OnnyCamlad Parishes

Rev Norman Morris, Rector of Wentnor with Ratlinghope, Norbury, Myndtown, Lydham, More & Snead, & Priest in charge of Churchstoke & Hyssington
01588 650244
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The Rector writes…Come this month of March, we shall hopefully begin to move out of winter and what a winter it has been! The coldest for nearly twenty-five years and difficult and disruptive it has been! I dare say we shall appreciate the arrival of spring and even more look forward to some warmer summer weather, well, cautiously look forward, as we can never be quite certain of anything when it comes to British weather! Our season of March is wholly taken up this year in our church calendar by Lent with Palm Sunday coming on the last Sunday and Easter Sunday being celebrated on the first Sunday in April. So its wilderness – desert time – when we think of Jesus' forty days in the wilderness of Judea with its hot, dry days and cold, dark nights, a life lived in caves, facing wild animals, and lots of "nightly fears and phantasies", to quote the evening service of Compline. We prepare ourselves for Holy Week and Easter as we look forward to that time which takes us to the very heart of the Christian faith – the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In days gone by, the catechumenate – new Christians – prepared for their Christian initiation – their Baptism on Easter Eve - by receiving teaching and guidance throughout the season of Lent. For us, following in that tradition, we can renew our faith by attending a Lent Group, giving up something for a good cause, perhaps, reading a Lent book or saying our prayers more regularly, or coming to church for an extra service, even dropping in to one of our churches to say a prayer, virtually all always open – at least, marking the season and remembering Jesus in the Wilderness as he faced and overcame the Temptations of the Devil and prepared for his future ministry.

SUNDAY SERVICES

Sunday 7 MARCH LENT 3
8.00 Holy Communion (BCP) Lydham
9.15 Extended Communion Hyssington
9.45 Blessing of the Plough & Holy Communion (CW) Ratlinghope
11.15 Family Communion (CW) Norbury
6.30 "Songs of Praise" Churchstoke
6.30 Evening Prayer Wentnor

SUNDAY 14 MARCH LENT 4 MOTHERING SUNDAY
8.30 Holy Communion Wentnor
10.30 Mothering Sunday Service More
11.15 Mothering Sunday Service Churchstoke
6.30 Evening Prayer "Songs of Praise" Norbury

SUNDAY 21 MARCH LENT 5 PASSION SUNDAY
8.30 Holy Communion Ratlinghope
10.00 Holy Communion Snead
11.15 Holy Communion Churchstoke
11.15 Morning Prayer "Simply to the Cross I cling" Lydham
6.30 Evening Prayer "Simply to the Cross I cling" Wentnor

SUNDAY 28 MARCH PALM SUNDAY (BST begins)
8.30 Holy Communion Norbury
10.30 Palm Sunday Procession & All-Age Service Wentnor
11.15 Holy Communion Churchstoke

6.30 Evening Prayer More
7.00 – 9.00pm YOUTH EVENT "GRASP" St Barnabas, Hereford

Wednesday Morning Prayer 8.30am

3 March Lydham; 10 March Churchstoke; 17 March More; 24 March Wentnor; 7 April No Service
All are welcome to this short weekly act of worship from all the parishes.

AT THE CHURCHES

The Local Ministry Team runs a **Prayer Line** which is like the School Snow Line. You phone the first number and we phone several volunteers to pray for any worrying situation you feel you need help with. Prayer request number: contact 0782 7750 665. The Local Ministry Team members are Anita Bright (Wentnor & Myndtown), David & Mary Hardham (Ratlinghope), Oliver Goode (Norbury), Trish Macmullan (Snead); Janet Wilcoxon (Lydham & More), David Jelves (Churchstoke), Jon Price & Rev Norman Morris. Margaret Wallsgrove (Hyssington) attends too. Preb. Graham Earney retires in the spring and the diocese welcomes Rev John Daniels, currently part-time Ministry officer for Bradford diocese and a parish priest in the diocese as the new Diocesan Local Ministry officer.

SCTG shropshire churches tourism group

The first meeting of the Steering Group of this brand new organisation met recently and already plans are in place to produce a new brochure to replace the very out of date "Explore & Enjoy Shropshire Churches" produced 5 years ago. It will be a membership organisation for the whole county and membership forms and entry form for the brochure has been sent to all clergy and PCC secretaries in Ludlow Archdeaconry. They will also go to Churches Together in Shropshire and to Lichfield Diocese. They will also be on our diocesan website and the Lichfield website. All our churches are encouraged to join. The cost is £45 for a two year membership about 40p a week so well worth it if a church is open for visitors.

On Friday 5 February a well-supported "Tutored Wine Tasting" with Myndtown Wines took place at "Shuttocks Wood" and raised over £150 surplus for Norbury Church. Our thanks to Howard & Juliet Rutherford for hosting the occasion and to Myndtown Wines for providing such an informative evening. We shall certainly have another "Tutored Wine Tasting" as it makes for a fascinating evening with each wine having its own story!

More Church Monthly Draw – Results for January 2010
1st Prize Derek Redge
2nd Prize Mr & Mrs F. Wood
3rd Prize L. & G. Gilbard

UP AND COMING EVENTS

Wednesday 10 March Norbury Village Hall Committee Meeting 7.00pm

FRIDAY 12 MARCH
"Myndtown Quiz" QUIZ OF THE YEAR!
Snead Church v Myndtown Church
7.30pm "Three Tuns"
Teams of Four, £20 per team, Small Auction & raffle prizes to be won! Prize Winners Trophy
To book Tickets contact: Malcolm Corfield 01588 650205
In aid of Myndtown & Snead churches.

Broadband provision in our area is going to be discussed at our Local Joint Committee (LJC) 19 meeting in Edgton Village Hall on 17 March (starts 7pm). A representative from British Telecom will be coming to the meeting so please put this date in your diary and make sure you come along to find out what, if anything, we can get BT to do to improve the service. From: Frances Hall ; Community Regeneration Officer (South); Community Working, Shropshire Council; Westgate, Bridgnorth; WV16 5AA

The **Bible Study Group** Meets at the Rectory, usually occasional Fridays - new members always welcome! We will resume study of St John's Gospel at Wentnor Rectory after the Lent & Easter. Contact: The Rector 01588 650244.

LENT began on **Ash Wednesday 17 February** and we are doing parallel courses - : **an afternoon LENT COURSE** at **Churchstoke & an evening one at Wentnor**.
We are following the **NEW 2010** York Course – **When I Survey…Christ's Cross and ours"?** - A Challenging topics! – with taped comments by Rev John Bell, General Sir Richard Dannatt, Canon Dr Christina Baxter, with closing comments by Rev Dr Colin Morris. All are welcome to come to the sessions.
Wednesday evenings 7.30pm 24 February, 3 March, 10 March, 17 March, & 31 March
Wentnor Rectory: There will also be a Wednesday afternoon Lent Group meetings studying the York course at **Churchstoke** (at Pentreheyling House) run by David Jelves & Jon Price . (please ring David & Jo Jelves for details 01588 620434) **Wednesday afternoons 2.30pm 24 February, 3 March, 10 March, 17 March, & 24 March**
There are **Lent Bread & Soup Lunches** for Christian Aid every Friday from 12 Noon at BC Methodist Hall. Our benefice is kindly providing Lunch on Friday 26 March.

On Saturday 28 March there will be a **Children's Activity Day – Craft Day** - at Norbury Village Hall, organized by the Rector, Sue Cooke and the Sunday Stars Team 10.30 – 2.30pm –
The day is always a good one. The day will also include our famous World famous
ANNUAL EGG ROLLING Contest at 2.30pm - always great fun!
Children are welcome – 5-11 year olds - with teenagers welcome as helpers - under fives with a parent/carer, please. £1 per child (£2 per family)
Bring hard-boiled eggs & pack lunch/Drinks provided.

URGENT! In the spring it will be ANNUAL PAROCHIAL MEETING TIME!
Our Annual Church Meetings are very important. All PCC members and all other members of our congregations and beyond are warmly encouraged to attend. Our lovely churches need lots of support from their parishioners! As I said last year and say above, we always need new officeholders and PCC members from time to time, so if you're not involved yet, this might be your year! These annual meetings are happy occasions and we really need everyone to attend! We would love to hear your ideas and views, please.
Monday 8 March Ratlinghope 7.30pm "The Coppice"
Wednesday 7 April More 7.30pm Wentnor Rectory
Thursday 8 April Lydham 7.30pm "Parkside"
Friday 8 April Snead 2.30pm Lower Snead
Friday 9 April Hyssington 7.30pm Cefn Farm
Monday 12 April Wentnor 7.30pm Wentnor Rectory
Tuesday 20 April Churchstoke 7.30pm St Nicholas Church
Thursday 22 April Norbury 7.30pm Lea Farm, Norbury
Friday 25 April Myndtown 8.00pm Handless Farm

SUMMER DATES: Please contact the Rector if you would like a listing
Saturday 8 May "Onny Valley Concert" with Val Littlehales, Richard Beamon, David Preshous & other local artistes to raise funds to restore the Ratlinghope Sin-Eater's funerary monument. Norbury Village Hall 7.30pm Further details next month. All welcome! Offers of support welcome too! 01588 6450244
Tuesday 13 May Jon Price's **"**Fresh Expressions" Trailer Launch by the Bishop of Ludlow Churchstoke Vicarage 9.00am
Saturday 15 May Family Day & Hog Roast Churchstoke Vicarage
Sunday 30 May 10.30 Benefice Myndtown Pet Service
Saturday 5 June "More Breakfast" Lydham Village Hall – in aid of More Church
Sunday 6 June 6.30pm More Festival Evensong
Friday 25 June Lydham "Wine & Cheese Party" at "Parkside", in aid of Lydham Church
Saturday 24 July Open Garden & Coffee Morning Adstone Farmhouse – in aid of Wentnor Church 10.30 – 12 Noon
2010 Harvest Festival Dates As ever, it's quite a task arranging nine Harvest Festivals, so here's the current state of play. Any problems please contact the Rector but I am hoping to stick with these dates so I can soon book Preachers.
Sunday 12 September 11.15 Lydham Harvest Festival & Harvest Lunch (Lydham Village Hall) …*early because of September weddings & the Michaelmas Fayre*
Sunday 19 September 10.00 Snead Harvest Festival

Sunday 26 September 11.15 More Harvest Festival
Sunday 3 October 6.00 Ratlinghope Harvest Festival Preacher: Jon Price
Friday 15 October 6.30 Myndtown Harvest Festival
Sunday 17 October; 3.00 Hyssington Harvest Festival; Wentnor Harvest Festival 6.30
Thursday 21 October 2.00 Norbury School Harvest Festival
Sunday 24 October 11.15 Churchstoke Harvest Festival & Harvest Lunch; 6.30 Norbury Harvest Festival

HERE AND THERE
A Youth Diocesan Event called "GRASP" is taking place at St Barnabas Church, Hereford, on Sunday 28 March 7 – 9pm
GRASP is an event aimed at young people from year 10 (age 14) up to student age. There is a lively mix of music led by a live band, interviews, games, a talk and discussion. Young people are warmly invited to attend. We have taken groups down to Hereford to events like these before and they have been much enjoyed. Also the dates for the next two events are listed below so you can get them in the diary early. Sunday 20th June 2010 & Sunday 21st Nov 2010

Myndtown Combined Parish Council

The Parish Council now has a new web address www.myndtown.org.uk In due course it is hoped that the website will provide information relevant to the Parishes. It is also hoped to set up a business directory on the site for local businesses, be they plumbers, electricians, b&bs, gardeners or anyone running their own business locally. If you would like your contact details and maybe a link to your own site in the directory, please send your details to philip@myndtownwines.co.uk. The bigger the directory the better for everyone and it is an ideal opportunity to have a web presence, so please do contact us.
Myndtown Combined Parish Council 2010
Meetings: Norbury Village Hall 7.30pm Mondays 8 March; 12 April; 10 May AGM; 5 July; 6 Sept; 8 Nov. Contact: Parish Clerk Mrs. L Thomas 01588 650509.
BEEN FOUND! Lower part of the triptych blue Display Board.
Age Concern Lunches for those 60 & over at The Crown Inn, Wentnor, 12 Noon for 12.30pm **SECOND WEDNESDAY** in the month – **NEXT LUNCH Wednesday 10 March** – to book your meal please ring Vera Brookfield 01588 650230 BY 3 March AND third Tuesday in the month, **NEXT LUNCH Tuesday 16 March** please ring Margaret Cooke 01588 650280.
Table Tennis! Open to all! Anyone wanting a good game! Often taking place Mondays at Norbury Village Hall 2- 3pm For details contact The Rector 01588 650244
Local public transport?
DIAL-A-RIDE Wentnor to Bishops Castle & back every Friday pick-up 10.00am Wentnor Church & Wentnor Shop (can stop at Norbury) return 12.45pm from Tuffins BC.
SHROPSHIRE LINK ring 01743 210368 – need to make a booking a day or two before.
Find out what is going on across the **Hereford diocese** at the website at www.hereford.anglican.org - have a look at the Noticeboard. For details of service times at the Cathedral, please telephone 01432 374212 or visit the cathedral website www.herefordcathedral.org.
FIFTEEN YEARS AGO! From the Deanery Magazine The 50th anniversaries of VE Day and VJ Day were kept throughout the diocese; Bucknell parishes saw Rev Eileen Lloyd joining them; Trinity Hospital, Clun saw major refurbishment; a Parish Day with Bishop John Saxbee took place at BC; David Preshous recalled a Medieval Banquet experience at Mainstone; the church roof was under discussion at BC; a new diocesan Youth officer Richard Betterton joined the diocese; and a reminder that in 1995 there were still seven incumbents in the deanery!

Funeral: Marie Eileen Algar (85) Tuesday 5 January (correction) Shrewsbury Crematorium
Norbury & District WI: Thursday 11 March; Speaker: Mo Williams "Life in a refuge" " Hostesses: Liv Goode, Sue Pinches & Rita Preston; Flowers: Carol Buxton; Competition: Piece of Jewellery.
Lydham, More & Snead WI: Thursday 18 March: Speaker: Judith Payne: "The African's Grave" Discussion about member's own Treasures Taken on the Night Competition: Homemade Easter Card; Teas: Christine & Tricia.
Onny Valley Social Club: Usually meeting at Norbury Village Hall; .Social gatherings & outings for the over-fifties: well worthwhile – do join! Contact: Pat Varcoe 01588 650204 New members welcome.

Tuesday 2 March: Mrs & Mrs D Preshous; **Tuesday 6 April** Beetle Drive **DAY TRIPS 21 April** Stratford upon Avon**; 19 May** Forest of Dean & River Trip.
Churchstoke Mothers Union: Contact: Olive Fitzhugh 01588 620698 The **Mothers Union** has a scheme to provide holidays for families in need – any recommendations, please contact the AFIA Holiday Organizer at the Mother's Union 01432 373306 or email: mothersunion.hereford@surefish.co.uk
Churchstoke "Over-Sixties": Meet alternative Wednesdays 3.00pm Churchstoke Community Hall contact: Jay Frank 01588 620081
.**Age Concern:** please contact **Mrs. Janet Brandon** on 01588 650232 – your Age Concern Parish Link – who will also be pleased to help**.**
FlOWERS/CLEANING Winter Greenery in Lent, please
Wentnor:
21 Feb – 28 March – No Flowers Cleaning only Mrs R Bright & Mrs A Bright
4 – 11 April Mrs V Cockburn (Flowers) & Mrs A Parry (Cleaning)
18 – 25 April Mrs L Middleton (Flowers) & Mrs R Jones (Cleaning)
Ratlinghope
28 February & 14 March Mrs A Littlehales & Mrs D Owen
14 – 28 March Mrs S Betton & Mrs S Pinches
4 April Mrs J Brandon & Mrs V Harley
11 April Mrs M Cooke & Mrs J Pinches
Norbury:
March Lent; Mrs H Eustace & Mrs M Rose
Lydham: March Lent; April Mrs A Jones + Easter team decorating
More March Lent; April Mrs M Denwood + Easter team decorating

NOTICEBOARD
Want a Magazine?
Know someone who would like one? Please encourage sales & distribution! Please contact Margaret Cooke 01588 650280 (Shropshire & Snead parishes) or Jane Frank 01588 620711 (Churchstoke & Hyssington)
Myndtown Combined Parish Council Contact: Parish Clerk Mrs. L Thomas 01588 650509.

Wentnor Stores: **The Post Office OUTREACH service is OPEN on TUESDAY 10.00AM – 12 NOON - offering personal banking, Car Tax & Euros-** please support our village shop WENTNOR STORES as much as possible!
Run up the Flag! Here's an offer to everyone in the Wentnor Group of parishes and beyond - every man, woman and child - those living in Wentnor, Ratlinghope, Norbury, Myndtown, More, Lydham, and Snead - mark your birthday, pet's birthday, wedding, anniversary, exam success. passing your driving licence, whatever, by having the Union Flag or St George's Flag flying from the Wentnor Flagpole - pay only £1 to the Benefice account which supports all the churches. The flag could fly for you! Any day of the year! Contact Rev Norman Morris 01588 650244.
Bus enquiries**: 0870 241 2 216** National Rail Enquires**: 08457 484950**
Hall Bookings: Norbury 650660 Anita (or if need be Rev Norman Morris **650244) – Lydham 638737 – Hyssington Village Hall: 01588 620197 - do use our halls!**
Norbury Village Hall: Tables, chairs, hostess trolley, crockery, & boiler available for hire 01588 650660
The Rector is always available to discuss Wedding and Christening dates at any time
Office Hour: **Saturday morning at The Rectory 9-10am. Tel: 01588 650244.**
House Communion is available to anyone who cannot easily get to Church.
Photocopying at The Rectory: 5p per sheet – reductions for longer runs.
Bishop's Castle Dial-a-Ride and Community Car scheme: Available for individuals or groups regardless of age or disability. All journeys must be pre-booked. Volunteer drivers and escorts urgently required for this worthwhile community service. Contact: Adrian Varcoe or ring 01588 638350.