



Parish of Newton Abbot and Ogwell

WEEKLY NEWS

29th March 2026. *Palm Sunday*



In this edition:

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- Holy Week timetable
- Invitation for Baptism or Confirmation
- Updated Prayer list:

FROM OUR RECTOR

Dear Friends

The focus for the talks last Sunday and the Prayer Course this week has been Listening to God in prayer. That doesn't mean waiting for an audible voice or angelic messenger - although on rare occasions God may choose to speak to people in that way! It means spending time meditating on God's Word and praying – with our Bible's open – about the things God has already revealed to us in His Word.

The two Lent Prayer sessions this week gave some practical help with that, and I'm sure those who attended found it useful. In the future we may well spend some time in silent meditation when we gather for prayer as a Parish, but for those of you who weren't there now, let me share something I mentioned on Sunday.

The advice comes from a pamphlet that Martin Luther wrote for a friend who asked about how he might pray. I've summarised it here for you. (*Apologies if you saw this on Sunday!*)

Martin Luther's A Simple Way to Pray - *From his letter to his friend Peter Beskendorf:*

1: Make it a habit through regular discipline - we must pray whether we feel like it or not.

2: To focus our thoughts and warm our hearts to pray, recite some encouraging scriptures or truths of the gospel, pondering the familiar words so that our thoughts converge on God.

3: Having read some scripture, break it into 4.

- **Instruction**: What should I do or believe in the light of the text?
- **Thanksgiving**: How can I praise God for this truth? What does it show me of God's goodness etc?
- **Confession**: Where have I fallen short? Where do I need his pardon?
- **Prayer**: What help do I need from God? What challenges come from this passage?

4: Pray through every petition in the Lord's Prayer, as this will give a framework to our wandering minds. This also allows us to address God with the very words of Jesus. (*He suggests this can take 3-4 minutes, unless our hearts catch fire- when it can take a long time!*)

5: During all this... keep a look out for the Holy Spirit bringing good thoughts to mind. In which case we should '*disregard the other petitions, make room for such thoughts, listen in silence, and under no circumstances obstruct them.*' We should expect to hear God speak to us through His Word. (If you want further practical advice, can I suggest See Tim Keller's excellent book on Prayer- see <https://timothykeller.com/books/prayer>)

Learning to pray with our Bibles open isn't hard to do, but it does take some time and effort to feel comfortable with it. It also requires us to use our minds and to check our thoughts and what we think we heard God say to us against scripture. These guidelines might help.

Remember God doesn't change. Whatever we hear should be in harmony with God's word, or it wasn't him speaking!

Remember God is ordered. We do need to use our brains to understand the context and the true meaning of what we are reading if we are to meditate on it properly. (*e.g. Just because Israel is mentioned a lot, it doesn't mean God is calling you to the Middle East!*)

Remember God is good. If we feel challenged or convicted about the way we live, we can trust God that His ways are always best. The obedient life is the blessed life.

Remember you are not alone. If something doesn't make sense, or God's Word to you is hard or challenging, speak to someone else in the church. Gareth and I would always be happy to help you wrestle with what God is saying.

Speak O Lord! And give us ears to listen!

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.

The Anglican Church of Melanesia

The churches of the Holyford Mission Community, their clergy Steve Martin, Marc Kaster-Walmsley, LLM Charles Hill, and for all who live and worship in Southleigh, Northleigh, Musbury, Colyton with Colyford, and Branscombe.

Residents in the following streets: Berrys Wood, Beverley Way, Birch Road, Bladon Close, Blenheim Close, Bovey Road, Bowden Hill, Bracken Close, Bradley Lane.

The sick and suffering including: Sheila Fletcher, Sally Fulcher, Marie Graham, Martyn, Eve Taylor, David Littlewood, Ruth and Ted Parkhouse, Sandy Vaughan Edwards, Ted Demery, Cherie Glover, Ryan Holland, Orla Pyne, Ian Tresidder, Olive Leicester, John and Joyce Sutherland and their family, Mark Portwood, 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 29th March. Ephesians Chapter 6, verses 10 to 20, and Psalm 145

Parish Prayer Gatherings

Our next **evening** Parish Prayer Gathering will be on **Monday 30th March** at St Paul's Church starting at 7 p.m. Do come and join us.

No Prayer Gathering on Easter Monday.

Our next **morning** Parish Prayer Gathering will be on **Monday 13th April** at St Paul's Church starting at 9:15 a.m.

Joint Services on Sunday 29th March

This is the Sunday when the clocks spring forward!!

Joint Parish Service at All Saints Highweek at 10:30 a.m.

Benefice Evensong at St Bartholomew's Ogwell at 5 p.m.

Songs of the Week - all on the theme of listening to God. Why not listen to one before you open your Bible to read and pray.

[Speak O Lord - Keith & Kristyn Getty \(Official Lyric Video\)](#)

[Amy Grant - Thy Word \(Lyric Video\)](#)

[Be Still](#)

Lunch with God will restart on Wednesday 1st April, 12:15 to 1:45 p.m. with a Holy Week special focussed on the cross of Christ.

Why not come along and bring a friend to hear the Easter message? Home-made hot soup, bread and tea/coffee provided free.

Looking Ahead to Holy Week.

Wednesday 1st April	10:00	Holy Communion at St Paul's
	12:15-13:45	Lunch with God at St Paul's
Maundy Thursday	17:30	Meal + reflections at Abbotsbury
	19:30	Holy Communion at St Mary's
Good Friday	10:00	CTNA Walk of Witness starts at Bearnas School,
	14:00	An Hour at the Cross at All Saints Highweek
	14:00	All-age reflections at Abbotsbury
Saturday 4th April	11:00-15:30	Easter Fun Day at St Paul's
EASTER DAY	6:00 a.m.	Sunrise Service at All Saints
	9:30	Easter Celebration at Abbotsbury + communion
	9:30	Easter Communion at St Bart's Ogwell
	11:00	Easter Celebration at St Paul's + communion
	11:00	Easter Communion at St Mary's Wolborough

Baptism and Confirmation Preparation

On Sunday 5th July during the morning service at St Paul's, Bishop James – the Bishop of Plymouth - will be baptising and/or confirming candidates from across the parish.

If you have never been baptised or confirmed, and you would like to find out more about taking this step of obedience in baptism and/or being confirmed into the Church of England, please get in touch with Dave as soon as possible. Contact details are: Tel 01626 335862 or email rector@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk

There will be separate two preparation courses: one for children and young people aged 12 to 18, and one for adults. If you have children younger than 12 who wish to be baptised, please speak to Dave as well. Preparation classes for them will be held separately.

Milk Bottle Tops are no longer being collected in church. Thank you to everyone who has supported this project in the past.

COMING EVENTS

Youth Group for ages 11 to 17 at Abbotsbury Church on 27th March, 7.30 to 9 p.m.

Charity Coffee Morning. 28th March from 10 a.m. in the Hall at St Paul's Church in aid of Animals in Distress.

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

Parish Evensong. 29th March at 5 p.m. at St Bartholemew's Church, Ogwell

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

Walk of Witness. 3rd April 10 a.m. starting at Bearnas School, Queen Street.

Easter Fun Day. 4th April 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at St Paul's Church.

Women's Breakfast. Saturday, 11th April at 9:30 a.m. at **Leisure Lounge Café**, AKA Winners in Kingsteignton, near the racecourse.

Craft Club. 7th and 21st April at 2 p.m. at St Paul's Church.

U3A Open Morning 14th April 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in St Paul's Church Hall.

Men's Breakfast. Saturday 18th April, 9:00 a.m. at the Leisure Lounge Café.

CHURCH SERVICES

29th March Palm Sunday (*clocks go forward*)

All Saints' Church, Highweek, Holy Communion at 10:30 a.m.

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

St Bartholemew's Church, Evensong at 5 p.m.

5th April Easter Day

All Saints' Church, Highweek, Sunrise Service in the field east of the Church at 6 a.m.

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, Holy Communion (BCP) at 11 a.m.

St Paul's Church, Holy Communion at 11 a.m.

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

12th April

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.

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.

FUNERALS AND INTERMENTS

June Davies. 30th March at 1 p.m. Interment of Ashes at St Mary's Church, Wolborough.

Christopher Tomas Young. 18th April at 11 a.m. Funeral at All Saints' Church, Highweek.

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@sjsj.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': vacant

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

Anna Chaplains: Mei Lan Machin. d.m.machin2013@gmail.com 07926 991578
and **Kim Martin** annachaplain@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk

Organist: Steve Cox 079 686 21511 or 01626 854228 stephen.cox54@talktalk.net

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 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