



Parish of Newton Abbot and Ogwell

WEEKLY NEWS

9th August 2026

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FROM OUR RECTOR

Dear Friends

No main article from me this week or throughout August. Instead, here are a few notes from the PCC Meeting last week.

We gathered at St Paul's on Monday 27th, and after beginning with a reflection on Article 21 of the 39 Articles of Religion, a hymn and a prayer we got down to business.

We spent a little time reflecting on the work involved in ensuring our church buildings are kept in good order and fit for gospel ministry in the 21st century. These processes are long and often complex, unsurprising because of their age and importance, and have, for the last number of years fallen upon the Rector and his predecessors. A working party has been set up to see if these processes can be handled more efficiently in the parish.

Clare, our treasurer, gave us a financial update- *look out for a letter coming out to the parish in September with details*, and Rob, our safeguarding lead, updated us with relevant news.

Another main topic was the report back from a working party on the care of graves in our churchyards. We've noticed a large increase in ornaments, plastic flowers etc being placed on graves and since these items run contrary to Church of England rules, we wanted to find a policy to handle this issue with care and sensitivity. The PCC accepted the proposals which will first be trialled at St Bart's, before being rolled out to Highweek and Wolborough churches later in the year.

Our Church Wardens each gave a report on things pertaining to their churches, and it was great to hear of the growing partnership at All Saints' between our congregation and the Romanian Orthodox church that meets there alternate Sundays. Updates were also

given on the progress of various building projects in our churches, and we agreed that September would be a Month of Hospitality across the parish.

In my report I announced that I had been granted a 3-month sabbatical in the late summer of 2027. This will mark 20 years since my ordination and tie in with a significant birthday and wedding anniversary.

I plan to spend some time on retreat with Judy, in studying Paul's letters to the church in Thessalonica leading to a sermon series in 2028 and in interviewing recently retired clergy about how they finished well and made the most of the last 5-7 years of ministry. I also hope to walk a further section of the Camino de Santiago de Compostella and, if there is any time left, I'm looking forward to learning how to sail.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 23rd September at 7pm.

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 Episcopal Church

On Mary Sumner Day, we remember and give thanks for the life and work of Mary Sumner, who founded Mothers' Union. We give thanks for the ministry of Mothers' Union in the Diocese of Exeter, who serve and support families and communities in a number of ways. We pray that you would bless their fruitful ministry, and we give thanks for all those who are involved.

Residents in the following streets: Larksmead Way, Larkspur Drive, Laureston Road, Laurie Avenue, Lea Vale Road, Lemon Court, Lemon Mews, Lemon Place and Lemon Road.

The sick and suffering including: Sheila F, Sally F, Marie G, Martyn, Eve T, David L, Ted P, Cherie G, Ryan H, Orla P, John and Joyce S and their family, Anna C, Peter W, Karen H, Adam B, Ann J and any others who are unwell.

Ben, Sarah and family as they care for Noah.

The families and friends of the recently deceased.

Please let us know about anyone needing our prayers.

Readings for 9th August

Matthew, chapter 14, verses 22 to 33, and

After School Tea and Toast... The Next Step - Meeting Tonight!!!!

Thank you to all those who expressed an interest in being part of a weekly after school drop-in for secondary aged pupils. We've now got enough people interested to gather and discuss the idea further.

If you have expressed an interest OR *you wish you had*, please come to Abbotsbury Church on Wednesday 5th August at 7 p.m.



Lunch with God is moving to a new location in the middle of Courtney Street.

Please do come along on Wednesdays between 12:15 and 1:45 p.m.

Please continue to pray for this outreach that people will accept the **Invitations of Jesus** that are being offered and that lives will be

changed.



Parish Prayer Gatherings

No Prayer gatherings in August. They resume on 7th September at St Paul's Church starting at 9:15 a.m.

Please do keep praying for the work of the church and for God's blessing and intervention in His world. You can do that on your own, or with some friends, or join with others at the new **Morning Prayer service at All Saints' Church, Highweek each Thursday morning at 9 a.m.**

Link of the Week- *the Keswick Convention 2026.*

The long-standing annual Keswick Convention draws huge numbers of people of all ages from all over the UK and beyond to the Lake District for 3 weeks of Bible teaching, worship and encouragement. Many of the sessions are available now on the YouTube channel which you can find here: [\(17\) Keswick Ministries - YouTube](#). You'll also find talks from previous conventions there too.

Rachael & Bernie Muluuta

July 2026



'Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.'
(Matthew 7:7-8)



The three of us: Rachael, Bernie and Anna Mirembé

Dear friends,

We continue to be amazed by the blessing that Anna Mirembé is to us. She has changed so much in the last two months. Her smiles and laughter light up her face and she sometimes seems to be chatting away with us. Who does that remind you of? She loves music and movement and enjoys dancing with Taata and kissing Maama! We are understanding deeper something of the extent of the Father's love for his children. We're thankful for answered prayer in having precious time together, getting to know her better and for opportunities to read Bible books and pray with her. We've even managed to have some of our own more lengthy devotions (complete with coffee and a square of dark chocolate) just the two of us! So thankful for that! Back in January, we asked for prayer for being able to provide for our little girl. We have been absolutely blown away by the cards, gifts, clothes, books, meals and help that we have received. We've learned a lot about how to support families with a newborn!



Lake District: climbing up Cat Bells

Thank you for your prayers for our time away in the Lake District. We find being in the countryside restful and that was the case this time despite a few difficult nights. We particularly enjoyed getting up Cat Bells (a hill in the Lake District) with Anna and spending time with Rachael's family. We then travelled down to Exeter for the wedding of one of Rachael's old youth group members. It was a Christ-centred, joyful occasion and an absolute delight to see, over the weekend, 16 people who Rachael knows from her time there as a children's and youth worker. It was also special, at church the following day, for us to have our second communion together as a family (the first being at the ordination service of a dear Oak Hill friend earlier this month).

Next on the horizon is a month-long trip to Uganda. We would value your prayers for this time away: for packing, the travel and logistics, to have a positive time introducing Anna to her other country complete with family and friends, for safety and health, for quality time with people and ministry partners, for the four kiddos to really bond with Anna and for pockets of rest with time to invest in our marriage. Particularly pray that when

the four kiddos stay with us (for the last two weeks) we would take every opportunity to speak of the Lord, his presence with us and how we can trust him with every aspect of our lives. Praise God for recent, encouraging school reports. Pray for us as we continue to support them in various ways and please pray especially for Roger (9) who struggles on many levels academically and emotionally. Pray we would love them well despite greater levels of exhaustion than we're used to.

Contrary to what was communicated in our last prayer letter, Rachael will not be doing her field research for her master's dissertation. She has been wisely reminded of the amount of work this requires and has been encouraged to, instead, focus on time with the family and people back in Uganda. We are grateful for such sage advice. We also asked for prayer for Razia, the wife of the headmaster of the primary school that Rachael used to teach in. We are delighted to report that she has made a full recovery. Please do keep Uganda in your prayers more generally. The political situation rumbles on and lack of basic safety measures continue to propel stories of tragedy. Two weeks ago, many children on a school trip died in a road traffic accident. Sadly, these preventable occurrences are not rare and bring much sadness to our hearts.

A prayer letter from us would not be complete without an update on all things 'admin'! We are very thankful to report that Anna's passport arrived in time for our upcoming travel. Bernie sat and passed both his driving theory test and practical test, his UK visa was extended, he passed all his exams and assignments and has been accepted to do a master's in theology (the same one that Rachael has started) commencing this September. He has also officially begun the discernment process with AMIE. References have been completed, next come interviews. We would appreciate your prayers for this continued process. We would also love your prayers for funding. We are a bit behind on applying to various grants and trusts but we need to raise a fair amount to cover the cost of Bernie's masters and the second half of Rachael's (these costs aren't covered by Crosslinks).



Bernie and Anna: Rachael's birthday breakfast

Finally, on a studies front, we have both greatly enjoyed our studies this semester. Rachael loved delving into the 12 minor prophets and understanding how they work both individually and together as a whole. It's been a joy to listen to God, understand him more fervently and love him more ardently. She has also benefitted from a wonderful module looking at how the church can help with complex pastoral needs, particularly thinking about loss at various stages of life. She will attempt to complete one module next semester looking at the spirituality of the child alongside caring for Anna with help from family and friends.

Bernie, through his writing project, has enjoyed surveying the history of the church in Uganda, its interaction with power and thinking about how that has affected the church's ability to live out its mission. There is much to ponder on and pray about as we continue to consider the role God has for us upon our return to Uganda. As always, please pray that our studies grow our hearts as seen in our words and actions, equip us for life-long ministry and enable us to pass on to others what we have received.

We would not be able to do any of this without you. We are deeply grateful for your support of us in so many and various ways. Thank you! We love hearing from you (and seeing you) and endeavour to pray regularly.

With much love,
Rachael and Bernie

Rachael and Bernie Muluuta training for ministry in Kampala, Uganda

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Afternoon Tea at the Rectory for the congregations of **All Saints' Highweek, St Bart's Ogwell and St Mary's Wolborough**. There's another chance to come on Friday 14th August from 3 p.m.

Please RSVP if you would like to come. Phone Judy on 01626 335862 or email mrsvicar16@gmail.com

A Month of Hospitality

At our meeting last week, the PCC agreed to support September being a Month of Hospitality! Each church community will be looking for a way to eat together, but we are also hoping that as many of us as possible will invite someone from our church community into our homes during that time.

It doesn't need to be grand. It could be for a coffee, a sandwich, or beans on toast. The food doesn't matter. The welcome does. So, let's all seek to grow in the gift of hospitality during September. Invite cards will be available soon for you to use...

THAT Foodbank



COMING EVENTS

Lunch with God. Wednesdays in Courtenay Street 12:15 to 1:45 p.m. Bible teaching.

Women's Breakfast. Saturday, 8th August at 9:30 a.m. at Leisure Lounge Café.

Afternoon Tea at the Rectory for the congregations of: All Saints' Highweek, St Bart's Ogwell and St Mary's Wolborough. 14th August, 3 p.m. To book your place email rector@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk or phone 01626 335862.

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

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

Charity Coffee Morning. 29th August from 10 a.m. in the Hall at St Paul's Church in aid of Devon Freewheelers.

Joint Parish Communion Service. 30th August 10:30 a.m. at St Bartholomew's Church, Ogwell.

Evensong. 30th August. 6 p.m. at St Bartholomew's Church, Ogwell.

Parochial Church Council. 23rd September at 7 p.m. at Abbotsbury Church.

Youth Group for ages 11 to 17 at The Avenue Church on 25th September, 7.30 to 9 p.m.

CHURCH SERVICES

9th August

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.

16th August

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 (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.

23rd August

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.

EVERY THURSDAY 9 a.m. Morning Prayer (Common Worship) followed by refreshments at All Saints' Church, Highweek.

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

Churchwardens:

Abbotsbury: **Pauline Giddings** abbotsburywarden@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk
All Saints': **Paul Cannock** allsaintswarden@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk
St Mary's **Sharon Lawrence** salawrence21@outlook.com 07794 108166 St.
Paul's **Lorna Tresidder** stpaulswarden@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk
St Bartholomew's **Stella Llewellyn** stellallewellyn@icloud.com 01626 906814
and **Gwyn Hughes.** gwynhughes@icloud.com 01626 365028

Anna Chaplain: Kim Martin annachaplain@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk

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

Parochial Church Council Secretary: Karen Hooker.
pccsecretary@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk 07999 891029

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

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