



TWYNING PARISH CHURCH 2026

A letter from our vicar, Revd Canon Nick Davies:

Flowing Together: Why the Health of Our River Matters to Twyning

Recently, I stood by the water's edge to lead our annual river blessing. While the main service took place just downriver at Tewkesbury Abbey, I was acutely aware that we were part of a much larger, shared effort. Right here in Twyning on the very same day, a local group gathered at The Fleet Inn to walk the path to St Chad's Well, where prayers for our waters were beautifully led by Angela Cole. Similar blessings took place all along the Avon, stretching through Pershore, Evesham, Stratford, and right up to Rugby. Rivers do not recognize parish or village boundaries; they connect us in a literal, living web. This is why the health of the River Avon is a vital issue for every single one of us, whether we attend church on a Sunday or simply enjoy a walk along the banks.

It is easy to look at our beautiful local landscape and assume all is well, but our rivers are under immense pressure. Globally, only a third of the world's great river systems remain free-flowing, unimpeded by human barriers. Closer to home, the statistics are deeply sobering, with only 14% of English rivers currently achieving "good ecological status" under the Government's own definitions. When a river suffers, the damage ripples through the entire ecosystem. Freshwater species have seen a staggering 83% decline worldwide since 1970, and the surrounding land suffers too, losing natural nutrients and experiencing accelerated erosion. Ultimately, this directly impacts human communities through increased flood risks, a degraded drinking supply, and clear harm to the local recreation and tourism that our area relies on.



This is not just a distant environmental headline; it is happening right on Twyning's doorstep. Severn Trent's published figures identified 500 individual raw sewage dumps along the Avon last year, lasting for over 3,000 hours. The data for the start of 2026 is even more concerning. In just the first three months of this year, the treatment works right here in Twyning, alongside Tewkesbury, each spilled raw sewage for 42 days. This is a system-wide overload, a massive public health gamble that directly impacts our local water meadows, wildlife, and river users.

From my perspective as a vicar, the Bible views creation not as random matter to be exploited, but as a dynamic web bound together by divine love. We are called to be interdependent caretakers of the earth, not masters over it. Yet, you do not need to be religious to recognize that everything is interconnected. The plight of our river is simply the downstream result of human choices—how we build, how we grow food, and what we consume.

Fortunately, there is a vital opportunity for change on the horizon. The Water Bill is currently passing through Parliament, with campaigners rightly calling for an absolute end to raw sewage dumps, full funding for the Environment Agency, and total transparency in reporting by water companies. If you cherish our local environment, please consider contacting our MP to share your thoughts. Our river is a beautiful, life-giving gift that connects Twyning to the wider world. Let us work together to protect it, ensuring it remains a source of health and pride for generations to come.

P.S. Among the many emails describing Avon Blessing events, Revd Sarah at Cropthorne emailed: "Cropthorne et al villages didn't manage a service by the river (that's next year, hopefully) but had a well-attended service in church with a folk duo offering a ballad to the river, specially written by them for the service and a short talk by a leader of the Avonvale River Action Group. Lots of positive comments from people pleased to have the general awareness of the health of water and rivers raised.

13 June 2027 is in the diary!!"

Funeral Service – Canon Edward Montague-Youens - RIP

On Friday 26 June at St Leonard's Church, Ribbesford near Bewdley, the funeral was held for Canon Edward, followed by a service at Wyre Forest Crematorium. Chris and Angela attended the church service to represent the Twyning congregation. Edward is fondly remembered for his time here at St Mary Magdalene from 1996. Particularly memorable are his bible story talks, illustrated with huge water colours created by a lady friend of his – even the adults were enthralled.



On the back of the service card was this list – Twyning is the final entry:

ORDAINED DEACON, WORCESTER CATHEDRAL 1958
ORDAINED PRIEST 1959
ASSISTANT CURATE, REDDITCH PARISH CHURCH 1958 - 9
ASSISTANT CURATE, HALESOWEN PARISH CHURCH IN CHARGE OF
ST PETER'S LAPOL 1959 – 62
VICAR OF KEMPSEY 1962 – 69
VICAR OF ST GEORGES, KIDDERMINSTER 1969 - 72
RECTOR OF RIBBESFORD WITH BEWDLEY @DOWLES 1972 – 81
RURAL DEAN OF KIDDERMINSTER 1976 – 81
HON. CANON, WORCESTER CATHEDRAL 1978 – 81
(CANON EMERITUS SINCE 1981)
RURAL DEAN OF LYME BAY 1982 - 86
VICAR OF EASEBOURNE PRIORY, MIDHURST AND CHAPLAIN OF
KING EDWARD VII HOSPITAL 1986 - 89
RETIRED 1989
N.S.M. IN CHARGE OF ST MARY MAGDALENE TWYING FROM 1996

A Prayer:



We pray that our lives may be obedient and
our offerings sincere in the faith of Christ. Amen.

Baptism anniversaries

This month we celebrate the anniversaries of the Baptisms of
Sophia Rose on 1st August 2021 and
George Thomas on 25th August 2024.

Please remember them and their families 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)

STRAWBERRY CREAM TEA at BIRDS FARM 5 July 2026

Here is preliminary info from the Tea.

We couldn't believe how many people came considering the very hot weather.

What a superb social occasion.

It was a very successful day enjoyed by so many people.

There were lots of conversations & meeting up with old friends & new ones.

We were ably supported by a team on the teas & by stallholders & friends.

Scones were donated by the Colston Bakery in Upton and Fiona made the gluten free scones.

Warners of Upton donated the strawberries.

About 70 teas were served.....

Here are the receipts so far:-

Teas & gifts: £ 346.50

- Mary, Alison, Colleen, Gemma, Jane & Dave (at the sink).

Raffle: £ 240.00 Junie & Robert.

Birthday Game: £ 28.50. Olivia wrote: *I did a 'guess the birthday' of the Teddy Bear & raised £28.50.*

TOTAL £615.00

With £240 from the monthly stall this year and a PCC contribution of £145.00
a cheque for

£1,000 is to be sent to Acorns Children's Hospice to help nurses support families with life-limited children in their own homes.

Many thanks to you all !!

[illegible]

Twyning Village Fete Monday 31st August -

The church is again organising a stall for the Village Fete. Ideas for this year include the usual delights – Roll a Coin, sale of Acorns items, leaflets to distribute plus a Prayer station e.g. heart shaped tags / ribbons on a tree. **If you are free to help**, please contact Chris, churchwarden.

SERVICES AND EVENTS

AUGUST

Aug 2 nd	Sunday	9.30am	PARISH COMMUNION
Aug 9 th	Sunday	9.30am	PARISH COMMUNION with Acorns Stall and Refreshments
Aug 11 th	Tuesday	3.30-4.30	Visiting ringers in the tower
Aug 16 th	Sunday	9.30am	PARISH COMMUNION
Aug 23 rd	Sunday	9.30am	PARISH COMMUNION+ Refreshments
Aug 30 th	Sunday	10am	Service on the Village Green



Aug 31 st	Monday	1-4pm	<i>Village Fete inc. Church Stall</i>
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SEPTEMBER

Sep 6 th	Sunday	9.30am	PARISH COMMUNION
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Wednesday 9th Sep 10am -12noon **PARISH COFFEE MORNING**
with Angela & Chris, Shieling Fleet Rd

Sept 12 th	Saturday	10am	Ride + Stride or Drive (see pp7-8)
Sep 13 th	Sunday	9.30am	PARISH COMMUNION with Acorns Stall and Refreshments
Sep 19 th	Saturday	2pm	Wedding: Jessica Nevin+John Smith-Maxwell
Sep 20 th	Sunday	9.30am	PARISH COMMUNION
Sep 27 th	Sunday	9.30am	PARISH COMMUNION+ Refreshments

NB **HARVEST** will be **Sunday 4th October** at **11am** followed by a **bring and share lunch**

Readings, Readers & Hymns

9.30am unless time given	readings [small lectionary]	1 st & 2 nd readings	hymns NEH unless stated
2 nd August Trinity 9 Parish Communion	Isaiah 55.1-5 p288 Romans 9.1-5 Matthew 14.13-21	Nicola Marples	473 When morning gilds the skies 276 Bread of heaven 440 Praise to the Lord 436 Praise my soul
9 th August Trinity 10 Parish Communion	1 Kings 19.9-18 p293 Romans 10.5-15 Matthew 14.22-33	Jac Taylor	374 How sweet the name 494 Christ is the world's true light 15 The Lord will come 338 At the name of Jesus
16 th August Trinity 11 Parish Communion	Isaiah 56.1, 6-8 p299 Rom 11.1-2a, 29-32 Matt 15.(10-20) 21-28	Pam Dell	80 In Christ there is no east 353 Dear Lord and Father 461 There's a wideness in God's mercy: T 48 Stuttgart omit 5&6 439 Praise to the holiest: omit *
23 rd August Trinity 12 Parish Communion	Isaiah 51.1-6 p304 Romans 12.1-8 Matthew 16.13-20	Robert Cockrell	365 God moves in a mysterious 346 City of God 433 O worship the King omit* 484 The church's 1 found'n omit*
30 th August 10am	JOINT SERVICE	ON THE	GREEN
6 th September Trinity 14 Parish Communion	Ezekiel 33.7-11 p315 Romans 13.8-14 Matthew 18.15-20	Mandy Hunt	449 Soldiers of Christ arise 410 My God how wonderful 296 Lord, enthroned in heavenly 475 Ye holy angels bright
13 th September Trinity 15 Parish Communion	Genesis 50.15-21 p321 Romans 14.1-12 Matthew 18.21-35	Mike Jones	468 Through the night of doubt 353 Dear Lord & Father 417 O God our help in ages past 362 Glorious things of thee
20 th September Trinity 16 <i>Morning Praise</i>	<i>contemporary</i> Jonah 3.10-4.11 Philippians 1.21-30 Matthew 20.1-16	Lucy Jones	Junior Praise 41 Father hear the prayer 64 Great is your faithfulness 17 Bind us together Lord
27 th September Trinity 17 Parish Communion	Ezek 18.1-4.25-32 p327 Philippians 2.1-33 Matthew 21.23-32	Nicola McKeever	332 All hail the power omit * 393 Lead us heavenly Father 437 Praise the Lord, ye heavens 338 At the name of Jesus omit *

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	01684 850 959
		info@teWKesburyabbey.org.uk

Congratulations

Many congratulations to **Sally Russell** who was recently awarded her Master's degree in Advanced Clinical Practice.

She is now an Advanced Practitioner.

Recently she also had a paper published in The British Journal of Nursing.



The family, including Muriel Russell Sally's grandma, wanted to share these wonderful photographs with you taken after the graduation ceremony at the UWE Bristol University.



or **DRIVE**

Our event is on **Saturday 12th September 2026.**

We will start from Twynning Village Green at **9.30am** ish.

In recent years we had a whole day with lunch at a pub
and tea in a garden at Twynning.

- 2022 Strensham , Defford & Ripple was 19 miles
- 2023 Bredon Hill with lunch at Elmley was 23 miles
- 2024 Earl's Croome with lunch at Defford was 19 miles.

This year we propose:-

For the cars and the oldies:-

- 2026 Strensham, Earl's Croome, Hill Croome, Ripple & Twynning Churches with lunch at "The Railway Inn" at Ripple from **12.30 to 2.00pm** – a total of 17 miles.

For the youngsters and their leaders:-

- 2026 Strensham, Hill Croome, Ripple & Twynning Churches with lunch at Ripple – about 12 miles (or less).

**Return for tea in the garden at Birds Farm
from about 3.30pm onwards.**

Would you like to join in all or part of this route?

If you are not a rider why not come in a car.....

Maybe you would like to sponsor us, for Church funds.

You can give a cash donation to any rider.

If you want to donate directly the Twynning PCC account is
Lloyds Bank sort code 30-91-87 acc't no 04635199

If you have any queries please contact:-Richard Bailey

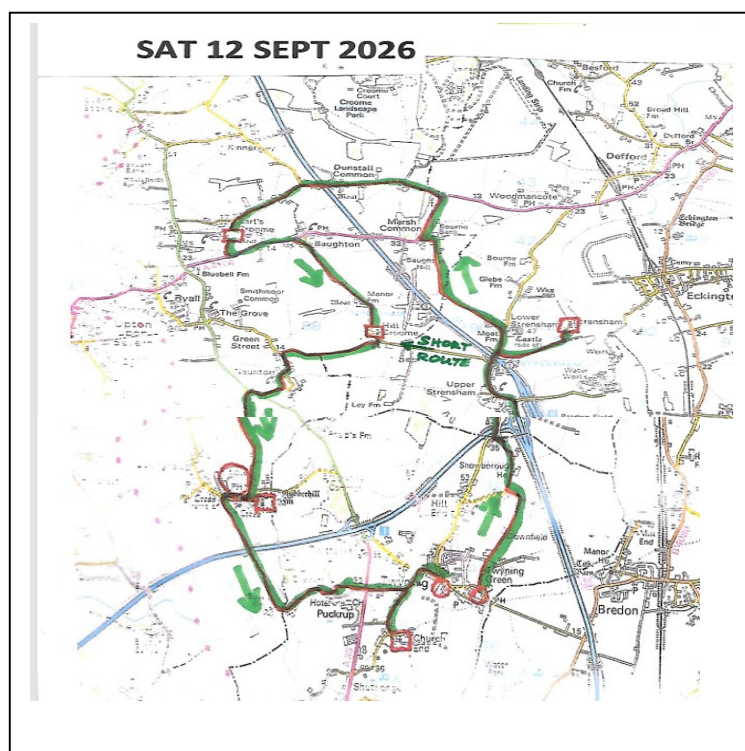
01684 298 268 RABailey@btinternet.com

Please see over for the Route Outline and Map =>

SAT 12 SEPT 2026

	LEAVE AT	MILES BETWEEN PLACES	LONG ROUTE MILES	SHORT ROUTE MILES
<i>At any stage if your cycle or your body is in need, then help will be at hand with car for rescue.</i>				
Contact for riders Richard on 07814 819 274				
PLACE	DEPART			
START FOR RIDERS & DRIVERS	09.30am			
TWYNING GREEN - Ron & Vera's home				
via Downfield and Showborough and Strensham village to		3.6		
1. Strensham Church Depart	10.30am		3.6	3.6
via Dunstall Common 'Castle'		4.7		
2. Earls Croome Church Depart	11.30am		8.3	NO
via Baughton Court		2.4		
3. Hill Croome Church Depart	12.00		10.7	5.6
via Naunton & A38 crossing	noon	2.8		
LUNCH at RAILWAY INN, RIPPLE from 12.30pm				
			13.5	8.4
Depart Railway Inn at 2.00pm				
	2.00pm		13.5	8.4
		0.2		
4. Ripple Church Depart	2.30pm		13.7	8.6
via the Bow & Puckrup to		2.8		
5. Twynning Church Depart	3.00pm		16.5	11.4
		0.7		
TEA at Birds Farm, High Street, TWYNING from 3.30pm onwards.....			17.2	12.1

Younger riders might wish to miss Earl's Croome Church and go direct to Hill Croome Church.



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A Tribute

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For his grandad, Godfrey Page, Danny Stead composed (with a little help from his cousin, Willow) this very original and personal poem. Danny then read it during the service as a tribute to their grandad. It gives a wonderful picture of Godfrey to treasure along with our memories of him.



Brilliant-batsman
Wonderful-catcher
Sneaky-joker
Biscuit-sharer
Knee-tickler
Sticker-taker
Cap-wearer
Mower-rider

Plum-taster
Barbecue-dreamer
Note-writer
Homework-checker
Chair-dancer
Piano-player
Greatest-Grandad

We love you Grandad!



Richard Bailey was perusing Margaret's Bible one Sunday and he found interesting pages of information at the back. Here are maps of Saint Paul's journeys - he went a long way in those sailing boats and overland!! There will be more pages next month...



Paul's Journeys 1 and 2



Paul's Journeys 3 and 4



Benefice of Tewkesbury Abbey with Walton Cardiff & Twynning



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

Abbey Family News: “A huge thank you to the whole community for all your love, support and prayers. You gave me such a wonderful send off on 21st June and I was so deeply moved to see so many of you in the congregation at Gloucester Cathedral for my ordination as deacon. It was such a joyful occasion and to know I was surrounded by so many friends was incredible. Thank you too for the beautiful stole I was presented with as a gift from you. It will journey with me in my ministry as I carry you all in my heart and prayers.” **Revd Katie Etherington** (to be assistant curate at Ashchurch and Kemerton).

Don't miss: the **Tuesday Organ Recitals** & **THREADS THROUGH THE CROSS** exhibition in the Abbey until 27 August with 18 huge textile panels - all worth visiting.

**TEWKESBURY ABBEY
LUNCHTIME ORGAN RECITALS
2026
TUESDAYS at 1.00-1.45pm**

AUGUST

11 Andrew Kirk
(Concert Organist)

18 Ed Jones (Leeds)

25 Simon Bell
(Dean Close School, Cheltenham)

Free admission – retiring collection

**Exhibition
Threads through
the Cross**
3 July to 27 August 2026

Threads through the Cross is a striking textile exhibition by Jacqui Parkinson. Exploring the story of the cross through 18 large-scale panels of colour, design and craft.



'A powerful visual journey'

Full Programme to be announced soon
www.tewkesburyabbey.org.uk

Musica Deo Sacra 2026 — Monday 3 August to Sunday 9 August

Each year a choir comprising professional and semi-professional singers, assembles to sing some jewels of church music written over many centuries. The nine choral services – Masses, Evensongs, Compline, a Requiem and Matins – are the heart of the festival, and performing this music within the proper liturgical context gives the week a unique and special flavour.

View the full programme. An outline of the programme is

Mon 3 Aug 7pm Solemn Evensong Tues 4 Aug 11am High Mass 7.30pm Lecture, Abbey House, Bijan Omrani (author/academic/historian) Wed 5 Aug 11am High Mass 7.30pm Milton Organ Recital 9pm Compline	Thurs 6 Aug 6pm Choral Evensong followed by reception & talk in Parish Hall Fri 7 Aug Fri 7 Aug 7pm Richafort Requiem Mass Sat 8 Aug 11am Solemn Matins+ reception in nave 4pm Chamber Concert (see below) Sun 9 Aug 11am High Mass 6pm Solemn Evensong and Benediction
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Details for ticketed event **Saturday 8th August 4pm Chamber Concert** (Old Baptist Chapel), **Newe Vialles – Old Viols:** Dances and divisions for two historical bass viols. Henrik Persson

and Caroline Ritchie – viola da gamba. Tickets £20pp, from John Moore Museum & Eventbrite (plus booking fee). Queries 01684 850112 or email oldchapelcourt@btinternet.com
We look forward to welcoming you to the Abbey for this unique festival of sacred music.

SERVICE 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		4pm	Evening Prayer
	4pm	Evening Prayer	Friday	9am	Morning Prayer
Tuesday	9am	Morning Prayer		4pm	Evening Prayer
	12 noon	Holy Communion	Saturday	9am	Morning Prayer
	4pm	Evening Prayer		4pm	Evening Prayer

GUIDED TOURS OF THE ABBEY

Whether you've an hour or an afternoon, our tour guides bring the Abbey and its stories to life. Pre-booked group tours are available on request.

Hidden Spaces (Tower) Tour - (over 200 steps) see hidden spaces such as the Lantern Chamber & Upper Nave walkway; get great roof-top views. Youngsters aged 8-16 years must be accompanied by an adult (one to one). Tickets online up to 9am on day of tour and then available at the Abbey welcome desk on the day (subject to availability): [Buy Hidden Spaces Tours Tickets online – Tewkesbury Abbey](#) £10 per person. (booking fee applies online)

60 minute Highlight Tours - A perfect introduction for visitors - soaring Norman architecture, medieval stained glass and hidden treasures. Book tour tickets online £7pp (under 16s free).

Tombs, Trees and Tributes Tour- Take in the wonderful grounds of the Abbey of a summer afternoon and join a tour of the Abbey's trees, tombs and tributes. From ancient yews to memorials & remarkable tombs, this outdoor tour uncovers layers of history in the churchyard. Tours start at the welcome desk. Tours are suitable for all ages. Book tour tickets online

CONTACT US on 01684 850 959

Rev'd Canon Nick Davies

vicar@tewkesburyabbey.org.uk

Benefice Administrator Claire Redstone

info@tewkesburyabbey.org.uk

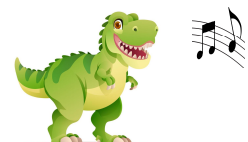
[illegible]

August's Assortment

These 'rang a bell' with me and I hope you, too:

No one has a finer command of language than the person who keeps their mouth shut.

Millions long for immortality who don't know what to do with themselves on a rainy Sunday afternoon.



What do you call a group of singing dinosaurs? A Tyrannochorus!

Many thanks to those who contribute: please send your items for the next issue –by 19th Aug.

Peace and blessings to you all, *Angela*

Reader, Parish Lay Minister

01684 294325

angelacole135@hotmail.com

LOCAL SERVICES 2026

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RABailey@btinternet.com

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To book please email completed [booking form](#) to: anntownendhall@gmail.com

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

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Twyning Village Hall, Fleet Road. Capacity 100 persons Disabled access

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Booking Secretary: Delta Ferguson To request a booking please use this link:

<https://www.twyningvillage.co.uk/village-hall>

Email: bookings@twyningvillagehall.org.uk

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Tel: 01684 292 201

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PIED PIPER APPEAL

We fundraise to supply specialist medical equipment for sick and disabled children in the county, by your donated used stamps. Stamps of all types, from British and other Countries are most welcome. They are sorted and sold on to a local stamp dealer, which generates income for Pied Piper. Old stamp albums are most welcome too. It is important you leave a margin around the stamps – at least ½ inch.

Mike Bennett **1 Abbots Court Drive, Church End -** www.piedpiperappeal.co.uk

SEVERN SEATING

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