

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

Church Services:

Sunday 6th April 9.00am Norton Canon Holy Communion CW, 10.30am Weobley Morning Praise

Palm Sunday 13th April 10.30am Staunton-on-Wye Eucharist CW,
10.30am Weobley Eucharist CW

Maundy Thursday 17th April 3.00pm Weobley Maundy Thursday Communion

Good Friday 18th April 2.15pm Weobley Good Friday Vigil Service

Passiontide



This coming Sunday, the 5th of Lent, marks the beginning of *Passiontide*, as we prepare for the unfolding of events that will lead to Jesus, arrest, crucifixion and resurrection.

Passion is an evocative word, calling to mind the ways in which us humans can be stirred by emotional forces deep within us. It also has connotations of things beyond our control. In John chapter 12, we observe Jesus nearing Jerusalem, and he stays in the home of his friends Lazarus, Mary and Martha in Bethany. There his feet are anointed by Mary with extremely costly perfume. It's an extravagant act, performed by someone who is overwhelmed with emotion, and Jesus recognises it as an act of love, preparing him for 'the day of burial'. The disciple Judas decries this act as a waste of money, claiming the perfume should have been sold and the money given to the poor. We know, however, that Judas was only concerned with his personal control of the community purse, from which he regularly stole. Later in the story we see how Judas' desire for wealth gets the better of his judgement and leads him to betray his master.

At this point in the narrative, Jesus appears to be in the eye of a storm, and we know that he will soon be caught up in events that appear to be out of his control, at the whim of the angry emotions of the Pharisees, a baying mob and cynical Roman governors. However, John's narrative portrays a Jesus moved by a deeper purpose: He states "For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again." It is this calm, purposeful self-giving love that now entrances us, as we prepare to welcome our Lord through the gates of Jerusalem and follow again the passion of the Easter story.

Rev'd Philip

Our next edition of People & Steeple will cover Sunday 20th & 27th April.

Deadline for this 2 week edition will be Friday 11th April at 12 noon due to Holiday.

Most merciful God,
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ
delivered and saved the world:
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross
we may triumph in the power of his victory;
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 Fifth Sunday of Lent 6th April 2025

Reading:

Philippians 3: 4-14

Gospel reading:

John 12: 1-8

Almighty and everlasting God,
who in your tender love towards the human race
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to take upon him our flesh
and to suffer death upon the cross:
grant that we may follow the
example of his patience and humility,
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;
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.

Palm Sunday 13th April 2025

Reading:

Philippians 2: 5-11

Gospel reading:

Luke 23: 1-49

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 Joyce Amy Hewitt whose Funeral will be on Wednesday 9th April at 12.00pm at Weobley Parish Church.

Our Church—Please pray for the Parish of **Staunton-on-Wye**, the Parish Church Council and all the church community—Please pray for the parish of **Monnington-on-Wye**, the Parish Church Council and all the church community —Please pray for **Condover Deanery**.

Our Nation—**Monday 7th is World Health Day**, which this year will kick off a year-long campaign on maternal and newborn health. Pray for the many millions in our world who do not have access to essential healthcare—**April is kept as Stress Awareness Month**: Pray we may be challenged to see what we can do to make things better, and be agents of positive change—This is also **Parkinson's Awareness Month**, Pray for all who live with this disabling disease, and for their families and friends—As **Holy Week** begins, give thanks for the Christ who, in human frailty, walks the road we walk, and pray that in this week we may walk in the way of his suffering, and by the victory of the cross, may share also in his resurrection—serve one another and be servants to the world, as he has served us. Pray for the many events and worship activities of Good Friday around our Diocese, and especially for those that bring different churches together, and are a public witness to our faith and our Lord.

Our World— A deadly earthquake measuring 7.7 magnitude struck central **Myanmar** on 28 March, destroying lives across the region. Those who survived this terrifying earthquake now face a desperate humanitarian crisis, please pray for skill, and energy for first responders and for those providing vital support in coming weeks. And that the political situation in Myanmar does not become a barrier to live-saving aid much needed.

HOLIDAYS

Sam Phillips will be on holiday from Tuesday 15th April—Friday 18th April

Rev Philip Harvey will be on holiday from Monday 21st April – Sunday 27th April

Dates for your Diary

8th Apr **10.00-12.30pm** Coffee Morning
Weobley Parish Church

9th Apr **2.30pm** Lent Bible Study

10th Apr **12.00pm** Byford Lent Lunch
Common Farm, Byford

14th Apr **10.00am –12.30pm**
Weobley Easter Treasure Hunt
Weobley Parish Church

17th Apr **3.00pm** Maundy Thursday Communion
Weobley Parish Church

18th Apr **11.00am** CTiW Walk of witness
Starting from St Thomas Church

18th Apr **2.15pm** Good Friday Vigil
Weobley Parish Church

20th Apr

***Please see all our Easter
Services on our
What's On page***

29th Apr **9.00am** Weobley
PCC Meeting

1st May **10.00am** Sarnesfield APCM

WEOBLEY & STAUNTON JOINT BENEFICE APCM DATES 2025

THURSDAY 1ST MAY 10.00AM.....SARNESFIELD

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

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN WEOBLEY

QUIET DAY *at Llangasty*

Monday 19th May 2025

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

CTiW Lent Course

Join us for our last Wednesday
Lent Course at 2.30pm
9th April

St Thomas Parish Room, Weobley

All Welcome

✠ LENT LUNCHES

**Thursday 10th April
12.00-2.00pm**

Common Farm, Byford Common,
Hereford HR4 7JZ

Contact: Maggi Denaro

✉ mags.denaro@yahoo.co.uk

This year we are asking for donations towards
the Joint Benefice Council's chosen Charity:
City of Sanctuary (Hereford)



What's On!

WEOBLEY PARISH CHURCH

COFFEE MORNING



TUESDAY 8th APRIL 2025

10.30 AM - 12.00 PM

Tea *Coffee *Cakes *Biscuits
Friendly Chat

2nd Tuesday of
every month



Let's Celebrate Together

Easter Service & Egg Hunt

Easter
Sunday
20th April
10.30am

St John the Baptist, Letton
HR3 6DH

Palm Sunday 13th April

10.30am Staunton-on-Wye, Eucharist CW

10.30am Weobley, Eucharist CW

Maundy Thursday 17th April

3.00pm Weobley - Communion

Good Friday 18th April

2.15pm Weobley - Good Friday Vigil

Easter Sunday 20th April

Easter Family Communion Services across
our seven churches

Norton Canon 9.00am

Sarnesfield 9.00am

Byford 10.30am

Letton 10.30am

Weobley 10.30am

Monnington-on-Wye 3.30pm

Staunton-on-Wye 10.30am

Easter Services



What's On!

Family Easter Treasure Hunt

**MONDAY
14TH APRIL 2025**

10.00AM - 12.30PM

Join in the fun of a family treasure hunt around Weobley and activities exploring the real Easter story.

Children must be accompanied by an adult

To register for this event please contact Sam Phillips on 07507 794779 or email: admin@weobleyandstaunton.org

**WEOBLEY PARISH
CHURCH**



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**