



# Parish of Newton Abbot and Ogwell

## WEEKLY NEWS

21<sup>st</sup> June 2026

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- Invitation to two special women's breakfasts: Summer with the Holy Spirit
- Party in the Park
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## FROM OUR VICAR

Dear Friends

### **The Thief of Joy**

A brief conversation with our rector Dave before he left for Clergy Conference this week set me thinking about holidays. As summer arrives, many of us find ourselves looking forward to time away — whether heading abroad, exploring somewhere closer to home, or simply enjoying a quieter pace of life. This season so often brings welcome opportunities for rest and refreshment. Yet it can also bring an unexpected temptation: comparison.

With social media only a few taps away, we are constantly invited to look over the fence at someone else's life. Their holiday seems sunnier. Their family looks happier. Their photographs are more picturesque. Their experiences appear more exciting. Before long, what began as gratitude for our own blessings can quietly become dissatisfaction.

There is a saying often attributed to Theodore Roosevelt: "Comparison is the thief of joy." While the phrase is not found in Scripture, the principle certainly is.

The Bible repeatedly warns us against measuring ourselves against others. The Apostle Paul writes, "When they measure themselves by themselves and compare themselves with themselves, they are not wise" (2 Corinthians 10:12). Comparison distorts our vision. Instead of seeing God's goodness to us, we become preoccupied with what he has given to someone else.

The problem is not that others are blessed. The problem is that comparison persuades us that God's kindness to others somehow diminishes his kindness to us.

Jesus addressed this very issue in the Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard (Matthew 20:1–16). Those who had worked all day became resentful when others received the same generosity. The landowner's question cuts to the heart: "Are you envious because I am generous?" The issue was not fairness but gratitude. They had lost sight of what they had received because they were focused on what others had been given.

The Christian life invites us into a different way of seeing. Rather than looking sideways at others, we are encouraged to look upward to God with thanksgiving. Gratitude is one of the most effective antidotes to comparison. When we deliberately notice God's gifts—whether large or small—we begin to rediscover joy.

This doesn't mean pretending life is perfect. Some people genuinely face hardships, disappointments, or circumstances they would never have chosen. We have seen much of this as we took a long hard look at suffering in 1 Peter. Yet even in difficult seasons, Scripture calls us to remember God's faithfulness and provision.

As we enter the holiday season, perhaps we might take a break not only from our routines but also from comparison. Instead of asking, "Why don't I have what they have?" we might ask, "Where can I see God's goodness in my life today?"

The answer may be found in a conversation with a friend, a walk along the coast, laughter around a dinner table, the beauty of creation, or simply the assurance that we are loved by God through Jesus Christ.

**Joy rarely grows in the soil of comparison. It flourishes in the soil of gratitude.**

May this summer be a season not of measuring our lives against others, but of receiving with thankful hearts the gifts God has placed in our own hands.

Blessings,

*Gareth*

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### **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 South India (United)**

**On Father's Day**, we give thanks for fathers and father figures in our lives. We pray for those who find this day difficult due to loss, estrangement, or past pain. We thank you that we can draw near to you Lord, our Father in Heaven, who lavishes his great love on us.

**Residents in the following streets:** Gaze Hill, George Street, Gilbert Road, Gladstone Place, Gothic Road, Grafton Road, Grange Close and Greenaway Road.

**The sick and suffering** in our parishes and any others who are unwell.

**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.

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## Readings for 21<sup>st</sup> June

Abbotsbury and St Paul's Churches: Matthew Chapter 10, verses 24 to 39, and  
Isaiah Chapter 40

St Bartholomew's and St Mary's Churches: Genesis Chapter 12, verses 1 to 9 and  
Matthew Chapter 10, verses 24 to 39

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## Parish Prayer Gatherings

Our next **evening** Parish Prayer Gathering will be on **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June** at St Paul's Church starting at 7 p.m.

Our next **morning** Parish Prayer Gathering will be on **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June** at St Paul's Church starting at 9:15 a.m.

Do come and join us as we pray together.

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**Party in the Park.** Once again, the Parish will have a stall at the Party in the Park in Courtenay Park on 4<sup>th</sup> July, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to talk to passers-by, supervise simple games and be Christian witnesses.

Please email Dave [rector@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:rector@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk) if you can spare 90 minutes to help.

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## Special Women's Breakfasts this summer. 4<sup>th</sup> July and 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 8:30 a.m. at 5 Coach Place. **Summer with the Holy Spirit.**

Open to women from across our 5 churches, these 2 breakfasts follow on from Summer with the father, and Summer with the Shepherd held at the Rectory over the past 2 years.

The invitation is here, but booking is essential as places are limited.

Email Judy on [mrsvicar16@gmail.com](mailto:mrsvicar16@gmail.com) or telephone 01626 335862.



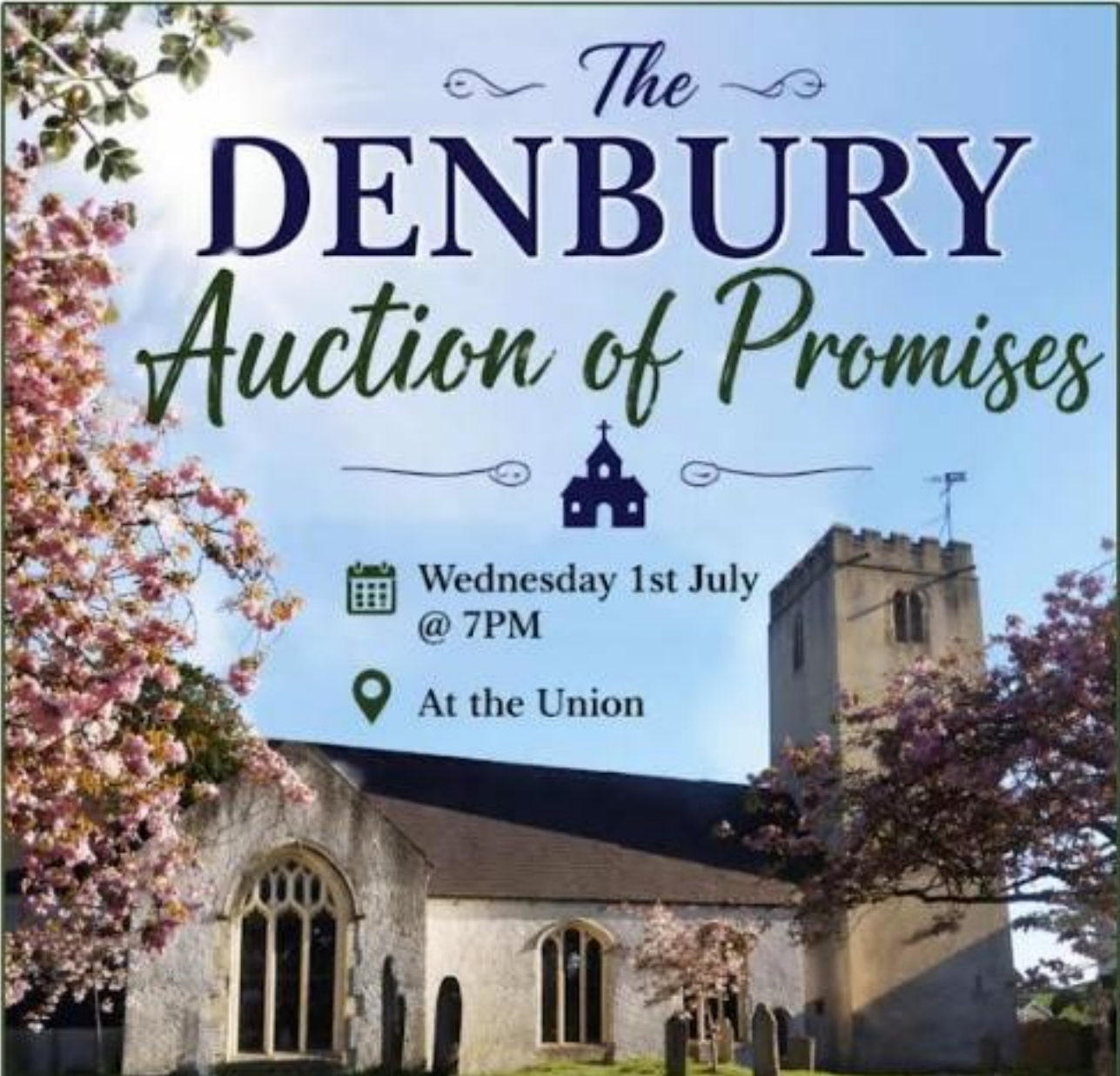
## Lunch With God with a *Summer of Invitation!*

Continuing every Wednesday from 12:15 to 1:45 p.m., until the end of September, Lunch with God will be in Golden Lion Square. Over that 90 minutes there will be a short talk (repeated 3 times), an invitation to ask questions about Jesus and the Christian faith and lots of freebies (Bibles, booklets, tracts) to give away.

Our focus will be on the invitations Jesus gives to come to him and all that He offers. So please can you **pray** for the team: for boldness and clarity and for wisdom in the talks and questions, for grace and kindness in our conversations, and for God to use this witness to bring people to himself.


And please would you **come** at least once over the summer. A crowd draws a crowd, so having people listen is a great help. And who knows, just being there might help equip you to share your faith with others.


A poster for "LUNCH WITH GOD A SUMMER OF INVITATION". The background is a sunset over a road with a tree. Text includes: "LUNCH WITH GOD A SUMMER OF INVITATION Forgiveness and Belonging Purpose and Freedom Peace, Hope, Love and Life FREE. FOR ALL. FOR YOU. FROM JESUS. Come and hear the invitations of JESUS explained through short talks from the Bible. Golden Lion Square, Newton Abbot Wednesday lunchtimes 12:15-1:45 Come along. Ask questions. Encounter Jesus. Organised by the Church of England Churches in Newton Abbot and Ogwell www.newtonabbotparishes.co.uk". There is a QR code in the bottom right and a logo in the bottom left.



The  
**DENBURY**  
*Auction of Promises*



 Wednesday 1st July  
@ 7PM

 At the Union



**RAISING FUNDS** for the refurbishment of our beautiful church.

Proceeds from this event will assist with current and ongoing repair and maintenance work on this ancient building.



Please email [denburydiary@gmail.com](mailto:denburydiary@gmail.com) to let us know how you are able to support the event. Thank you in advance.

The event will take place in the Union's Function Room. If you wish to have a meal prior to the auction please contact the Union to book.

We are fortunate to have Paul Griffin as our auctioneer and we are delighted that there has been much interest in the lots which have been so generously donated.

Payment on the night by cash, cheque or BACS please.

We look forward to an enjoyable and successful social evening.



WEDNESDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> JULY AT 7PM AT THE UNION

# Lots for DENBURY'S Auction of Promises

♥ ————— Auctioneer – Paul Griffin ————— ♥



- 1 CREAM TEA FOR FOUR**  
Enjoy a traditional cream tea on a sunny day in the garden of Cheston House.



- 2 HOME-BAKED SOURDOUGH**  
One freshly baked loaf each week for a month (4 loaves total).



- 3 60-MINUTE MASSAGE**  
A relaxing one-hour massage at the Mulberry Rooms in Abbotskerswell.



- 4 IRONING SERVICE**  
One hour per week for a month, or four hours total.



- 5 HUMMINGBIRD PHOTOGRAPHY**  
"A Sparkling Violetear" photographed at Bosque de Ficollores near Cusco, Peru, by Alex Graeme.



- 6 SWEET PEA POSY DELIVERY**  
A fresh posy delivered weekly for a month.



- 7 LIGHT GARDENING**  
Two hours of weeding, planting, pruning or grass cutting (using your own mower).



- 8 FULL ENGLISH BREAKFAST FOR TWO**  
At Two Mile Oak.



- 9 LUXURY CAR BODYWORK AND WHEELS CLEANING KIT**



- 10 ROAST DINNER FOR TWO**  
At the Union.



- 11 HAND-MADE QUILT**  
A beautiful quilt for a cot or small bed, made by Jean Duggan.



- 12 ALEXANDER TECHNIQUE SESSIONS**  
Six sessions for 1 person, valued at £240 (reserve).



- 13 TOFFEE & HONEYCOMB CHEESECAKE**  
From Eaton's Patisserie – serves approximately 14 people.



- 14 FREE-RANGE FRESH EGGS**  
Six eggs per week for a month (30 eggs total).



- 15 LUNCH FOR TWO**  
At the Union.



- 16 M.O.T. TEST**  
At Mead Garage (donated by Cllr Paul Parker).



- 17 PICK-YOUR-OWN FLOWERS VOUCHER**



- 18 GOLF DRIVING RANGE EXPERIENCE (1 HOUR)**  
Unlimited balls for two people at Dainton Golf Driving Range.



- 19 "CLAY TIME" POTTERY SESSIONS**  
Two sessions of 2 hours for 5-6 adults and children. Date of your choice.



- 20 HANDCRAFTED WALKING STICK**  
Made by Steve Bassett.



- 21 ANIMAL PORTRAIT**  
A bespoke A4 portrait by Marcelle Milo-Gray.



- 22 STANDARD CHIMNEY SWEEP**  
By AB Chimney Sweep.



- 23 CALANCOMBE ESTATE BLANC DE NOIRS BRUT**  
Presentation box including one bottle and two glasses.



- 24 SEASONED LOGS**  
Six bags of seasoned logs from Nick Courtier.



- 25 TWO-NIGHT STAY AT CRABAPPLE BARN, DENBURY**  
A 2-bed Airbnb sleeping four, with bathroom and open-plan living/kitchen area. Dates to be agreed around existing bookings, to be used within 12 months.



- 26 STRAWBERRIES, CAKE AND CHAMPAGNE FOR 2 – 4 PEOPLE**  
In the garden of Denbury Manor.



- 27 A DAY'S SAILING FROM PLYMOUTH**  
Aboard a 37-foot sailing yacht with two keelboat instructors. Suitable for 2-3 guests.



Thank you to all our generous donors,  
to the Union Inn and Aaron Printers for sponsoring us.

Your bid  
makes a real  
difference!

Bidding numbers will be allocated on the door on arrival.

If unable to attend and you wish to place a bid on any item pre-auction,  
please email the details to [denburydiary@gmail.com](mailto:denburydiary@gmail.com).

## COMING EVENTS

**Lunch with God.** Wednesdays at Golden Lion Square 12:15 to 1:45 p.m. Bible teaching.

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

**Women's Breakfast.** Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> June at 9:30 a.m. at Leisure Lounge Café.

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

**Venetian Splendour Choral Concert** 20<sup>th</sup> June at 7:30 p.m. at Buckfast Abbey.  
See [www.buckfast.org.uk/events/venetian-splendour/](http://www.buckfast.org.uk/events/venetian-splendour/)

**Parochial Church Council.** 24<sup>th</sup> June at 7 p.m. at Abbotsbury Church.

**Youth Group** for ages 11 to 17 at The Avenue Church on 26<sup>th</sup> June, 7.30 to 9 p.m.

**Charity Coffee Morning.** 27<sup>th</sup> June from 10 a.m. in the Hall at St Paul's Church in aid of Prostate Cancer Research.

**Denbury Auction of Promises.** 1<sup>st</sup> July. 7 p.m. at the Union Inn.

**Special Women's Breakfasts. Summer with the Holy Spirit.** 4<sup>th</sup> July and 1<sup>st</sup> August at 8:30 a.m. at the Rectory. Book with Judy by email at [mrsvicar16@gmail.com](mailto:mrsvicar16@gmail.com) or telephone 01626 335862.

**Party in the Park** in Courtenay Park, 4<sup>th</sup> July 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Contact Dave if you can help on the Parish's stall.

**Baptism and Confirmation Service** on 5<sup>th</sup> July at 11 a.m. at St Paul's Church.

**Highweek Village Show.** 11<sup>th</sup> July, from 2 p.m. at the Scout Hut in Howton Road. See [www.highweekvillagehall.org](http://www.highweekvillagehall.org)

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## CHURCH SERVICES

### 21<sup>st</sup> June

Abbotsbury Church, All Age Service at 9:30 a.m.

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

St Mary's Church, Wolborough, Holy Communion (BCP) at 11 a.m.

St Paul's Church, Service of the Word, at 11 a.m.

St Luke's Church, Mass at 11:15 a.m.

### 28<sup>th</sup> June

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 11:15 a.m.

### 5<sup>th</sup> July

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 (BCP) at 11 a.m.  
St Paul's Church, Service of the Word, at 11 a.m.  
St Luke's Church, Mass at 11:15 a.m.

**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.

**ALL WEEK** St Bartholomew's Church in Ogwell is normally open for private prayer during daylight hours.

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## FUNERALS AND INTERMENTS

**Jean Owen.** 17<sup>th</sup> June 1 p.m. at St Mary's Church, Wolborough.

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## 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

### Churchwardens:

All Saints': **Paul Cannock**

Abbotsbury: **Pauline Giddings**

St Mary's **Sharon Lawrence** [salawrence21@outlook.com](mailto:salawrence21@outlook.com) 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 Chaplain: Kim Martin** [annachaplain@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:annachaplain@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk)

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

**Parochial Church Council Secretary: Karen Hooker.**

[pccsecretary@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:pccsecretary@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk) 07999 891029

**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)

**IT Support** [it\\_support@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:it_support@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk)

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

**Footnote.** Thank you very much to those of you who have sent me contributions for our weekly news. 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 day's issue.

If you know of anyone who does not receive this weekly email, but wishes to do so, please ask them to email me. John Calderwood [news@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk](mailto:news@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk)