



## Mid-Wyedean Churches

serving Coleford, Clearwell,  
Newland, Redbrook, Staunton  
and surrounding communities

**Sunday August 17th**  
9th Sunday after Trinity

### **BIBLE READINGS**

Jeremiah 23.23-29

Psalms 82

Hebrews 11.29 - 12.2

Luke 12.49-56

### **PRAYER FOR THIS SUNDAY**

Gracious Father,  
revive your Church in our day,  
and make her holy, strong and faithful,  
for your glory's sake, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### **REFLECTIONS.....**

Christianity, they say, is an unfinished story. We hear of God's work in the past in and we catch glimpses of the future, but the action is still playing out, the characters are still developing, the story still unfolding. God calls all of us onto the stage and into the action, inviting us to share in the joy and the glory of God's great production. And of all the books in the Bible, it is perhaps the letter to the Hebrews that emphasizes this theme most strongly; for the letter is both a statement of Christ's great and saving work, and a summons for us too to participate in the ongoing drama which is our redemption.

Set against the divine life of Jesus, even the greatest earthly figures could lose their lustre, their acts and struggles at best a faint reflection of true virtue and courage. Instead, it was their very faith in God that led them to such heroism. The courage and wisdom of Rahab and Gideon and David and all those ancient saints flowed from their faith in a God who was with them and who redeemed them, in a covenant uniting God and humanity in freedom and grace. That faith did not diminish the value and importance of their lives, of their bravery and commitment – indeed, it drew them into struggles and victories greater than they could possibly imagine.;

### **CONTINUED....**

But now their baton passes to us, and we must take our place alongside them, among this great cloud of witnesses. We too must allow that same spirit to direct and sustain us, looking to them and now to Jesus, the 'pioneer and perfecter' of our faith, in whom all people are reconciled to God and to each other.

For us the challenges and anxieties will be different, not the fear of wild animals or the threat of violent persecution, perhaps now the more everyday temptations to selfishness or indifference, or maybe just to doubt whether any of it really matters in our tough and complex world. But for us too, Hebrews is a letter of encouragement, because however insignificant and powerless we may feel, however mundane our own lives may seem, we too are part of this great story. And we too can share in the faith and the joy of all God's people, through the eternal covenant of steadfast love made ours in Jesus Christ.

Dr Sarah Mortimer, University Church, Oxford

### **SERVICES THIS SUNDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST**

**The Good Shepherd, Broadwell 10.30am**  
Parish Communion

### **SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST**

**All Saints, Staunton 9.30am**  
Communion

**All Saints, Newland**  
8.00am Communion  
10.30am Animal Blessing Service

# PRAYERS AND NOTICES

## GIVE THANKS....

that the wet spring and the hot dry summer should bring a bumper apple crop for West Country Farmers this year.

## PRAY....

- for all those who mourn-

Sue, Andrew and family;

Mary, Alan and family;

Denise and family;

The family of the late Stuart McKenzie;

**'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.'** Matt 5: 4

- for those who are ill or in hospital, including Jackie, Monica, Steve, and others known to us. May they be comforted and healed.
- for the ongoing retreat at Llangasty Abbey
- for those students who will receive their **GCSE exam results on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August**
- for people caught up in the conflicts in Gaza and Ukraine, and that the talks in Alaska will be fruitful

**The funeral of John Simmons** will be held at 11.30am on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September at All Saints, Staunton



Over the summer holidays families with children often need more support.

If you wish to help, you can donate food, money, or time. See the website for details [theforest.foodbank.org.uk](http://theforest.foodbank.org.uk)

Alternatively, In order to get a food parcel from The Forest Foodbank folks will require an e-referral -see the website above for details.



## PRACTICAL TRAINING IN LIME MORTAR + CONSERVATION MASONRY SKILLS

St. Saviour's church, Redbrook  
Fri 26th to Sun 28th September

Four highly experienced conservators will supervise and give demonstrations. This course will be of interest to both professionals and amateurs hoping to develop practical conservation skills.

**Full fees £200 or £100 for single day. Some discounted and free places** are available to local people willing to commit to voluntary work on Redbrook church and for young people who are just starting out.

Email- [masonry.midwyedean@gmail.com](mailto:masonry.midwyedean@gmail.com)

## REGULAR EVENTS + MEETINGS

### MUSTARD SEEDS

Stay & Play for 0-5 years old.

Tuesdays in term time, 9.45-11.30am  
at Coleford Baptist Church.



**Next meeting on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September**

### TOGETHER FOR PRAYER

Tuesdays 12.00- 1.00 at The Vicarage.  
All Welcome



### CRAFT CLUB

Crafts in Good Company at The Good Shepherd, Broadwell,  
Thursdays, 2- 4 pm

### BROADWELL CHAT

Coffee and chat

**Every 1st Thursday of the month 10.00-12.00** at The Good Shepherd Church, Broadwell. Children & pets welcome.

**Next meeting Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September**

### BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday Linda, & Heather



### MUSIC + COMPLINE (NIGHT PRAYER)

A quiet time at the end of the week at St.Peters Church, Clearwell  
Fortnightly on Fridays 6.15-6.45pm, **next on Aug 15th** then 29<sup>th</sup> and finally Sept 12th



### DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

#### Fashion Show

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 7.00pm  
Terri Chance Boutique,  
Lydney  
More details to follow



Any enquiries, contact Nicholette at the Parish Office on 07933 935534, or at [office.midwyedean@gmail.com](mailto:office.midwyedean@gmail.com).

Newsletter Items should be emailed by Wed 12 Noon to John- [midwyedeannews@gmail.com](mailto:midwyedeannews@gmail.com)