past years. Our treasurer is working hard to return expendable funds* held by the Diocese on our behalf to our care - the first parish in the Diocese to do so. This will mean we can access monies more easily.

*[*Expendable funds are legacies left for specific reasons/churches (which we will need to honour) but where the whole legacy may be used. The diocese retains control of perpetual legacies (where only the interest may be used).]*

Will you join us in our commitment to support the clergy? Are there jobs in our churches we currently rely on the clergy for but which we could well do ourselves? Can we be generous in bearing with each other in the burdens we all carry? Can we support in prayer and encouragement, sharing our time and ideas?

Will you join us in gratitude for the financial provision made in past years? How may we ensure we maintain this provision - Could you Gift Aid your offering? Could you give via the Parish Giving Scheme or consider contactless giving? If you are making a will, could you consider leaving the parish a percentage of your estate, along with other charities you may wish to support, blessing the church of the future?

As a PCC we are encouraged by what we have heard, and we want to encourage you in sharing in the growth of the Church in this town and area.

Sermon Series for Next Year. Over the last month or so Gareth and I have been working on our Sunday Bible teaching plan for the coming year. This is shown below. As you will see, at times over the next 12 months the teaching at Ogwell, Highweek and St Mary's will be different from that at St Paul's and Abbotsbury. All churches will continue to have teaching from the full breadth of scripture.

Dates	Preaching series at All Saints, St Bart's and St Mary's	Preaching series at St Paul's and Abbotsbury
Advent 2025	The coming of the Son of Man. Old Testament passages pointing to Jesus' 1 st and 2 nd comings	The coming of the Son of Man. Old Testament passages pointing to Jesus' 1 st and 2 nd comings
Christmas +2	Lectionary readings on the birth of Christ	Lectionary readings on the birth of Christ
11th Jan - 15th Feb	Lectionary+ gospel readings (Matthew + John)	Mark: The good news of Jesus (Mark 12-14)
Lent 2026	Drawing closer to God in Prayer	Drawing closer to God in Prayer
Easter Day	The Resurrection: Matthew 28: 1-10	The Resurrection: Matthew 28: 1-10
12th Apr- 17th May	Lectionary +: The first letter of Peter	Lectionary +: The first letter of Peter
24th + 31st May	Lectionary readings for Pentecost Day and Trinity Sunday	Lectionary readings for Pentecost Day and Trinity Sunday
7th-14th June	Lectionary +: The first letter of Peter cont.	Lectionary +: The first letter of Peter cont.
21st June-26th July	Lectionary + readings from Matthew's Gospel	Isaiah chapters 40-44
2nd – 30th Aug	Summer Psalms from the Lectionary	Summer Psalms from the Lectionary
6th Sept- 25th Oct	Lesson from God's Pilgrim People. Lectionary readings from Exodus including Harvest on 20 th September	Lesson from a Messy Church. 1 Corinthians 8-12 with Harvest readings on 20 th September
1st – 22nd Nov	Lectionary readings from Matthew's Gospel	Isaiah chapters 44-49

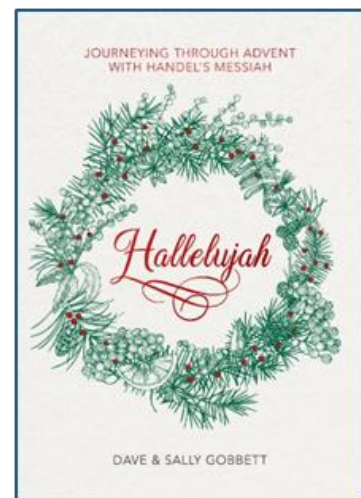
Lectionary + means that missed out verses and passages are included

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 are in our churches. Just take one and slip £1 into the offering plate. It's the best bargain this Christmas!



Charity Coffee Morning. St Bartholomew's Church, Ogwell on Friday 28th November at 10:30 a.m. in aid of Children in Need.

Lunch with God will be in St Paul's Church this week - not the hall, with a focus on Jesus: the joy bringer. 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



The Christmas Fayre at St Paul's Church will be on 6th December from 10 a.m. Donations for draw prizes and bottles for the bottle stall would be most welcome.

David Waterhouse email davewa29@gmail.com

There will be no coffee morning at St Paul's in November.

Christmas Services: See the poster on the next page.

Get these dates in your diary now and start working out who you can invite. Flyers for posting across the Parish will be here soon, and we will need your help to deliver them.

Can we each commit to posting 30 or 40 or 50 through letter boxes around our churches? That's our aim! Let's spread the Word and get inviting!!

The Dog Friendly Carol Service by the clock tower will be on 6th December at 12 noon.

JOY Christmas



Christmas Services in the parish of Newton Abbot + Ogwell

Do come along - No need to book!



Sunday 14 December

Usual morning services at All Saints Highweek, Abbotsbury & St Paul's

6:00pm Carols by Candlelight - West Ogwell Church

6:30pm Carols by Candlelight - All Saints Highweek

Saturday 20 December

4pm Contemporary Carols - Abbotsbury Church



Sunday 21 December

Usual morning services at St Bartholomew's Ogwell, St Mary's & St Paul's

9:30am Nativity - Abbotsbury Church

4:30pm Carols by Candlelight - St Mary's Wolborough

6:30pm Carols by Candlelight - St Bartholomew's Ogwell

Christmas Eve: Wednesday 24 December

4pm Christingle Service - St Bartholomew's Ogwell

4pm Christingle Service - St Paul's Devon Square

11pm Carols + Communion - St Bartholomew's Ogwell

11pm Carols + Communion - St Paul's Devon Square



Christmas Day: Thursday 25 December

8:30am Said Holy Communion - St Mary's Wolborough

9:30am Christmas Day Family Communion - Abbotsbury Church
(more contemporary)

10:30am Christmas Day Family Communion - All Saints Highweek
(more traditional)



Sunday 28 December

Usual morning services at All Saints, Abbotsbury & St Paul's

NB no midweek services Wednesday 24 and 31 December

www.newtonabbotparishes.com



The next Men's Breakfast will be on Saturday 17th January, 9:00 a.m. at the Leisure Lounge Café.

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

christians
against
poverty

CAP

**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.

TO DONATE PLEASE VISIT
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. 12:15 to 1:45 p.m. Free soup and hot drink.

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. in aid of Children in Need.

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.

Craft Club. 2nd and 16th December at 2 p.m. at St Paul's Church.

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.

Carols by Candlelight. Sunday 14th December. 6 p.m. at West Ogwell Church

Carols by Candlelight. Sunday 14th December. 6:30 p.m. at All Saints' Church, Highweek.

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/>

Contemporary Carols, Saturday 20th December at 4 p.m. at Abbotsbury Church.

Nativity Service, Sunday 21st December at 9:30 a.m. at Abbotsbury Church.

Carols by Candlelight. Sunday 21st December at 4:30 p.m. at St Mary's Church, Wolborough.

Carols by Candlelight. Sunday 21st December at 6:30 p.m. at St Bartholemew's Church, Ogwell.

Christingle Services on Wednesday 24th December at 4 p.m. at both St Bartholemew's Church, Ogwell and St Paul's Church, Devon Square.

Carols and Communion on Wednesday 24th December at 11 p.m. at both St Bartholemew's Church, Ogwell and St Paul's Church, Devon Square.

Said Holy Communion on Christmas Day at 8 a.m. at St Mary's Church, Wolborough.

Christmas Day Family Communion at Abbotsbury Church at 9:30 a.m. (more contemporary) and All Saints' Church, Highweek (more traditional) at 10:30 a.m.

Men's Breakfast. Saturday 17th January, 9:00 a.m. at the Leisure Lounge Café.

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

CHURCH SERVICES

23rd November – Christ the King

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) Advent Sunday

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

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

7th December Second Sunday of Advent

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

St Bartholemew's Church, Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.

St Mary's Church, Wolborough, 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 Bartholemew's Church in Ogwell is normally open for private prayer during daylight hours.

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**. gywynhughes@icloud.com 01626 365028

Anna Chaplains: Mei Lan Machin. d.m.machin2013@gmail.com 07926 991578

and **Kim Martin** annachaplain@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk

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@newtonbbotparishes.co.uk