

ST DENYS CHURCH EVINGTON, BULLETIN

Sunday 12th May 2024, 7th Sunday of Easter



Readings for today: Acts 1 vs 15-17, 21-end; John 17 vs 6-19

Dear Friends,

Thursday, Ascension Day, when we celebrate Jesus returning to heaven, to his Father, his own work on earth complete: 'It is finished!' And now, a time of waiting.

Looking at the accounts of the Ascension:

At the end of St Matthew's gospel, it is just implied that Jesus is leaving, as we read how Jesus commanded the disciples to 'make disciples of all nations'; and we have the wonderful promise that Jesus is always with us.

At the end of St Luke's gospel, we read final words and instructions of Jesus to the disciples; here, this included telling them to wait in Jerusalem until they had received power. Then Jesus was taken up to heaven. The disciples returned to Jerusalem, full of joy.

At the start of Luke's second book, the Acts of the Apostles, we have another account of the Ascension. Again, the instruction to the disciples to wait. Jesus promised they would receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, in just a few days' time; and they would be his witnesses throughout the world. Then Jesus ascended to heaven. As the disciples waited, together with some of the women, including Mary, the mother of Jesus, and the brothers of Jesus, they spent much of their time in prayer.

Today, we are encouraged to spend extra time in prayer, in these days of waiting, from Ascension to Pentecost. I hope you have copies of the 'Thy Kingdom come' resources - the Novena and Prayer Journal - to use in this waiting time; if not, there are still some in church.

As we celebrate Ascension Day, perhaps by joining in our service of Holy Communion in the morning; maybe having something 'bubbly' (the bubbles rising, reminding us of Jesus going up to heaven!). However we celebrate, may we take extra time, in prayer, as we wait to celebrate again, the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. And, like the first disciples, may we be filled with joy. **Geraldine**

A Haiku for Ascension Day:
His work on earth done.
Father, Holy Spirit, wait.
Jesus Christ ascends.



COMING UP AT ST DENYS THIS WEEK:

Thursday 9th 12pm Private Booking in the parish centre

Friday 10th 10am Musical Toddlers meet in the parish centre

Sunday 12th 10am Holy Communion in church and on Zoom, ID: 820 0369 6332
(password from Qyan)

Monday 13th 8am Private Booking in the parish centre

Tuesday 14th 8am Private Booking in the parish centre

Tuesday 14th Lily House Bereavement Support Group in church & parish centre

Wed 15th 7pm Journey in Faith (JiF) Course in the parish centre

Thursday 16th 10.30am Gentle Exercise Group meet in the parish centre

Thursday 16th 10.30am Funeral Service for the late Pat Ofield
in church

Thursday 16th 12pm Private Booking in the parish centre



Morning Prayer Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday Thursday, 9am in church.

Thursday 10am Holy Communion (BCP said) in church

Open Church 9am—12noon Free wi-fi, refreshments, chat! All welcome.

Christian Aid Week 2024 – May 12-18; Seven days, so many ways to make a difference. Every Christian Aid Week, people across Britain and Ireland raise funds, act, and pray for their global neighbours in a celebration of hope for a fairer world.



This year, the appeal runs from May 12–18 and is focussing on Christian Aid work in Burundi, one of the most densely populated and poorest countries in Africa. Heavily reliant on agriculture, it is also one of the least prepared to combat the effects of climate change, including droughts, floods and landslides. The global cost of living crisis has intensified the challenges with more than 70 per cent of the population living in poverty and more than half of children chronically malnourished.

There are Christian Aid Envelopes on the table by the church entrance together with a Daily Devotional which not only informs you about the project but suggests areas of prayer. Please support this appeal if you feel able, and hand in your offering in church, gift aiding it please if possible. I will be delivering to many of the Evington and Stoughton homes over the week, where people can either give online (caweek.org) or return the envelope to Evington Village Store, 38-40 Main Street. Thankyou. **Chris Hossack**

Pat Ofield's Funeral Pat and Gwynne were much loved members of St Denys for many years. Pat's funeral will be on Thursday 16th May at 10.30am. Members of the congregation are welcome to attend. There will be no midweek communion that day but Morning Prayer will be said at 9am for those who would like to come.

Coffee, Cake and Fellowship With are sorry that May's meeting of Coffee, Cake and Fellowship in the parish centre has had to be cancelled.

PENTECOST SUNDAY 19th May at 10am The Bishop of Leicester, Martyn Snow, will be joining us to celebrate Pentecost at the 10am service on 19th May when he will preside and preach. Pentecost is a wonderful celebration of the day the Holy Spirit fell upon the disciples in Jerusalem and the crowds of people of different faiths, cultures and languages all heard them speaking in a way that spoke directly to their hearts (Acts 2). Don't miss this special service and the chance to hear from our diocesan bishop. If you have something red, orange or yellow to wear, please do!

'Together With' Return Visit to Leicester Cathedral On Sunday 19th May, St. Denys will be the invited guests of the Cathedral congregation for Choral Evensong beginning at 3.30pm. This will then be followed by refreshments and a tour of the newly re-opened Cathedral following the changes and refurbishment. The Cathedral would like one of us to read a bible reading during the service. If you know that you will definitely be attending, and wish to read, please e-mail or telephone me by Monday 13th May—first come, first served! All welcome. Please note that there will not be an Evensong service in St. Denys on that day. **Qyan**

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) will be held in church on Monday 20th May at 7pm. This is an important meeting to which everyone, *including those on the Electoral Roll* are all invited to attend. We review the life and activities of St. Denys for the year past, and look ahead to the future, particularly the forthcoming year *and important discussions in relation to the formation of Minster Communities*. Please do come along if you possibly can. Please note that you will only be able to vote on various matters, *including the elections of the churchwardens and PCC members*, if you are on the Electoral Roll and are present at the meeting in person, not online. *Copies of the Annual Reports and Accounts for 2023 are available at the back of the church. Please take a copy (and extra copies for housebound church members near you). Please read the information carefully and address any questions to the PCC Secretary, Judith Chapman, asap. She can be contacted in church, or by email - jhchapman66@gmail.com. Please bring the papers with you to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.*



Final Service and Installation! Revd Anthony's last service at St. Denys is confirmed as being Sunday 14th July 2024, 10am. He will be installed as Canon Missioner of Chester Cathedral immediately after Evensong there on Saturday 27th July, 4.15pm. Please see the following article:



Chester Cathedral, Revd Anthony's Installation On the 27th July, we have a coach booked to take us to Chester for the day leaving St. Denys lay-by at **09.00**. Upon arrival, there will be time for yourselves before we walk up to Chester Cathedral for Choral Evensong and Anthony's Installation.

The coach will leave Chester to return to St. Denys at **19.30**. There will be a comfort stop on the way, and on the return journey. The cost for the coach will be £21.00 per person. Please pay all payments by 29th June 2024 to either myself or Michael White our Treasurer. Please sign up on the list at the back of St. Denys. Alternatively, you can email me at: janpears13@aol.com by **29th June 2024**.

Revd Mark is currently away on placement and therefore uncontactable, until early June.

Collect for 7th Sunday of Easter Risen, ascended Lord, as we rejoice at your triumph, fill your Church on earth with power and compassion, that all who are estranged by sin may find forgiveness and know your peace, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Pray for the sick: Brenda Bedingfield, Pat Davies, Ann Dixon, Marion Heygate, Alison Keddilty, Roy Lee, Kishor Nathwani, Janette Pearson, Barbara Pinder, Sian Rigby, Jessica Saul, Dr Margaret Steel, Andrew (Andy) White **Pray for those who mourn including family and friends of** Brenda Carlyle, Pat Ofield



Revd Anthony Lees-Smith (Vicar) 0116 2155 5000 vicar@stdenys.org.uk
(not Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Fridays)

Gerry (Churchwarden) 07531 548793 geraldinegoode368@btinternet.com

Geraldine (Reader & Pioneer) 0116 2737717

Administrator (Qyan) 07803 828454 office@stdenys.org.uk

St. Denys website, including the Giving Links for Church and Youth Work:

www.stdenys.org.uk

