

Parish News

Weekly Pew Sheet for the benefice of Newport and Carisbrooke with Gatcombe
To know Jesus and to make him known

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



Verse for the week

"I myself will search for my sheep."

Ezekiel 34: 11

Thought for the week

The Shepherd Who Comes Looking

Ezekiel wrote to a scattered people. They had been let down by leaders who fed themselves and left the flock to wander and go hungry. God's answer is not a new committee but a promise: *I will come myself*. I will seek the lost, bring back the strayed, bind up the injured, strengthen the weak.

Centuries later Jesus takes up that promise and says, in effect, "This is me." The Good Shepherd of John 10 knows his sheep by name and lays down his life for them.

Whatever this autumn is bringing your way – busyness, grief, weariness or quiet joy – the Good Shepherd is seeking you out. You are known, seen and carried. As a parish, we share in that same shepherding: who around you this week might need care?

Best wishes Chris

Collect;

Faithful Lord,
whose steadfast love never ceases
and whose mercies never come to an end:
grant us the grace to trust you
and to receive the gifts of your love,
new every morning,
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING; 'I am' Series: Ezekiel 34: 1-10

The word of the Lord came to me: Mortal, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel; prophesy and say to them: To the shepherds—thus says the Lord God: Woe, you shepherds of Israel who have been feeding yourselves! Should not shepherds feed the sheep? You eat the fat; you clothe yourselves with the wool; you slaughter the fatted calves, but you do not feed the sheep. You have not strengthened the weak; you have not healed the sick; you have not bound up the injured; you have not brought back the strays; you have not sought the lost, but with force and harshness you have ruled them. So they were scattered because there was no shepherd, and scattered they became food for all the wild animals. My sheep were scattered; they wandered over all the mountains and on every high hill; my sheep were scattered over all the face of the earth, with no one to search or seek for them.

Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord: As I live, says the Lord God, because my sheep have become a prey and my sheep have become food for all the wild animals, since there was no shepherd, and because my shepherds have not searched for my sheep, but the shepherds have fed themselves and have not fed my sheep, therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord: Thus says the Lord God: I am against the shepherds, and I will hold them accountable for my sheep and put a stop to their feeding the sheep; no longer shall the shepherds feed themselves. I will rescue my sheep from their mouths, so that they may not be food for them.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

GOSPEL READING; John 10: 1-10

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John

Glory to you, O Lord

"Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

Post communion prayer;

Holy and blessed God,
you have fed us with the body and blood of your Son
and filled us with your Holy Spirit:
may we honour you,
not only with our lips
but in lives dedicated to the service
of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

What's on in our parish?

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

The Barnabas Way: There is still time to join on a Thursday Evening at 7pm at St. John's Hall and it's okay to miss a session or two. Speak to Rev. Chris for further details. All are welcome.

Worship and Prayer Sunday Evening Service: Doors open at 6pm at the Minster for coffee, with the evening starting at 6:30pm. All are welcome – we would love to see you there!

Singing for Fun: Singing for Fun is moving from 14th October to Creative Hub who will now be taking the lead. The sessions will take place at Independent Arts, 48–49 High Street, Newport, PO30 1SE. If you have any questions contact nicola@independentarts.org.uk or call 01983 822437.

Memorial Service: Sunday 1st November, 2pm, Newport Minster. All are invited to our memorial service to remember and give thanks for loved ones who have died, no matter how long ago. During the service names of loved ones will be read out, if you would like your loved ones name included, please write their names on the sheet at the back of church.

Contact Information

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