



Parish of Newton Abbot and Ogwell

WEEKLY NEWS

11th January 2026. First Sunday of Epiphany

In this edition:

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- Prayer gathering times for the next few weeks
- Podcast of the week: Listening to the Bible in a Year
- Lunch with God and our 321 New Year course
- Prayer list update:
- Poster for CTNA Christian Unity Service in January

FROM OUR RECTOR

Dear Friends

Firstly, let me wish you and your families a very Happy New Year. We have much to be thankful for, and much to pray about. But perhaps Paul's prayer for the Ephesian Christians would be a good place to start as a prayer for each other in 2026.

Ephesians 1: 16-19: *I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.*

I'll share a little more of our hopes and plans for 2026 next week, but I wanted to look back at Christmas before we leave it all behind.

Firstly, let me say a huge THANK YOU to all who helped deliver invitations, set up our churches for the special services, sing, read or provide refreshments for the hundreds of people who came along. We hand-delivered around 4500 invitations to homes across the parish and saw good attendances at all of our special Christmas services. We couldn't have done it without you!

Secondly, a word on NUMBERS: Over 500 people attended the main carol services (including around 70 at West Ogwell which hosted a carol service for the first time in about 50 years!) and over 370 came to the two Christingle services at Ogwell and St Paul's. Numbers on Christmas Eve (late night) and Christmas Day were also encouraging. Perhaps a bigger encouragement was the number of people taking gospels, tracts and copies

of our Christmas book away to read. Lots of people also expressed an interest in attending the 3-2-1 course. Do pray that nothing will get in the way of them coming along.

Thirdly, an INVITATION to comment... It's always hard getting a proper balance of services so wardens, volunteers and clergy don't stagger into Christmas Day utterly exhausted, and we think we got the balance right this year. However, the PCC will be reviewing Christmas at its meeting on Wednesday 21st January, so do pass any comments onto your church's PCC reps before then.

And just to remind you, here are a few photos taken from across the churches this Christmas.



Lastly, a QUESTION: what will you take from Christmas into the coming year? I don't mean the new jumpers or socks, nor even the memories of food and fun with family - but rather the spiritual lessons you've learned or been reminded of again? To paraphrase the advert: **Christmas isn't just for Christmas, it is for life.** Christ HAS been born. Emanuel HAS come. God HAS kept his promises and light HAS come into the world. If we are to live as Jesus' disciples, those glorious truths need to stay at the forefront of our minds this year.

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.

Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America

The churches of the White Cross Mission Community, their clergy Lewis Eden, Maggie Stirling-Troy, Margaret Schivener, LLM Christine Grist, and for all who live and worship in Woodbury with Exton, Woodbury Salterton, Farringdon, Clyst St Mary, Clyst St George, and Aylesbeare.

Residents in the following streets: The Oaks, The Warren, Thistle Close, Thorn Close, Thurlestone Road, Tor Gardens, Tor View Avenue, Torquay Road and Totnes Road.

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, Peter Robinson, Sandy Vaughan Edwards, Paul Hewson, Katrina Harding 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 to let us know about anyone needing our prayers.

Readings for 11th January.

Abbotsbury and St Paul's Churches: Ruth, chapter 1, verses 1 to 14 and
Mark, chapter 12, verses 1 to 12

All Saints Church: Isaiah, chapter 42, verses 1 to 9 and
Matthew, chapter 3, verses 13 to 17.

NEWS AND NOTICES

Parish Prayer Gatherings

Our next **morning Parish Prayer Gathering** will be on **Monday 12th January** at St Paul's Church **starting at 9:15am.** Our next **evening Parish Prayer Gathering** will be on **Monday 19th January** at St Paul's Church **starting at 7:45pm.** Do come and join us.

Podcast of the Week. Listening to the Bible in a year.

If you have never read the Bible the whole way through and are rather daunted by the prospect, perhaps having it read to you might be the way to go. Several podcasts are available, but here are two to try out. (There would be a bit of catching up to do, but it would be well worth the effort!!)

[Bible in a Year - Podcast - Apple Podcasts](#)

[Through the ESV Bible in a Year with Ray Ortlund - Podcast - Apple Podcasts](#)

You might also like to pick up year 3 of our Bible in 3 years reading list now available in all our churches. This year the focus is on the books of the prophets (from Isaiah to Malachi) the whole of the New Testament, plus the books of 1 and 2 Chronicles which will remind us of the historical background into which the prophets were speaking.

Lunch with God is at St Paul's Church will restart **today-** Wednesday 7th January where we will be focusing on Jesus - the Power of God. Why not invite a friend or neighbour to come with you...

For the following 8 weeks, Lunch with God will then be the venue for our lunchtime 3-2-1 course

Discover Life According to

Jesus: Our New Year course for those wanting to take a fresh look at Jesus is 3-2-1. Watch the promo video: [321 Course Promo Video](#)

The logo consists of the numbers 3, 2, and 1 in a bold, black, sans-serif font, each enclosed within its own square frame. The squares are arranged horizontally, with the '3' on the left, '2' in the middle, and '1' on the right.

321: DISCOVER LIFE ACCORDING TO JESUS

Got questions about God, the world and you?

The 321 course invites you to see life the way Jesus does. Over the course, Glen Scrivener presents Jesus' vision for life through interactive videos that help us better understand God, the World and ourselves.

The course considers God's Three-ness, the world's two-ness and your one-ness. Each session begins with a thoughtful question followed by stunning storytelling and compelling commentary.

There are three ways to take the 321 Course:

A 4-week course looking at 2 videos per week starting on Tuesday 20th January at 7:30pm

OR

Watch 1 video a week on Wednesday lunchtimes during **Lunch with God**. Videos will be shown at 12:30pm and 1:10pm. Starting Wednesday 14th January.

Both of these will take place at St Paul's Church, Devon Square.

Alternatively, you can register + watch the whole series yourself. Just visit www.321.speaklife.org.uk/course/321

To book a place or to find out more, email office@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk or call 01626 211346.

Organised by the Anglican Churches in Newton Abbot and Ogwell:
www.newtonabbotparishes.co.uk

Prayer List. After this week, the prayer list of sick and suffering people will be renewed to give us a fresh start for the new year. If you'd like your name or the name of a loved one added to the new list, please let Dave know.

One Body, One Spirit



NEWTON ABBOT CHRISTIAN UNITY SERVICE

3 p.m. Sunday 25th January at Salvation Army

This year the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity have been prepared by the faithful of the Armenian Apostolic Church, along with their brothers and sisters of the Armenian Catholic and Evangelical Churches.

And organised locally by the Christians Together in Newton Abbot group (CTNA)

“There is one body and one spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling” (Ephesians 4:4)

COMING EVENTS

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

Women's Breakfast. Saturday, 10th January at 9:30 a.m. at The Clock Tower Coffee Shop, Wolborough Street, Newton Abbot.

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.

Craft Club. 20th January at 2 p.m. at St Paul's Church.

Parochial Church Council meeting 21st January at 7 p.m. at Abbotsbury Church.

Newton Abbot Christian Unity Service. 25th January at 3 p.m. at the Salvation Army in Union Street.

Charity Coffee Morning. 31st January 10 a.m. at St Paul's Church in aid of Motor Neurone Disease.

Joint Parish Communion. 29th March (Palm Sunday) 10:30 a.m. at All Saints' Church, Highweek.

CHURCH SERVICES

11th January

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.

18th January

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, Wolborough, 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.

25th January

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.

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.

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** salawrence21@outlook.com 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

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

Organists:

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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

IT Support it_support@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