

St John the Baptist Churches, Bishop's Tawton & Newport, Barnstaple

Sunday 4th October – 18th Sunday after Trinity



Dave writes...

Next time you're in town look out for the stone pictured here on the left. You'll find it outside the Guildhall on the corner of Butchers' Row and the High Street, and it marks the centre of Barnstaple. All distances to and from the town are measured from this point. If you look closely you might even be able to see the benchmark that's been inscribed there by the

Ordnance Survey.

I was born in Barnstaple, I went to school in Barnstaple, I live in Barnstaple, and when my time comes there's a very good chance that I will die in Barnstaple, hopefully full of beer and cheese. I often say to people that I haven't come very far in life.

But that's not the point.

The gospel reading from Matthew for this Sunday includes those famous verses that Christ quotes from Psalm 118, about the stone the builders rejected becoming the cornerstone. Of course it asks us to think about whether Christ is the cornerstone of our lives. But this picture asks some other questions as well: is Christ the point that we are heading to? Are we looking to return to Christ? Or do we sometimes worry that we have left Christ behind?

If Christ is to be our cornerstone, then he's not just a point at either end of our journey, he is with us every step of the way.

Peace be with you and yours,
Dave Lewis (Reader)

Diary Dates

Sat 3rd Oct: Coffee Morning and board games, 10.30am at Bishops Tawton

Mon 5th Oct: Mini-Music, 11am-12:30pm at Newport

Tues 6th Oct: Bishops Tawton Toddlers, 9-11am

Tues 6th Oct: Practising the Way, 7pm at Newport

Wed 7th Oct: Pop-up and Repair Café, 10am Bishops Tawton

Fri 9th Oct: Bible Study Group, 11.15am at Newport

Sat 10th Oct: Men's Prayer Breakfast, 8.30am at the Lemon Tree Café

Fri 16th Oct: New Zealand Evening, 7.15pm at Newport

SUNDAY SERVICES

4th October

9:30am Harvest Festival at Newport

(2 Corinthians 9.6-end
and Luke 12.16-30)

**11am Holy Communion
at Bishops Tawton**

(Psalm 19 and Matthew 21.33-end)

Online service of Morning Prayer:

<https://youtu.be/WWvn-fkYVLo>

The Collect:

God, our judge and saviour,
teach us to be open to your truth and to
trust in your love,
that we may live each day
with confidence in the salvation which
is given
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please pray for...

Sunday 4th: Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Monday 5th: our outreach to schools, families and young people

Tuesday 6th: all those affected by the continued suspension of maternity services at the NDDH

Wednesday 7th: our MP, Ian Roome

Thursday 8th: the NHS, carers and key workers

Friday 9th: the community at Lee Abbey

Saturday 10th: World Mental Health Day