Weekly Pew Sheet for the benefice of Newport and Carisbrooke with Gatcombe



Sunday 14th September 2025 - Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

Welcome to our benefice! If you are visiting one of our churches for the first time, please introduce yourself to us!

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Newport Minster

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<u>Collect</u>; Almighty God, you search us and know us: may we rely on you in strength and rest on you in weakness, now and in all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING; Nehemiah 4: 1-23

Now when Sanballat heard that we were building the wall, he was angry and greatly enraged, and he mocked the Jews. He said in the presence of his associates and of the army of Samaria, "What are these feeble Jews doing? Will they restore it by themselves? Will they offer sacrifice? Will they finish it in a day? Will they revive the stones out of the heaps of rubbish—burned ones at that?" Tobiah the Ammonite was beside him, and he said, "That stone wall they are building—any fox going up on it would break it down!" Hear, O our God, for we are despised; turn their taunt back on their own heads, and give them over as plunder in a land of captivity. Do not cover their guilt, and do not let their sin be blotted out from your sight, for they have raged against the builders.

So we rebuilt the wall, and all the wall was joined together to half its height, for the people had a mind to work. But when Sanballat and Tobiah and the Arabs and the Ammonites and the Ashdodites heard that the repairing of the walls of Jerusalem was going forward and the gaps were beginning to be closed, they were very angry and all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and to cause confusion in it. So we prayed to our God and set a guard as a protection against them day and night. But Judah said, "The strength of the burden bearers is failing, and there is too much rubbish so that we are unable to work on the wall." And our enemies said, "They will not know or see anything before we come upon them and kill them and stop the work." When the Jews who lived near them came, they said to us ten times, "From all the places where they live they will come up against us." So in the lowest parts of the space behind the wall, in open places, I stationed the people according to their families, with their swords, their spears, and their bows.

After I looked these things over, I stood up and said to the nobles and the officials and the rest of the people, "Do not be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your kin, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your households." When our enemies heard that their plot was known to us and that God had frustrated it, we all returned to the wall, each to his work. From that day on, half of my servants worked on construction, and half held the spears, shields, bows, and body-armour, and the leaders posted

themselves behind the whole house of Judah who were building the wall. The burden bearers carried their loads in such a way that each laboured on the work with one hand and with the other held a weapon. And each of the builders had his sword strapped at his side while he built. The man who sounded the trumpet was beside me. And I said to the nobles, the officials, and the rest of the people, "The work is great and widely spread out, and we are separated far from one another on the wall. Rally to us wherever you hear the sound of the trumpet. Our God will fight for us." So we laboured at the work, and half of them held the spears from break of dawn until the stars came out. I also said to the people at that time, "Let every man and his servant pass the night inside Jerusalem, so that they may be a guard for us by night and may labour by day." So neither I nor my brothers nor my servants nor the men of the guard who followed me ever took off our clothes; each kept his weapon in his right hand.

This is the word of the Lord Thanks be to God

GOSPEL READING; Luke 15: 1-10

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke Glory to you, O Lord

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance."

"Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

This is the Gospel of the Lord Praise to you O Christ

<u>Post communion prayer</u>; God our creator, you feed your children with the true manna, the living bread from heaven: let this holy food sustain us through our earthly pilgrimage until we come to that place where hunger and thirst are no more; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

What's on in our parish?

<u>Morning Prayer at The Minster:</u> Beginning 15th September at 8.30am. All welcome.

<u>The Newport Minster House Band - Those D.A.M.N. Saxes:</u> Monday, 15th September. Perform at The Minster 11.30-12.00.

<u>St. John's Midweek Service:</u> Takes place on Wednesday at 11am. This week the service is Holy Communion.

Singing for Fun: In the Parish Centre, Wednesday evening at 7pm. All welcome.

<u>SOCKS</u>: The St. Mary's knitting and crochet group will meet a week earlier this month from 10am to 12noon on September 20th at the Eight Bells.

<u>The Minster:</u> Will be closed Saturday 20th and 27th September due to Private bookings.

Alpha at Newport Minster: Join us on Wednesday 24th September for the launch of our new Alpha courses: Morning Alpha: 10:30am-12:00pm or Evening Alpha: 7:00pm-9:00pm. Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that explore life, faith, and meaning. Each week we look at a different question about the Christian faith, watch a short video, and share an open conversation in a relaxed setting. It is a great opportunity to meet new people, enjoy coffee (and pastries in the morning or puddings in the evening), and ask the big questions of life. Free and open to all. If you would like to attend please email: Abbie Lynch abbie.lynch@cofeheartofwight.org

<u>Friday 26th September:</u> Macmillan Coffee morning at Newport Minster.

<u>Tuesday, 30th September:</u> 1pm Lunchtime Concert 'The Sea gals' performing at Newport Minster.

<u>Newsflash</u>: I'm thrilled to let you know that Newport Minster volunteer team has passed the shortlisting stage and that we are one of the finalists in the church & community volunteer awards at the National Church Awards. The technical judging panels, which will decide on the winning entries, is soon! Thank you to every single one of you for your help and support!

<u>Children's Society Boxes:</u> Please could you return your filled Children's Society boxes to Peta at The Minster as soon as possible.