

**THE PARISH OF ST THOMAS OF
HEREFORD, WEOBLEY, HR4 8QS AND
ST.BEDE THE VEN. KINGTON, HR5 3DW**

SECOND WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

No picture this week. Google playing up!

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Safeguarding Rep. Joanna Helme. 01432.760816
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07568 669 300 or 01684.574658
Parish Councillors: Fr.Simon, Joanna Helme, Karen
Lampitt, Sarah Nichols, Frank McNally, Charles de Rohan,
Tricia Carter. *Hon.Secretary*, Kerry Poole,
Finance Cttee: Joanna Helme, Pat Roberts, Peter Hereford.
Accounts: Keith White.

The Website:www.thomasandbede.com Go to the
website, and click on 'Contact'. Tricia Carter has now taken
on the website (01568.708723).
triciacarter2691@gmail.com

COVID -& FLU: Please take all normal precautions,
Weobley Mass will continue to be Zoomed.
Zoom ID:768 558 1521 and Password:1rZ7LU

SECOND ORDINARY WEEK OF THE YEAR.

Sat.Jan.13 Mass of Sunday, Kington 6.000
Sun. 14 2nd. ORD.SUNDAY Mass Weob. 10.30Z
Mon. 15 Mass, Weob. 10.00Z. *Ss Maurus+Placid*
Tues. 16 Mass, Weob. 10.00Z - *feria*
Wed. 17 Mass, K'ton.10.30--*S.Anthony of Egypt*
Thur. 18 NO Mass
Fri. 19 Mass, Weobley 3.00 - *St.Wulstan*
Sat. 20 Mass of Sun. K'ton. 6.00pm.
Sun. 21 3rd. SUNDAY IN ORDIN.TIME.
Mass, Weob 10.30

PRAY FOR THE PEOPLES OF ISRAEL AND GAZA
**Pray for lasting peace in the Ukraine and a change of the
Russian mind.**

PLEASE PRAY for AFGHANISTAN and IRAN
struggling for humane government and basic rights for
women, especially Afghanis seeking sanctuary in Britain.
For Peace in the Arabian Gulf.

ALLBOAT MIGRANTS that they may have love, justice
and shelter according to their real needs.

For the recovery of those who are suffering from the
floods which have afflicted our country at this time.

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**We pray for those of our parish or known to us who**  
**are sick or in need of special prayers:** John and  
Vicky Tanner, Graham Vaughan, Melita Denaro,  
Vivian Brooke, Pat Walls, Ashleigh Harley, Louise  
Wright, Sheila Mundy, Catherine Williams, Claire  
Burrows, Betty Price, Sarah Murkin, Pat Buckley.

**For any parishioners, relatives and friends recently**  
**dead:** Mary Wooden, Monica Mullett. Rev.Brian Gill

**We remember those of our parish whose**  
**anniversaries occur at this time:** John Close (M),  
Florence Zollo (M.'95), Gustav Cheney (W.'53),  
Thpmas Morgan (F.'68), James Norris (F.'70).

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**For King Charles III**, that he may always set the  
highest standards of leadership for our country. We  
also pray for our government, especially our Prime  
Minister, Rishi Sunak. May they govern with integrity  
following the religious beliefs of our country. And we  
pray for the leaders of all the other countries of the  
world, esp. President Zelenski of Ukraine **and for**  
**conversion of the Russian leadership.**  
**For the people and leadership of Gaza and Israel.**

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**DON'T YET HAVE A RED BOX? PLEASE ASK ANDY.**

**THINK FOOD BANK, THINK CLOTHES (ESPECIALLY**  
**FOR PEOPLE LIVING ROUGH IN THE COLD)**

**COMING UP: "HORIZONS OF HOPE"**

**New Deanery Initiative.**

Herefordshire Deanery is organising a series of talks  
and workshops to deepen our understanding of the  
faith and to have a better grasp of the wisdom of the  
Church on contemporary issues. Talks will alternate  
between Thursday evenings at SFX and Saturday  
mornings at Belmont Abbey to allow for maximum  
participation. Excellent speakers from all over the UK  
will be invited so we hope that the uptake will be great.  
**Thur.Jan.25<sup>th</sup>. 7.00 SFX, "Sources of our Hope"**  
Prof. David McLoughlin, Senior Lecturer in  
Theology, Newman University, Birmingham.  
**Sat.Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>. 10.30-12.30, Belmont Abbey.**  
"Good News in Dark Times". Fr. Brendan  
Thomas, with reflexions on Mark's gospel.

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is from**  
**18<sup>th</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup> January 2024.**

**Events are being held in churches around the**  
**county.** For those of you who live in the south of  
our parish, there is a service, followed by a shared  
supper in the Simpson Hall, Burghill on Monday  
22<sup>nd</sup> January from 6 – 8 pm (Please bring a plate  
of food to share.) If you would like to be involved  
in a reading or providing music, please contact  
Joanna Helme on 01432.760816,  
or [joannahelme@gmail.com](mailto:joannahelme@gmail.com)

**MARRIAGE CARE have notified us that their next**  
**local sessions for those proposing to get married**  
**will be:** Abergavenny – Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> of February  
Caerphilly - Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> of April 2024  
Merthyr Tydfil - Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> of June 2024

## SERMONETTE – 2<sup>ND</sup> ORDINARY SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Today's first and Gospel readings speak especially of the notion of 'vocation'. The word was once used of young people aspiring to the priesthood and religious life, in our times we are seeing its application to every Christian life, male or female. This is based on the renewed understanding of our vocation as Priests by virtue of our belonging to the Body of the supreme High Priest, Jesus Christ.

### **FIRST READING from the first Book of Samuel.** (*Ch.3, vv.3-10+19*)

This is a classic and very beautiful story of a calling from God to a boy, Samuel, who was born after his mother Hanna's many years of infertility. The story is very clear and may resonate with many young persons who feel a calling from God. The first person they would normally go to is the priest for his guidance. In this case it is Eli who does not seem to be in the prime of his own piety but who does recognise the repetition which seems to be one of the hallmarks of a divine calling. This prompts young Samuel to reply to the Lord, "Speak Lord, your servant is listening", words which we should be prepared to utter when we sense the calling of God in our lives.

### **SECOND READING from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians** (*Ch.6.*)

Today, Paul tackles head-on the implications of our baptism into the Body of Christ with reference to our sexual activity. He is well aware that the Corinthians commit sexual sins just as they commit so many other sins mentioned in his letter. Corinth was notable for its loose morality so Paul has to find a reason why sexual misbehaviour, particularly adultery, prostitution and masturbation are wrong, since his readers would have found any prohibition incomprehensible, as at times we may do today. It is not obvious until we reckon that we have been baptised into the Body of Christ so our own bodies are no longer ours to violate; they belong to Christ for whatever good purpose God has created them.

### **GOSPEL according to John** (*Ch.1, vv.15-42*)

Over Christmastide we have heard much about John the Baptist and of how he prepared the way of the Lord, as Isaiah prophesied. It becomes apparent that John had his own disciples and these included some who became disciples of Jesus: Peter, Andrew, James, John and probably Philip and Nathaniel. Every master values his disciples and John would have been no exception. Nevertheless, once John has announced that the man coming to him was the 'Lamb of God', several of them sought to leave him to follow Jesus. Normally a master or a prophet would have felt aggrieved if his disciples left him. Not so John the Baptist who himself said: "He must increase, I must decrease". The most remarkable line in the story is that of Andrew to Peter: "We have found the Messiah".