



# Christian Life

The Parish Magazine of St Mary's & St Luke's  
May 2021

*Including the readings for Sunday 02 May*

**Pentecost Sunday – 23 May**



**Worship & Prayer In Church & Online for May**  
**You will find the Readings and Collect for Sunday 02 May**  
**on the centre pages 4 & 5**

<b>Sundays this Month</b>	
<b>Booking is required for Sunday Services – preferred methods</b>	
Online: <a href="http://bit.ly/book4worship">bit.ly/book4worship</a> Email: <a href="mailto:booking@stmaryswistaston.org.uk">booking@stmaryswistaston.org.uk</a> If you can't do either of the above then please call the Rectory on 01270 665742	
02 May Easter 5	9am at St Luke's: a service of Morning Prayer
	10:40am at St Mary's: a service of Holy Communion
	<i>Readings: Acts 8.26-40 &amp; John 15.1-8</i>
09 May Easter 6	9am at St Luke's: a service of Holy Communion
	10:40am at St Mary's: a service of Morning Prayer
	<i>Readings: Acts 10.44-48 &amp; John 15.9-17</i>
16 May Easter 7	9am at St Luke's: a service of Morning Prayer
	10:40am at St Mary's: a service of Holy Communion
	<i>Readings: Acts 1.15-17,21-26 &amp; John 17.6-19</i>
23 May Pentecost Sunday	9am at St Luke's: a service of Holy Communion
	10:40am at St Mary's: a service of Morning Prayer
	<i>Readings: Acts 2.1-21 &amp; John 15.26-27; 16.4b-15</i>
30 May Trinity Sunday	5th Sunday – No Service at St Luke's
	10:40am at St Mary's: a service of Holy Communion
	<i>Readings: Romans 8.12-17 &amp; John 3.1-17</i>
<b>Other Services this Month</b>	
Every Wednesday	10am BCP Holy Communion at St Mary's
13 May Ascension Day	7:30pm Holy Communion at St Mary's and Online Booking recommended for in church as above

### Online

**Every Sunday @ 10:40 am Live Streamed Worship from St Mary's**



**(stream begins at 10:30am)**



YouTube: [bit.ly/youtubestmarys1](http://bit.ly/youtubestmarys1) & Facebook: [bit.ly/facebookstmarys](http://bit.ly/facebookstmarys)

**You can also join in by phone: just before 10:40am Call: 0203 051 2874**

**Meeting ID: 838 7878 9259 Participant ID (if asked): # Passcode: 567119**

**Morning Prayer on Zoom, 9:30am Mon, Tues & Thurs [bit.ly/930mp](http://bit.ly/930mp)**

or by phone: 0203 051 2874 Meeting ID: 850 2058 1307 Passcode: 914961

### The Lockdown Birthday

Celebrating a birthday in lockdown was certainly very different from what birthday celebrations were before. Some people have celebrated two birthdays in total lockdown. Others in slightly more freedom. All of us will have had a birthday in Covid times. Thinking about birthdays started me reflecting on the birthday of the church, known as Pentecost. This is always the 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Easter. The reason that Pentecost is seen as the birth of the church is that it was on that day that the Holy Spirit, one part of the Holy Trinity fell upon Jesus' disciples as he had promised. It is quite an exciting moment as the Holy Spirit arrived with tongues of fire and a rush of wind. Something amazing happened, the disciples were able to speak in new languages. Maybe you are one of those people who tried a language learning app during lockdown, if you are you know you don't learn a new language in an instant. The disciples, full of the power of God in them, did just that. On that day they found a new confidence to speak about their faith in Jesus and the love they had found in God. It was quite something, people thought they were drunk! Which is quite amazing

as the pubs weren't open then either, it was only 9am! What is even more amazing is that on that day 3000 people heard the love which the disciples spoke of were and joined the church - hence the birthday. It is great that as a church we are open for the church's birthday this year, albeit in a limited way, we would love you to join us online and help us celebrate. It is always an honour to share the love of God with anyone.

With all God's Blessings,

Rev Paul

*You can join us in church or online for Pentecost Sunday this year which is on 23 May:*

#### In Church

9am at St Luke's

10:40am at St Mary's

Booking required for above at

[bit.ly/book4worship](http://bit.ly/book4worship)

#### Online

YouTube: <http://bit.ly/youtubestmarys1>

Facebook: <http://bit.ly/facebookstmarys>

## **First Reading: Acts 10.34-43**

### **A reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,  
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,  
so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.'

The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Text © New Revised Standard Version – UK edition*

## Gospel Reading: John 15.1-8

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**Glory to you O Lord.**

I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me.

I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you O Christ.**

*Text © New Revised Standard Version – UK edition*

### **The Collect for Easter 5**

Almighty God,  
who through your only-begotten  
Son Jesus Christ  
have overcome death and opened to us the  
gate of everlasting life:  
grant that, as by your grace going before us  
you put into our minds good desires,  
so by your continual help  
we may bring them to good effect;  
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **Post Communion Prayer**

Eternal God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ is  
the way, the truth, and the  
life:  
grant us to walk in his way,  
to rejoice in his truth,  
and to share his risen life;  
who is alive and reigns,  
now and for ever. **Amen.**

## From Joy and Sue



Your Wardens met this morning (26 April) for a catch up brew in the spring sunshine, although it was a bit cold! We are really looking forward to better days and warmer weather when we can all meet up, hopefully in different social settings (restrictions allowing).

We'll keep you informed of any social activities once we're able and allowed to organise them. Meanwhile, hope you're all well and like us looking forward to better times. God bless, Sue and Joy.

## The Annual Parochial Church Meeting is on Sunday 16 May

**Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting for 2021 is on Sunday 16 May 2021 at 12 noon.** Due to the Covid restrictions in place, and with permission from the Bishop of Chester, **the meeting will be online only on Zoom.** There will also be access by phone, please contact Revd Mike for the details if you'd like to 'attend' by phone by Friday 14 May. The meeting is open to anyone on the church's Electoral Roll and you can register by Saturday 15 May to attend the meeting here:

[bit.ly/stmarysapcm21](https://bit.ly/stmarysapcm21) At the APCM we will be electing 2 Church Wardens and 7 Members to the PCC. **A Revision of the Electoral Roll** has taken place and closed on 25 April and is available for inspection in St Mary's porch or online here: [bit.ly/apcminformation](https://bit.ly/apcminformation)

## Giving to St Mary's & St Luke's

The church's finances are under extreme pressure at the moment. Due to the lack of income from not being in church and from not being able to let the church hall we have lost around £30,000 in the past 12 months. To find out more about giving to church, the ways you can do it, please go to [bit.ly/giving2stmarys](https://bit.ly/giving2stmarys). Please keep our finances in your prayers. Revd Mike.

## Hearts to Remember

***Perfect love drives out fear. 1 John 4:18***

Thanks for all the hearts we received from individuals and the local primary schools, it was an amazing and emotional response.

Many thanks to Jonathan white for the photos.



## Christian Aid Week 2021

Due to the pandemic, we were not able to do the annual CA sponsored swim, but this year our young people (and some older) are doing a sponsored walk (separately) and plan to walk 20,000 steps (10 miles) from 10th to 16th May (CA Week). If you would like to sponsor them as a group, or if you would like to take part, give Sarah Turnbull a call (01270 665742) for more details. Through this we will raise money to support people in places like Kenya who are suffering from the impact of climate change.

**Christian Aid Week 10-16 May - The theme this year is Climate Justice.** The local Crewe Christian Aid Committee have decided that won't be a door-to-door (or envelope drop-off) once again this year due to the ongoing Covid situation. You can go to [caweek.org](http://caweek.org) for details of this year's campaign and how to give. There will be more information coming out over the next few weeks on more ways to support CA this year.

**There will be a Christian Aid Online Service at 4pm on Sunday 9 May** via St Andrew's Crewe Facebook Page ([facebook.com/CreweStAndrews](https://facebook.com/CreweStAndrews))

## Scouts request more plastic bottle ends for 2021 display

For the past two years the Wistaston Scout Group have displayed their impressive 24ft long Remembrance Day poppy cascade outside their Scout Centre in 2019 and Wistaston Memorial Hall in 2020. The cascade was made of dozens of plastic bottle ends painted red to resemble poppies. For November 2021, the Scout Group has an even more ambitious display planned for a new, yet to be announced, location in Wistaston. To donate, please cut off the bases from plastic bottles, at about 1.5 inches up from the base of the bottle and deposit them in the plastic bottle end collection point on the Wistaston Memorial Hall car park on Church Lane in Wistaston.

## From the Church Registers: April 2021

**Baptisms:** None **Weddings:** None

**Funerals** – *may they rest in peace and rise in glory*

12 April 2021	Josephine Mary PERCIVAL	82
15 April 2021	Louis Charles MORAN	90
27 April 2021	Madeleine Frances TUTT	42

It is with sadness that I inform you of the death of David Ballard. David, and his late wife Audrey, were members of the St Mary's congregation for many years. David used his horticultural expertise in the management of the churchyard for many years for which I will be always grateful. Revd  
Mike (Rector)

## Chester Diocesan News & the Magazine

The Chester Diocesan News can be viewed/downloaded from the Diocesan Website each month and we will put a link on our Blog when it's available.

**We would like your articles for the June Magazine.** You can submit an article on the [Blog](#) through the Magazine Menu and click on 'Submit an Item', email it to: [magazine@stmaryswistaston.blog](mailto:magazine@stmaryswistaston.blog) or drop it to the Church Office or the Rectory **by Friday 28 May.**

## Keeping in touch

**Church Office: 01270 567119** Email: [office@stmaryswistaston.org.uk](mailto:office@stmaryswistaston.org.uk)

Polly & Teresa are on flexible furlough, phone calls and emails are being answered remotely & it may take longer to reply to you.

**Rector: Revd Mike Turnbull** The Rectory 104 Church Lane Wistaston  
01270 665742 Email: [revd.mike@stmaryswistaston.org.uk](mailto:revd.mike@stmaryswistaston.org.uk)

**Curate: Revd Paul North** (usual days in the parish Mon, Thurs & Sunday)  
Mobile: 07488 354358 Email: [revd.paul@stmaryswistaston.org.uk](mailto:revd.paul@stmaryswistaston.org.uk)

**Website:** [www.stmaryswistaston.org.uk](http://www.stmaryswistaston.org.uk)

**Blog:** [www.stmaryswistaston.blog](http://www.stmaryswistaston.blog)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/stmaryandstluke](http://www.facebook.com/stmaryandstluke)

**Twitter:** [www.twitter.com/maryandluke](http://www.twitter.com/maryandluke)