



"where the river flows everything will live"

GATHERINGS FOR WORSHIP

SUNDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2024 Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

St Mary & St Peter's, Tidenham
9.00am Holy Communion

St Luke's, Tutshill
11.00am Morning Worship with Youth/Splash
12.30pm Holy Baptism

St Michael & All Angels, Tidenham Chase
6.00pm BCP Holy Communion

St Mary the Virgin, St Briavels
9.30am Family Communion

St Mary Magdalene, Hewelsfield
11.00am Morning Worship

Bible Readings: James 3:1-12 and Mark 8:27-end

Collect: O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call upon you; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion: Almighty God, you have taught us through your Son that love is the fulfilling of the law: grant that we may love you with our whole heart and our neighbours as ourselves; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

MID-WEEK GATHERINGS IN OUR PARISH

MONDAYS (not Bank Holidays)

9.30am Morning Prayer, St Mary & St Peter's Tidenham

9.15am Children & Families Morning Prayer. Contact juliaparsons727@gmail.com

TUESDAYS

9.00am Morning Prayer, St Mary's Priory, Chepstow (Churches Together)

5.00pm Evening Prayer, St Michael & All Angels, Chase

WEDNESDAYS

9.00am Contemplative Prayer, St Luke's, Tutshill

10.00am Holy Communion, St Mary the Virgin, St Briavels – usually fortnightly

12.00am Healing Communion, St Luke's, Tutshill

THURSDAY

9.00am Morning Prayer, St Mary the Virgin, St Briavels

5.00pm Evening Prayer, Sedbury Space

See www.tidenhamparishchurch.co.uk or www.youtube.com/channel/UChRjOlVDBT9M9usfhp2722w



LIFE GROUP MEETINGS WEEKLY

Here are our Life Groups, open to all, running throughout the week; we talk about life and faith or specific topics relevant to what's happening around us.

Monday (not Bank Holidays)

2.00-3.30pm Bible Study at Sedbury Space - Revd Nicki nicki1002@hotmail.co.uk

Tuesday

1.00pm with Julia Parsons juliaparsons727@gmail.com

Wednesday

10.15-11.45am Food for Thought Life Group at Café on the Hill

7.30pm with Wendy at home

7.45-9.00pm fortnightly @ John & Esther Woolcock's. Contact Esther on essywoolcock@googlemail.com

Thursday

1.30pm at Tanya's – tanya.rockymead@gmail.com for information

Youth

If you want to know more about faith, have fun and food, come to our weekly Youth Group with regular events specifically for your age group. Contact Emma 07369 226546 or emmad.cyfm@gmail.com

PARISH NEWS & INFORMATION

Harvest Praise

Sunday 6 October, after Morning Worship at St Luke's, Tutshill

After the service, stay or join us for a Parish Celebration. Bring your own lunch and share some time with your wonderful church and community. There will be teas and coffees – if you can help out or bring extra cake, please contact Parish Admin. It would be much appreciated. The Harvest gatherings are always a time of joy, music and togetherness, so please do come along!

It's Fairtrade Fortnight. Fairtrade guarantees fair pay to Fairtrade farmers who grow the things we like to drink and eat such as coffee, tea, chocolate, bananas. Fairtrade farmers also receive training to help them mitigate the effects of climate change. Fairtrade means they can feed their families, educate

their children, and look after theirs and our world. Please be a change maker and buy Fairtrade. Speak to Tanya, Cate, Marilyn or Julia for more information or see the Fairtrade Foundation website, fairtrade.org.uk

Link Magazine – just to let you know that there will be no increases in subscription or advertising costs this forthcoming year. It's only £6 to subscribe for the whole year, so contact Tanya White or admin, if you would like a copy.

DECORATIONS ON GRAVES IN OUR PARISH CHURCHYARDS

By the end of September, the PCC will be tidying up our three parish churchyards and removing old flowers, plastic flowers and decorations from graves and memorials. If you wish to retain anything, please remove them by 30 September.

This is in accordance with Church of England and Diocesan policies in order to keep churchyards as a haven for the interred, mourners and for wildlife.

CARDIFF HALF MARATHON - Support the Child Growth Foundation - Caroline (worships at St Luke's / Youth Team Member / Mother of two children at SPLASH) is running the Cardiff half marathon on 6 October. Caroline says - It'll be my first half marathon and I've been in training for a year, hoping to raise money for the Child Growth Foundation who have helped me and my family get my son diagnosed with a rare condition called Growth Hormone Deficiency. This means that he doesn't grow at the usual rate and, as he gets older, will need daily injections to ensure he grows properly. The Child Growth Foundation has provided lots of support and I want to raise awareness of the foundation, their charity and the conditions they support. I'd be grateful for any support you can give, whether that's by sharing my cause or donating.

My full story can be found on my just giving page - <https://www.justgiving.com/page/caroline-allen-1705063596871>



Tidenham Church gets first kitchen and toilet after more than 700 yrs

St Mary and St Peter's church in Tidenham, Gloucestershire, is to finally get a toilet and a kitchen after more than 700 years. The 13th century church has no facilities inside the building – which is limiting what the church can do in the community.

Thankfully, help is on hand. The Grade II* Listed church is to share in a £735,236 urgent funding pay-out from the National Churches Trust.

A £10,000 National Churches Trust Grant will help to pay for an accessible toilet and a small kitchen in the church to enable St Mary to become more welcoming. This will give the church a much-needed upgrade and ensure that the church can thrive for future generations.

There is widespread community support for this project to go ahead. As part of the grant application, letters of support from community groups were included.

Once the facilities have been installed more than six groups have already expressed an interest in using the building for their community meetings. These include the Friends group, Tidenham Historical Society, Chepstow Bridge Club, Tidenham Village Residents Association and the National Youth Choir.

The church has excellent bells, and the bellringing team compete across Gloucestershire. The new facilities will mean the church could now host these competitions within St Mary and St Peter.

It is clear that the upgrade will ensure the church will have a more sustainable future – and the wonderful historic church building will be used and enjoyed by so many more people from the community – once these facilities are in place.

Claire Walker, Chief Executive of the National Churches Trust, said:

"The National Churches Trust is excited to be able to support St Mary and St Peter's church to enable them to install a new and accessible toilet and a kitchen area in their beautiful building. This will help to keep the church open and serving local people."

"Whether seeking quiet reflection, access to community services or a place to worship, the National Churches Trust helps hundreds of churches each year and with the support of local people, keeps them thriving today and tomorrow."

Major General Peter Gilchrist CB, Chairman of the Friends at St Mary and St Peter, said:

"We are delighted with the news of support from the National Churches Trust with a grant towards the re-ordering of the wonderful historic church of St Mary and St Peter in Tidenham."

"With the help of this grant we can give the church a much-needed generational upgrade, making it available and accessible for future generations. The insertion of the accessible toilet and kitchenette, along with the freed-up space in the North Aisle, will make the church a welcoming place, not just for worship but also providing a wider community benefit."

"The news of this grant means that we have the confidence to press on with the project, starting in September and, with a fair wind, we will have it finished for Christmas Festivities. **Professor Brian Duerden CBE, Church Warden and Treasurer to the Friends at St Mary and St Peter, said:**

"The PCC is delighted with the news of the generous grant from the National Churches Trust which will enable us to press on with this much needed upgrade to the church. This project has taken many years to get to this point and we are all excited that the church can be made accessible and available, with facilities, for future generations. The open space, which will be available having removed the pews from the North Aisle, will make a large and welcoming space both for the congregation but also for the wider community of Tidenham and for hosting concerts and other events."

How the grant will help the church

Installing a new accessible toilet and also a kitchen area inside the church.

More about the church

The Grade II* Listed church is built high above the River Severn, reputedly on the site of a Roman lighthouse.

Evidence indicates there may be a Saxon base of the tower. Part of a 13th century windows remains in the church, which you can find near the pulpit. There is also a 12th century lead font – one of only six in Gloucestershire. It has an 18th century base.

Some of the small stone sculptures inside the church were defaced during the Civil War.

In 1858, there was a major reordering inside the church by London architect John Norton, which included adding in more pews.

You will find 15 Grade II Listed monuments in the church graveyard.

Significant help for churches

87 churches across the UK will stay open and in good repair thanks to £735,236 – almost ¾ of a million pounds – of funding awarded and recommended by the National Churches Trust in this latest round of grants.

In 2023, the National Churches Trust made over 180 grant awards to churches throughout the UK, with funding totalling more than £2 million. This has helped to save over 70,000 years of precious heritage.

The National Churches Trust helps churches through our extensive grants programme. Grants are available for churches of any Christian denomination that are open for regular worship to fund urgent repairs, maintenance, installing toilets or kitchens and feasibility studies to develop projects. Full details are at: nationalchurchestrust.org/grants

About the National Churches Trust

Since 1953, the National Churches Trust has provided funding of more than £130 million to support the UK's church buildings. We are an independent charity and work with churches of all denominations and are UK-wide, providing support, training and advice to keep UK churches open and in good repair. www.nationalchurchestrust.org

- In 2023, with the support of the National Heritage Lottery Fund, the National Churches Trust launched *Cherish* a new three-year support programme for churches in Scotland, Wales and the North West of England. This is bringing experienced support officers to help local people deal with the challenges of looking after church buildings and £1 million of extra funding for repairs and maintenance. <https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/get-support/cherish-support-scotland-wales-cymru-and-north-west-england>
- In 2024, the National Churches Trust launched *Every Church Counts*, a six-point plan on how to save the UK's church buildings. It offers a blueprint for how these buildings can be kept open and in use. Find out more at: www.nationalchurchestrust.org/everychurchcounts

More information about the church is on our website.

CONTACTS DURING THE VACANCY FOR OUR VICAR

Please contact Revd Nicki for pastoral and Churchwardens, Brian or Robin, for non-pastoral matters. Also visit our Parish website for more contacts or see below.

Briefly, the position cannot be advertised until the New Year, as there is a lot to do developing the Parish Profile (a detailed specification/mission statement), which includes St Briavels & Hewelsfield, and approving this with the Diocese; you will be invited to give your views at the appropriate time. We plan to have a new vicar in 12 months' time, subject to developing the old Tutshill vicarage site to include the new Vicarage; plans for this follow Diocese guidelines and will be available to view through the usual channels.

Whilst the Churchwardens and Ministry Team will be running our Parish during the vacancy and minimising any disruption, please bear with us if they have to make priority decisions based on available resources.

We hope this answers your immediate questions, but please talk to the Churchwardens or PCC members, if there is anything else. Don't forget that we have a wonderful team to support everyone in church and in the community and all our gatherings throughout the Parish will run as normal.

We also have a special prayer to help us with the vacancy:

Heavenly Father, during this vacancy, guard and grow the Parishes of Tidenham, St Briavels and Hewelsfield, as we serve you together in this period without a Priest in Charge.

Lord Jesus, we know you have plans for us and that these plans are good. We ask you now that You will help us to share responsibility, grow in faith, love one another, care for those in need, reach out to others, and welcome newcomers.

Holy Spirit, please guide those who are seeking the right person for us, and those who are seeking the right place for their ministry, that together we may discover Your way for the future and see Your Kingdom grow.

All this we ask in the strength of the Holy Trinity. Amen.

OUR LITTLE LARDER @ ST LUKE'S TUTSHILL – if stocks are low, don't worry please – contact Revd Nicki on 07936 787409. The Bridge Church Foodbank is also asking for stock as they are extremely low – times are hard. They have a 'shopping list' on the Chepstow Foodbank website if you can help them too.

PARISH COFFEE MORNING – See you Monday 30 September 10.00-12.00am at St Luke's.

PARISH LUNCH – First Thursday of each month 12.15-1.30pm at Woodcroft Christian Centre.

Bell Ringing – Weekly practice at St Mary & St Peter's, Tidenham, 7.30–9.00pm on Tuesdays. Contact Cate Phillips (01291 624260) for more information, or just turn up and give it a go!

OUR PARISH BABY & TODDLER GROUPS

TUTSHILL BABY & TODDLER GROUP – Tuesdays 9.15-10.45am at St Luke's, Tutshill. **Term time only.**

Emma 07369 2265406 or <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1130508917404741>

SEDBURY STAY & PLAY - our parish runs a wonderful group for pre-school families – Wednesdays 9.15-10.45am at Sedbury Village Hall. **Term time only.** We do need extra help from time to time please.

Contact Emma 07369 226546 or

<https://www.facebook.com/SedStayandPlay>

FOREST WIDE YOUTH GROUPS:

To Be Connected (TBC) for Christian Young Adults (18-30yr olds), 7.00-8.30pm first Wednesday each month at Ruardean Hill Baptist Church GL17 9AZ and on Zoom. Contact jonathan@togetherforyouth.co.uk

BREATHE - Breathe Youth is a Christian Charity based in the Forest of Dean. Tel: 07738 422831 Email: rjulius@breatheyouth.org.uk <http://www.breatheyouth.org.uk/>

Pilates – Tuesdays 2.00-2.45pm, St Luke's Church, Tutshill; part of our Wellbeing initiative with gentle physical activity to support spiritual health. Contact Loreto on 07883 401475 / loreespinosaa@icloud.com .

What's On at Sedbury Space - check at <https://www.sedburyspace.org.uk>

One Stop Café - Tuesdays 10.00-12.00am - come for a cuppa and a chat at Sedbury & Beachley Village Hall

Memory Café - First Wednesday of each month 2.00-3.30pm

Chaplaincy Chatroom - Thursdays 1.30-5.00pm

PLEASE GIVE!

Parish Bank Account - Tidenham Parochial Church. Sort Code 30-91-89. Account Number 00304754.

Please give by Standing Order instead of Cash – see Churchwardens or the Parish website.

Giving by Cheque - Please make payable to **Tidenham Parochial Church**.

TIDENHAM PARISH ONLINE LINKS & CONTACTS

Parish Website: www.tidenhamparishchurch.co.uk

St Briavels & Hewelsfield website: www.stbandhchurches.org.uk

Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/114300818701466/>

'The News' from the Diocese of Gloucester - <https://www.gloucester.anglican.org/news-events/>

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Revd Canon Tudor Griffiths, Associate Priest - 07718 906066 - tudor.griffiths1@gmail.com
Revd Anna Griffiths, Associate Priest - 07504 662539 - anna.dejaegher.griffiths@gmail.com
Revd Miri Keen, Associate Priest - 07933 172552 - miri.parkhill@gmail.com
Revd David Rees, Locally Ordained Minister - 01594 530443 - david.rees17@btinternet.com
Mandy Vaughan, Licensed Lay Reader - 01594 530844
Revd Br Tom Clammer OC, Associate Priest - 07811 639741 - tomclammer@gmail.com
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