

19th March 2023

People & Steeple

www.weobleyandstaunton.org

News and contacts for the Weobley & Staunton Benefice
Weobley, Letton, Sarnesfield, Norton Canon, Staunton-on-Wye,
Byford, and Monnington-on-Wye



Church Services:

Sunday 19th March 4th Sunday of Lent, Mothering Sunday 10.30am Byford Service of the Word, 10.30am Letton Service of the Word, 10.30am Weobley BCP Communion

Sunday 26th March 5th Sunday of Lent 9.00am Sarnesfield Eucharist,
10.30am Staunton on Wye Service of the Word, 10.30am Weobley Eucharist

Rector of the Weobley and Staunton Group:

Rev Philip Harvey, 01544 318147 rector@weobleyandstaunton.org (Friday is the Rector's Day off)

Benefice Administrator,

Sam Phillips, 07507 794779 admin@weobleyandstaunton.org 9.30am-2.30pm Monday-Thursday

Finance Officer,

Shirley Tully 07552 758476 finance@weobleyandstaunton.org Monday – Friday 10am-2pm

Our Envisioning Day



Last Saturday 20 people from across our churches gathered at the Bishop's Palace in Hereford for our Envisioning Day. The day was led by Bishop Richard and Rev Dr Liz Wild and enabled us to do some 'blue-sky' thinking about the

ministry of our churches 5 years from hence but also some thinking about our current challenges.

Bishop Richard shared a model for the activity of churches, noting that in growing churches there tends to be a concern for three different areas: incarnation (relationships), transformation (of people's lives) and proclamation (sharing the good news). An interesting point made was that the cutting edge of mission is where all three of these areas come together. We discussed how we were faring across the Benefice in these areas. One uncomfortable question raised in my mind during this discussion was 'Have we [by 'we' I mean our churches and the wider Church of England], as a result of secular pressure, lost our confidence in the power of the gospel to transform minds and lives?'

In our afternoon session we talked about possible areas for development:

Making our churches more welcoming as spaces for those visiting or attending services for the first time.

Going out into the community and welcoming newcomers or contacting those we have not seen in church.

Providing appropriate follow-up for those dealing with bereavement.

Asking the question 'How can we help our neighbouring parish in the Benefice?' so that our concerns are not restricted only to our parish setting, but benefice-wide.

If you have suggestions or would like to be involved in any of these initiatives, please talk to one of your PCC members or a JBC representative.

Rev'd Philip

God of compassion,
whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,
shared the life of a home in Nazareth,
and on the cross drew the whole human family to
himself: strengthen us in our daily living
that in joy and in sorrow
we may know the power of your presence
to bind together and to heal;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Mothering Sunday

Readings: Exodus 2,
1-10 & 2 Corinthians 1,
3-7
Gospel Reading: John
19, 25b-27

Prayer Focus

If you know anyone for whom we could offer prayers, please inform the Clergy Team or Admin.

Our Church—Prayers for Georgina Synnock and Rae Morgan, who will be married in Sarnesfield Church on Saturday 25th March—Please pray for the Parish of Monnington, the Parish Church Council and all the Church community—Pray for Leominster Deanery—With the possibility of the Three Counties Hotel providing Asylum accommodation Please pray for those who flee persecution and dire poverty to seek asylum and our capacity to welcome the stranger in our midst.

Our Nation—On **Mothering Sunday**, pray for mothers and all who have the gift and care of children. Pray for the work and witness of the Mothers' Union, both on this Sunday and as we approach the feast of the Annunciation.—**Joseph of Nazareth's Day**, is traditionally a day to celebrate workers and places of work. Give thanks also for those who in their work preserve and pass on traditional skills—**Down's Syndrome Day** is marked on Tuesday. This day is an annual reminder of all that those who live with Trisomer 21 can give and achieve, as full, equal, happy and valued members of a healthy society—Thursday is the **National Day of Reflection** instituted by the Marie Curie Nurses: we think of those who have lost loved ones, and stand in mutual support to remember and grieve—**Debt Awareness Week** focuses our thoughts on those who are struggling in our communities, and on the need to provide practical help, debt counselling and affordable loans where appropriate.

Our World- Families in the UK have been struggling to make ends meet as prices rise steeply, but the impact is magnified in lower income countries. Chronic debt and mismanagement in many developing nations may mean governments are not able to support those in need, which perpetuates a cycle of poverty, hunger, and civil unrest.

Dates for your Diary

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|-----------------|--|-----------------|--|
| 19th Mar | Mothering Sunday 10.30am Byford Service of the Word 10.30am Letton Service of the Word 10.30am Weobley BCP Communion | 22nd Mar | 9.00am Morning Prayer The Vicarage, Weobley 12.00pm Lent Lunch Weobley Parish Church 2.30pm Lent Bible Study St Thomas Catholic Church Weobley |
| 20th Mar | 7.00pm Staunton on Wye PCC Meeting | | |
| 21st Mar | 7.00pm JBC Meeting via Zoom | | |

What's On!



WEOBLEY & STAUNTON JOINT
BENEFICE

CELEBRATE MOTHERING SUNDAY

at one of our special Services

SUNDAY 19TH MARCH 2023

10.30am Byford
Service of the Word

10.30am Letton
Service of the Word

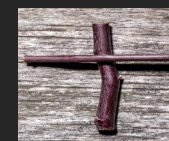
10.30am Weobley
Communion

UKRAINE EASTER APPEAL

A lorry load of urgently needed supplies bound for Ukraine will be leaving from Hereford in time for Easter. What's needed:

***Baby food in jars/tins *Tinned food for adults *Female sanitary ware**

Please bring donated goods to Lesley Kneen at The Cwm, Kington Rd, Weobley HR48SF or leave at the back of Weobley Church on or before **Friday 24th March.**



LENT LUNCH

**Supporting the Hereford
Foodbank**

Wednesday 22nd March 12pm

Weobley Parish Church HR4 8SD

Contact Pat Millington—
pat.mill@btinternet.com or Carole Page: carolepage@hotmail.co.uk

Palm Sunday 2nd April

9.00am Norton Canon - Holy Communion
10.30am Letton - Communion
10.30am Weobley - Communion

Wednesday 5th April

7.00pm Staunton on Wye
Stations of the Cross & Compline

Maundy Thursday 6th April

7.00pm Norton Canon - Communion

Good Friday 7th April

2.15pm Weobley - Good Friday Vigil

Easter Sunday 9th April

Communion Services across the Benefice

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|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Norton Canon | Sarnesfield | Byford | Letton | Staunton on Wye | Weobley | Monnington on Wye |
| 9.00am | 9.00am | 10.30am | 10.30am | 10.30am | 10.30am | 3.30pm |

Easter Services

