

Sunday 4th May 2025
Third Sunday of Easter

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
10.00 a.m. Café-style Altogether Worship
4.00 p.m. Tea Time Church

Collect for Today

Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

Service Readings

Acts 9:1-6, (7-20) (*p.123*), Revelation 5:11-14 (*p.246*) and John 21:1-19 (*p.112*)

Please pray for

... Dave Barclay, Carole Bookham, Anne Bradbeer, Andrea Fairbairn, Llew Parry (Alison's Dad) and Becki & Jonathan Salmon.
... Paul, Zoë, Joseph, Phoebe and all the family and friends of Roger Young who died last week.
... the family and friends of Elsie Smallpeice and Herbert Doughty whose anniversary of death is at this time.
... those who live and work in Palmers Lodge, Pentreath Avenue, Poltimore Road and Powell Close.
... the Koens family in Papua New Guinea supporting the work of Bible translation through vehicle maintenance, teaching, missionary care.

Post Communion Prayer

Living God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in all his redeeming work; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Financial Giving

We take a collection during our services. If you don't give regularly by standing order or the envelope scheme, please put your donation in the bag, tap the card reader on your way out, or use the QR code on the back of this news-sheet. Thank you.

Dear Friends

Today, in our reading from the Gospel, we discover one of Jesus' 'resurrection appearances' – one of the occasions on which he appeared to his disciples after he had risen from the dead. On this occasion (John 21:1-14) some of the disciples has been fishing all night on the Sea of Galilee, but had caught nothing. Early in the morning Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples didn't recognise him; he tells them to cast their nets on the right side of the boat, and when they do so the catch of fish is so large that they're unable to haul it in. And the disciples recognise that it's the risen Jesus who has appeared to them.

These 'resurrection appearances' are hugely important in the story of salvation. They took place over forty days, between Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday morning, and his Ascension into heaven. They occurred to individuals such as Mary Magdalene, Peter and James; to the disciples as a group – first without Thomas being present, and then again while Thomas was with them; to more than five hundred people on one occasion (1 Corinthians 15:6); to Cleopas and another disciple on the road to Emmaus; and to the disciples as a group before the Ascension.

These appearances provide evidence, however unlikely it might seem, that Jesus really did rise from the dead. And I'm sure that those frail and fallible disciples couldn't possibly have achieved what they did, in the years following Jesus' resurrection, if they'd known this was a lie.

Today we'll be considering this resurrection appearance by the Sea of Galilee, and thinking about what it means for our lives today.

Beverly

Mission Focus for May: Christian Aid

Christian Aid works to create a world where everyone can live a full life, free from poverty. Christian Aid helps people of all faiths and none. They respond to emergencies caused by earthquakes, war and floods, and long-term projects include those to help set up businesses, promote women's rights, and protect children from being trafficked. For more information please see the article in the May Magazine and on their website: www.christianaid.org.uk

Notices

Church Walk, TOMORROW: We'll be meeting at church at 10.15am ready for a 10.30am start to walk to Watt's Gallery (about 2.5 miles/1 hour). We'll aim to leave Watt's Gallery at 12 noon to head off on the (approx. 1.8 mile/40 minutes) walk to St John's Church in Puttenham. If you prefer this shorter walk, please join us at Watt's Gallery outside the café entrance ready to leave at noon. Do bring a picnic lunch to enjoy at St John's. Please sign up on the sheet at church, with all names of those who would like to join the walk, and whether you will meet at church or at Watts' Gallery. If you have any questions please contact Bruce Hopwood on missions@allsaintschurchgfd.org.uk.

Morning Prayer: Please note that there will be no Morning Prayer in church or Zoom on Monday or Tuesday this week.

VE Day Celebrations:

- ★ There will be a National ringing of church bells at 6.30pm on Thursday 8th May. Do come along and take your turn in ringing our small but significant bell!
- ★ We'll be celebrating this important day on Sunday 11th May at 4pm. Please bring any memorabilia you may have and your memories as we celebrate together. Tea and cake after.

Christian Aid Week: Sunday 11th to Saturday 17th May.

Please support Christian Aid by:

- ★ Baking cakes for the car wash and bake sale 2pm to 4.30pm, Saturday 17th May at Onslow Village Hall Car Park, or come and buy some cakes! Please provide a full list of ingredients (handwritten is fine)
- ★ Bring your car to be washed – or offer to help wash some cars (even if you cannot come for all 2½ hours). Invite your neighbours!
- ★ Deliver envelopes between Sunday 11th to Saturday 17th May – we do not need to collect them.
- ★ Give to the work of Christian Aid – using the envelope, or the QR code on the envelope, or bring your donation to the Car wash and cake sale on 17th May!
- ★ Pray for the work of Christian Aid

Used Stamps: There is a collection box on the shelf in the foyer for any used stamps. We will be sending them to the Church of Scotland's stamp appeal which this year, is supporting the work of the Al Ahli Hospital in Northern Gaza.

Diary for the Coming Week

Morning prayer Mon, Tues and Weds 9.15am in the Reading Room and Zoom. Thurs Holy Communion at 9.30am in the Reading Room.

Mon 5 th	<i>Bank Holiday (no Morning Prayer)</i> Church Walk, 10.15am at church or 12 noon at Watt's Gallery
Tues 6 th	<i>(no Morning Prayer)</i> Altogether Worship Planning, Vicarage, 7.30pm
Weds 7 th	Men's Coffee, Reading Room, 10.30am Sharing & Learning Group, 5 Elmside, 7.45pm
Thurs 8 th	Holy Communion, Reading Room, 9.30am Central Team Meeting, Vicarage, 10.30am National Ringing of Church Bells for VE Day, 6.30pm Choir Rehearsal, Church, 8.00pm
Fri 9 th	Baby & Toddler Group, Church, 10.00am Friday Group, 43 Poltimore Road, 3.00pm
Sat 10 th	Prayer Breakfast, 5 Elmside, 9.00am
Sun 11 th	<i>Start of Christian Aid Week</i> Church Family Communion, 10.00am Tea Time Church, Reading Room, 4.00pm

Daily Readings for the coming week

Mon 5 th	Ps. 96, Deuteronomy 5:1-22, Ephesians 1:1-14
Tues 6 th	Ps. 98, Deuteronomy 5:22-end, Ephesians 1:15-end
Weds 7 th	Ps. 105, Deuteronomy 6, Ephesians 2:1-10
Thurs 8 th	Ps. 136, Deuteronomy 7:1-11, Ephesians 2:11-end
Fri 9 th	Ps. 1-7, Deuteronomy 7:12-end, Ephesians 3:1-13
Sat 10 th	Ps. 110, Deuteronomy 8, Ephesians 3:14-end

Service Readings for Sunday 11th May: 4th of Easter

Acts 9:36-43, Revelation 7:9-17 and John 10:22-30

Contacts

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