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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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 Hakaliah: In the month of Kislev in the twentieth year, while I was in the citadel of Susa, Hanani, one of my brothers, came from Judah with some other men, and I questioned them about the Jewish remnant that had survived the exile, and also about Jerusalem. They said to me, "Those who survived the exile and are back in the province are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire." When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven.

In the month of Nisan in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was brought for him, I took the wine and gave it to the king. I had not been sad in his presence before, so the king asked me, "Why does your face look so sad when you are not ill? This can be nothing but sadness of heart." I was very much afraid, but I said to the king, "May the king live forever! Why should my face not look sad when the city where my ancestors are buried lies in ruins, and its gates have been destroyed by fire?" The king said to me, "What is it you want?" Then I prayed to the God of heaven, and I answered the king, "If it pleases the king and if your servant has found favour in his sight, let him send me to the city in Judah where my ancestors are buried so that I can rebuild it." Then the king, with the queen sitting beside him, asked me, "How long will your journey take, and when will you get back?" It pleased the king to send me; so I set a time.

I also said to him, "If it pleases the king, may I have letters to the governors of Trans-Euphrates, so that they will provide me safe-conduct until I arrive in Judah? And may I have a letter to Asaph, keeper of the royal park, so he will give me timber to make beams for the gates of the citadel by the temple and for the city wall and for the residence I will occupy?" And because the gracious hand of my God was on me, the king granted my requests. So I went to the governors of Trans-Euphrates and gave them the king's letters. The king had also sent army officers and cavalry with me. When Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite official heard about this, they were very much disturbed that someone had come to promote the welfare of the Israelites.

I went to Jerusalem, and after staying there three days I set out during the night with a few others. I had not told anyone what my God had put in my heart to do for Jerusalem. There were no mounts with me except the one I was riding on. By night I went out through the Valley Gate toward the Jackal Well and the Dung Gate, examining the walls of Jerusalem, which had been broken down, and its gates, which had been destroyed by fire. Then I moved on toward the Fountain Gate and the King's Pool, but there was not enough room for my mount to get through; so I went up the valley by night, examining the wall. Finally, I turned back and re-entered through the Valley Gate. The officials did not know where I had gone or what I was doing, because as yet I had said nothing to the Jews or the priests or nobles or officials or any others who would be doing the work.

Then I said to them, "You see the trouble we are in: Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates have been burned with fire. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, and we will no longer be in disgrace." I also told them about the gracious hand of my God on me and what the king had said to me. They replied, "Let us start rebuilding." So they began this good work. But when Sanballat the Horonite, Tobiah the Ammonite official and Geshem the Arab heard about it, they mocked and ridiculed us. "What is this you are doing?" they asked. "Are you rebelling against the king?" I answered them by saying, "The God of heaven will give us success. We his servants will start rebuilding, but as for you, you have no share in Jerusalem or any claim or historic right to it."

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

Large crowds were travelling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: "If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple. And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won't you first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it? For if you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule you, saying, 'This person began to build and wasn't able to finish.' Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Won't he

first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples."

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.