

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

## Church Services:

**Sunday 4th May** 9.00am Norton Canon Holy Communion BCP,

10.30am Weobley Morning Praise

**Thursday 8th May** 7.00pm Staunton-on-Wye VE Day Thanksgiving & Remembrance Service

**Sunday 11th May** 10.30am Staunton-on-Wye Eucharist CW, 10.30am Weobley Eucharist CW

**Sunday 18th May** 9.00am Letton Service of the Word,

10.30am Byford Holy Communion BCP, 10.30am Weobley BCP Communion,

4.15pm Monnington-on-Wye Rogationtide Service

## *Scarcity and Generosity*



In our gospel reading for the third Sunday of Easter, the risen Christ appears to the disciples once again by the lakeside in Galilee. They have spent a night fishing, with no catch. At daybreak, he directs them to cast their nets to the other side of the boat, and they haul in a catch of 153 fish. This miracle is another sign of Jesus' divinity and a startling reminder to us of his power to provide.

This is particularly important for us living in a time when governments, companies and the media tell us continually that we are living in age of austerity; that the fiscal tank has run dry. When these messages reach saturation point, it's very easy to become convinced that we are living in a time of scarcity. And yet, if we consider our standard of living in comparison to so many people on our planet (and throughout history) we have far more than we actually need.

The problem is one of perception. When people start to believe in the doomsayers of scarcity, they stop being generous with their resources. This may well be one of the reasons our churches are under-funded and the Diocese of Hereford is now facing a one-million-pound operating deficit. Bishop Richard has issued a call to prayer on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May, focusing on the meeting of this need. It could be that the answer to this prayer lies with us, and our decision to exercise faith and be generous.

**Rev'd Philip**

**Our next edition of People & Steeple will cover Sunday 18th & 25th May.  
Deadline for this 2 week edition will be Wednesday 14th May at 12 noon.**

Almighty Father,  
who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples  
with the sight of the risen Lord:  
give us such knowledge of his presence with us,  
that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life  
and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;  
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.

**The Third Sunday of Easter 4th May 2025**

**Reading:**

Acts 9.1-6

**Gospel reading:**

John 21.1-19

Almighty God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:  
raise us, who trust in him,  
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,  
that we may seek those things which are above,  
where he reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**The Fourth Sunday of Easter 11th May 2025**

**Reading:**

Acts 9. 36-end

**Gospel reading:**

John 10. 22-30

**Prayer Focus**

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

Please pray for the family and friends of **Vera Grimshaw** who sadly passed away last week. Vera's funeral will be held at Hereford Crem on Mon 19th May at 1.15pm.

**Our Church**—Please pray for the parish of **Letton**, the Parish Church Council and all the church community —Please pray for the parish of **Sarnesfield**, the Parish Church Council and all the church community Please pray for **Pontesbury Deanery**— Pray for all the Annual **Parochial Church Meetings** taken place throughout May, within our joint benefice and that our eyes will be open to new opportunities to grow God's Kingdom.

**Our Nation**—Tuesday 6th May is **World Asthma Day**. Pray for all who live with asthma, their care and treatment, and the removal of causes of asthma from our environment—Pray for the work of the **International Red Cross and Red Crescent**, in places of need and trouble around the world. This year the theme is "I give with joy, and the joy I give is a reward" - Pray for the **Hereford May Fair**, beginning on Tuesday, and for all involved in organising traditional spring events in our communities. Week commencing 12th May is **ME Awareness Week**. The number of people diagnosed with ME is growing substantially, and some 1.7 million people in the UK continue to have symptoms of Long Covid, which in many resembles ME. Pray that the ME Association may meet the challenge of offering support to all who need it—Pray for young people in our schools and colleges as the season of **GCSE and A Level Exams** gets under way.

**Our World**— Forms of modern slavery, including forced labour and forced marriage, are found in every part of our world. In Tanzania, it is estimated that some 170,000 people are victims of modern slavery, which is seen as a priority for government action. Pray for progress in criminalising the exploitation of children, increasing the legal age of marriage, and providing support for all victims of modern slavery, whatever their age, gender, etc.

## Dates for your Diary

<b>APCM DATES PLEASE SEE BELOW</b>		<b>18th May</b>	<b>4.15pm</b> Rogationtide Service Monnington-on-Wye
<b>8th May</b>	<b>7.00pm</b> VE Day Thanksgiving & Remembrance Service Staunton-on-Wye	<b>21st May</b>	<b>7.00pm</b> JBC Meeting
<b>13th May</b>	<b>10.30am-12.00pm</b> Coffee Morning Weobley Parish Church	<b>25th May</b>	<b>10.30-5.00pm</b> Open Day Sarnesfield Church
<b>18th May</b>	<b>3.00pm</b> Rogationtide Walk from Byford to Monnington-on-Wye	<b>8th June</b>	<b>4.00pm</b> Family Barbeque Garnons Cricket Club, Byford
		<b>15th June</b>	<b>2.00pm</b> Weobley Fete Weobley Parish Church

### WEOBLEY & STAUNTON JOINT BENEFICE APCM DATES 2025

TUESDAY 6TH MAY 7.00PM.....	STAUNTON-ON-WYE
WEDNESDAY 7TH MAY 3.00PM.....	BYFORD
TUESDAY 13TH MAY 5.00PM.....	NORTON CANON
SUNDAY 18TH MAY 11.40AM.....	WEOBLEY
TUESDAY 20TH MAY 6.15PM.....	MONNINGTON-ON-WYE
WEDNESDAY 21ST MAY 2.00PM.....	LETTON

## Our Summer fete approaches!

**WEOBLEY  
PARISH  
CHURCH**

# SUNDAY 15TH JUNE

2.00pm  
-  
4.30pm

Please ring **01544 318522** if you would like someone to collect your donations, otherwise NON PERISHABLE items to the VICARAGE or GLEBE HOUSE from the beginning of June  
CLOTHES no later than JUNE 8th  
CAKES and PLANTS to THE CHURCH from 11am on the day.

**PLEASE COULD YOU HELP**  
by giving any of the following?:

Bottles of any kind (Squash, Wine, Water, Shampoo etc)	Small Gifts for Tombola	Cakes	Plants	Chocolates or bags of sweets for prizes
Raffle Prizes	Good White Elephant items only please	Nearly new ladies clothing	Accessories: Scarves, bags, hats & costume jewellery	Pre-Loved Pictures

⊘ NO BOOKS ⊘

As charity shops have changed their rules and it is hard to pass on what is unsold.



# What's On!



WEOBLEY & STAUNTON JOINT BENEFICE

# VE DAY

Thanksgiving Service

**THURSDAY 8TH MAY 2025**

**7.00PM**

Join us as we reflect upon the sacrifice made by the Second World War generation, give thanks for their service and pray for peace on this 80th anniversary of victory in Europe.

**St Mary's Church  
Staunton-on-Wye HR4 7NE**



# What's On!



**COFFEE MORNING**

TUESDAY 13TH MAY 2025  
10.30 AM - 12.00 PM

Tea \*Coffee \*Cakes  
\*Biscuits \*Friendly Chat

WEOBLEY PARISH CHURCH  
2nd Tuesday of every month

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN WEOBLEY

## QUIET DAY *at Llangasty*

Monday 19th May 2025

Led by Father Paul from Belmont Abbey

Join us for a day of reflection and contemplation at the Llangasty Retreat Centre, near Llangorse, Brecon

The theme for the day "Explore Shared Beliefs, Theologically and Spiritually"

If you would like to join us or for more information please contact:  
Patricia Stuart on 07966 499751 or email:  
[patricia\\_stuart@icloud.com](mailto:patricia_stuart@icloud.com)

# Rogationtide Walk

Byford to Monnington-on-Wye  
Sunday 18th May  
3.00pm

Leaving Byford Church at 3.00pm there will be a fairly slow walk through the beautiful orchard blossom for about 2 miles to St Mary's Church, Monnington-on-Wye

Followed by: **Rogationtide Service**  
Generous refreshments  
at 4.15pm

St Mary's Church, Monnington-on-Wye HR4 7NL





# What's On!



St Mary's, Sarnesfield  
**Open Day**  
**Sunday 25th May**

10.30am  
–  
5.00pm

## Tea, Coffee & Cake

Enjoy a moment or two at St Mary's where you can view floral decoration and sample delicious homemade cakes, while catching up with 'old friends'. While you're there, uncover something new about the history of the church and its 'new' mediaeval chest.

**Café-style Service of the Word**  
**at 9.00am**

**Sarnesfield, Hereford HR4 8RE**