



"where the river flows everything will live"

GATHERINGS FOR WORSHIP

SUNDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2024
Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

St Mary & St Peter's, Tidenham

CANCELLED – NO SERVICE OWING TO FLOODING

St Luke's, Tutshill

11.00am Holy Communion with Splash for children

St Michael & All Angels, Tidenham Chase

6.00pm Late Summer Praise

St Mary the Virgin, St Briavels

BCP Holy Communion

9.30am Family Communion

St Mary Magdalene, Hewelsfield

11.00am Morning Worship

Bible Readings: James 2:1-10 & 14- 17 and Mark 7:24- end

Collect: God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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: Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy; and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall, keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; 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 – **please confirm return date with Julia**. 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/UCkRjOlVDBT9M9usfhp2722w



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 –

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

Summer Praise

8 September 6pm @ St Michael & All Angels, Tidenham Chase – join us for wonderful music and uplifting worship

Reg Cade passed away in the early hours of 26 August – please hold his family in your prayers.



Historic Gloucestershire church gets first kitchen and toilet after more than 700 years

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.

Sung Vespers

An Ecumenical Service of Prayers for Peace

3.00pm Sunday 8th September

Tintern Abbey

With kind permission of CADW. Organised by Friends of Our Lady of Tintern. With speaker The Most Reverend Mark O'Toole, Archbishop of Cardiff. With the monks of Belmont Abbey. Please bring a folding chair. Entry to the Abbey is free for those attending the service. Lunches and teas are available in the village



All around the country on Saturday 14th September, thousands of people are sponsored to travel from church to church by walking, cycling or other methods. For us in Gloucestershire, funds raised are split 50:50 between the Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust and our local churches. Ride+Stride is a nationwide event which is supported by the National Churches Trust.

In our Parish, a group will be walking from St Briavels Church (St Mary the Virgin) to St Luke's, Tutshill, calling at St Mary Magdalene (Hewelsfield), St Michael & All Angels (Tidenham Chase) and St Mary & St Peter's (Tidenham). This walk is about 9 miles long (unless we get lost!) starting at St Briavels at about 9am.

If you would like to take part, either by walking or sponsoring a walker, then please contact James Parsons for a sponsor form (email - jamesdparsons727@gmail.com or phone – 07970 489362). Sponsor forms will be in Tidenham, Tidenham Chase and Tutshill churches, if you'd like to sponsor the group as a whole.

Why not come to Tidenham Church on that Saturday morning and see the preparatory work that has taken place in the North Aisle - the church will be open on the morning for refreshments. We won't be able to access St Luke's, but all the other churches are open.

If you would like to visit some other Gloucestershire Churches then a list of churches taking part is at <https://ghct.org.uk/ride-and-stride/ridestride-churches-taking-part>

HELP! We could really do with some help please; firstly, volunteers needed for Splash on Sundays during the service, secondly, for a Health & Safety lead (duties involve: being familiar with H&S Regs in relation to church premises and policies, building works, maintaining fire equipment and safe systems) and finally, for the PCC Secretary (duties involve: agendas and minutes, AGM, reports and correspondence). For more details, contact Annabelle @ Admin.

St Luke's Quiet Day 2024 - Saturday 14 September 10am-2pm, led by Rev Anna Griffiths. In addition to the Parish Quiet Day planned for Lent 2025, we are offering a local gathering at St Luke's Church this Autumn. For details and registration, please contact Cate Phillips 07596185918 or Leonie Jones 07742977214.

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: riulius@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 / lorespinosaa@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/>

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

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

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 - bdurden70@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