



"where the river flows everything will live"

PARISH NEWS FOR TIDENHAM (and St Briavels with Hewelsfield and Brockweir)

NEWS



SUNDAY, JULY 5th AT 6.00PM

St LUKE, TUTSHILL

"SUMMER PRAISE!"

**COME AND SHARE WITH OUR
SINGERS SUMMER PRAISE HYMNS**



Summer Praise 2026

This year's "Summer Praise" is being held this Sunday, 5th July, 6.00pm at St Luke in Tutshill. It has been moved from St Michael & All Angels in Tidenham Chase, due to the presence of bees there. All are welcome!

St Michael & All Angels, Tidenham Chase

Good news! We have received permission to proceed with the relocation of the bees at Chase Church from the roof void. This is happening this week and things will be monitored through next week before a decision on when to re-open the church is made. It should not be very long now until it re-opens.

Reordering and Refurbishment of St Mary and St Peter,

Tidenham

If you haven't read the article about the blessing and commissioning by Bishop Anthony of the areas reordered and refurbished in Tidenham Parish Church, you can read it here.

<https://www.theforestreview.co.uk/news/praise-for-ancient-churches-new-facilities-918638>



Archbishop's Visitation for Churchwardens



The Archdeacon's visitation service for new Churchwardens in Gloucester Diocese took place this week at St Mary the Virgin, Berkeley. In attendance were Revd Sharon Gleed and Churchwardens Robin Riordan, Brian Duerden, Jerry Maltmans and Deborah Flint.

Officiating were Archdeacon Katrina, Archdeacon Designate John and Ali Mephmam, Senior Interim Minister.

The service is one of several around the Diocese which combines worship, celebration of the role of Churchwarden and the legal registration for the coming year. (Gary Lewis was unable to attend but will be registered separately.)

The theme of the interview by Archdeacon Katrina was a core strategic element this year for the Diocese, placing children (our future) at the centre of everything we do. There were some interesting stories about John and Ali's experience of faith when they were children and how this grew into strong belief in their adult life.

Faith, family and calling: Lorna's story

The Reverend Deacon Lorna Theophilus was ordained last Sunday in Gloucester Cathedral. We wish Lorna the very best for her future ministry.

Lorna's story recently appeared in an article in the Diocese of Gloucester News Hub:

“When Lorna Theophilus met a female priest who was also raising young children, something shifted. “It was the first time I'd seen somebody who was like me,” she said.



She was at a vocations day for women and hadn't seen ministry that looked like it could fit into her life before. For Lorna, that moment helped her begin to imagine that ordained ministry might be a calling for someone with her gifts, family life and practical approach to faith.

Raised in Bream in the Forest of Dean, faith was a constant presence. “One of my earliest memories is sitting on a swing in my garden aged five or six, struck by the wonder of creation and the conviction that God had made it all,” Lorna said. “A few years later, at a holiday club, I made a personal commitment to follow Christ. Even going through difficult times, it was always undeniable to me that God was real and that he loved me.”

After studying History and English at Keele University, she built a career in housing and charity project management, working in affordable housing and later with what is now Young Lives vs Cancer. She got married to her husband, Sam, and they had three children: 14-year-old twins Eleanor and Rosie, and 11-year-old Oliver. Alongside her professional life, she was heavily involved in volunteering, serving as a school governor, helping at a community pre-school and supporting the life of her local church.

“I've always wanted to do something that was helping others,” she said. “In my career and through all my jobs, I knew I wanted to help people. I think that's very strongly linked to my Christian faith.” She helped on a 10 year project to build a new church centre in Bream which became a significant part of her life. Around the same time, she was also leading a house group for young families, bringing together parents with young children for fellowship and support.

Lorna said: “At the time, neither experience felt like preparation for ministry. I never thought of myself in a leadership position at all. I just wanted to meet with other Christians. However, when I look back, I do think that it was God preparing me for leadership, or maybe getting me used to the idea.”

Working as Church Buildings Support Officer in the Diocese of Hereford also helped her to understand the broad range of people called to be priests.

“I was supporting churches with building projects, which brought me into contact with clergy and congregations from a wide range of traditions and backgrounds. I met loads of different people who were called to the priesthood, and they were all very different,” she said. “It was really helpful to see myself as a priest. I also discovered that I'm quite good at encouraging people who are struggling and finding the next thing to do, and I started to spot things in myself that might be useful in ministry.”

Throughout her discernment and training, she says the support of her family has been invaluable.

“My husband has been so supportive of me in this journey,” she said. “When I have struggled, he’s told me, ‘Of course this is what you should be doing. This is so obviously what you should be doing.’”

Lorna is now looking forward to her new placement.

“I’m very curious about people,” she said. “I’m keen to get to know the churches and the communities they’re in. I’m really excited about sharing in baptisms, weddings and funerals, and becoming involved in the ministry side of local schools. I’m looking forward to being ordained, being commissioned for what God is calling me to do.”

Lorna will serve her curacy in Highnam, Tibberton with Rudford and Taynton Benefice, along with the parish of Minsterworth.”

Parish Coffee Morning



Tidenham Parish Coffee morning was held on Monday 29th June 2026, at St Luke’s Church, and hosted by Reverend Nicki Bullivant and Polly Morgan, Pastoral Assistant. Thank you to everyone who kindly donated. Your generosity helps us continue running this valuable service. The next one is in July, all are welcome.

Parish Lunch

The next Parish Lunch will be held at the Christian Centre in Woodcroft on Thursday 2nd July. Come along for some good food and company. Contact George and Beryl for further information. georgechealey@gmail.com 01291 62555



EVENTS

EGLWYS FETHODISTAIDD CAS-GWENT
CHEPSTOW METHODIST CHURCH

CYMANFA GANU

DYDD SUL 5 GORFFENNAF | SUNDAY 5 JULY

6PM

Gyda Chôr Meibion Cas-gwent a Gwestai Arbennig
With Chepstow Male Voice Choir and Special Guest

CROESO I BAWBI Dewch i ganu emynau Cymreig hyfryd, canwch yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg a chodwch gân ogoneddus o foliant. **ALL WELCOME!**

Come and sing wonderful Welsh Hymn Tunes in either English or Welsh and make a glorious song of praise.

AM DDIM FREE

chepstowtc.gov.uk

Community energy in: Tidenham parish

(Includes: Sedbury, Beachley, Tutshill and Woodcroft and surrounding hamlets)

Renewable energy like wind and solar can bring both opportunities and concerns. One option is community energy, where local people have a role in shaping or owning projects.

All views are welcome at our **free workshop**. Let’s talk about what’s right for our community!

8th July 2026
6pm - 8.30pm

Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall, NP16 7AQ

Please join us and enjoy a complimentary buffet.

Everyone welcome - you don’t need to know anything about community energy to come along.

For more event info contact communities@cse.org.uk or call 0127 934 2400



Scan to book or visit: TidenhamCE.eventbrite.co.uk

Hosted in partnership with: FODCAP, Forest of Dean, Centre for Sustainable Energy

Duke's Yard Singing Club Summer Concert

With guest soloist
Guitarist - Simon Cottle



Songs for Everyone
Elbow to Elvis, Madrigals to Musicals, Rags to Ritz!

St Mary and St Peter's Church
TIDENHAM, NP16 7JQ

Wednesday 8th July 7.30pm

Raising funds for St Mary and St Peter's Church



Tickets from Eventbrite or on the door £5

www.singingclubber.co.uk

Summer Morning Concert

'Wake Up Wednesday' Singing Club

With Guest Singer
Ernie Emmanuel



Songs for Everyone
Elbow to Elvis, Madrigals to Musicals, Rags to Ritz!

St Luke's Church, Tutshill
Coleford Rd, NP16 7PT

Wednesday 15th July 11am-12noon

Raising funds for the RNLI,



Doors open 10.30am for tea and cake! £5
www.singingclubber.co.uk

HEWELSFIELD CHURCH

FLOWER FESTIVAL

'An English Country Garden'

SAT 25 - SUN 26TH JULY
11AM - 5PM

HEWELSFIELD CHURCH
GL15 6UH
what.three.words
buzz.shrubbery.soak

HOMEMADE LUNCHES AND TEAS
CRAFT TABLES ETC

FREE ENTRY

*Bring your family, come on your own
or ask a neighbour to bring you -
All are welcome!*

Gloucester Crematorium Open Day

Saturday 12th September 2026
10:00am - 2:00pm

Crematory tours

Candle lighting and time of reflection in the chapel

Place a message on our Memory Tree

Leave a message on our butterfly

Refreshments will be provided

Everyone welcome

If you have any questions, please contact
Gloucester Crematorium office on

01452 396902

St Luke's Folk Club, NP16 7BN
 ...even more than Folk...Jazz.. Pop...Poems...whatever!
Saturday, 12th September 2026
6 to 8.30pm



Come and listen to some local live music and if you or your band would like to take part then please contact Bill or Tanya White (details below)
Doors open at 5:30pm
All Welcome
 Coffee & Tea provided
 please bring any other drinks and snacks to share... No entry fee but donations will be accepted to help cover expenses and church costs
 For details contact: **Bill and Tanya White**
 Tel 01291 623 169
 Email: tanya.rockymead@gmail.com

GATHERINGS FOR WORSHIP

Sunday 5^h July 2026

(Fifth Sunday after Trinity)

St Mary & St Peter, Tidenham
 9.00am Holy Communion

St Luke, Tutshill
 11.00am Family Worship
 6.00pm Summer Praise

St Michael & All Angels, Tidenham Chase
 6.00pm **No service this week**

St Mary the Virgin, St Briavels
 8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)
 9.30am Holy Communion (Common Worship)

St Mary Magdalene, Hewelsfield
 11.00am Morning Worship

Wednesday 8th July 2026

St Luke, Tutshill
 12.00noon Healing Communion

Bible Readings

Romans 7:15-25a, Matthew 11:16-19, 25-end

Prayers

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people, that in their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Post Communion

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people, that in their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Offertory Collect

Creator God, you made human beings stewards of your good creation, and so we offer ourselves in your service. May our work and hospitality, our use of money and our minds all testify to your goodness so that our lives may speak of your love and power to save. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, who gave his life that we might live. Amen.

If you would like to include news or events, email tidenhamparish@gmail.com

For more information, please visit www.tidenhamparishchurch.co.uk or www.stbandhchurches.org.uk

