



Welcome to St Mary's Church

Following Christ, serving you

SUNDAY SERVICES 25th May 2025

8.00am

HOLY COMMUNION

10:15am

PARISH COMMUNION

Anthem: Blessed Be (Wesley)

Hymns: 140, 553, 400, 442

Sung Creed – hymn tune 556

6:00pm

EVENING PRAYER

6th SUNDAY OF EASTER

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.

First Reading – Acts 16:9-15

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, 'If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.' And she prevailed upon us.

Second Reading – Revelation 21:10, 22:22:5

And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honour of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practises abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life. Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life^[b] with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there anymore. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

Gospel Reading – John 14:23-29

Jesus answered him, 'Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. 'I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, "I am going away, and I am coming to you." If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.

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.

Please pray for all preparing for baptism and marriage, those who are sick or in hospital, and those who have died, and all who mourn.

Church Diary

NEXT WEEK'S SERVICES

Monday – Bank Holiday
Wednesday 10:00am – Holy Communion
Thursday 8:00pm – Ascension Day Holy Communion

Sunday 1st June 2025 – 7th Sunday of Easter
8:00am – Holy Communion
10:15am – All Sorts Parish Communion
6:00pm – Evening Prayer

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
to help you prepare to worship next Sunday

Acts 16:16-34 | John 17:20-end

Parish news and notices

CHURCHYARD TIDY-UP – Peter and Judith will be giving the churchyard a tidy-up on **Saturday, 7th June from 10:00am** for a couple of hours. The work involves collecting up fallen wood, clearing ivy off monuments, cutting back overgrown shrubs etc. and we would love to have some assistance. All welcome! Do come and join in.

For more details email peter.topp2@btinternet.com or ring 07973 751719.

FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY - CHURCH BBQ on Saturday, 19th July at 3:00pm in the Community Hall. Cost is £5 per adult for two courses (children free). BYO drinks and glasses. Garden games for children (and adults!). Please sign up on the sheet in the history corner by Sunday, 13th July if you would like to come so that we can get the right amount of food! Vegetarian option available – please indicate if this is required on the sign-up sheet.

Our next **BOOKBOX** will be on **Wednesday 18th June at 8pm** – Emma Burstall is the author of 11 novels, including the bestselling *Tremarnock Series*, set in a fictional Cornish seaside village. Her latest title, *By the Turquoise Sea*, is her second book based in Crete. Emma was a journalist for national newspapers and magazines before becoming a full-time writer. She divides her time between Kingston and Godalming.

FRIENDSHIP LUNCHES – Regarding our Friendship Lunches, enjoyed by so many in our community, we are searching for some extra cooks for main courses or desserts. If you would like to join the team of volunteers we would make you most welcome. You would not be called upon too often and it would only be for either a main course or a dessert, which you can prepare/cook at home and bring along to the Community Hall on the day of the lunch. We would be able to supply you with any necessary large dishes. If you are interested in this, please contact Diana on: 0208 398 1145 and I'll be happy to answer any questions you may have before you need to commit to anything.