

NEWSWIRE: 17th July 2026



- Services on Sunday
 - Holiday Club is very nearly here!
 - Help needed with summer Sunday children's activities
 - Book recommendations for summer reading
 - Aunt Sally at the Red Lion
-

A message from Duncan

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who...taking the form of a servant... humbled himself...(Philippians 2.3-8)

I have really enjoyed looking at the book of Ruth again in our Sunday morning services. It is a favourite Old Testament story for many. I was particularly struck with our reflections on chapter three and the theme of servanthood: *"I am Ruth, your servant. Spread your wings over your servant, for you are a redeemer."*

In our culture cultivating the attitude of a servant seems counterintuitive. We are encouraged to have goals, go after them and become the best version of ourselves. For a servant, someone else sets the goals that we then pursue, for their benefit not our own. Logically, that seems crazy and surely only diminishes the individual?

The strange reality is that the opposite is true. Jesus, who was more fully alive and freer than anyone has ever been, only ever did what he saw his Father doing, submitting to him in servanthood and humility. And he is the one in whom there is life in all its fullness (John 10.10).

Humble servanthood lies at the heart of the good life according to Jesus. But it goes against the grain and is easy to forget. It takes some working out in

practice, particularly in the life of a church. We need to pray it ever more deeply into our lives. So join with me:

*Dear Lord, may we, this day
count others more significant than ourselves,
looking to their interests in humility and service.
For we are your servants.
Amen.*

Collect for the Seventh Sunday after Trinity

Lord of all power and might,
the author and giver of all good things:
graft in our hearts the love of your name,
increase in us true religion,
nourish us with all goodness,
and of your great mercy keep us in the same;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

SERVICES ON SUNDAY

9.30am - Holy Communion at St Peter's

Readings: Ruth 4.1-21; Matthew 1.1-6,14-16

10.30am - Holy Communion at St Leonard's and livestreamed on [this link](#)

Readings: Ruth 4.1-21; Matthew 1.1-6,14-16

Click [here](#) for the Service Sheet

If you have difficulties accessing the service on the livestream link above, please try accessing [our youtube channel](#) directly.

6.30pm - Shaped by the Word at St Leonard's



NEXT WEEK

Monday 20th July

No Bump to One this week.

Tuesday 21st July

Shipwrecked Holiday Club 9am - 12.30pm at St Leonard's church

Wednesday 22nd July

Shipwrecked Holiday Club 9am - 12.30pm at St Leonard's church

No Warm Welcome Wednesday this week due to Holiday Club. We will be back on Wednesday 29th July before a break in August.

Thursday 23rd July

Shipwrecked Holiday Club 9am - 12.30pm at St Leonard's church

Friday 24th July

Shipwrecked Holiday Club 9am - 12.30pm at St Leonard's church

NEXT SUNDAY 26th July

9am - Holy Communion at St Leonard's

10.30am - Holiday Club Morning Worship at St Leonard's

5pm - Evening Prayer at St Peter's

Prayer for the Holiday Club



School ends today and Holiday Cub begins on Tuesday!

PLEASE PRAY....

Pray for the team on **Monday** as they have a day of preparation, and that they will have God-given energy for such an inevitably tiring week for them.

Pray that the practical details will all come together on time.

Pray for the children who will come.

Pray for the quieter, more reserved children that they will still feel they have their place and that their needs will be met.

Finally - and most importantly, **pray for the talk for each day** on the book of Jonah, that the message will impact each child's heart:

TUESDAY God reigns

WEDNESDAY God rescues

THURSDAY God forgives

FRIDAY God loves us.

PLEASE PRAY DAILY if you can - and for safety and good health for all!

A heads up - also for prayer - **Sunday morning (July 26th.)** will be a **special Holiday Club service** at 10.30. More in next week's newswire.

THANK YOU!



**WE HAVE NOW GOT
ENOUGH CARDBOARD
FOR HOLIDAY CLUB
- NO MORE, PLEASE!**

SHIPSHAPE? ALMOST!

We're setting sail, and Captain Eye Eye and First Mate Kate need some last minute help!

On Sunday after church, we need to begin a transformation!

Chairs need to be moved, kettles and coffee pots relocated, gazebos built, treasure chests buried - that sort of thing!

If you can spare some time after coffee for lifting, carrying and taking Captain's orders - please do!

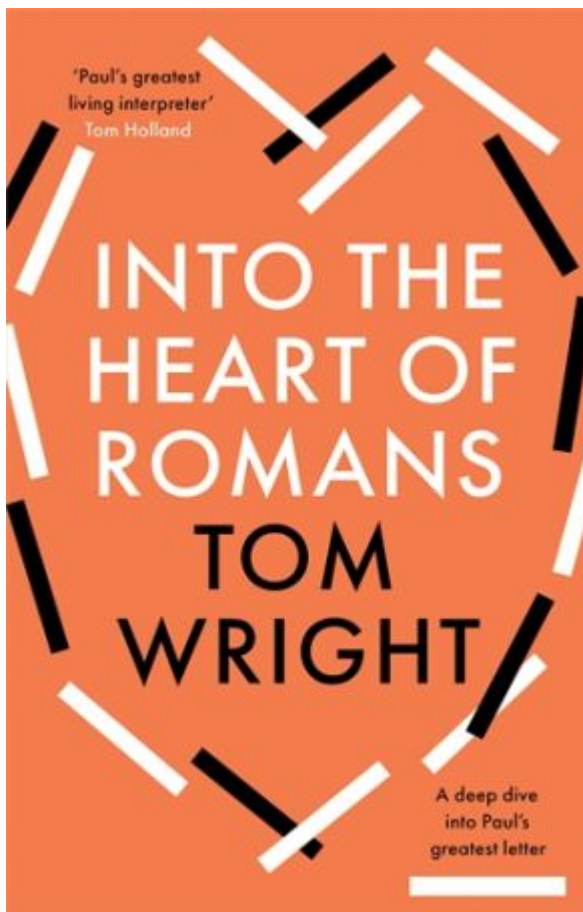
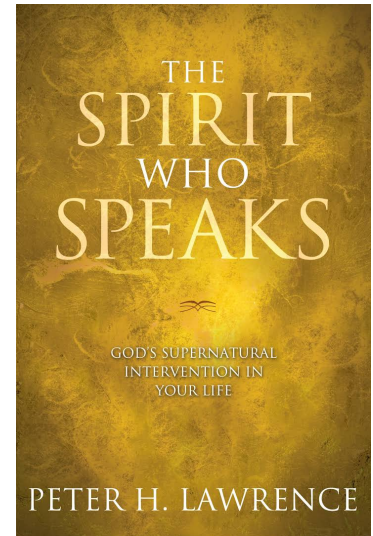
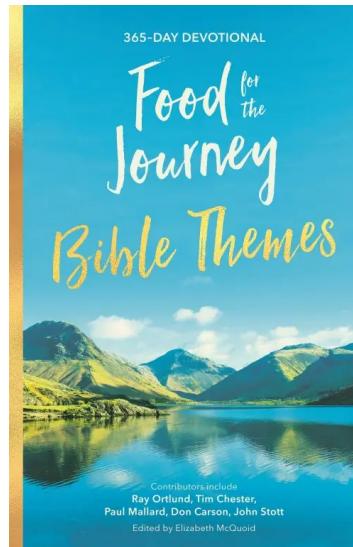
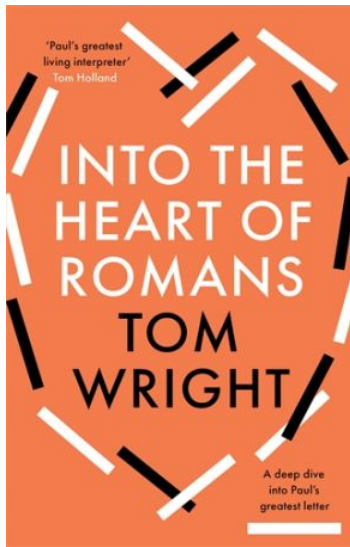
The more the merrier, and hopefully it won't take too long(!)

Many thanks for helping us to get our church in ship-shape condition!

Captain Eye Eye *First Mate Kate*

Book recommendations for summer reading

We have 3 books to recommend over the coming weeks. We start this week with a recommendation from John Anderson.



Into the Heart of Romans by Tom Wright Recommended by John Anderson

Among the notes and papers which I inherited from my late father, Laurence, was a sheet or so of rough, handwritten notes at the top of which he had written: "Romans 8 - the greatest sermon I never preached".

What followed were my father's thoughts on what is arguably the greatest chapter of Paul's greatest letter.

But if you are like me, perhaps you baulk at the prospect of getting to grips with the profound and apparently overwhelming density of Paul's argument in his Letter to the Romans?

If so, I have some great news!

N T Wright (aka Tom Wright) has written a short (!) book called "Into the Heart of Romans" (256 pages) which provides the most amazing way into chapter 8 of the letter!

This summer I have listened to the audio version (8 hours), but I have had to stop again and again to take in nugget after nugget of pure joy and relief as Tom Wright explains this great chapter verse by verse. I now feel far more confident in understanding this key chapter in Paul's greatest letter. I'm "in" at last!

If you read one Christian book this summer, let it be "Into the Heart of Romans".

John Anderson

A good book to read for the summer?

There's a **new selection of books on the St Peter's book trolley**.

Inspiring biographies and other devotional books to take away on holiday with you. Also, some of the St Peter's library can now be found in the village "Little Libraries"

The Lions need to go hungry this year!!!

It's too long since we have had a win.

It's **The Christians vs the Lions Aunt Sally**.

The Church vs the Red Lion Cassington.

We've done it before and we can do again.

"It's coming home, it's coming home.

The Doll is coming home!" (repeat ad nauseam)

Just turn up at the **Red Lion, garden Cassington**.

Sunday 9th August 2.00am onwards.

Roger Aston

Children's Summer Holiday Activities during sermon

We need your help! During the summer we will be looking at different parables from the gospel of Matthew in our services. Like in the past years, it would be lovely if we could have an activity at the back of the church for children (4-11 years) during the sermon.

I'm looking for people who could help and cover one of the summer Sundays to give the Sparklers team a well deserved break. It means preparing a little activity (about 15 minutes) - ideally linked to the theme of the sermon - and doing it with the children. It could be a craft, some colouring/stickers or a game that's not too noisy.

If you are able to help, please use this link to have a look at the dates and themes and put your name in. If you have any questions, please get in touch with me. [Summer Holiday Activities during sermons](#) *Rabea*



Creation Care - Butterflies

Butterflies are vital to the ecosystem primarily as pollinators, foundational food sources for wildlife, and as key bioindicators that tell scientists about the overall health of an environment

The 2026 Big Butterfly Count is something we can all get involved with (if you don't do apps and online things, ask a friend or family member to log the butterflies you see). It will take place from **Friday, July 17 to Sunday, August 9**. Run by [Butterfly Conservation](#), the free nationwide citizen science event asks you to simply spend 15 minutes in a sunny spot—such as your garden, local park, nature reserve, or churchyard—and record the butterflies and day-flying moths you see.

How to Take Part

1. **Get the Tools:** Download the free app or print an ID chart directly from the [Big Butterfly Count](#) website.
2. **Find a Spot:** Pick a bright, sunny outdoor location.
3. **Count and Record:** Spend 15 minutes recording the types and quantities of butterflies and moths that you spot.
4. **Submit:** Log your findings via the app or directly on the website to add your data to the national conservation map.



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Please pray for:

- For Marcella recovering from an emergency appendectomy in Dallas.
- For Helen and Mike and their family. Helen is in a mother and baby unit with their son Nathan in Birmingham with postpartum psychosis
- Dave following his move to a care home.
- Ben and healing for his mental health.
- Katie suffering with epilepsy. Please pray that the right medication be found to control her seizures.

To add names to the prayer list, please contact the Church Office (stleonards_stpeters@btconnect.com) Names will be added to the list by express permission, and only first names will be published.

www.stleonardseynsham.org.uk | www.stpeterschurchcassington.org | [Youtube channel](#) | [facebook page](#)

Church Office - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9am – 2pm

Tel: 01865 883325 E-mail: stleonards_stpeters@btconnect.com

Revd Duncan Fraser: 07810 324088 (Day off – Friday)