

**MAY 2024**

**FROM THE RECTORY DESK**

Dear Friends,

Three great festivals in May that are essential to our Christian faith:

Ascension - Jesus leaves his apostles on earth and ascends to his rightful place in the heavenly throne room where he sits at the right hand of God. The vindicated and triumphant king of all creation.

Trinity Sunday - the mysterious way in which the relational expression of the Godhead is made manifest in three persons in the roles of creator, redeemer, and sanctifier.

Pentecost - the dynamic difference that empowered the disciples to be the church, rich in symbolism and grace as the paraclete was poured out on all flesh and the gifts of the Spirit distributed.

Three great red-letter days to inspire our worship and witness. Can we be the dynamic difference as God calls us to service and mission?

**Advance notice**

There will be a valedictory service for Chris Tuckwell at St John the Baptist, Puttenham, at 10:30 am on Sunday 30 June. There will also be a retirement party at Hampton Lodge, at 3:30 pm on Saturday 18 May. Any donations of food and gifts - please contact the Churchwardens for details of how to do this.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting takes place at The Good Shepherd, The Sands, on Wednesday 22 May at 6:30 pm. Reports, accounts, etc., are being uploaded to our Parish website.

Blessings,

Rector



## ZOOM CHURCH

Every Sunday at 6.00 pm                      Virtual Compline

For all zoom services please use this link: [Church Services](#), then enter this Passcode: 2022

Or by phone - dial one of the following: 0203 901 7895 ; 0208 080 6591  
Meeting ID: 81259506242 – then enter Passcode 2022, followed by # when asked (you may need to repeat the last step)

Download Order of Service here: [Virtual Compline](#)



## MAY SERVICES

### Sunday 5 May – The Sixth Sunday of Easter (White)

9.00 am    Holy Communion                      St Bartholomew, Wanborough.

*Readings: Acts 10.44-48 ; John 15.9-17. Hymns: 141, 57, 525, 538.*

10:30 am    Morning Prayer                      St Laurence, Seale.

*Readings: Ezekiel 47.1-12 ; John 21.1-19. Hymns: 141, 525, 538.*

### Sunday 12 May – The Seventh Sunday of Easter (White)

9.00 am    Holy Communion                      The Good Shepherd, The Sands.

*Readings: Acts 1.15-17, 21-26 ; John 17.6-19. Hymns: 167, 172, 278, 398.*

10:30 am    Morning Prayer                      St John the Baptist, Puttenham.

*Readings: Isaiah 14.3-15 ; Revelation 14.1-13. Hymns: 167, 172, 398.*

### Sunday 19 May – Pentecost (Red)

9.00 am    Morning Prayer                      St Bartholomew, Wanborough.

*Readings: Isaiah 11.1-9 ; 1 Corinthians 12.4-13. Hymns: 192, 178, 175.*

10:30 am    Holy Communion                      St Laurence, Seale.

*Readings: Acts 2.1-21 ; John 15.26-27; 16.4b-15. Hymns: 192, 383, 178, 175.*

3:00 pm    Church Stars                      St John the Baptist, Puttenham.

### Sunday 26 May – Trinity Sunday (White)

9.00 am    Morning Prayer                      The Good Shepherd, The Sands.

*Readings: Proverbs 8.1-4, 22-31 ; 2 Corinthians 13.5-13. Hymns: 202, 516, 267.*

10:30 am    Holy Communion & Baptism                      St John the Baptist, Puttenham.

*Readings: Romans 8.12-17 ; John 3.1-17. Hymns: 202, 520, 516, 267.*

## DIARY FOR THE MONTH

Tue 7 May	12.00 – 2.00 pm	Shepherd's Rest Café at The Good Shepherd, The Sands.
Wed 8 May	2.00 – 4.30 pm	Tower Café at St John the Baptist, Puttenham.
Tue 14 May	12.00 – 2.00 pm	Shepherd's Rest Café at The Good Shepherd, The Sands.
Sat 18 May	3.30 pm	Chris Tuckwell Retirement Party at Hampton Lodge.
Tue 21 May	12.30 – 2.00 pm	Shepherd's Rest Café at The Good Shepherd, The Sands.
Wed 22 May	2.00 pm	Bible Hub at The Good Shepherd, The Sands Studies in John's Gospel
	6.30 pm	Annual Parochial Church Meeting at The Good Shepherd, The Sands.
Tue 28 May	12.00 – 2.00 pm	Shepherd's Rest Café at The Good Shepherd, The Sands.



Please contact the Rector if you are unable to attend church and would like to receive Communion at home. Also, contact the Rector if you would like a visit from our Lay Pastoral Visitors.

## POET'S CORNER

### Our Mother-tongue Is Love; A Sonnet for 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

## NATIONAL CHURCH NEWS

### £8.5m for parish outreach

The Church of England has awarded nearly £8.5 million for projects to help churches spread the Christian faith, including parish renewal programmes and children's and youth work in rural and urban areas.

Grants have been approved for mission from the north of England to the Kent coast, much of it in low income areas, covering parish revitalisation programmes, 'hubs' for children's and youth work, church planting and the expansion of a model of family church that has grown 'exponentially' after it was set up in 2020.

The awards, to Canterbury, Durham, Hereford and Southwark Dioceses, have been made by the Church of England's Strategic Mission and Ministry Investment Board (SMMIB).

In the Diocese of Durham, £4.7 million has been awarded over seven years for plans including 20 new hubs, rooted in local churches, for ministry to children and young people. Training will also be provided for 600 people in youth and children's ministry.

The grant will also fund chaplaincy to secondary schools and support and seed funding for 25 churches to develop engagement with local secondary schools.

The Board has also agreed further funding in principle of £3.3 million – subject to further approvals – for eight parish revitalisations and for staff and ministry costs to support Sunderland Minster in its outreach and mission to the city.

In Canterbury Diocese, £3.2 million has been awarded for a programme of church planting, or setting up new congregations, and revitalisation over five years, focusing on parish churches in Margate and Maidstone in Kent.

Holy Trinity Margate will be re-established as a church supporting others in mission, working in partnership to revitalise the neighbouring parishes of St Paul's Cliftonville, St John's Margate and All Saints' Westbrook. The grant will be used to pay for ministry as well as much-needed repairs and renovation

at St Paul's. Fundraising support is also included to help St. John's Margate with a major building project.

A second project in north Maidstone will aim to develop the partnership between St Luke's - a thriving church which has trebled its congregation over the last three years to around 150 people - and St Faith's, a church plant into a housing estate from last year that is already growing. St. Luke's will also explore how it can become a resourcing church to other churches in Maidstone.

The Diocese of Hereford (picture, below with Bishop of Hereford) has been awarded £457,630 to help pay for a series of 'hubs' or centres to support rural parishes in outreach to children and young people.

The centres will start with pilots in two market towns, hosting youth and community workers and providing training in youth ministry while working in partnership with other programmes.

## **SAINTS IN FOCUS**

### **Julian of Norwich**

Julian of Norwich (Feast Day 8th May) may be one of the most captivating women of the Middle Ages, yet we know surprisingly little about her life. Although the details of her biography are scant,



we can be certain she lived for years as an anchoress. There is also no doubt that in 1373, at the age of 30, she fell dangerously ill. Upon receiving her last rites, and seemingly on the brink of death, Julian experienced a series of visions (or, what she called shewings) of Christ that not only cured her, but also compelled her to write. She went on to author two first-person accounts about her mystical experiences, which today are collectively known as the Revelations of Divine Love—the earliest surviving book in English written by a woman.

## STEWARDSHIP AND GIVING

We rely on the generosity of our worshippers, regular members and visitors to fund the costs of quota, maintaining the buildings and running costs and fulfilling our mission to the churches in the parish.



It costs about £8,000 per month to keep our churches in good order and open for regular services. Apart from rental income from Glebe Cottage, we receive no financial support for operational costs other than what you give. Our giving is always a response to God's unfailing generosity and grace and to the needs of the church.

## GIFTING TO THE CHURCH

**BY BANK TRANSFER OR STANDING ORDER:** to the SPWPCC bank account, which is at Lloyds Bank, Farnham, sort code 30 93 20, account number 02210758, (do include your name for reference).

**BY CHEQUE:** Send to the Treasurer, c/o The Rectory, Elstead Road, Seale, Farnham, GU10 1JA. Contact the Churchwardens for Gift Aid forms and increase the value of your giving.

**CONTACTLESS:** now available at Seale, Puttenham and Wanborough.

**ONLINE:** once or monthly [by following this link, where you will find a Gift Aid option.](#)

**PARISH GIVING SCHEME** To change your regular Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) donation, please write to: Parish Giving Scheme, 76 Kingsholm Road, Gloucester GL1 3BD, email to [info@parishgiving.org.uk](mailto:info@parishgiving.org.uk) or phone 0333 002 1260. It helps to include the PGS reference number, which can be found below your address on PGS correspondence. If you would like to start a regular PGS donation, or have any questions, please contact Mike Cloughley, our PGS coordinator: Telephone number: 01252 793639 Email: [cloughley@btinternet.com](mailto:cloughley@btinternet.com)



Please contact any member of the Ministry or Pastoral team if you are anxious, lonely or would like a spiritual or social chat.

THE RECTOR: 01252 783057 or [Rector@spw.org.uk](mailto:Rector@spw.org.uk)

CHRISTOPHER TUCKWELL LLM: 01252 718676

PASTORAL TEAM: Linda Thatcher & Kathleen Smith

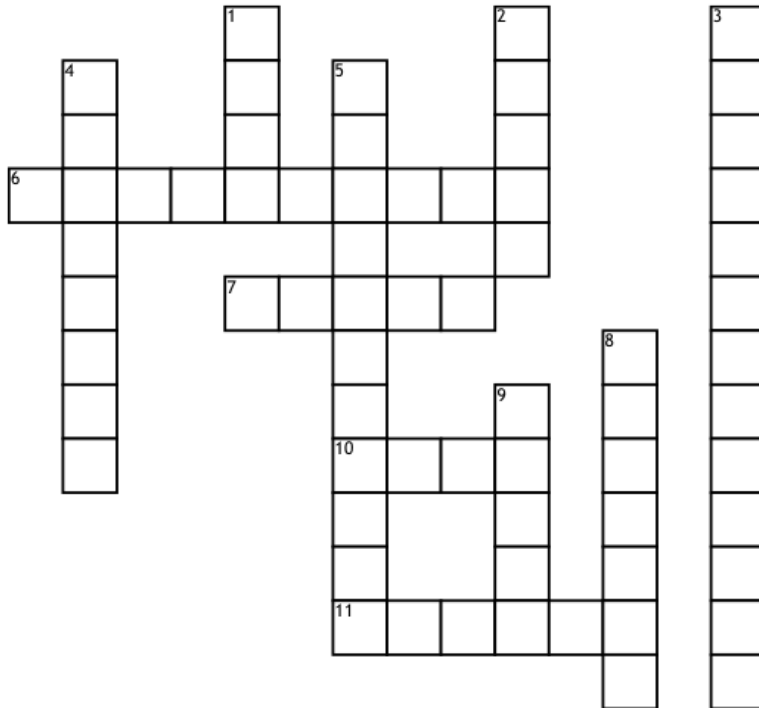


SAFEGUARDING AND DBS OFFICER

ANNE CONCANEN: 01483 811017

You can contact Anne confidentially if you have any safeguarding concerns.

# Pentecost



## Across

- 6. A holy promise
- 7. \_\_\_\_ Christ
- 10. A symbol representing purity and freedom
- 11. The Holy \_\_\_\_\_

## Down

- 1. Symbol of Pentecost

- 2. How many days Pentecost goes for

- 3. What the holy spirit came down as

- 4. The 12 \_\_\_\_\_

- 5. Also called \_\_\_\_\_

- 8. On the \_\_\_\_ sunday after easter

- 9. An apostle beginning with Pe

## Word Bank

Apostles

Dove

Spirit

Convenient

Jesus

Peter

Tongues of Fire

Seventh

Fire

Whitsundays

Fifty