

St. Luke's & St. John's

Proclaiming Christ in Devon

Dearest friends,

Forty days after Easter, the Church celebrates the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ. It can sometimes feel like a quieter feast, overshadowed by the joy of Easter or the fire of Pentecost, yet the Ascension is one of the great turning points in the Christian year. Without it, the story of salvation would feel unfinished.

The Ascension is not simply Jesus "going away." It is the moment when the risen Christ returns to the Father in glory, carrying our humanity into the life of God. In the Incarnation, God came down to us; in the Ascension, humanity is lifted up to heaven in Christ. As the ancient Church loved to say: where the Head has gone, the Body is called to follow.

This feast also marks a transition in the Church's calendar. Eastertide begins with the empty tomb and reaches its fulfilment in the Ascension. The disciples who

once clung fearfully to Jesus must now learn to trust his presence in a new way. Christ is no longer bound to one place or one people, but is present to the whole Church through the Holy Spirit. The Ascension therefore prepares us for Pentecost, when the Spirit is poured out and the mission of the Church truly begins.

The Ascension reminds us that Christ reigns now. He is not absent, but enthroned; not distant, but interceding for us before the Father. In a world often marked by uncertainty and anxiety, the Church keeps this feast to remember that our hope is anchored in heaven, where Christ has gone before us.

Far from being an ending, the Ascension is a promise: that our life is hidden with Christ in God, and that one day we too shall share in his glory.

In love,

Fr. Matthew



Notices

Holy Trinity Sunday Joint event in Bovey Tracey.

Much planning is going ahead for this wonderful Sunday. We'll meet at St. John's at 10:30am and process to Marsh Park where we'll celebrate the Eucharist with our brothers and sisters from PPT. The Mass will be celebrated by Bishop James (and he'll also preach for us). Rev'd Graham and myself will serve in various respects. We have coffee immediately afterwards and then a family BBQ - a perfect event to invite your friends and family to. There'll be a children's tent with various activities and lots of fun for the whole family.

Father Matthew Cashmore

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Churchwardens

[SL] Mr David Dunn - david@slsj.co.uk
[SJ] Elizabeth Brooks - elizabethbrookso86@gmail.com

Associate Clergy

Fr Christopher Robins, Fr Robin Eastoe SSC
Fr Alan White and Deacon David Rogers

Blessing of the Bikes

On the 10th May we'll be at Exeter Cathedral for the Blessing of the Bikes. This is a wonderful new worshiping community that we're launching from our churches - a great way to invite people who would not usually cross our path. Let's make an effort to be there and have conversations and invite them to church.

3:30pm, Exeter Cathedral, 10th May
www.holymotorbikes.com

Today

Sunday 10th May

6th Sunday of Easter ●

9am - Sung Parish Mass [SJ]

11:15am - Sung Parish Mass [SL]

3:30pm - Blessing of the Bikes, Exeter Cathedral

Year A(II), Psalm week 2, Easter 6

Upcoming Dates

May

10th - Blessing of the Bikes [Cathedral]

16th - Table Top Sale [WH]

Rosary Group, 10:30am [SL]

17th - Lecture, World Religions (4pm) [SJ]

Afternoon Tea (5pm) [SJ]

Evensong (6pm) [SJ]

20th - St. Luke's APCM, 6pm [SL]

21st - St. John's APCM, 6pm [WH]

31st - Joint service & parish outreach with PPT [SJ]

NA Benefice Evensong, St. Luke's

June

3rd - St. Luke's Ladies Group

7th - Explorers

20th - Table Top Sale [WH]

21st - Lecture, Christian Denominations (4pm) [WH]

Afternoon Tea (5pm) [WH]

Evensong (6pm) [SJ]

July

1st - St. Luke's Ladies Group

4th - Parish Outing to Exmouth

5th - Explorers

10th - Evening Lecture - History of the Anglo Catholics in Devon [WH]

18th - Table Top Sale [WH]

19th July - Joint mass with BBQ [SJ]

25th - Quiz with Fish & Chips [SL]

26th - NA Benefice Evensong, West Ogwell

Sept

2nd - St. Luke's Ladies Group

5th - Glastonbury Pilgrimage

10th - Winter Term & Christmas Planning Meeting [SL]

11th - Bingo [SL]

13th - Explorers

20th - Lecture, Church Vestments (4pm) [WH]

Afternoon Tea (5pm) [WH]

Evensong (6pm) [SJ]

27th - NA Benefice Evensong, St. Mary's

No Ladies Group in August

No midweek Mass in August

Fr. Matthew on pilgrimage from 24th July to 4th September

[SJ] St. John's | [SL] St. Luke's | [WH] Wickham Hall

[SC] St. Catherine's School

The week ahead:

Monday 11th May

Monday of the 6th week of Eastertide ●

[prayers offered at home]

Prayer focus: *The homeless*

Tuesday 12th May

Tuesday of the 6th week of Eastertide ●

9:15am - Morning Prayer [SJ]

10am - Said Mass [SJ]

Prayer focus: *St. Luke's*

Wednesday 13th May

Our Lady of Fatima ●

10am - Said Mass [SL]

Prayer focus: *St. John's*

Thursday 14th May

The Ascension of the Lord - Solemnity ●

10am - Sung High Mass [SJ]

Prayer focus: *St. Catherine's School*

Friday 15th May

Friday of the 6th week of Eastertide ●

[prayers offered at home]

Prayer focus: *Stover School*

Saturday 16th May

Saturday of the 6th week of Eastertide ●

[prayers offered at home]

Prayer focus: *Haytor View School*

Sunday 17th May

7th Sunday of Easter ●

9am - BCP Parish Mass [SJ]

11:15am - Sung Parish Mass [SL]

4pm - Lecture, World Religions [SJ]

5pm - Afternoon Tea [SJ]

6pm - Evensong [SJ]

Year A(II), Psalm week 3, Sunday after Ascension Day

Please pray for:

Linda, Bob, Bill, Mark, Vicky Pearce, Jean & Phil, Jennifer Benney, and all those who have asked for our prayers.

Pray for the souls of:

Lucy Hawkins, and all those whose anniversary of death falls this week.