

Prayer Diary – February 2017

“Fear not for I am with you; be not dismayed for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous hand” Isaiah 41.10

Please pray for...

1st the signs of spring starting to show all around us
2nd Candlemas: Lord Jesus, light of the nations, make your home among us, and present us pure and holy to your heavenly Father, your God, and our God
3rd all those who grieve and mourn
4th Julie Cartwright, Co-ordinating Chaplain at the North Devon District Hospital
5th refugees settling in our country, and those still searching for somewhere safe to call home
6th our Bishops, Robert, Nick and Sarah
7th the staff and pupils at our local schools
8th the North Devon Hospice
9th Andy and his family
10th all who struggle with addiction
11th our local shops and businesses
12th all those couples preparing to marry this year
13th our Churchwardens and PCCs
14th St Valentine's Day: thank God for His love and pray for all who you love, family and friends
15th the Litchdon Medical Centre
16th our local councillors

17th the emergency services keeping us safe every day
18th everyone at this morning's Men's Prayer Breakfast
19th all who sing and play during our services
20th the Devon Air Ambulance
21st the lonely and isolated
22nd Mark, our Archdeacon, and the churches in our Mission Community
23rd the staff and residents of the Park Lane Nursing Home
24th the homeless people we see on the streets of Barnstaple
25th the Bishops Tawton Tidy Up Team, helping keep the village clean and tidy
26th Poverty Action Sunday; pray for the strength to follow where Christ leads
27th Fairtrade Fortnight: pray for a sustainable future for those who provide our food and drink
28th Shrove Tuesday: pray for all those enjoying pancake parties

You can find details of our daily Bible readings for this month at www.wordlive.org/Session/Classic

St John the Baptist Churches, Newport and Bishops Tawton



Parish Bulletin – February 2017

Every month there are bits and pieces that don't make it in to the Parish Bulletin for one reason or another. This month it's an article written by the Bishop of Exeter which is too long for us to include here (but you can read it at www.exeter.anglican.org/magazine).

In it he addresses that problem of finding your mind is wandering during prayer. The first time that someone told me this happens to them as well I felt such a relief! I thought I was the only one who found their attention drifting sometimes. And I thought that I was doing something wrong. I now realise that finding your mind has wandered is a good thing: it reminds you of what you were doing in the first place. And if we never find out that we have wandered, how do we know that we need to return to Christ?

'Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love...' – Joel 2.13

If you have any news or information for next month's Parish Bulletin then please send it to bishops.tawton@johnthebaptist.org.uk, or you can ring Dave Lewis on 01271 312904.

www.johnthebaptist.org.uk
www.facebook.com/StJohntheBaptistChurchesBarnstaple



Later this month we're pleased to be hosting North Devon's second Mission Shed. It's a great way for people from local churches to get together and share ideas and resources that will help us all to reach out to the communities we seek to serve. If you'd like to find out more come along to St John the Baptist in Newport on Thursday the 23rd of February.

Tea and coffee will be served from 7pm in time for a 7.30pm start.



Shrove Tuesday

Also known of course as Pancake Day! This year Shrove Tuesday is on the 28th February; traditionally this was when you used up your eggs and fat before beginning your Lenten fast.

Did you know? Pancake recipes first started appearing in recipe books as long ago as 1439. The practise of tossing them was first recorded in 1619 in Pasquil's Palin: 'and every man and maide doe take their turne, And tosse their Pancakes up for feare they burne.'

To make 8 or so pancakes you will need 8oz/225g plain flour, 2 large eggs, 1 pint milk, and a pinch of salt.

Mix the ingredients together and whisk well then leave to stand for 30 minutes. Heat a little oil in a frying pan, pour in enough batter to cover the base of the pan and let it cook until the base of the pancake has browned. Then shake the pan to loosen the pancake and flip the pancake over to brown the other side.

(with thanks to www.historic-uk.com)

Sunday Services in February

Sunday 5th 8am Holy Communion at **Newport**

9.30am All Age Praise at **Newport**

11am Joint Service of Holy Communion at **Bishops Tawton Methodist Chapel**

Sunday 12th 9.30am Holy Communion with crèche and Sunday School at **Newport**

11am Morning Prayer at **Bishops Tawton**

7.30pm Worship and Prayer at **Newport**

Sunday 19th 8am Holy Communion at **Newport**

9.30am Family Praise at **Newport** with Sunday School and crèche

11am Holy Communion at **Bishops Tawton**

6.30pm Evening Praise with Breaking of Bread at **Newport**

Sunday 26th 9.30am Holy Communion at **Newport** with Early Bird Family Service in the Hall

11am Morning Praise at **Bishops Tawton**

Every **Thursday** 9am Prayer Time at **Newport** followed by Breaking of Bread at 9.30am

February Events

Every **Monday** 2pm Mini Music at Newport

Every **Wednesday** 10am Cake Club at Newport

Every **Wednesday** 10am Club for adults with disabilities in Newport Hall

Monday 6th and **Monday 20th** 2.30pm Bible Lunch at Newport Hall

Thursday 9th 2pm Friendship Circle at Newport

Saturday 11th 9.30am Prayer Breakfast at Bishops Tawton

Saturday 11th 2.30pm Disabled Christian Fellowship at Newport Hall

Saturday 18th 8am Men's Prayer Breakfast at Newport

Thursday 23rd 7.30pm North Devon Mission Shed at Newport

Tuesday 28th 8pm Pints of View at the Chichester Arms