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



Sunday 7th September 2025 - Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

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

Contact information

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St Mary's, Carisbrooke

Church Warden - Peter Ednay; tel. no: 07919 096838 Church Warden - Allan Timbrell; tel. no: 07817 899413 Safeguarding Officer - Ann Smout; tel. no: 01983 527477

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Newport Minster

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<u>Collect</u>; God of constant mercy, who sent your Son to save us: remind us of your goodness, increase your grace within us, that our thankfulness may grow, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING; Nehemiah 1: 1-4, 2: 1-20

The words of Nehemiah son of Hacaliah. In the month of Chislev, in the twentieth year, while I was in the citadel of Susa, one of my brothers, Hanani, came with certain men from Judah, and I asked them about the Jews who escaped, those who had survived the captivity, and about Jerusalem. They replied, "The remnant there in the province who escaped captivity are in great trouble and shame; the wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been destroyed by fire."

When I heard these words, I sat down and wept and mourned for days, fasting and praying before the God of heaven.

In the month of Nisan, in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was served him, I carried the wine and gave it to the king. Now, I had never been sad in his presence before. So the king said to me, "Why is your face sad, since you are not sick? This can only be sadness of the heart." Then I was very much afraid. I said to the king, "May the king live forever! Why should my face not be sad, when the city, the place of my ancestors' graves, lies waste and its gates have been destroyed by fire?" Then the king said to me, "What do you request?" So I prayed to the God of heaven. Then I said to the king, "If it pleases the king, and if your servant has found favour with you, I ask that you send me to Judah, to the city of my ancestors' graves, so that I may rebuild it." The king said to me (the gueen also was sitting beside him), "How long will you be gone, and when will you return?" So it pleased the king to send me, and I set him a date. Then I said to the king, "If it pleases the king, let letters be given me to the governors of the province Beyond the River, that they may grant me passage until I arrive in Judah, and a letter to Asaph, the keeper of the king's forest, directing him to give me timber to make beams for the gates of the temple fortress and for the wall of the city and for the house that I shall occupy." And the king granted me what I asked, for the gracious hand of my God was upon me.

Then I came to the governors of the province Beyond the River and gave them the king's letters. Now the king had sent officers of the army and cavalry with me. When Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite official heard this, it displeased them greatly that someone had come to seek the welfare of the Israelites.

So I came to Jerusalem and was there for three days. Then I got up during the night, I and a few men with me; I told no one what my God had put into my heart to do for Jerusalem. The only animal I took was the animal I rode. I went out by night by the Valley Gate past the Dragon's Spring and to the Dung Gate, and I inspected the walls of Jerusalem that had been broken down and its gates that had been destroyed by fire. Then I went on to the Fountain Gate and to the King's Pool, but there was no place for the animal I was riding to continue. So I went up by way of the valley by night and inspected the wall. Then I turned back and entered by the Valley Gate and so returned. The officials did not know where I had gone or what I was doing; I had not yet told the Jews, the priests, the nobles, the officials, and the rest who were to do the work.

Then I said to them, "You see the trouble we are in, how Jerusalem lies in ruins with its gates burned. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, so that we may no longer suffer disgrace." I told them that the hand of my God had been gracious upon me and also the words that the king had spoken to me. Then they said, "Let us start building!" So they committed themselves to the common good. But when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite official and Geshem the Arab heard of it, they mocked and ridiculed us, saying, "What is this that you are doing? Are you rebelling against the king?" Then I replied to them, "The God of heaven is the one who will give us success, and we his servants are going to start building, but you have no share or claim or memorial in Jerusalem."

This is the word of the Lord Thanks be to God

GOSPEL READING; Luke 14: 25-33

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

Now large crowds were travelling with him, and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to

wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

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

<u>Post communion prayer</u>; God of all mercy, in this eucharist you have set aside our sins and given us your healing: grant that we who are made whole in Christ may bring that healing to this broken world, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

What's on in our parish?

<u>New Website:</u> We are coming towards the end of our new website development, as part of this we plan to take photographs of congregation life to include in the website. Announcements will be made at the start of services to make people aware, there is no obligation to be involved.

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

<u>Singing for Fun:</u> Returns at 7pm, Wednesday 10th September at the Parish Centre. All welcome.

<u>Friday 12th September - Rave in the Nave! Silent Disco:</u> 4.30-6.30pm Families, 7pm-9.30pm over 18's. Come and celebrate the joy of music and dancing as part of Heritage Open Days. Activity is free but you need to have a ticket due to limited numbers. Apply at ticketsource - Newport Minster or at the Minster Café.

<u>Ride and Stride:</u> Sat 13th Sept St. Mary's 10am-6pm, St. John's 10am-4pm, Newport Minster 10am- 2.30pm. For sponsorship forms see back of Church and visit the website www.hihct.org.uk for further information.

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

Alpha Courses: Wed 24th Sept 10.30am-Midday and 7pm-9pm at Newport Minster. Alpha is interactive sessions exploring life, faith, and meaning. Each session covers a different question around the Christian faith designed to spark conversation. It involves meeting new people, watching a video and having a conversation. If you would like to attend please email Abbie Lynch@cofeheartofwight.org

<u>Flowers:</u> The Flowers at the Minster today have been gifted by Tom and Mary Harden to celebrate their wedding anniversary. Thank you to Amanda for creating the beautiful display.