



Parish of Newton Abbot and Ogwell

WEEKLY NEWS

26th April 2026.

In this edition:

FROM OUR RECTOR

Dear Friends

Last week we spoke about the importance of the doctrine of the resurrection, that without it we have no hope in the face of sin and death and judgement. But what is the evidence for that resurrection? Over the next 2 weeks we'll look at two things that Paul brings up from that same passage of 1 Corinthians chapter 15, and one other factor as well that back up this wonderful doctrine.

The first is the evidence of the number of witnesses. (see verses 3-8)

One Easter morning in my last church I asked for a volunteer to help me. Natasha, one of our young people offered and I asked her to sit behind the communion table with a blindfold on and with her ears covered with headphones playing music while we sang the next hymn. There was chocolate in it for her, so she willingly agreed.

At the end of the next hymn everyone sat down, then down her father, dressed in a large Peppa Pig costume, ran into church. He waved at everyone as he walked down the aisle, gave me a big hug, turned round and went out waving again.

I told the congregation to be quiet and then went and brought Natasha out from behind the communion table. I told her what had happened and asked her whether she believed me. She looked at me as if I was mad and said no!

I asked two people in the congregation to stand up. I asked them if Peppa Pig had come into church waving, giving me a big hug and then left, and they said he had. I asked Natasha if she believed me now. She looked at me as if I was completely nuts and shook her head. No. She would not believe it.

I then ask 12 people to stand up and ask them the same question. When they said that Peppa Pig had indeed come into church, Natasha seemed more willing to believe but the evidence was not strong enough.

Finally I asked everyone in the congregation who had seen Peppa Pig coming to church waving, given me a big hug and ran out again to stand up. Everyone in the congregation stood. This time when I asked Natasha the same question she nodded in incredulity. She couldn't get her head round what we were claiming. But the number of witnesses had won her over.

It's the same with the evidence for the resurrection. If it had just been the women. Or just the 12. Or just a few others. Then perhaps those who heard the claims of Jesus' resurrection would have been far more reticent to believe. But in 1 Corinthians 15 verse 6, Paul writes that "*after that, Jesus appeared to more than 500 of the brothers and the sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep.*" Here was an opportunity for the sceptics to go and speak to those who were there, and not just on their own, but with hundreds of others. They all would have heard the same account of the events. That Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the scriptures and that he appeared to lots and lots of people.

There's other evidence as well and we'll look at those over the next two weeks. But for now, rest in confidence that Jesus really did die. He really was buried and that wonderfully, gloriously he raised again from the dead.

Hallelujah -Christ is Risen- He is Risen indeed- Hallelujah!

Grace and peace,

Dave

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 Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

For the churches of the North Taw Mission Community, their clergy Tim Solosy, Glyn Lewry, Caroline Raby, LLM Mandy Lewry, Ian Huggett, and for all who live and worship in West Down, Marwood, Heanton Punchardon, and Georgeham.

Residents in the following streets: Bury Road, Bushell Road, Buttercombe Close, Camomile Way, Carew Gardens, Carlisle Street, Castle Way, Castlewood Avenue, Cedar Road, Chelston Road.

The sick and suffering including: Sheila Fletcher, Sally Fulcher, Marie Graham, Martyn, Eve Taylor, David Littlewood, Ruth and Ted Parkhouse, Sandy Vaughan Edwards, Ted Demery, Cherie Glover, Ryan Holland, Orla Pyne, Ian Tresidder, Olive Leicester, John and Joyce Sutherland and their family, Mark Portwood, and any others who are unwell.

Ben, Sarah and family as they care for Noah.

The families and friends of the recently deceased.

Please email prayer@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk to let us know about anyone needing our prayers.

COME, HOLY SPIRIT: A MORNING PRAYER RETREAT
THE PARAKLÉTOS – IN US, THROUGH US, ALONGSIDE US

Please join Dave, Alan, and Gareth for a meaningful morning of guided prayer and reflection.

This retreat is a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with the skills learned during our Lent Prayer Course, but it is equally open to anyone seeking a dedicated space for quiet reflection and connection. We will spend the morning exploring the Holy Spirit's presence in our lives, featuring a blend of:

- Guided activities
- Times of silence
- Shared conversation

We will conclude the morning by sharing lunch together.

DATE: 9TH MAY
TIME: 9:30 AM ARRIVAL FOR A 10:00 AM START
WHERE: ST JOHN'S CHURCH HALL (WICKHAM HALL) ON ASHBURTON ROAD IN BOVEY TRACEY

Readings for 26th April.

John Chapter 10, Verses 1 to 10

1st Letter of Peter Chapter 2, verses 4 to 10

Parish Prayer Gatherings

Our next **evening** Parish Prayer Gathering will be on **Monday 27th April** at St Paul's Church starting at 7 p.m.

No Prayer Gathering on Bank Holiday Monday.

Our next **morning** Parish Prayer Gathering will be on **Monday 11th May** at St Paul's Church starting at 9:15 a.m. Do come and join us.

LUNCH WITH GOD is on TODAY! Wednesday 22nd April. Why not come along and bring a friend to enjoy some home-made hot soup, plus tea/coffee. This will be our penultimate week, before we move to some outside gospel preaching from mid-May. Come and join us!

Baptism and Confirmation Preparation

On Sunday 5th July during the morning service at St Paul's, Bishop James – the Bishop of Plymouth - will be baptising and/or confirming candidates from across the parish.

If you have never been baptised or confirmed, and you would like to find out more about taking this step of obedience in baptism and/or being confirmed into the Church of England, please get in touch with Dave as soon as possible. Contact details are: Tel 01626 335862 or email rector@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk

There are two separate five-week preparation courses: one for children and young people aged 12 to 18 which has already started, and one for adults beginning on Tuesday 28th April. Both at 7 to 8:30 p.m. at St Paul's Church.

If you have children younger than 12 who wish to be baptised, please speak to Dave as well. Preparation classes for them will be held separately.

A Charity Coffee Morning will be held at St Bartholemew's Church, Ogwell 24th April at 10:30 a.m.

This is in addition to the charity coffee morning at St Paul's on the 25th April from 10 a.m. in aid of RNLI.

PRAYER QUIET MORNING

Following on from the Lent Prayer Course, we have arranged a quiet morning at **St John's Church Bovey Tracey on Saturday 9th May**. Details to follow but for now, why not book that time and come along!

St George's Day. A short service to mark St George's Day will be held at St Mary's Church, Wolborough on Thursday 23rd April at 12 noon.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) is planned for Wednesday 13th May at 7 p.m. at St Paul's Church Hall. All parishioners (residents of the Parish) are invited to attend. The meeting will include election of Churchwardens and members of the Parochial Church Council and reports on a range of matters concerning the parish finances and running of our churches.

Please come and take part in the democratic process of the parish.

Nomination forms for Parochial Church Council (PCC) member, churchwarden and deanery synod representative should be in your

church. Please consider prayerfully who you could nominate, or if you would agree to be nominated if asked.

There is one PCC vacancy at All Saints', one at St Paul's, one at St Bartholomew's and two at St Mary's Wolborough. There are three vacancies for Deanery Synod representatives. Churchwardens are elected annually, so nominations are needed from all churches.

To be a PCC member you must have been on the church electoral roll for at least six months and must be over 21 years of age. Churchwardens and deanery synod reps must also be on the electoral roll and over 16 years of age.

If any positions are contested, all parishioners may vote in the election for Churchwardens, but to vote in other elections, you need to be on the parish electoral roll.

ELECTORAL ROLL.

The Church of England doesn't have a membership list as such, but it does have an electoral roll which functions in a similar way. Being on the electoral roll of the parish is a way of showing that you are committed to worshipping, serving, giving to the work of the parish and that you feel it is your spiritual home for the time being at least. It also means that you have a right to stand for election, given certain restrictions, and it means that you can vote for motions presented at our annual parochial church meeting which takes place at the end of May.

If you are not yet on the electoral roll, and have been worshipping with us for six months, or live in the parish, please do consider joining. But time is short! You need to fill in the forms this weekend. Copies are available from the parish office and in each church.

If you belong to one of the churches in our parish and are not yet on the ER, please do sign up! Completed forms should be returned to either your Churchwarden or direct to the Samantha Simmons, Electoral Roll Officer by 29th April

Email: samantha@criticalmassarchitects.com

3-2-1 Course. Seeing God, the world and ourselves through the lens of Jesus and the good news of the Christian faith.

For four Tuesdays beginning 28th April, 7 p.m. at St Paul's. Details are on postcard invitations available in our churches.

Singers Wanted – no experience necessary – to join a group leading the singing at the Parish evening services that take place on the fifth Sunday of the month when that occurs. This will include traditional items: Nunc Dimittis, Magnificat, psalms and responses. Please come to the next training session on Wednesday 6th May at 2:30 p.m. at St Bartholemew's Church, Ogwell. For any enquiries, please contact our organist, Steve Cox phone 079 686 21511 or 01626 854228, or email stephen.cox54@talktalk.net

COMING EVENTS

Lunch with God. Wednesdays at St Paul's Church. 12:15 to 1:45 p.m. Free soup and hot drink. Bible teaching.

St George's Day Service. 23rd April, 12 noon at St Mary's Church, Wolborough.

Charity Coffee Morning. 24th April from 10:30 a.m. at St Bartholemew's Church, Ogwell.

Charity Coffee Morning. 25th April from 10 a.m. in the Hall at St Paul's Church in aid of RNLI.

3-2-1 Course starts 28th April, 7 p.m. at St Paul's.

Craft Club. 5th and 19th May at 2 p.m. at St Paul's Church.

Evensong Choir Training. 6th May, 2:30 p.m. at St Bartholomew's Church.

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

Prayer Quiet Morning. 9th May at St John's Church, Bovey Tracey.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 13th May, 7 p.m. at St Paul's Church Hall.

Men's Breakfast. Saturday 16th May, 9:00 a.m. at the Leisure Lounge Café.

Youth Group for ages 11 to 17 at The Avenue Church on 26th June, 7.30 to 9 p.m. No meeting in May.

CHURCH SERVICES

26th April

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

All Saints' Church, Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.

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

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

3rd May

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.

10th May

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

All Saints' Church, Holy Communion at 9:30 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 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.

ALL WEEK St Bartholomew's Church in Ogwell is normally open for private prayer
during daylight hours.

FUNERALS AND INTERMENTS

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
Lay minister for St Luke's, Graham Whittle family@hotmail.co.uk

Churchwardens:

All Saints': vacant

Abbotsbury: vacant

St Mary's **Sharon Lawrence** salawrence21@outlook.com 07794 108166

St. Paul's **Lorna Tresidder** lornatresidder@icloud.com

St Bartholomew's **Stella Llewellyn** stellallewellyn@icloud.com 01626 906814
and **Gwyn Hughes.** gwynhughes@icloud.com 01626 365028

Anna Chaplains: Mei Lan Machin. d.m.machin2013@gmail.com 07926 991578
and **Kim Martin** annachaplain@newtonabbotparishes.co.uk

Organist: Steve Cox 079 686 21511 or 01626 854228 stephen.cox54@talktalk.net

Parochial Church Council Secretary: Barbara Garrick 07910 207358
barbara_garrick@yahoo.com

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

Prayer List. Please let us know about anyone in need of prayers. Their name will be kept on the list for a month. Please email prayer@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