



Parish of Newton Abbot and Ogwell

WEEKLY NEWS

20th September 2026

In this edition:

- What do we really need?
- News of our Team Vicar
- Parish prayer gatherings
- Harvest Festival
- Harvest picnic lunch
- Autumn courses
- U3A awareness day
- Tower and church open day
- Lunch with God

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 Australia

Residents in the following streets: Norman Close, Northernhay, Oak Lawn, Oak Park Road, Oak Place, Oak Place, Dudley Gardens, Oak Tree Drive, Oakland Road and Ogwell End Drive.

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, Peter W, Karen H, Adam B, Ann J, Richard M and any others who are unwell.

Ben, Sarah and family as they care for Noah.

Gareth, Samantha and family as they prepare for their move to Kingsteignton.

The families and friends of the recently deceased.

Please let us know about anyone needing our prayers.

FROM OUR CURATE

What Do We Really Need?

As the summer turns to autumn, our parish family gathers once again to celebrate Harvest Festival. In our corner of South Devon, surrounded by rolling pasture and working land, harvest is far more than a traditional date on the calendar. It is a moment to stop, breathe, and look honestly at the realities of human life.

This past year has served as a stark reminder of how precarious farming can be. Dry spells and low rainfall have put pressure on crops and grazing land, while the spread of Bluetongue across parts of Devon and the wider South West has brought deep anxiety and heavy strain to local livestock farmers. Even when an outbreak does not hit our immediate parish directly, the threat hanging over our agricultural community reminds us that farming is never just a job - it is a vulnerable, daily reliance on conditions entirely beyond human control.

In our modern world, we are constantly persuaded to focus on our desires: the next purchase, the latest technology, or the superficial comforts that consumer culture tells us we cannot live without. Yet Harvest strips all of that away and asks a fundamental question: *what do we actually need to survive?*

When we boil life down to its absolute essentials, our real needs are simple: basic food, clean water, shelter, and one another. Above all, Harvest reminds us of our deep dependence upon God. We do not manufacture the rain, we do not command the sun to shine, and we cannot create the soil. Every grain of wheat, every drop of water, and every breath we take is ultimately a gift of grace from the Creator.

Recognizing our dependence on God naturally changes how we treat those around us. Faith is not merely an abstract belief; it must express itself through practical care for our neighbours. In the 4th century, St Basil the Great wrote clearly about our responsibility to share what we have been given. He famously reminded his congregation that the bread stored away in our cupboards belongs to the hungry, and the extra coat hanging unused in our closet belongs to the person freezing in the cold. St Basil understood that when God blesses us with food and resources, He does not intend for us to hoard them, but to act as channels of His care for others.

As we bring our gifts to church for this year's Harvest Festival, we have an opportunity to put St Basil's teaching into practice. Making sure that those in need receive support is not an optional extra - it is our Christian duty and a joyful privilege of community life.

This year, our dry goods, canned food, and essential donations will be collected for our local foodbank initiative to support individuals and families facing real hardship right here in our area.

Whether you attend church every week or haven't stepped through the doors in some time, you are warmly invited to join us for our Harvest service, the times are listed below. Come and join us as we give thanks for the food on our tables, pray for our local farming community, and reach out a helping hand to those who need it most.

Harvest Festival will be celebrated during the services at our churches on 20th

September, except for All Saints' Church, where it will be on 27th September.

The services are at the following times:

9:30 a.m. Abbotsbury, All Saints' (Highweek) and St Bartholomew's (Ogwell) 11 a.m. St Paul's (Devon Square) and St Mary's (Wolborough).

Donations of products suitable for donation to THAT foodbank will be gratefully received. They would especially like to receive:

Squash/juice, UHT Milk, jars of cooking sauce, tinned carrots, adult toothbrushes, and toothpaste, toilet rolls, sugar, rice, jars of coffee, custard, vegetarian meals (e.g. veg curry), jam, and biscuits.

News of our Team Vicar – Rev Gareth Regan

Dear Newton Abbot Parish family

I have been appointed Vicar-designate of Kingsteignton with Teigngrace and Local Mission Enabler for Totnes Archdeaconry.

- The Move: Our family will be moving just across the parish boundary after Christmas.
- Licensing Service: My institution service will take place on Thursday, January 14th at St Michael's, Kingsteignton, and you are all warmly invited to attend.
- Full Details: I have attached the complete announcement document for full context on the new role and transition.

Thank you for your incredible support and partnership during my time as Team Vicar and Missioner in Newton Abbot. Please keep Samantha, the children, and me in your prayers as we prepare for this next step.

With love and prayers,

Gareth.

Team Vicar
Newton Abbot Team Ministry
01626 201237

ANNOUNCEMENT

It is announced that the Revd Gareth Regan has been appointed Vicar-designate of Kingsteignton with Teigngrace and Local Mission Enabler for Totnes Archdeaconry.

Gareth is presently Team Vicar and Team Missioner in the Newton Abbot Team Ministry. Gareth grew up in Newton Abbot and before ordination was a manager in the retail food and home improvement industries in the southwest of England.

He trained for ordained ministry at St John's College, Nottingham and earned his theology degree from the Queen's Foundation in Birmingham. He was ordained in 2013 and served his curacy in Wolverhampton before moving back to Newton Abbot in 2017.

Gareth is a member of the national College of Evangelists, a team of ministers working with the Archbishop of Canterbury to assist churches across the country in proclaiming the gospel in their communities. In this diocese he serves as an Assistant Director of Ordinands and locally as chaplain to the Air Cadets and the Royal British Legion. He is a foundation director of the Ivy Education Trust, which operates a number of schools in the area including Newton Abbot College.

In his new ministry, Gareth's work will include serving as the first Local Mission Enabler for Totnes Archdeaconry, a role funded by the Church of England as part of our diocesan Pray, Grow, Serve 2035 initiative. In this aspect of his ministry, he will provide support for mission communities across the Archdeaconry of Totnes as they reach out beyond the walls of their existing churches to create new forms of worship and church life, widening access to Christian teaching and discipleship alongside the continuing ministry of our traditional parish churches.

Gareth is married to Samantha; they have three children at secondary school and sixthform college. The family will move to Kingsteignton Vicarage after Christmas and subject to the completion of all legal formalities, Gareth will be instituted as Vicar by the Bishop of Exeter on the evening of Thursday, January 14th at a service in St Michael's, Kingsteignton at which all will be welcome.

Your prayers are asked for Gareth and Samantha and their family as they prepare for their move across the parish boundary from Newton Abbot to Kingsteignton, and for this new chapter in Gareth's life and work as a priest.

Parish Prayer Gatherings at St Paul's Church

21st September at 9:15 a.m.

28th September at 7 p.m.

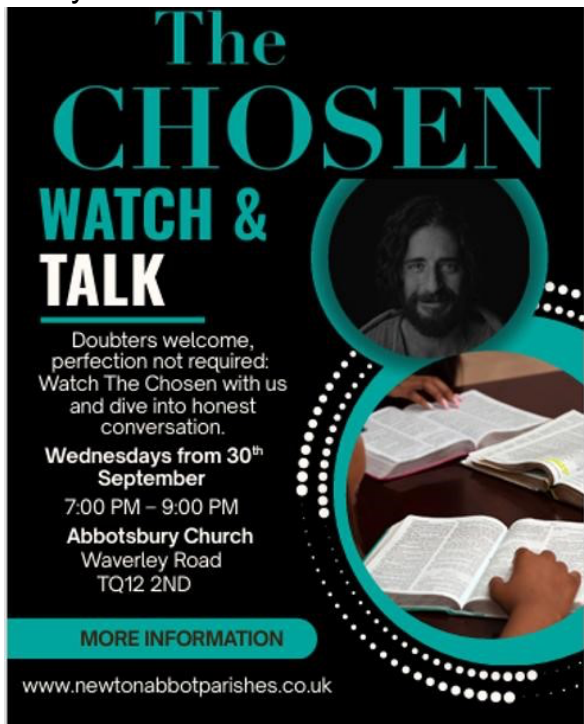
Readings for 20th September:

Matthew Chapter 20, verses 1 to 16 and Exodus Chapter 16, verses 1 to 18

A Harvest Picnic lunch is being held at St Paul's Church Hall on Sunday 20th September. Hot and cold drinks will be provided. Please bring your own picnic/packed lunch - just enough for you and anyone you are looking after - and we will sit and enjoy them together.

Two Courses Starting This Autumn

Flyers are now available for the two new courses we are running this autumn. Both give us great opportunities to invite people along to discover more about the Christian faith. Look out for these flyers and get thinking and praying about who you could invite to come with you.



The CHOSEN WATCH & TALK

Doubters welcome, perfection not required: Watch The Chosen with us and dive into honest conversation.

Wednesdays from 30th September
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Abbotsbury Church
Waverley Road
TQ12 2ND

MORE INFORMATION

www.newtonabbotparishes.co.uk

See Genesis through the lens of Jesus

The Bible presents itself as the true story of everything. And it points to one person - Jesus.

You're invited to discover life as it's meant to be. Through the Bible is your guide into the world's bestselling book.

In 4 sessions you'll meet the main character, and see life through new eyes. No matter your past experience with the Bible, step into the book of Genesis, and see it through the lens of Jesus.

Through video teaching and group discussions, the Christian and the curious sit down together to reframe perspectives on God, the world and you. We'd love you to join us.

Starts: Tuesday 6th October 2026

Time: 7:30pm to 9:30pm

Location: St Paul's Church, Devon Square

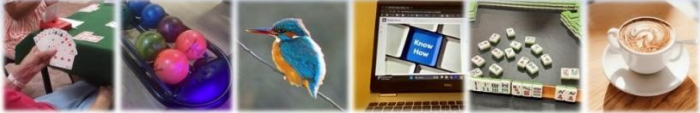
There's plenty of parking available!





Awareness Day

Find out more about Teign u3a by meeting us in the café at Austins in Newton Abbot town centre
10.00am - 12.30pm
Wednesday 23 September 2026



Teign u3a provides a wide range of opportunities throughout each month for members to share learning and enjoy educational, creative and leisure activities in a friendly and supportive environment



Join today for 6 months subscription of only £15.00 from 1 October to 31 March 2027



www.teignu3a.org.uk

Charity No: 1091466 08/26

Tower Open Day at All Saints' Church, Highweek, on Saturday 19th September from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The church and the tower will be open. You are welcome to visit the ringing chamber (up a steep staircase) and have a good look at the rest of this historic church.

Lunch with God continues in Courtenay Street on Wednesdays starting at 12:15 p.m. Please come along or pray for the work.

COMING EVENTS

Men's Breakfast. Saturday 19th September, 9:00 a.m. at the Leisure Lounge Café.

Tower Open Day. All Saints' Church, 19th September 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Harvest Picnic Lunch 20th September at St Paul's Church Hall after the morning service.

U3A Awareness Day 23rd September 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Austins Coffee Shop.

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

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

Charity Coffee Morning. 25th September from 10 a.m. at St Bartholomew's Church in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support.

Charity Coffee Morning. 26th September from 10 a.m. in the Hall at St Paul's Church in aid of Make a Wish.

Evensong. 27th September, 5 p.m. at St Mary's Church, Wolborough.

Craft Club. 6th and 20th October, 2 p.m. at St Paul's Church.

The Chosen – Watch and Talk starts on 30th September at 7 p.m. at Abbotsbury Church.

Genesis through the lens of Jesus course starts 6th October, 7:30 p.m. at St Paul's Church.

Women's Breakfast. Saturday, 10th October, 9:30 a.m. at Leisure Lounge Café.

Parish Women's evening. 20th November. Details to come.

Joint Parish Communion Service. 29th November, 10:30 a.m. at St Paul's Church, Devon Square.

Rev Gareth Regan's Institution at St Michael's Church, Kingsteignton, on 14th January 2027.

CHURCH SERVICES

20th September

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

St Bartholomew's Church, Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m. **Harvest Festival**

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

St Paul's Church, Service of the Word, at 11 a.m. **Harvest Festival** St Luke's Church, Mass at 11:15 a.m.

27th September

Abbotsbury Church, Service of the Word at 9:30 a.m.

All Saints' Church, Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m. **Harvest Festival** St

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

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

St Maty's Church, Wolborough. **Evensong at 5 p.m.**

4th October

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 Monday 7 p.m. Compline (night prayer) at All Saints' Church, Highweek.

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 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