

**Wye Brooks Group  
UPDATE for 16 October  
TRINITY 18  
GREEN**

**TRINITY 18 READINGS**

**Jeremiah 31:27-34**

**Psalms 119:97-104**

**2 Timothy 3:14-4:5**

**Luke 18:1-8**

**FROM THE VICAR  
THE WORLD IS OUR OYSTER**

This week Revd Penny and I took a day out, travelling to the forgotten wastelands of the south-east to visit the Christian Resources Exhibition, at Sandown Racecourse in Esher, Surrey.

There were, I think, a hundred plus stalls. Pretty soon I was having a free coffee with someone on the Kingdom Coffee stand. They supply churches with coffee and indeed with gadgets to dispense it.

I had been tasked by a churchwarden to have a look at portable church seating, and was able to visit five stalls, and by another to get information on loop systems, and was able to visit three stalls, in every case bringing away leaflets and business cards, or leaving an email address to they can contact me. The real treat was the heated pew cushions stall!

There were companies selling books, and among them two with a very wide range of children's Christian books and Sunday school materials. Had I wanted a Bible in Arabic or another language I could have got one, or even a well-reduced English Bible. Towards the end of the day I bought 85 Christian Christmas cards and a little nativity set made in Bethlehem.

One stall sold nothing but puppets, for use with children - and the young at heart (of course).

Had I wanted to buy a digital organ or piano, or speak to an architect about building a new church, or get insurance for a church, or sound or audio visual aids for a church, I could have done.

I did find myself talking to charities and missionary organisations about their work and about mine. We got some *Our Daily Bread* material three or four years ago, but from the CRE I was able to have a look at their current work, which includes material in Ukrainian, and I brought away some free stuff.

Had I had time to do so, I could have attended, free, any one of a number of seminars on various aspects of Christian life and ministry.

This was a seriously profitable day, as far as I am concerned.

**(ALTERNATIVE) COLLECT  
FOR TRINITY 18**

**God, our Judge and Saviour,  
teach us to be open to your truth  
and to trust in your love,  
that we may live each day  
with confidence in the salvation which is given  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

But the image in my mind is that of the small aircraft in the lobby, belonging to MAF, the Mission Aviation Fellowship, whose work includes taking people, goods and the gospel round in dozens of countries. It was a reminder to me that Jesus' last command to his followers that they should make disciples.

In a way it is all summed up in words from that lovely hymn *The day thou gavest*.

We thank Thee that Thy church, unsleeping,  
While earth rolls onward into light,  
Through all the world her watch is keeping,  
And rests not now by day or night.

As o'er each continent and island  
The dawn leads on another day,  
The voice of prayer is never silent,  
Nor dies the strain of praise away.

The sun that bids us rest is waking  
Our brethren 'neath the western sky,  
And hour by hour fresh lips are making  
Thy wondrous doings heard on high.

**THE BISHOP'S MESSAGE  
FURTHER UP AND FURTHER IN**

Go to

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HBfqXN93Sfw>

**LIGHT BITE**

This week's is on **Salvation**

[https://youtu.be/xu8Nfd\\_wZWA](https://youtu.be/xu8Nfd_wZWA) .

## **SIMON TARLTON LICENSING AND MINISTRY**

Bishop Richard came to Goodrich last Tuesday to license Simon Tarlton to this Benefice as Associate Minister. It was a lovely service, quite informal, and the Bishop spoke to us powerfully about the nature of ministry. Inevitably there was food served afterwards, generously provided by various people.

We wish Simon and his wife Caroline God's richest blessings upon their life and ministry among us.

Simon will take two services a month: one at Goodrich and one elsewhere and Caroline will doubtless be involved in the life of St Giles' church. But we do have to be careful. Simon heads a charity—more than a full time job in itself, and Caroline is also enormously busy with her business and charitable work.

We will be thankful for any time they can give us, but let's not overface them!

## **PATRICK DARLING RIP**

I don't have a suitable photograph, I'm sorry, but I am sorry to say that Patrick Darling, the Deanery lay chairman, died very recently of a brain tumour.

Patrick was active on so many levels in the life of the deanery and the Diocese and will be sorely missed.

For me the most obviously thing about him was his outgoing, outspoken Christian faith. When he thought in Deanery meetings that we were paying insufficient attention to Jesus Christ, he said so. His faith in Jesus Christ as such that, when he was originally diagnosed with a brain tumour, he refused to let it bring him low. He accepted that his life might be cut short, and in a way, was ready to go.

But his family will be grieving so please do pray for them in the weeks ahead.

## **WEEKDAY GROUPS**

The **ZOOM HOUSE GROUP** will happen as usual on Tuesday at 10.00am.

The **ZOOM PRAYER GROUP** will happen at 7.30pm on the same day.

Joining instructions for both are in the letter accompanying this update.

## **THE LAY WORSHIP TEAM**

Around the time Covid was breaking loose, somehow out of the disruption and distraction, emerged a number of people who were willing to help with leading worship, and this quickly developed into opportunities to expand the ministry within the benefice. This lay group have already done a lot of good work.

At the same our diocesan leaders have been encouraging us to think more broadly about ministry.

Now we are formalising it all, with training and official recognition. But this is not straightforward because no tailor made programmes have existed beyond training towards lay readership.

To cut a long story short, our team have been allowed to join a formal programme which operates on a number of levels, or attend a course which we create on a deanery or benefice level.

So four of the group of eight are now going to Gloucester for weekly training, and three have just begun a much more informal, down to earth course with me.

At some point in the future the group will be commissioned at a service, probably led by the Archdeacon.

It may be that individual ministries expand from here too. We'll see. But make no mistake, the Church is stronger when people are involved in the *ministry* of the Church, rather than simply in the Church.

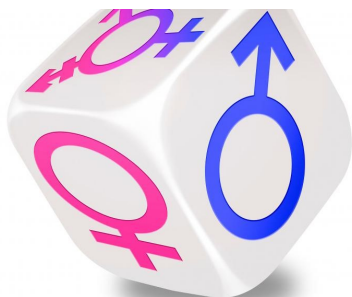
## **REMEMBRANCE 2022**



Remembrance Sunday is 13th November. We have an Act of Remembrance or a service, or both, at all our churches. See the services table below and do mark the date.

# CHRISTIANITY IN THE NEWS

## COFE TRANSGENDER GUIDELINES ATTACKED



Christian parents are calling on the Church of England (CofE) to urgently abandon transgender guidance which says that children as young as five should

be affirmed if they want to identify as the opposite gender.

In an open letter to the Archbishop of Canterbury, Most Rev Justin Welby, Nigel Rowe and his wife Sally have called on the CofE urgently to scrap its 'Valuing All God's Children' (VAGC) guidance which covers 4,700 CofE primary schools.

The letter follows the Rowes' recent legal victory against the Department for Education (DfE) which led to a £22,000 settlement for legal costs and a commitment from the government to reform its transgender policies.

They had raised concerns after two boys in their sons' classes were allowed to come to the Isle of Wight school identifying as girls.

The school had stated that they did not "require any formal medical/psychological assessment and reporting when a pupil seeks to be treated as transgendered."

The Rowes said they were subsequently given an 'accept it or leave' ultimatum by the school after they were told that their son would be demonstrating "transphobic behaviour" if he showed an "inability to believe a transgender person is actually a 'real' female or male" or refused to "acknowledge a transgendered person's true gender e.g. by failing to use their adopted name or using gender inappropriate pronouns."

The local Church of England diocese backed the school's position based on its 'Valuing All God's Children' guidance on challenging homophobic, bi-phobic and transphobic bullying.

## CHINA INTENSIFYING CRACKDOWN ON CHRISTIANS

China has intensified its crackdown against Christians and churches says International Christian Concern.



In its latest report, the watchdog details growing Christian persecution across the country, including raids on Christian schools, the removal of crosses from boats, pressure on landlords to cancel leases to Christian organisations and 32 cases of arrests or detainments.

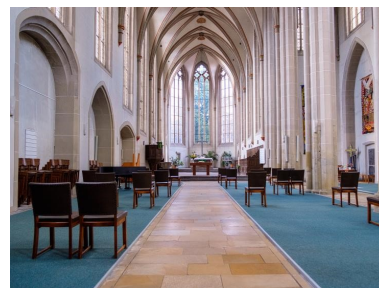
That's despite Beijing's repeated claim that respecting and protecting freedom of religious belief is the basic policy of the CCP (Chinese Communist Party) and the Chinese government.

And ICC spokesman said:

"In every aspect of a Christian's religious life, the CCP wants to interfere and insert its ideology, a control that is detrimental to China's religious liberty,"

## 2030 NET ZERO 'AT RISK'

The Church of England's net-zero by 2030 plan may be at risk due to the cost of living crisis, A Rocha, a Christian charity has warned.



"If the Church of England is to reach net zero, then churches requiring new heating systems will need to be looking towards alternative energy supplies to make sure that net zero target can be met."

All churches are seeing energy bills rise, some as much as £14,000 a year, and this is an issue. But green heating systems are still too expensive to buy and to run.

The Church of England has now set aside £15 million to assist churches and is issuing advice to help churches towards moving towards net-zero.

## WHITCHURCH WEEKLY



10.30 every Thursday at St Dubricius Church, Whitchurch

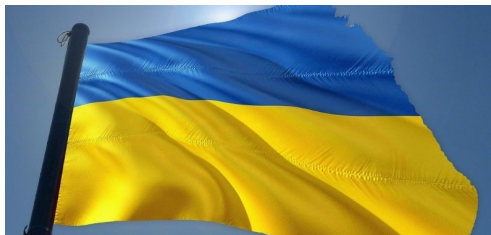
A simple informal half hour communion without a sermon or a collection.

Followed by a cuppa and biscuits.

It has always been open to anyone from both the Wye Reaches and Wye Brooks benefices.

Please do come. Relax and enjoy God's presence with us.

## RESPONDING TO THE UKRAINE CRISIS



The Diocese has a web page encouraging us to respond in prayer and action to the ongoing crisis in Ukraine. Go to <https://www.hereford.anglican.org/our-faith/prayers-for-ukraine/>

## UKRAINE FOOD COLLECTION

Tinned food is being collected at KTS Craft Warehouse, Trenchard Street, at the bottom of Edde Cross Street in Ross. They have already made deliveries of clothing and medical equipment, and now it is tinned food which is needed, (no glass). Tins - soup, spaghetti, pies, meat, fruit, plus cereal bars.

## JUST TO DELIGHT YOU

### MAMA - A RESCUE

Go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sDktMiaCck0>

and then

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d0YmqGVrYgM>

## MINI BIBLE STUDY PRAYER

### 1 - Where to Pray:

Of course we can pray anywhere & anytime, but Jesus tells us where our attitude of prayer should always be: Matthew 6:6:

### 2 - How to Pray

Jesus tells us how to pray when He gives us the pattern for prayer in what is now referred to as the Lord's prayer. In Matthew 6:9-15

- praise,
- submission to His Will,
- petition for daily needs,
- request for forgiveness and protection.

### 3. When to pray

1 Thessalonians 5:17; also Ephesians 6:18

### 4. Who should pray?

Matthew 6:6-8 uses the word when, not if, meaning that prayer is something which every follower of Jesus should be doing.

- Who should we be praying for?
- Other Christians Ephesians 6:18
- Enemies Matthew 5:44
- Everyone, including leaders 1 Timothy 2:1-2

## SOME ANAGRAMS

These are all famous people. Can you work out who they are? Answers next week

ONLY JERK! SCREAM

Clue: Was on tv, wasn't on tv, is on tv.

WORKABLE CARAMEL LIPS

Clue: now in highest places

BLAME, COMPLAIN

Clue: She doesn't model toby jugs

DOCILE OR PARANOID

Clue: American actor



## SERVICES CALENDAR FOR THE NEXT FEW WEEKS

Date	Time	Place	Service	Leader
16 October	8.30	Welsh Newton	Meditation and Bible Study	Lay led
16 October	10.00	Llangrove	Benefice Holy Communion	Ben
16 October	6.00	Llangarron	Evening Prayer	Penny
23 October	10.00	Llangrove	Community Service	Lay led
23 October	10.00	Marstow	Morning Service	Lay led
23 October	11.00	Goodrich	Benefice Holy Communion	Ben
23 October	08.30	Welsh Newton	Holy Communion	Penny
30 October	9.00	Welsh Newton	** Explore Quiet Morning	Sue
30 October	10.00	Llangrove	Benefice Holy Communion	Penny
6 November	8.30	Welsh Newton	Meditation and Bible Study	Sue
6 November	11.00	Llangarron	Benefice Holy Communion	Simon
6 November	4.30pm	Llangrove	Informal service	Wendy
13 November <b>REMEMBRANCE</b>	9.15	Welsh Newton War Memorial	Act of Remembrance	Ben
13 November <b>REMEMBRANCE</b>	9.45	Llangrove War Memorial	Act of Remembrance	Ben
13 November <b>REMEMBRANCE</b>	10.15	Llangarron War grave	Act of Remembrance	Ben
13 November <b>REMEMBRANCE</b>	10.50	Marstow	Remembrance Holy Communion	Ben
13 November <b>REMEMBRANCE</b>	10.50	Goodrich Church	Service	Simon
	12.00	War Memorial	Act of Remembrance	Simon

### CHANGES TO WORSHIP

With Simon's arrival and the input of the lay worship team we find ourselves potentially able to move back towards a full programme of services. Aims at the moment, per month, from January

Goodrich - 2 x HC, 2x lay led    Marstow—1 x HC, 1 x lay led  
Llangarron - 1 x HC, 1 other    Llangrove - 2 x HC, 2 x lay led  
Welsh Newton - 2 x HC, 2 x lay led

\*\*Celtic morning prayer followed by a time exploring our relationship with God. Discussions and quiet times spent apart. It will last until about 12.00. Refreshments will definitely be served. All welcome.

## LIGHT BITES

For anyone who hasn't tumbled to it yet, a *Light Bite* is a home produced 'event' of about 20 minutes on YouTube. It will consist usually of an introduction, a bible reading, a talk a hymn and a blessing. They are supposed to TEACH something about our faith or CHALLENGE us.

Today we are on the tenth in a series on Bible words—the words that are difficult to understand.

### THIS WEEK'S LIGHT BITE

This week's big word is SALVATION

Next week we'll start another series. Wait and see what.

## CHRISTIAN QUOTES SALVATION

"If a man is saved, it is because God has saved him. But if a man is lost, that is to be attributed to his own rejection of the gospel and his own rebellion against God's way of salvation."

*Dr D Martyn Lloyd-Jones*

"The greatest enemy to human souls is the self-righteous spirit which makes men look to themselves for salvation."

*Charles Spurgeon*

"A world of nice people, content in their own niceness, looking no further, turned away from God, would be just as desperately in need of salvation as a miserable world—and might be even more difficult to save."

*C.S. Lewis*

## JARGON BUSTER CROZIER

A crozier is something which looks a bit like a shepherd's



crook. A bishop carries it as "shepherd of the flock of God"

It is made of metal or carved wood and is often very ornate.

Possibly derived from

the ordinary walking stick, it was first mentioned as a sign of a bishop's ruling power in 633 at the fourth Council of Toledo. French bishops adopted it in the late 8th century, and it was gradually adopted throughout the Christian world.

## PRAYER FOR OTHERS

### The UK

- HM the King
- Our Prime Minister and Cabinet. It's somewhat chaotic at present.
- Rising prices and the hardship they bring
- The increasingly important work of food banks.

### World

- Please continue to pray for the Ukraine, and for Russia, especially in view of the annexation of parts of Ukraine and the bridge explosions.
- Pray for China and Taiwan.
- Pray for the US. The political chaos is severe. There is anger at the Roe vs Wade decision, but gun rights and the continued fallout from the last presidential elections continue to split the country.
- Pray too about the famine in East Africa, the migrant problem, threats from nations like North Korea and of course Iran, which has just declared itself to have nuclear weapons, and so on.

### Covid.

- Covid is still with us, and of course is still killing people, though not as many.
- Those who have lost loved ones or watched them suffer.
- Those who continue to be isolated
- Our NHS

### Our churches and clergy

- For right actions leading to sustainability and growth.
- For the prayer life of our churches
- For the hard decisions which will need to be made about clergy numbers.
- For mission mindedness

### Our villages

Our pubs, parish councils, local businesses and schools. Pray for all our communities in these difficult times.

### Pray for people

Please pray for all those you know who are sick or in particular need, and those facing big changes in life.

- Chris as he continues to recover .
- Ruth (not Ruth Davis) recovering from stem cell treatment.
- Geraldine—beginning to improve
- John— still in hospital
- Frida - ill in hospital
- The family of Carol Palmer, who died recently.
- The family of Joyce Rollinson, whose funeral was recently
- Rob Cole. Rob is grieving over the death of his father and his mother only a couple of weeks apart.
- The family of Deanery Chairman Patrick Darling, who died earlier this week.

# REGULARS

## PARISH GIVING SCHEME

We are pushing the Parish Giving Scheme because it is the best way of giving to your Church, not just because of *how little hassle* it is to you, but also because of how *safe* and *tax efficient* it is, how *easy it is for treasurers to administer* and how it usually does actually *drive the income of churches up*. And GOOD NEWS—you don't even have to fill in a form. You can set it up by phone. By all means ring your church treasurer for details and fill in a form, or call the number below.

## PARISH GIVING SCHEME

Tel 0333 002 1271

Church	<u>Parish Ref</u>	Church	<u>Parish Ref</u>
Goodrich	180618231	Marstow	180618241
Llangarron	180618239	Llangrove	180618240
Welsh Newton	180618256		

## CONTACTS

Vicar: Revd Philip 'Ben' Bentham  
Tel 01989 770454 Email  
benbentham@yahoo.co.uk

Associate Minister: Revd Simon Tarlton  
Tel 07462 893457

Associate Minister: Revd Penny  
Powdrill Email 01600 714096

If you have suggestions for improving this Update, please do let me know.

To UNSUBSCRIBE, simply drop me a line.

## CLERGY HOLIDAYS

Ben: 25 October to 6 November

## CLERGY DAY OFF

My usual day off is MONDAY

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE—WILLS



Want to make a difference to your local church? Why not leave it something in your will? It's easy to do, and helps what you care about.



The Llangrove Milk Shed at the Village Hall,  
For farm fresh milk and a few other things like butter, cheese and cake.

Support local businesses!



Our local eateries are important, and without our patronage they risk not being able to survive, especially in this climate.

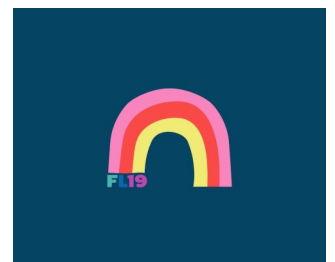
Llangrove - The Royal Arms  
Phone **01989 770267**

Goodrich - The Hostelrie  
Phone **01600 890241**

Goodrich - The Cross Keys  
Phone **01600 890692**

## BLESS THE NHS

Thanks to Helen Shipton, who belongs to our Tuesday prayer group, for giving us details of this initiative to provide a bit of support for NHS workers. Do have a look.



<https://www.frontline19.com/hopeline19/>





# Food Bank

St Mary's Welsh Newton want you to know that they have started an informal, voucher-free food bank at the church.

The church is open 24/7

Anyone who feels under pressure financially can just slip in and take what they need without having to register anywhere.

Do gossip this information to anyone whom you think might find it helpful.

Please also feel free to donate food to it yourself.

Thanks.





# Another Food Bank

Christ Church Llangrove have set up the Benefice's Second Food Bank

The church is open during the day.

Anyone who feels under pressure financially can just slip in and take what they need without having to register anywhere.

Please also feel free to donate food to it yourself.

Do gossip this information to anyone whom you think might find it helpful.

Thanks.



# Quiz & hot supper

● ***Friday 21st October - 7.00 p.m.***

● ***The Royal Lodge,  
Symonds Yat, HR9 6JL***

***Tickets: £15 (Children under 15 - £10)***

***For further details & tickets contact :***

***Phyll Hannah—01989 770617***

***Sue Rolfe – 01989 770516***

***Entry by ticket only***

***Proceeds to St. Matthew's Church, Marstow***

# QUIZ NIGHT

&

## SANDWICH SUPPER

Welsh Newton Village Hall

**Friday October 21<sup>st</sup>**

7.00pm for 7.30pm start

teams of 6 maximum

*Tickets on the door £10 to include a glass of wine, a beer or a soft drink*

**BAR and RAFFLE**

proceeds to St Marys church



# ADVENT RETREAT

A chance to breathe before  
the Christmas rush

ST MARY'S WELSH NEWTON  
27 NOVEMBER 2022 2.30 - 5.30PM

*Come for some or all of it*

2.30-2.45 welcome

2.45-3.30 Calming poetry and music

3.30-4 Tuning in - finding resilience at  
times of stress

4.15-5 Mindful crafts

5-5.30 Meditation

*Followed by Advent Service of Light*

*6pm*



For more information go to  
[www.ourcountrychurch.co.uk](http://www.ourcountrychurch.co.uk)  
or follow the QR code





St Mary's Welsh Newton  
2 November 6pm

# All Souls Service

A time to spend in quiet  
contemplation

REMEMBERING  
THOSE WHO HAVE  
DIED, GIVING  
THANKS FOR THEIR  
LIVES AND PRAYING  
FOR THE BEREAVED

