



The Ross Parishes

rossparishes.uk

Ross-on-Wye

Walford

Brampton Abbots

# Newsletter

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May**

Fifth Sunday of Easter

*A very warm welcome to  
worship in the benefice today*



*growing inclusive, intergenerational churches that inspire faith, hope and love*

## Today's services

### Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May

**8.00am** Said Communion, St Mary's

**9.30am** All Age Eucharist, St Mary's

**6.00pm** Choir singing Evensong at Sollershope

**9.30am** Parish Communion, Walford

## Music for today's Services

### 9.30am Sung Eucharist, St Mary's

**Setting:** Mass of St Thomas - *Thorne*

**Introit:** 365 Let us build a house

**Gradual:** 203 Good Christians, all rejoice

**Offertory:** 802 There is a higher throne

**Comm:** Thou art the way - *Steel*

**Post Com:** 475 Forth in the peace of Christ

### 9.30am Parish Communion, Walford

281 He who would valiant be

654 The Lord's my shepherd

12 Alleluia, sing to Jesus

565 Praise, my soul, the King of heaven!

## Prayer & readings for today

**Collect:** 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. **Amen.**

### **First Reading:** *Reader: A reading from The Acts of the Apostles*

But filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died.

*Reader:* This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

[Acts 7:55-end]

**Please ensure your mobile phone is switched to silent or off before worship.**

**Gospel Reading:** Jesus said: 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. [John 14:1-14]

---

## *For our prayers*

---

**Those whose banns are to be read today:** Bradley & Georgina and James & Olivia – first readings, St Mary's.

**Those who are ill:** Simon Andrews, David Walshaw, Dene Eward, Rene Keogh, Terry Harding, Rosie Taylor, and all who are living with long term illnesses or health problems.

**Those who mourn,** and those who have died, among them: Stuart Robinson.

---

## *News from the Ross Parishes*

---

**Alpha Course** The third session of the Alpha Course will be in St Mary's at 6.30pm on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> May, when the topic will be 'Why did Jesus die?'. Alpha is for those who are curious about faith, allowing time to eat together before discussing and exploring big questions of life, faith and purpose. More information from Emily: [emily@rossparishes.uk](mailto:emily@rossparishes.uk).

**Alpha Course Catering** Each session starts with a meal for participants attending straight from work. If you can provide a meal for one of the 10 evenings or can help in the kitchen, please let Emily or Jean Brown know. The cost of the meal will be reimbursed.

**Lunchtime Concerts** at St Mary's are back for a new season. A short, informal and free concert in our lovely church offers an oasis of calm. You are welcome to arrive and leave when you wish and encouraged to bring your lunch. We are looking forward to welcoming Matthew Nisbet Matthew who studied lute and theorbo at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. Not sure what a theorbo sounds like? Come and find out 1.00pm on Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> May.

**Mothers' Union** Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May at 2.30 pm in the Church Hall. Everyone is invited to come and hear Kristen Kystow talk about the work of a Community Police Officer.

**Christian Aid Week**, this year from 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> May, is one of the biggest acts of Christian witness in the UK. The emphasis this year is on urban poverty in Kenya. For needy people

**Please ensure your mobile phone is switched to silent or off before worship.**

there, it is a precarious, stressful life where hardship means hunger. Envelopes will be distributed on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> and collected the following Sunday (or as near as possible). Cash or cheques are welcome, as well as on-line giving. Many thanks, Jean Harrison.

**Ascension Day** This year, Ascension Day falls on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May. There will be a said Communion service in St Mary's at 10.00am, and later the main Benefice Eucharist, a sung service led by the choir, will be held in St Michael's, Walford, at 7.00pm. It will be followed by refreshments. Everyone is welcome.

**Thy Kingdom Come** It has been eleven years since the Archbishops of Canterbury and York launched 'Thy Kingdom Come', a period of ten days, from Ascension Day to Pentecost, when we are invited to pray for five people or situations where there is need. As last year, you are welcome to join in the 24-hour prayer vigil from midnight on 17<sup>th</sup> May to midnight on 18<sup>th</sup> May. Choose a half-hour or hour slot in the 24 hours to spend either at home or with others, praying that God will be with you and those for whom you pray. Please sign your name on the sheet in the Markye Chapel, where you will find booklets, prayer diaries, cards and wrist bands (make five knots in this and wear it on your wrist for the ten-day period). You are also welcome to join Freda Davies in St Mary's at noon on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May for a short service of prayer to launch this year's 'Thy Kingdom Come'.

**Flower Festival Weekend 29<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> August** Volunteers are needed to run the following stalls on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> August: Cakes, Preserves, Bric a Brac, Plant Stall, Bottle Stall, Book Stall and Mystery Parcels. Contributions can be made nearer the time. Refreshments and light lunches will be available throughout the three days. If you can help, please see Sue Jones or Jean Brown, who are collecting recipes for our Church Events Recipe Book that will be on sale during the Festival.

**Ross in Bloom** St Mary's *It's your neighbourhood (IYN)* application for Heart of England in Bloom has been accepted for the Railway Garden! The judge has been in touch and has suggested a visit in July, and there is plenty to do before then.

If you would like to join in, please let Colin Leggate know on 01989 564536.

**Pentecost BBQ lunch** This year the annual ecumenical Pentecost event will be a celebration BBQ lunch and activities for all ages on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May. All are invited! We do hope you can come! Bring friends, family, neighbours! BBQ provided. Bring picnic extras, cake to share, rugs/chairs etc. From 12.00pm onwards. In St Mary's church and grounds. Kelvin and Caroline

**St George's Day Concert** Many thanks to the Hereford Police Choir and their guests for a wonderful concert on Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> April. Thanks also to everyone who attended and raised £2000 for the Spire Fund.

**Walford Summer Garden Fete** 11.00am-4.00pm on 6<sup>th</sup> June. Lots of fun activities for adults and children, as well as lunches, teas and fresh local produce. Not to be missed!

**Vintage China** Do you have any old china you would like to clear out? Walford Church would love it for the Vintage China stall at their Summer Fete on 6<sup>th</sup> June. Phone Sanna Drummond on 07968 514616.

**The office is closed this week** Catherine is on holiday this week and will be back in the office on Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> May. If you have anything for the Newsletter for 10<sup>th</sup> May, please send it to Mark: [mark@rossparishes.uk](mailto:mark@rossparishes.uk).

**Please ensure your mobile phone is switched to silent or off before worship.**

---

## *This week in the Ross Parishes*

---

<b>Every day</b>	9.00am Morning Prayer via Zoom, <a href="https://rossparishes.uk/morning-prayer">rossparishes.uk/morning-prayer</a>
<b>Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> May</b>	9.00pm Compline via Zoom. Use the same link as morning prayer 6.00pm Choir singing Evensong at Sollershope
<b>Mon 4<sup>th</sup> May</b>	12.00pm Prayers for St Mary's, St Mary's 9.00pm Compline, St Mary's
<b>Tue 5<sup>th</sup> May</b>	9.00am Community Larder and Tea & Toast, St Mary's Hall 6.00pm Alpha Course, St Mary's
<b>Wed 6<sup>th</sup> May</b>	8.45am Toast and Toddle, St Mary's 11.15am Ponder & Pray via Zoom 1.00pm Lunchtime Concert – Matthew Nisbet, St Mary's 2.00pm Mothers' Union, St Mary's Hall 4.00pm Connect Club and Youth Choir rehearsal, St Mary's Hall and St Mary's 9.00pm Compline, St Mary's
<b>Thu 7<sup>th</sup> May</b>	10.00am Said Communion, St Mary's
<b>Fri 8<sup>th</sup> May</b>	6.00pm Dice and Decks, St Mary's Hall 7.15pm Adult Choir Practice, St Mary's
<b>Sat 9<sup>th</sup> May</b>	10.30am Coffee and Sgwrs, St Mary's

---

## *Further ahead*

---

<b>Sun 10<sup>th</sup> May</b>	3.00pm Ross Choristers Concert, St Mary's
<b>10<sup>th</sup>–16<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Christian Aid Week
<b>Wed 13<sup>th</sup> May</b>	2.15pm Talk: the strange lives of medieval saints, St Mary's
<b>Thu 14<sup>th</sup> May</b>	10.00am Ascension Day Eucharist, St Mary's 12.00pm Thy Kingdom Come launch service, St Mary's 7.00pm Ascension Day Benefice Sung Eucharist, Walford
<b>Sat 16<sup>th</sup> May</b>	7.30pm Ross Choral Society Concert, St Mary's
<b>10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>	The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Revd Dame Sarah Mullally, to visit Hereford Diocese

---

## *Contacts*

---

<b>Rector: Revd Prebendary Kelvin Price</b>	kelvin@rossparishes.uk
<b>Revd Prebendary Caroline Pascoe</b>	caroline@rossparishes.uk
<b>Revd Colin Leggate</b>	colin@rossparishes.uk
<b>Revd Canon Professor David Thomas</b>	david@rossparishes.uk
<b>Very Revd Dr John Davies</b>	john.davies102@icloud.com
<b>Reader: Canon Freda Davies</b>	freda@rossparishes.uk
<b>Reader: Dr Derek Glover</b>	derek@rossparishes.uk
<b>Church Office: Catherine Lewis</b>	administrator@rossparishes.uk 01989 562175



The office will be closed this week as Catherine is on holiday.

Please ensure your mobile phone is switched to silent or off before worship.