

THIS SUNDAY 2 MAY

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:26-40; John 15:1-8

10AM HOLY COMMUNION

ST BARTHOLOMEW'S & LIVESTREAM

Reading: Jenny Sugden

Intercessions: Jane Slevin

11:30AM PRAYING ON SUNDAY

ST CHRISTOPHER'S

NEXT SUNDAY 9 MAY

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:44-48; John 15:9-17

8AM HOLY COMMUNION

ST BARTHOLOMEW'S

10AM HOLY COMMUNION

ST BARTHOLOMEW'S & LIVESTREAM

Reading: Paul Bagshaw

Intercessions: Richard Taylor-Gooby

4PM FAMILIES@4

THE LINK

WEEK COMMENCING 2 MAY:

MONDAY - THURSDAY, 9AM MORNING PRAYER AT ST BARTHOLOMEW'S

Booking is required for all services. Please see website: [Worship Service Booking](#)

Details of how to join all livestream services and the orders of service are available on the website. [Church at Home](#)

PARISH INFORMATION

St Bartholomew's Church is open from 9am to dusk every day, Monday - Saturday for private prayer.

Contact:

Rector Revd Chris Bessant: 01428 658107 / rector@haslemereparish.org

Curate Revd Justin Manley-Cooper: revjustin@haslemereparish.org

Parish Office 01428 644578 / office@haslemereparish.org

Opening hours: 9am-3pm Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri

Pastoral Visitors: please contact the Parish Office by phone or email

Further information:

please continue to check the website for updated information; www.haslemereparish.org

To receive this news sheet by email contact office@haslemereparish.org

Accessibility:

Both churches have hearing loops. Please switch hearing aids to T-coil.

Both churches have step free access and a wheelchair is available on request.

Large print service orders and hymn books are available—ask a sides person.



Collect

Risen Christ,
your wounds declare your love for the
world and the wonder of your risen life:
give us compassion and courage
to risk ourselves for those we serve,
to the glory of God the Father.

Acts 8:26-40

²⁶ Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷ So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸ and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹ Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' ³⁰ So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' ³¹ He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³² Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.
³³ In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from the earth.'

³⁴ The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?'
³⁵ Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶ As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is

water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' ³⁸ He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹ When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰ But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

John 15:1-8

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. ² He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³ You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the
truth, and the life:
grant us to walk in his way,
to rejoice in his truth,
and to share his risen life;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

PARISH PRAYERS FOR W/C SUNDAY 2 MAY

Please use this sheet at home to inform your own prayers

A Thought for the Week (Acts 8:26-40)

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went.

What is notable is found in the gaps of unknowing. Philip was sent, without warning or explanation, to a deserted place in the heat of the day. Philip just goes, even though his character is to want to know why. I have this picture in my mind of him standing alone in the desert by a road, just waiting for something to happen. The Philip of the gospels asks and wants to know why, but by the time he hears God's call here in Acts, perhaps not more than a few months after the death and resurrection of Christ, he seems more willing to step out in faith. Remember that none of the disciples understood why Jesus had to die, before he did so, and none of them could have fathomed the resurrection before it happened. Philip here is living in the afterglow of Easter, knowing that if God says something can happen, then it can happen. We don't have to know why or how or when or what or who. The resurrection tells us that all things are in God's hands.

For our Local Ministry Work and Schools

- To him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, give us Lord the confidence through faith to follow you even when it seems uncertain.
- We continue to pray for the people of India, who are having a terrible time with Covid. Lord we are powerless to help, but powerful in prayer.
- We pray for all those who are finding it difficult to return to church, that they may know again the love of their partners in Christ.
- We pray with joyful thanks for the beautiful springtime growth we see all around us.

Those Sick and Suffering

Ruth Pattenden, Ida MacNeal, John Jackson, Lyndall Sarkies and Sophie Bessant.

Rest In Peace

Ursula Carter and Mike Ware.

PARISH NOTICES

APCM

Thanks to those who attended the meeting last Sunday. A reminder that the report is still available via the website: [APCM Report](#)

Churchyard Working Party

Thank you to everyone who took part in the churchyard working party at St Bartholomew's last Saturday. The weather was glorious and the tasks generally not too onerous. We were able to complete all our planned work and, thanks to two brave gentlemen, a very overgrown grave at the entrance to Derby Road churchyard was transformed too! Body armour would not have been inappropriate. Graves have been cleared in the main churchyard and pruning and general tidying carried out. The war memorial garden has had a facelift. Waverley BC's contractor will be removing the green waste pile as previously.

Ascension Day

Ascension Day will be on Thursday 13th May this year. As in previous years this will be a United Benefice Service in conjunction with All Saints Grayswood. The service will be at Grayswood, beginning at 8pm. It would be great to get a good congregation together for this lovely evening service, so do please feel welcome. You can book via the All Saints Grayswood website here: www.allsaintsgrayswood.org/worship/. If more than one person from a household is attending, please include additional names in the 'notes' field.

Gardening Volunteer needed

Gardening help is needed for a visually impaired lady in Haslemere. Sight for Surrey are an organisation seeking to help the blind and visually impaired. This week we were contacted by one of their representatives to ask on behalf of a local lady who needs some help getting her garden in order. Would you like to help? I'm sure a little team could find a few hours to help. Please let Rector Chris know.

Haslemere Festival

The Haslemere Arts Festival is taking place between 17th to 31st May and a number of events will be held at St Bartholomew's Church, including the usual Festival Evensong Service on Sunday 23rd. All events will of course be covid compliant. A list of the events that will take place at the church is available on the parish website here: www.haslemereparish.org/community/haslemere-arts-festival-2021/.

Please check the Festival website for full details of all events and how to book: www.haslemerefestival.org.uk

Booking for Evensong is also available via the parish website: [Festival Evensong](#)