



Newsletter and Notices

Sunday 10th May 2020 Fifth Sunday of Easter



Though I am absent in body, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good order and the firmness of your faith in Christ. Colossians 2.5

[Zoom](#) Worship

8am-8:30am Morning Prayer

10am-10:30am Service of the Word

When you are signed in you can 'Join a Meeting' (Meeting ID **846 662 9590**, password **834900**).

Whether or not you might like to do this, let's be aware of the prayerful communion in God's Spirit that we all share, wherever we are, whether or not we are able to talk, video-conference or communicate with one another.

I mention you always in my prayers, asking that somehow by God's will, I may succeed in coming to you. For I long to see you, that I may impart some spiritual gift to strengthen you, that is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith. Romans 1.9-11.

This comes with my prayers and blessing, Derwyn

There are a number of Zoom meetings scheduled for fellowship and conversation, after the 10am worship session.

If you'd like to join one, please enter one of the codes below at 10:30/10:45am:

June 822 740 0814 (716922) • Derek 927 480 8728 (889123) • Rob 841 818 2500 (645756)

Collect for Fifth Sunday of Easter

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.

Psalm for Fifth Sunday of Easter, Psalm 31. 1-5

Refrain: Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O Lord God of truth.

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.

Be my strong rock, a fortress to save me,

for you are my rock and my stronghold;

guide me, and lead me for your name's sake. **[R]**

Take me out of the net that they have laid secretly for me,

for you are my strength.

Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O Lord God of truth. **[R]**

Antem – At Choral Evensong on the Fifth Sunday of Easter last year our Choir sang 'And I saw a new heaven' (Bainton). You might like to listen to a version from King's this Easter, [via this link](#).

Gospel for Fifth Sunday of Easter, John 14. 1-14

Jesus said to his disciples: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

Children's resources –

With this week's newsletter on the website we attach a copy of '[Look](#)'. Each week the Gospel story is explained in age appropriate language. A prayer and a variety of activities that will engage the children are included, to help each child get to know the person of Jesus.

Or perhaps try a Godly Story? They're fantastic visual versions of the scriptures. This week, the story of Jesus the Path, with wondering questions for families to think and talk about together. Find it on YouTube at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P-qWyQQvPCI>

Have no anxiety about anything, but with prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. Philippians 4.6

It has been heartening to learn how many people are praying in this current testing season, and how many people are so deeply appreciative of and grateful for prayer.

As another layer of the praying life of the church we have set up a simple Prayer Chain.

The idea is simple: a chain of people to whom a prayer request can be made through its coordinator. The coordinator receives the request and prays accordingly before passing it on to a member of the chain who does likewise, until the prayer returns to the coordinator after a number of days being prayed for by a variety of people.

If you'd like the Prayer Chain to pray for some concern which is on your heart, please make your prayer request to the coordinator, Diane Pettitt: 461845 / diane.pettitt@hotmail.com

Requests are strictly confidential to the Prayer Chain, who will simply pray as asked and a request will not lead to any further contact or action

Do keep praying in all the ways that connect you to Jesus. If a request to the Prayer Chain would help, don't hesitate to make it.



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Online Alpha Course via Zoom – We're planning to start on Monday 11th May at 7pm for about an hour on Zoom. There will be ten sessions in total and it is suggested that these take place on the Mondays following. If necessary, we can change this by mutual agreement at the end of each week's session. Please contact the Parish Office as soon as possible if you'd like to join in.

Christian Aid Week (10th-16th May) – We cannot have the usual house to house collection this year, but the Christian Aid website (www.christianaid.org.uk) has lots of information about how poorer communities are being helped all over the world. If in the current situation you are able to donate and would like to, you can do so at caweek.org. For anyone without email, it's possible to donate by telephone 020 7523 2269. Thank you.

Daily Hope free phone line – The Archbishop of Canterbury has launched a free national phone line as a simple new way to bring worship and prayer into people's homes while church buildings are closed because of the coronavirus. *Daily Hope* offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line. The line – which is available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044** – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind.

HOW TO DONATE:

BISHOP'S STORTFORD FOOD BANK

Put items into boxes near check-outs at Waitrose, Tesco at Lancaster Way or Sainsburys or when doing shopping.

Please don't be put off donating if the box seems full – people are being so generous; sometimes it's difficult for our van to keep up, but every item is desperately needed.

Food Bank at the Methodist Church (Monday and Tuesday only, 10am-2pm)

We will leave a trolley in the doorway at the side path entrance.

MOST NEEDED ITEMS:

- | | |
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| Long Life Fruit Juice | Tinned Meat & Fish |
| Long life Milk | Biscuits |
| Tea Bags & Coffee | Jam & Marmalade, Marmite & Honey |
| Tinned Vegetables | Beans, spaghetti and soup |
| Pasta and Pasta Sauces | Long dated cereals |
| Washing up liquid | Washing liquid or tablets (for washing machines) |
| Toiletries (shower gel, shampoo, toothpaste, soap, deodorants, shaving foam/razors, sanitary products etc) | |

Donating money: <https://www.justgiving.com/bishopstortfordfoodbank> or send a cheque or make a BACS payment direct to our bank. For further details please contact our Coordinator.

To help with food packing at the Food Bank: email bsfoodbank.coordinator@gmail.com

To help with delivery of boxes in and around town: Own transport and on a Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday. Please send a copy of your driving licence, colour photo of your ID card, evidence of a DBS (paper copy or digital reference number) OR a certificate from the free online Basic Safeguarding Course run by the Church of England to Canon Mandy Brown at Holy Trinity Church at ht.nightshelter@outlook.com



*With this ordinary, unconsecrated bread
I make remembrance of my last visit to Church
and I remind myself that
the bread that I received there, however long ago,
will keep me in life eternal.*

*And with this ordinary, unconsecrated wine
I remember all those who were there with me
and live in hope to see them all again.*

Zoom Worship on Wednesdays – Derek has kindly agreed to host Holy Communion at home (Meeting ID 927 480 8728, password 889123) each Wednesday whilst we are unable to worship in Church.

'The lockdown is putting relationships under great strain. The irritating habits of our husband/wife are becoming magnified towards breaking point'. If this is you, help is at hand. *The Marriage Course* is available online to guide you through these times together. Why not give it a try at htb.org/marriage? For further details contact Derek on derekhinge@gmail.com

Zoom Worship involvement – It looks like worship via Zoom may need to continue for some time. It has been good to include a variety of readers, singers, musicians and prayer leaders at the various 'gatherings' in the past few weeks. If you would like to offer some involvement, please contact the Parish Office to let us know, and we will bear you in mind as we plan future meetings, for as long as we need to before corporate

worship in church can resume. Thank you for considering. Derwyn.

Electoral Roll – The APCM was postponed due to the Coronavirus situation. A new date has been set as 25th October. Most of the reports are available to view on the [website](#).

Prayers for our community – An invitation from Roger Sudbury: Would you like to join a weekly prayer session at 9:30am each Saturday? This usually takes place each Saturday in Church but for now will be via Zoom (Meeting ID: 458 034 0358, p/w 435609). All welcome!

St Michael's School will need a new school governor from September – Experience in finance, education or HR would be particularly helpful but all applications are very welcome. If you are interested in finding out more about this voluntary role, do contact the Parish Office.

The Rev'd Derwyn Williams (Vicar)	653867
The Rev'd Derek Hinge (PTO)	652173
The Rev'd June Knight (PTO)	771756
Rob Klincke (Reader)	833523
Vicar's Email: stmichaelsbvicar@gmail.com	

Churchwarden: Rosemary Thomson	758389
Deputy Churchwardens:	
Terry Pigram, Peter Rixson, Roger Sudbury	
Parish Office	01279 654416
Email: church@saintmichaelweb.org.uk	

