



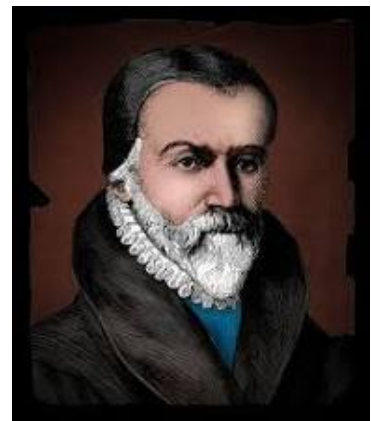
Twynning Parish Church Newsletter 2026

The Tyndale Bible

- the first English translation of the Bible from the original Greek and Hebrew texts

This year marks the 500th anniversary of William Tyndale's English translation of the New Testament... Tyndale was born in Gloucestershire, graduated from Oxford in 1512, and was ordained three years later. He came under the influence of early reformers and served as a priest in Lincolnshire and Cambridge, where these new ideas were particularly strong, sharpening his evangelical tendencies. The Bible used by the church at the time was St. Jerome's Vulgate, in Latin, a competent if flawed translation in a language not understood by the majority of people. There was an English translation by John Wycliffe in the late 14th century, but its language was overtly refined, outdated and considered heretical

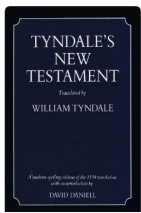
Tyndale was one of many young intellectuals intrigued by events abroad. A vernacular Bible was only part of the new thinking, usually accompanied by an aggressive questioning of church authority. Once scripture could be read and understood by every Christian, why should the institutional church assume such influence over teachings and doctrine? Where were nuns and monks in the gospels, why were clergy celibate, and was there a biblical foundation for religious hierarchy and authority? More significantly, are we saved by faith alone, and is the celebration of the Eucharist an important but symbolic act or the literal transubstantiation taught by the [Catholic] church?



Tyndale was able to speculate on all this, and work on his translation, while serving as a chaplain to Sir John Walsh in Little Sodbury Manor in Gloucestershire where he was protected, and because his work was not widely known. Translating scripture wasn't strictly illegal but did require the approval of a bishop, and if Tyndale was to reach a larger audience, he needed such episcopal support. He approached the Bishop of London, Cuthbert Tunstall, widely respected as a moderate, a humanist and a friend of scholarship. Tunstall refused, however, and because of his approach, Tyndale and his work were now known – and not in the way he had hoped. In 1524 he fled to what is now Germany, to Wittenberg, where Martin Luther lived and taught.

He completed his translation of the New Testament and travelled to Cologne to have it printed. Cologne was Roman Catholic, not safe, and news of what Tyndale intended leaked. He was forced to flee once again, and it was in Antwerp in 1526 that the translation was eventually printed, and where he would translate some books of the Old Testament and also write some theological pamphlets.

In the following years Tyndale's reputation grew, and so did opposition to his activities. He was betrayed and arrested, and spent a year in prison. In 1536 he was executed, not specifically for his Bible translation but for the crime of heresy. It was the English government that was behind his fate. Before being strangled and then burnt at the stake it is claimed that he prayed: "Lord, open the king



of England's eyes." Henry's eyes remained firmly closed, alas, and one of the reasons he wanted Tyndale silenced was because the reformer had opposed the king's divorce from Catherine of Aragon, condemning it as unscriptural. The ironies are numerous.

Nothing that Henry VIII ever wrote had much of an impact on posterity, but one of his royal successors, James I, commissioned a bible translation that became one of the most influential books of all time. Around 80 per cent of the Authorised Version's New Testament is based on Tyndale. "Salt of the earth", "a law unto themselves", "filthy lucre", "signs of the times", "the powers that be", "eat, drink and be merry", "wolf in sheep's clothing" and so many more are all Tyndale.

Tyndale famously said: "If God spare my life, 'ere many years will I cause a boy who drives a plough to know more of the scriptures than you do." It may sound archaic today but the repercussions of what the man achieved are enormous. The shape of the English language, the notion of equality through knowledge of scripture that was so influential in Protestant culture, helping to shape the Puritan movement that won the English Civil War established a republic and eventually gave birth to constitutional monarchy. The British left, traditionally said to owe more to Marxism, can trace its roots back to individual interpretation of the Bible. And the United States would become, like it or not, a Protestant superpower, based on citizens and their Bibles. I wonder if Tyndale would have imagined that?

-by Michael Coren, a priest in the Anglican Church of Canada, published in The Times on 10 April 2026

A Prayer

Reveal to us your saving word, O God,
that like your servant William Tyndale
we might hear its call to repentance and new life.
Plant in our hearts that same consuming passion to bring
the scriptures to all people in their native tongue,
and the strength to endure amidst all obstacles. — Book of Common Prayer

P.S. In July / August Tewkesbury Abbey is hosting an exhibition to mark 500 years since William Tyndale's English New Testament was first printed!!

From the Parish Registers

Funeral and Burial 7th April 2026 **Betty Spacey** RIP

Baptism anniversaries

This month we celebrate the anniversary of the Baptism of **Orla Daphne** on 12th June 2022.

Please remember her and her family in your prayers.

'See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are.' (1 John 3:1)



The affordable Art Exhibition at Showborough



2026 Opening Times

until June 14th, Thursday – Sunday, 10:30am - 4pm

Closed Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday (Closed Bank Holiday Mondays)

Ample parking (GL20 6DN); self-service beverages & snacks; sculptures / plants
Entry free, donations welcome. Booking not required

SERVICES AND EVENTS

JUNE

Jun 7 th	Sunday	9.30am	PARISH COMMUNION	
Jun 8 th	Monday	1.30pm	Open the Book	Twyning School
Jun 10 th	Wednesday	10-12	PARISH COFFEE MORNING with Ann and Peter, Twyning Park, Fleet Road	
Jun 14 th	Sunday	9.30am	AVON RIVER DAY - PARISH COMMUNION with Acorns Stall and Refreshments	
		3.00pm	AVON RIVER DAY - Stroll and Blessing meet at the river by the Fleet (see p5)	
Jun 21 st	Sunday	9.30am		MORNING PRAISE
Jun 22 nd	Monday	1.30pm	Open the Book	Twyning School
Jun 28 th	Sunday	9.30am	PARISH COMMUNION + Refreshments	

JULY

July 5 th	Sunday	9.30am	PARISH COMMUNION	
July 5 th	Sunday	3-5pm	STRAWBERRY CREAM TEA IN THE GARDEN at Birds Farm in aid of Acorns Children's Hospice	
July 8 th	Wednesday	10-12	Parish Coffee Morning with Judy Marples, Blencathra, Goodiers Lane	
July 12 th	Sunday	9.30am	PARISH COMMUNION with Acorns Stall and Refreshments	
July 19 th	Sunday	9.30am	PATRONAL FESTIVAL MORNING PRAISE	
July 26 th	Sunday	9.30am	PARISH COMMUNION + Refreshments	

Readings, Readers & Hymns

9.30am unless time given	readings [small lectionary]	1 st & 2 nd readings	hymns NEH unless stated
7 th June Trinity 1 Parish Communion	Hosea 5.15-6.6 p242 Romans 4.13-25 Matthew 9.9,18-26	Muriel Russell	333 All my hope on God 272 All for Jesus 360 Firmly I believe and truly 495 God is working his purpose
14 th June <i>Avon River Day</i> Parish Communion	Ezekiel 47.1-12 (-) Revelation 22.1-5 (p1094) John 4.4-15 (-)	Chris Cole	393 Lead us heavenly Father 377 Immortal, invisible 271 Alleluya, sing to Jesus 336 Angel voices ever singing
21 st June Trinity 3 / <i>Fathers' Day</i> Morning Praise	<i>contemporary</i> Genesis 21.8-21 Matthew 10.24-39	Olivia	RED 62 I the Lord of sea and sky 93 Jesus is Lord 196 This is the day
28 th June Trinity 4 Parish Communion	Jeremiah 28.5-9 p260 Romans 6.12-23 Matthew 10.40-42	Mac McKeever	394 Let all the world 417 O God, our help 353 Dear Lord and Father 362 Glorious things of thee
5 th July Trinity 5 Parish Communion	Zechariah 9.9-12 p260 Romans 7.15-25a Matt 11.16-19, 25-30	Chris Cole	473 When morning gilds 349 Come let us join our 420 O Jesus I have promised 440 Praise to the Lord
12 th July Trinity 6 Parish Communion	Isaiah 55.10-13 p271 Romans 8.1-11 Matt 13.1-9, 18-23	Robert Cockrell	252 The day thou gavest 339 Be thou my vision 360 Firmly I believe and truly 55 Hail to the Lord's Anointed
19 th July <i>Patronal Festival</i> Morning Praise	S. of Solomon 3.1-4 p995 2 Corinthians 5.14-17 John 20.1-2,11-18	Gemma Munro	tbc
26 th July Trinity 8 Parish Communion	1 Kings 3.5-12 p283 Romans 8.26-39 Matt 13.31-33, 44-52	Vera Hesketh	418 O happy band of pilgrims 232 Awake my soul 381 Jerusalem the golden 186 Tell out my soul

Everyone is always welcome at all our services and events.

See our website: <http://www.achurchnearyou.com/twyning-st-mary-magdalene>

NB An **induction loop** for those with hearing aids is available at all services in Twyning Church

Contact us on:

Vicar:	Rev'd Canon Nick Davies	01684 850 959
Reader & Parish Lay Minister:	Angela Cole	01684 294 325
Churchwarden:	Chris Cole	01684 294 325
Hon. Treasurer:	Richard Bailey	01684 298 268
Benefice Administrator	Claire Redstone	info@tewkesburyabbey.org.uk

Avon River Day – Sunday June 14th

Last year, Canon Nick reminded us about the dire state of our rivers (see newsletter for August 2025). He ended by writing

“The Avon, once a giver of life, is becoming sick. So what can we do? We often take clean, flowing water for granted. But perhaps now’s the time to remember that it’s sacred—not only in the spiritual sense, but also in its everyday importance to our health, our environment, and our future. As a town shaped by water, maybe we’re also called to be its guardians?”

Last Autumn, Canon Nick contacted churches along the River Avon and many are hoping to organise a river-focused service or prayer activity on 14th June, including Twyning. Here’s the list on contact so far:

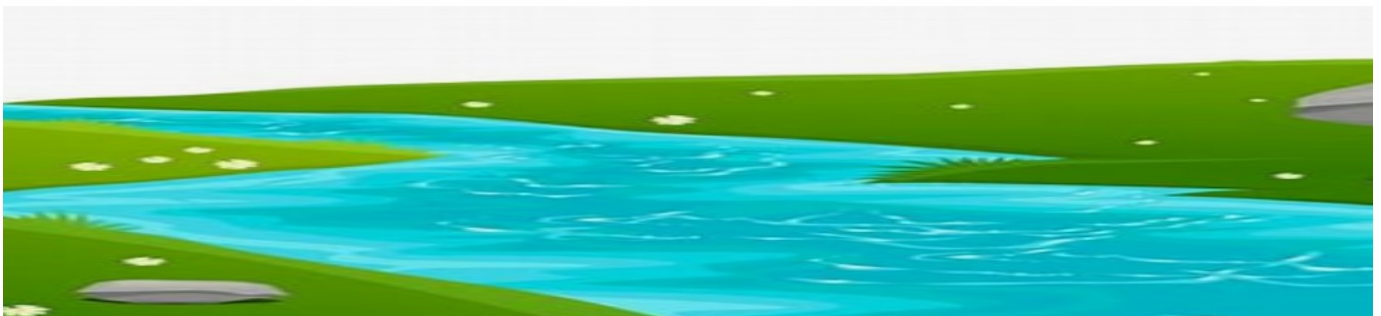
- *All Saints, Evesham*
- *Pershore Abbey*
- *Heart of England Parishes*
- *St Andrew's, Rugby*
- *Coventry Diocese*
- *Holy Trinity, Stratford*
- *St Mary Magdalene, Twyning*
- *Tewkesbury Abbey*

At Twyning, we are planning a river related Parish Communion at 9.30am and an afternoon stroll along the river with prayers at Chad’s Well, before retiring to a riverside pub for refreshments!

Avon River Day – at Twyning – Stroll and Blessing Sunday June 14th starting at 3pm

- **meet by the river at Twyning Fleet at 3pm for**
- **an afternoon stroll along the river**
- **which includes a scavenger hunt**
- **with prayers at Chad’s Well**
- **before returning to a riverside pub for refreshments**

Families are most welcome. Please join in all or part of the festivities.



Here are messages received about what will be happening on the river that day:

TEWKESBURY: Downriver at Tewkesbury Abbey, we will be conducting their usual river blessing and have managed to get the High Sheriff to attend this year. Revd Dr Timothy Howles, Associate Director of the Laudato Si’ Research Institute will preach and we may follow this up with a lunchtime talk and discussion with a range of local river users.

PERSHORE: Here at Pershore we are aiming for a simple service of blessing at our Old Bridge at 1430. All we need now is fine weather!

Best wishes, Revd Canon Claire Lording, Vicar, Benefice of Pershore with Pinvin, Wick & Birlingham

*This has been found amongst old papers in the parish:
[punctuation and layout is copied from the original!!]*

The Living of Twyning

The CHURCHWARDENS think it is desirable that the
Parishioners of Twyning should be acquainted with

The following details concerning the LIVING OF TWYNING

1. That under the title of "Tithe" Christ Church College, Oxford, Received from the Parish of Twyning the sum of £750 per annum free of taxes.
2. This sum, we are informed, has to be devoted by this College For educational purposes at Oxford. None of this "Tithe" money is given to the Vicar of Twyning.
3. From enquiries we have made it appears that although the "Tithe" was originally intended for the support of the Vicar, it was taken away in the time of Henry VIII. And Given to Oxford.
4. The Living is in the gift of the College of Christ Church, and a grant of £130 a year is made from the College Funds. This grant, together with the grant from Queen Ann's Bounty, The Charity Commissioner, and two or three other small incomings, make a total of £236. 13s 8d.
From this sum has to be deducted Income Tax, and local Rates and taxes, amounting to no less than £24. 7s. 7d, leaving
The net Stipend of the Vicar of the Parish of Twyning £212 6s 1d
In addition to this the Lady of the Manor left the interest on money obtained from the Sale of Bird's Farm. Owing to litigation none of the money has been paid.
5. It is understood that a Bill, called the "Enabling Bill", Introduced for Equalizing the Stipends of the Clergy, is before Parliament, but in the meanwhile we consider that It is our immediate duty to call the Parishioners to our Assistance to help the Vicar in the present emergency.
6. Wages of Workers all over the Country have been raised again and again. The Stipend of the Vicar of this Parish has been left unaltered
7. It is therefore proposed to start a Fund under the title of "The Vicar's Stipend Fund" And we, the Churchwardens, earnestly appeal to all Parishioners to contribute to it To the utmost of their ability. Subscriptions will be received and gratefully acknowledged by the Treasurer, CAPT G.S.COPE: Abbott,s Court, Twyning.

SIGNED THOMAS WALKER,]

A.E.PASSEY] Churchwardens

[The list of Churchwardens hung in Twyning Church shows that Thomas Walker was in post with A. E. Passey during the year 1916. - *Ed.*]

This letter was sent to Twyning Parish Councillors thanking them for a welcome grant:

28 April 2026

Dear *Clerk*,

**TWYNING PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (TPCC)
ST MARY MAGDALENE**

I have noted that a Grant from Twyning Parish Council in continuing its support for the MAINTENANCE OF THE CHURCHYARD has been received this week in our Church Bank account.

The Parish Council has granted a sum of £1,500 towards the upkeep and maintenance of the Churchyard for 2025. Twyning PCC really appreciates this support.

We undertake the maintenance using a team of volunteers and contractors. Our payments for the period January to December 2025 were £3092.

Residents of Twyning and visitors to the Church from all over the world often remark on the good impression they have of our Parish from the standard of our care of the Church and its Churchyard. Many hundreds of people visit the Churchyard each year.

We will arrange for a note of thanks to be published in the June edition - our next Parish Newsletter – and on the noticeboard in Church.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Bailey



**Benefice of
Tewkesbury Abbey with
Walton Cardiff & Twyning**



*We are part of the Benefice of **Tewkesbury with Walton Cardiff & Twyning** with Revd Canon Nick Davies as our vicar.*

You are most welcome to come to the Tewkesbury Community Fair – 13 June at Tewkesbury Abbey, 11am - 4pm, with stalls showing the wide variety of opportunities & support available in our locality.

Services times at Tewkesbury Abbey (please check with Abbey Bulletin)

Sunday	7.30am Morning Prayer	Wednesday	9am Morning Prayer
	8am Holy Communion BCP		4pm Centering Prayer
	10.30am High Mass with Children's Church	Thursday	9am Morning Prayer
	5pm Evensong		11am Holy Communion (BCP)
Monday	9am Morning Prayer		5.30 Choral Evensong
	4pm Evening Prayer /5.30 Choral Evensong	Friday	9am Morning Prayer
Tuesday	9am Morning Prayer		5.30 Choral Evensong
	12 noon Holy Communion	Saturday	9am Morning Prayer
	4pm Evening Prayer /5.30 Choral Evensong		4pm Evening Prayer

LOCAL SERVICES 2026

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Or if you would prefer to speak, please call Becky Hallett on 01684 275128.

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Email: bookings@twyningvillagehall.org.uk

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