



"where the river flows everything will live"

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

**SUNDAY 2 FEBRUARY 2025
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY**

THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST CANDLEMAS

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

St Luke's, Tutshill
11.00am Christingle Family Worship with Youth
All donations will be going towards the Children's Society and you
can use the card reader

St Michael & All Angels, Tidenham Chase
4.00pm Evensong

St Mary the Virgin, St Briavels
8.30am BCP Holy Communion
9.30am Family Communion

St Mary Magdalene, Hewelsfield
11.00am Family Worship

***Bible Readings:* Malachi 3: 1-5 & Luke 2: 22-40**

Collect: Lord Jesus Christ, light of the nations and glory of Israel: make your home among us, and present us pure and holy to your heavenly Father, your God, and our God.

Post Communion: Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna, who lived to welcome the Messiah: may we, who have received these gifts beyond words, prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes to bring us to eternal life; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

MID-WEEK GATHERINGS IN OUR PARISH

MONDAYS

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

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

TUESDAYS

9.00am Morning Prayer, St Mary's Priory, Chepstow

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

WEDNESDAYS

9.15am Contemplative Prayer, St Luke, Tutshill

10.00am Holy Communion, St Mary the Virgin, St Briavels

12.00am Healing Communion, St Luke, 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/UCkRjOlVDBT9M9usfhp2722w

LIFE GROUP MEETINGS WEEKLY



Come and join a Life Group, open to all, running throughout the week; we talk about life and faith or 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

10.30-11.45am 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

SCARECROW TRAIL

Here's the date for 2025 – 6-27 April – put in on your calendar now and get ready for our annual fun event! The theme this year is Favourite Books and if anyone is able to make a scarecrow, please let Emma know.

Lent 2025

We aren't running a set 'course' this year, but we will be offering a Prayer Space after the Wednesday Healing Eucharist and, of course, our Prayer for the Day on Facebook. This year we would like to focus on Silence and waiting for God; in our busy worlds, we feel holding God in this way will help us all.

Breakfast Club

We are now running a breakfast club at St Luke Tutshill during Half Term 18 February and a pizza making workshop for children on 3 March at Sedbury Village Hall and St Luke Tutshill on 10 March, both 4.00-5.30pm.

AID FOR UKRAINE – a request FROM MANDY & MIKE SCOTT

Some may remember Mandy and I went to Ukraine with a van full of aid last year – well we are doing it again this year!

We are loading the van on the 7th February, arriving at the depot in Chelm on the 10th, God willing. We desperately need first aid, medicines, bandages, surgical gloves, aprons, and anything else of that type, last year we took (among other stuff) about 200 Catheter tubes!

Along with the need for medical stuff for humans, there has been a growing problem regarding pets that have been left behind on or near the front line. As people have fled the fighting, they've not always been able to take their pets with them, so, for example, one animal rescue centre about 20 miles behind the front line currently has about 1000 dogs to look after. If dogs are allowed to roam, they'll form packs and risk spreading infection, turning rabid, or even attacking humans. So..... if you have any dog food, cat food, pet medicines or shampoo – all will be gratefully received!

I grew up in London, and I'm just old enough to remember the bomb sites, a one-legged men selling matches on the street, the care packages sent to the UK from the USA, so my heart goes out to Ukraine; thousands upon thousands of people have been bombed out and made homeless, so Mandy and I feel the need to help in some way however small that way may be.

Contact us on Facebook **Ukraine or bust!** www.ukraineorbust.org Or on mobile 07986 627066. Or you can just drop stuff off at Non's house just opposite the school in Tutshill.

Thank you all so much - *Mike & Mandy*

CYFM (Children Youth & Families Mission) SNIPPETS

- Do you think that you could spare one Wednesday morning a month to make refreshments for our lovely parents at Sedbury Stay & Play (Babies & Toddlers). It would be from 8.45am- 11.00am. If you'd like to bless and be blessed, please contact Emma Durbin (emmad.cyfm@gmail.com or 07369226546)
- **Prayer for Schools** - Networking and Prayer for those involved in school work or those wanting to pray for schools on 26 February, 7-8.00pm at Dean Close St John's Tutshill.
- **What can Grandparents do?** A lovely talk on 11 February St Andrew's Church, Churchdown.

LATEST UPDATE – THE VACANCY FOR OUR VICAR

Thank you to all who contributed to the production of the Parish Profile through the questionnaire and your responses and to the writing and editing team chaired by Robin who pulled it all together. The final document was approved by the PCCs of Tidenham, St Briavels and Hewelsfield and was submitted in

December to Archdeacon Hilary representing the diocese. It was promptly and positively accepted and is now available to potential applicants. The link to the Profile on the website is:

<https://www.tidenhamparishchurch.co.uk/files/uploads/Profile-Publication-Version.pdf>

The post of Vicar of the Parish of Tidenham and Priest in Charge of the Parishes of St Briavels and Hewelsfield will be advertised in the Church Times on 17 January for four weeks, with the closing date at the week after 7 February. The appointments panel will select a short list from the applicants, if needed, and interviews will be held on Friday 7 March at the Christian Centre, Woodcroft. In addition to our nominated interview panel members, we will be seeking volunteers to help with meeting applicants, introducing them to the area and taking them on a tour of the five churches and other key venues in the parishes.

The interview panel will comprise Bishop Robert and Archdeacon Hilary on behalf of the diocese, three PCC members from Tidenham Parish and one each from St Briavels and Hewelsfield. Our three members were elected at the PCC meeting in December and are James Parsons, Emma Phillips and Robin Riordan. As part of that nomination and election process, each was asked to produce a short statement of why they wished to be considered for this role. The statements of the three who were elected are shown below for the information of our parishioners.

James Parsons: "I worship regularly at St Luke's where I'm also a Worship Leader and music group member. As a Reader, I occasionally preach at each church and lead Compline and Evensong at Chase. I'm an active member of a small weekly group and attend midweek Holy Communion. I believe I can represent the whole church community of Tidenham Parish and all sections of our congregations. I'm committed to dedicating the necessary time for preparation and discernment during the selection and interview process. My experience in ministry, leadership, and active participation equips me to discern the qualities needed in our new Vicar."

Emma Phillips: "Appointing a new Vicar is very important in the life of our Parish and the outcome of the interview will impact on many people throughout the community.

Why me?

- Being a member of the panel requires commitment and enthusiasm
- Prepared to invest the time required to help find the right candidate
- Listen without bias or judgement
- Good communication skills, approachable, friendly, organised, reliable, logical, fair, team player
- Our new Vicar is for everyone, no one person is more important than any other
- Welcome the opportunity to familiarise myself with the distinct church communities and worship styles to be a good representative
- Familiarity with interview process – albeit in context of medical professionals
- Neither young nor old, some experience of life, a degree of spiritual maturity and a strong faith"

Robin Riordan "I have many years of experience of interviewing candidates for leadership roles, as a former company Senior Vice President. I also did mock interviews with the Gloucester Diocese third-year curates, so have an idea of the questions asked and what candidates are interested in. I will ensure that I listen to what parishioners and God want in our new Vicar and am intimately knowledgeable of the parish survey and vacancy profile! Although I mainly attend St Luke, I will ensure that I attend St Mary & St Peter and St Michael & All Angels, to understand the issues and candidate attributes they would like to see addressed in the interviews.

We will keep you updated, but in the meantime please contact Revd Nicki for pastoral and Churchwardens, Brian or Robin, for non-pastoral matters. And 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 TUTSHILL – If stocks are low, don't worry please – contact Revd Nicki on 07936 787409.

PARISH COFFEE MORNING FOR YOUR WELLBEING AND JUST GOOD FUN – LAST MONDAY OF THE MONTH 10.00-12.00am at St Luke.

PARISH LUNCH – Usually first Thursday of the month 12.15-1.30pm at Woodcroft Christian Centre, but please check with George and Beryl for the next one.

Tuesday Bell Ringing – Postponed until after all the works at Tidenham. Contact Cate 07596 185918.

OUR PARISH BABY & TODDLER GROUPS

TUTSHILL BABY & TODDLER GROUP – Tuesdays 9.15-10.45am at St Luke, 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: rjulus@breatheyouth.org.uk <http://www.breatheyouth.org.uk/>

Pilates for Wellbeing – Tuesdays 2.00-2.45pm, St Luke, Tutshill; gentle physical activity to support spiritual health. Contact Loreto on 07883 401475 / loreespinosaa@icloud.com .

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

Bible Study – Mondays 2.00-3.00pm

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**.

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/>

Revd Nicki Bullivant, Associate Priest & Wellbeing Chaplain - 07936 787409 - nicki1002@hotmail.co.uk

Revd Canon Tudor Griffiths, PTO - 07718 906066 - tudor.griffiths1@gmail.com

Revd Anna Griffiths, PTO - 07504 662539 - anna.dejaegher.griffiths@gmail.com

Revd Miri Keen, PTO - 07933 172552 - miri.parkhill@gmail.com

Revd Canon Ed Pruen, PTO – 07752 569794 – edpruen@yahoo.co.uk

Revd David Rees, Locally Ordained Minister - 01594 530443 - david.rees17@btinternet.com

Mandy Vaughan, Licensed Lay Reader - 01594 530844

Revd Br Tom Clammer OC, PTO - 07811 639741 - tomclammer@gmail.com

James Parsons, Reader - 07970 489362 - jamesdparsons727@gmail.com

Emma Durbin, Children Youth & Families Missioner - 07369 226546 - emmad.cyfm@gmail.com

Prof Brian Duerden, Churchwarden - 01291 623310 - bduerden70@gmail.com

Robin Riordan, Churchwarden - 07711 173240 - rrtpcc@aol.com

Paul Coombs, PCC Treasurer - 07831 469951 - 814yug@gmail.com

Rosalind Seward, Parish Safeguarding Officer - 07410 237310 - tidenhamsafeguarding@gmail.com

Annabelle Stephens, Admin - 07553 779632 - tidenhamadmin@btinternet.com