

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, SANDFORD ON THAMES

May 2021

www.sandfordchurch.org.uk

Ascension Day Thursday 13th May

7.30 p.m. Holy Communion

Christian Aid week 10 - 16 May

This year is crucial in the struggle for climate justice, and to rise to the challenge, we must underpin it in prayer. You can help by filling the year with prayer – prayer that will transform us and our actions, shape our understanding, and help us start anew.

In 2021 Christian Aid have created a prayer chain which will fill every day with prayer for a world where everyone can flourish, and to encourage our leaders to deliver climate justice at the G7 and COP26.

You can join in through your own prayers, or by joining the chain by signing up on their calendar to fill a prayer time-slot.

www.christianaid.org.uk/pray/prayer-chain

Bishop Steven's blog

<https://blogs.oxford.anglican.org/>

For Zoomers -

more information on joining in:

<http://www.littlemorechurch.org/whats-on.html>

Silent Prayer

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 7.30 a.m.

Contemplative Prayer

Thursdays at 7.0 p.m. fortnightly

Dwelling in the Word

Thursdays at 7.0 p.m. fortnightly

Churches Count on Nature 5th - 13th June

Because burial grounds have been a dedicated green space for years, sometimes centuries, their plant and animal life is often rich and diverse. We are being encouraged to take time (15 minutes, an hour, or you can sit there all week!) to record species that you see and add these to a database, which will build a picture of the natural richness around us.

Anyone can make a recording by noting down some details – all records are useful, even of common plants, grasses, birds or other wildlife - just basic information on what you have seen, when and where. You can then enter your notes on www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk.

Pentecost

Today we feel the wind beneath our wings
Today the hidden fountain flows and plays
Today the church draws breath at last and sings
As every flame becomes a Tongue of praise.
This is the feast of fire, air, and water
Poured out and breathed and kindled into earth.
The earth herself awakens to her maker
And is translated out of death to birth.
The right words come today in their right order
And every word spells freedom and release
Today the gospel crosses every border
All tongues are loosened by the Prince of Peace
Today the lost are found in His translation.
Whose mother-tongue is Love, in every nation.

Malcolm Guite

We meet for the Sunday services

masked, socially distanced and with all the recommended Covid precautions and hygiene in place.

For those who want to wait a bit longer before joining us, the online Diocesan service is posted on the website on Saturdays:

<https://www.oxford.anglican.org/coronavirus-covid-19/livestream/>

If you would like to join Littlemore church's Sunday Zoom service, please email margreetarmistead@btinternet.com who will send you a link each week.

Among the many people who need our prayers, please especially keep in mind

those we know who are unwell,

especially **Jayne, Jean Lee and Gwen Beaver;**

all those in care, including **Joan Inston, Tom Dalton, Betsy Livingstone and Brenda Graham,** and residents of Vale House, especially **Gwyneth, Father John Bagley and the staff who care for them.**

SUNDAYS in May 2021 Year B

Sunday 2nd May Easter 5

10.0 a.m. Parish Communion

Acts 8.26-40 *A foreigner is converted and baptized when his reading Isaiah 53 is interpreted by Philip.*

1 John 4.7-21 *Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God, who is love.*

John 15.1-8 *Jesus is imagined as a vine with us his branches. Are we still with him and in him?*

6.30 p.m. Evening prayer

O Lord, from whom all good things do come:
Grant to us thy humble servants,
that by thy holy inspiration
we may think those things that be good,
and by thy merciful guiding may perform
the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ.
Amen.

BCP collect for Easter 5

Sunday 9th May Easter 6

10.0 a.m. Parish Communion

Acts 10.44-48 *The spirit descends on Gentiles who heard the message told by Peter. He recognizes that the message is for non-Jews too, and baptizes them in the name of Jesus Christ.*

1 John 5.1-6 *Loving God is shown by keeping his commandments, making us his children. That is not a burden for those who believe and trust in Jesus as Son of God.*

John 15.9-17 *Jesus' commandment is to love one another as he loves us and the Father loves him. We are so caught up in that that we can show it in our lives, bearing fruit.*

6.30 p.m. Evening prayer

Thursday 13th May ASCENSION DAY

7.30 p.m. Holy Communion Acts 1.1-11; Matthew 28.16-20; or John 20.15-18.

Sunday 16th May Easter 7

10.0 a.m. Parish Communion

Acts 1.15-17 and 21-26 *The time of waiting for God to empower the disciples by his Holy Spirit. They find a substitute for Judas to make 12, symbolizing all Israel (12 tribes).*

1 John 5.9-13 *God points us to Jesus – if we trust him he is in our hearts, and we have the new life in its fullness.*

John 17.6-19 *Jesus' last prayer at the Last Supper sums up what he has done for the disciples and through their witness for us. He warns and prays for them – and us, that we may be one.*

6.30 p.m. Evening prayer

Sunday 23rd May PENTECOST

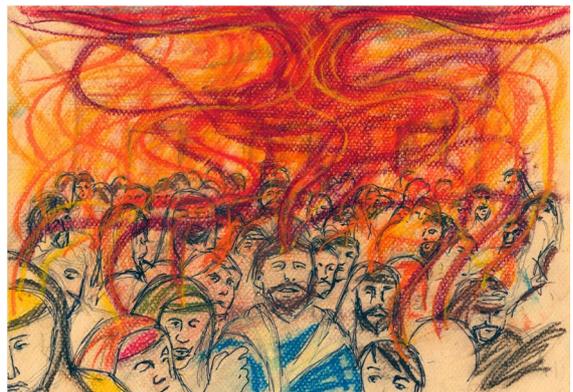
10.0 a.m. Parish Communion

Acts 2.1-21 *The Day of Pentecost fulfils Joel's prophecy: the disciples receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.*

Romans 8.22-27 *St Paul tells us some of what this means for us. The Spirit at work in us, filling us with hope when things are difficult and in us when we pray, helping us along.*

John 15.26-27 and 16.4-15 *In his Farewell Discourses at the Last Supper Jesus promises them the Holy Spirit will come to them and enable them to see what it's all about. All Jesus said and did will appear in a fuller light, so they can spread the good news.*

6.30 p.m. Evening prayer



Sunday 30th May TRINITY SUNDAY

10.0 a.m. Parish Communion

Isaiah 6.1-8 *The prophet's call and vision in the Temple. He is sent to speak for God and accepts the call: Here I am, Lord! Send me.*

Romans 8.12-17 *If we are led by God's Spirit we are God's children and pray Abba, dear Father, and have a future.*

John 3.1-17 *Jesus teaches Nicodemus he must be born again. The Spirit will do it, illuminating the coming of Jesus, his being lifted up on a cross and up into glory, because God so loved the world that he gave him, making it possible for us to trust him and receive the fullness of life that God intends us to enjoy*

6.30 p.m. Evening prayer