

Notices for 5th of May 2024

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

A warm welcome to everyone; please come into the hall for refreshments after the service.

Collect:

God our redeemer,

you have delivered us from the power of darkness

and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:

grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life,

so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy;

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.

Hymns:

474	Immortal, invisible, God only wise
469	I heard the voice of Jesus say
538	O Jesus I have promised
308	Just as I am, without one plea
557	Praise to the holiest in the height

Although there is no formal collection during the offertory hymn, please feel free to make a contribution to the work of St. Mary's either in the Treasury box at the back of church, or using the card reader, also at the back of church. Thank you.

Readings:

Acts 10.44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

John 15.9-17

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

Post-communion prayer:

God our Father,

whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life:

may we thirst for you,

the spring of life and source of goodness,

through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Vacancy Notices and Dates

On Weds 17th April, the PCC held what is known as a "Section 11 Meeting". In this meeting It was agreed that the Parish Profile is now finalised, we will proceed to advertise the position in the Church Times during May, and Dan and Peter are now elected as the parish representatives for the interview process. Dan and Peter will meet with Area Dean Rosemary Donovan, Archdeacon Martin Breadmore and Bishop Paul Davies in early June to consider applications for interview in early July.

Sharing of the Peace

Following discussion in PCC, and consultation with the area dean, it is agreed that we will evolve our guidance for the exchange of the Peace. Our policy of

asking everyone simply to wave was introduced during the Covid pandemic, and we still want to respect social distancing for those who chose to retain this. For now, we are asking everyone to remain in their pews, and to shake hands only where it is it mutually agreeable between those sitting next to one another.

8am SERVICES will be held only once a month on the first Sunday of each month. Any questions please talk to Dan or Peter.

Intercessors, Sidespeople and Welcomers

Our Sunday services are assisted by several small groups of people. We would like to encourage more to join these teams to reduce the work load of the current people. Please talk to Peter or Dan to find out more.

Knitted Blankets

The ladies in the knit and natter group have been busily making blankets. Some were sent to Ukraine. There are now a few available at the back of church in a basket for any member of the congregation to use during the services if they are feeling chilly. Just pop them back into the basket on your way out. Many thanks,

Kate and the Knit and Natter Team

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 9th May at 10:00am and 8:00pm - Our Ascension Day services.

Sunday 12th May APCM the Annual Parish meeting will be held at 11:00 hours after the morning service. There are five vacancies on the PCC, so if you would like to be part of the PCC, or if you think that someone you know would be a great asset to the PCC (please ask them first), then there are nomination forms to fill in on the table at the back of the Church. Please talk to Peter, Dan or Sara if you would like to know more.

Looking Forward...

Sunday 24th November - Sunday Christmas Homemade Sunday Also - parish barbecue in September - date to be arranged additional homemade Sundays - dates to be arranged

Top 5 requirements needed for Epsom & Ewell foodbank: Deodorant, Cooking sauces, Noodles, Tinned fruit, Tinned tomatoes.