

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

Church Services:

Sunday 21st April 9.00am Letton Service of the Word, 10.30am Byford Eucharist CW,
10.30am Weobley BCP Communion

Sunday 28th April 9.00am Sarnesfield, Service of the Word, 10.30am Weobley Eucharist CW

Sunday 5th May 9.00am Norton Canon, Holy Communion BCP,
10.30am Weobley, Morning Praise

'It's not what you know, it's who you know.'

Our Easter lectionary readings include passages from the book of Acts. It's worth considering the way in which the disciples are presented.

In the reading set for the 4th Sunday of Easter (Acts 4: 5-12), Peter and John are arrested by the temple authorities in Jerusalem for speaking to a crowd after they heal a lame man near one of the temple gates. What was it that so annoyed the authorities? It was not the healing itself, but the insistence of the disciples that the man's healing had come through the power of the risen Christ.

Once arrested, Peter and John are not cowed into submission by their captors. Rather, they take the opportunity to speak up boldly for their faith and its working: 'if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man was healed, let it be known to all of you...that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God has raised from the dead.'

When we read the book of Acts, we see the power of the resurrection lived out in the actions and words of the disciples. They appear transformed, in terms of their vision, their courage and their faith. Perhaps this is not so much a case of what they know, but the Lord and master they have come to know, who now emboldens them to find a way forward, even in the midst of misunderstanding and opposition. May we also find courage in, and be encouraged by, the same risen Lord.

Rev'd Philip

Thank You

Over the past two years Shirley Tully has served as our Benefice Finance Manager and her time in this position will end on 30th April. The Joint Benefice Council, the seven PCCs, the rector and church members join in thanking her for her loyal service over this period and wish her all the best. Fortunately, we will still see Shirley around, as she will continue to serve Weobley PCC and Staunton-on-Wye PCC as treasurer.

Her contact email from 1st May will be shirleyctully@gmail.com

Chris Smith will be taking on the role of Benefice Finance Manager in a voluntary capacity from 1st May. Chris is already known to many of us here in the Benefice through his supportive work as Treasurer for the Kington and Weobley Deanery and his advisory role on the JBC.

He has worked for many years in the financial industry.

Chris will be contactable on 01544 340598 / 07785 708603 or email finance@weobleyandstaunton.org from **1st May**.

Our next edition of People & Steeple will cover Sunday 5th & 12th May.

Deadline for this 2 week edition will be Wednesday 1st May at 12 noon.

Almighty God,

The Fourth Sunday of Easter 21st April 2024

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.

Reading: Acts 4:5-12 &

Gospel reading:

John 10:11-18

Almighty God,

The Fifth Sunday of Easter 28th April 2024

who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ

have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life:

grant that, as by your grace going before us

you put into our minds good desires,

so by your continual help

we may bring them to good effect;

through Jesus Christ our risen Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

Reading: Acts 8:26-40

Gospel reading:

John 15:1-8

Prayer Focus

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

Please pray for Eliza Watton (and family) as she will be baptised on 5th May in Weobley church.

Our Church— Please pray for the Parish of Letton, the Parish Church Council and all the church community—Please pray for Bromyard Deanery.

Our Nation—Pray for those running in today's **London Marathon**, especially for those running to raise funds for charities—Tuesday is **St George's Day**: pray we may be proud of our heritage, and that this may be expressed in a generous spirit that honours the rights and freedoms of all—Wednesday is **Beep Beep Day**, organised by the charity Brake to help ensure the safety of children aged 2 to 9 on our roads. Pray for all that encourages road safety—Thursday is **World Malaria Day**, focusing attention on one of the major killer diseases of our world. Pray for the continued investment and sustained political commitment that will be needed for malaria to be prevented and controlled—Thursday also commemorates Mark the Apostle, Pray for all our use of the Bible, and for study groups, etc, in our churches—Sunday 28th is the World Day for **Safety at Work**. Pray for all whose work involves risk and danger, and that in every workplace the highest standards of safety may be maintained. Pray also for those who suffer from workplace injuries—**Time for a Cuppa Week** begins on Wednesday, Pray for a greater awareness and understanding of **dementia** in its various forms, and for all who are living with dementia, their friends and families—Pray for all who experience **mental health problems** in early motherhood, Pray for research and for care and support—**Local elections** take place in many parts of the country on Thursday, Pray for all who are standing as candidates, and for those responsible for administration.

Prayer Focus continued...

Our World—The issue of migrants in small boats remains in the news, and is likely to feature as an election issue. The “peak season” for Channel crossing begins in May. Pray that all in genuine need of refuge may find it.

Dates for your Diary

22nd Apr	7.00pm APCM Staunton-on-Wye	6th May	2.00pm—5.00pm Weobley Postcard Exhibition Weobley Parish Church
23rd Apr	6.00pm APCM Norton Canon	9th May	4.00pm Ascension Day Service Weobley Parish Church
28th Apr	10.30am—5.00pm OPEN DAY St Marys, Sarnesfield	12th May	3.00pm Rogationtide Walk Byford to Monnington-on-Wye
	11.40pm APCM (after morning service) Weobley	13th May	7.00pm JBC Meeting
3rd May	7.00pm Auction of Promises Weobley Village Hall	14th May	10.30am-12.00pm Coffee Morning Weobley Parish Church

Scam emails within the Benefice & Diocese

We have had a few recent cases of emails sent to clergy or lay people in which a fraudster has posed as the rector, JBC Officer or Diocese contact, requesting a 'favour' or a payment for an unspecified item. Please take your time to check the source of any suspicious emails like this (the address of the sender will invariably be different) and note that Philip, Shirley or Sam would not send an email of this nature. If unsure, then please check by phone. Scam emails can be reported directly to report@phishing.gov.uk or online at Action Fraud.

This is a Rubbish Campaign

tearfund

Our world has an urgent rubbish problem. But Christians are uniting to take global action.

We are asking you to put your faith into action and join us in demanding an end to plastic pollution. And we have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to do just that.

Poverty is not God's plan. You are. Sign our petition today.

<https://www.tearfund.org/forms/rubbish-campaign-petition>



What's On!



St Mary's, Sarnesfield
Open Day
Sunday 28th April

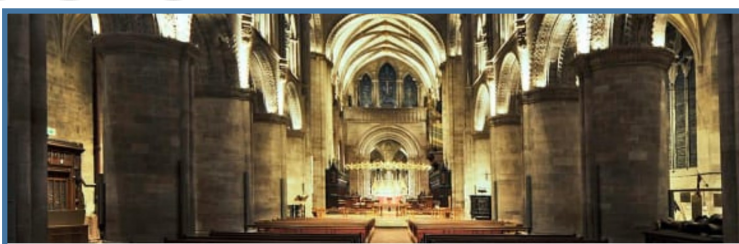
10.30am
–
5.00pm

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



Tuesday 7th May
5.30pm

Evensong in celebration of
30 years of Ordination of
Female Priests



HEREFORD
CATHEDRAL

Weobley Postcard Competition & Exhibition 6th May 2024



Weobley and District Local History Society and Weobley Parish Church will be holding an exhibition and tea in the church on Monday 6th May to launch 'Postcards from Weobley'. The Society is publishing a series of cards showing Weobley as it was in black and white photos and artists' impressions. We are inviting everyone to draw, paint, photograph or design an original postcard of Weobley as it is now, to be exhibited and sold on 6th May alongside some historic cards from the museum collection. Some will be selected for printing and the proceeds will go towards upkeep of the museum and church. Your postcard design should be on standard A6 size (105mm x 148mm) white card, with your name and contact details on the reverse.

For blank cards and more details contact wdlhs.secretary@hotmail.com or telephone 01544 319122.

What's On!

AUCTION OF PROMISES



IN SUPPORT OF THE 7 CHURCHES OF THE
WEOBLEY AND STAUNTON BENEFICE



7.00PM FRIDAY 3RD MAY 2024

Pre-booked Tickets £10.00

TO BE HELD IN

WEOBLEY VILLAGE HALL

WEOBLEY HR4 8SN

★ **OVER 40 LOTS INCLUDING...** ★

AFTERNOON TEA FOR 2 - 4 BALL 18 HOLE AT THE
HEREFORDSHIRE GOLF CLUB - YEAR'S SUPPLY OF JAM -
WEOBLEY POTTERY VOUCHER - 3-4 NIGHTS STAY IN LUXURY
APARTMENT NEAR BRIGHTON - WEOBLEY PRINT BY BOB KILVERT
- HAND-CRAFTED BIRD HOUSE - PACKS OF VENISON BURGERS &
SAUSAGES - 1/2 TONNE BAGS OF FIREWOOD LOGS - PAMPER
SESSION - IPHONE12 PRO - 1 HOUR FLIGHT FOR 2 PEOPLE OVER
OUR 7 PARISHES AND SO MUCH MORE.....

EARLY BIDDING

BIDS PRIOR TO THE AUCTION CAN BE MADE VIA SAM PHILLIPS

ON 07507 794779 EMAIL: admin@weobleyandstaunton.org

SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR AN UPDATING LIST OF LOTS

www.weobleyandstaunton.org

TO PREBOOK YOUR TICKETS PLEASE CONTACT SAM PHILLIPS

OR ROGER MARSHALL

MOBILE: 07771 933808 EMAIL: rogermarshall@bbmax.co.uk

LIVE MUSIC - AUCTION - CANAPES - BAR

Registered Charity Number ZD18809