



"where the river flows everything will live"

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

SUNDAY 2 MARCH 2025
SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

St Mary & St Peter, Tidenham
9.00am Holy Communion

St Luke, Tutshill
11.00am Family Worship

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: Exodus 34:29-35 and Luke 9:28-37

Collect: Holy God, you know the disorder of our sinful lives: set straight our crooked hearts, and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Post Communion: Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ: may we who are partakers at his table reflect his life in word and deed, that all the world may know his power to change and save. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 5 March. There will be communion services at St Luke, Tutshill, at 12 noon and at 7.00pm and also 10.00am at St Mary the Virgin, St Briavels. There is the opportunity to receive the imposition of ashes at all services.

MID-WEEK GATHERINGS IN OUR PARISH – ASH WEDNESDAY & START OF LENT THIS WEEK

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

ASH WEDNESDAY

9.15am Contemplative Prayer, St Luke, Tutshill

10.00am Holy Communion with optional Ashing, St Mary the Virgin, St Briavels

12.00am Holy Communion, St Luke, Tutshill, with optional Ashing

7.00pm Holy Communion with optional Ashing

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

New Parish Electoral Roll 2025

Every C of E Parish has to create a completely new Church Electoral Roll in time for the 2025 Annual church meeting. The roll acts as a "membership list" for churchgoers in the parish and gives entitlement to vote at the Annual Parochial Council Meeting (APCM) or stand for office as Churchwarden or PCC / Deanery Synod member.

Church rules require a formal notice to be published in early February, and you can see this on our church Notice Boards. Over the next few weeks congregations at Sunday services will be informed of what they need to do, but they can always contact the Church Electoral Roll Officer Iain Gardiner for more information.

- We start the new roll from scratch, meaning that everyone who wishes to be on the new roll needs to fill in a hard copy or pdf application form.
- Electoral Roll application forms are available at each church and should be returned to Iain Gardiner by 15 April.
- The preparation of the new roll will be completed by 22 April and exhibited in churches for at least two weeks before the APCM on Sunday 11 May 2025.

If you have previously given Iain your email address, he will send you a fillable pdf file that you can complete and email back to him at iain706gardiner@btinternet.com. If, however, you were on the Parish Electoral Roll, you will **not** automatically be included in the next one; it is each person's responsibility to 'sign up' again, if they wish to be on the Parish Electoral Roll.

Parish Christingle Service – 2 February

Thank you so much for your support for The Children's Society during this service and we are delighted that we have been able to forward to them a donation of £231.36.

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 can make a scarecrow, please let Emma know.

Lent 2025 – look out for our prayer/thought for the day on Facebook.

We are offering a Prayer Space after the Wednesday Healing Eucharist and look out for our Prayer/Thought 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.

CYFM (Children Youth & Families Mission) SNIPPETS

- We are now running 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.
- 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)

LATEST UPDATE – THE VACANCY FOR OUR VICAR

We had hoped to be able to start our announcements this week with news that our three sets of PCC representatives would be starting the shortlisting and interview process for the appointment of a new Vicar of Tidenham Parish and Priest in Charge of the Parishes of St Briavels and Hewelsfield.

Unfortunately, our initial advertisements did not yield any applications by the closing date of February 10th. However, this is not a disaster and is by no means unusual at this time in the Church of England! We had a Zoom meeting with Archdeacon Hilary and colleagues from our parishes, and the Diocese believes we have a very strong parish profile and is keen to re-advertise the post at an early date. We discussed the most suitable time which will be sooner rather than later; there is a minimum gap of eight weeks and as that takes us to Holy Week and Easter (not a good time to advertise!) so we are probably looking at early May. A timetable will be set out for the period of advertising, closing date, shortlisting and

interviews. An early May advertisement could still see us have a new incumbent by late September, so some time would be caught up on our original expectations.

Meanwhile, the details of the post will remain “open” on various websites and any enquiries will be treated positively and could or may lead directly to applications being considered at any stage. Church networks will also be used to continue to seek potential interest.

Clearly, this initial lack of response is disappointing but there are numerous other parishes that have had to go through more than one advertising round before successfully attracting the person they are seeking – so, we must not be downhearted! Please continue to pray for a successful outcome; 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 with Breakfast Club in half term and holidays.** 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 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 – WE NEED YOUR HELP!

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, 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