



**29<sup>th</sup> May 2022: Sunday after Ascension**

**Season:** Easter. **Liturgical Colour:** White **Why?** White used during Easter to symbolise the resurrection of Jesus Christ. White expresses joy, celebration, purity and victory. Easter is not a one day festival but last for 50 days until Pentecost. The Easter (or Paschal Candle) is lit during every service during Easter.

**9.30am Parish Eucharist**

President and preacher: Bishop Stephen Venner

Deacon: Lauryn Awbrey

Gospel: John 17. 20 -end

Reading: Acts 16.16-34

Reader: Sophia Neville

Intercessions: David Brown

Music Setting: Mass of St Thomas (Thorne)

Hymns: 228, 690, 227, 232, 207, 532(omit \*)

**10.30am Parish Coffee** in the Church Hall,  
*with Traidcraft Stall running until 12.15pm*

**11.00am Litter Pick**, meeting outside St John's

**CHILDREN AT ST JOHN'S**

All children are very welcome at St John's, and this might help:

- Please don't be afraid to sit at the front – children can see what is going on better.
- There are books and bags at the back of church as well as colouring in packs (updated each week).
- Please make use of the church as you need to, and don't worry about making noise.
- Join us in the hall for refreshments after the service.
- We are starting up a Junior Church, monthly.
- Next Junior Church is 12<sup>th</sup> June!

Please email [junior.church@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk](mailto:junior.church@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk) for details.

## GIVING AT ST JOHN'S

At St John's we rely on the enormous generosity of our congregation to support our ministry, so that we might live God's love to our Parish. If you are in a position to support us, there are a number of ways you can give, either as a one-off or on a regular basis:

- Collection plate – both cash and contactless either before or after the service
- Set up a direct debit
- Join our Parish Giving Scheme

Envelopes to donate for the collection where gift aid can be claimed are available. For more information contact Andrew Poppleton on [andrew.poppleton@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk](mailto:andrew.poppleton@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk).

## SUNDAY READINGS AND PRAYERS

### THE COLLECT

Let us pray

O God the King of glory,  
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ  
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:  
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,  
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us  
and exalt us to the place  
where our Saviour Christ is gone before,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever  
**Amen.**

*please sit for* BIBLE READING **Acts 16:16-34**

<sup>16</sup>One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. <sup>17</sup>While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." <sup>18</sup>She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very

hour. <sup>19</sup>But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. <sup>20</sup>When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, “These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews <sup>21</sup>and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe.” <sup>22</sup>The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. <sup>23</sup>After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. <sup>24</sup>Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

<sup>25</sup>About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. <sup>26</sup>Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone’s chains were unfastened. <sup>27</sup>When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. <sup>28</sup>But Paul shouted in a loud voice, “Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.” <sup>29</sup>The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. <sup>30</sup>Then he brought them outside and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” <sup>31</sup>They answered, “Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.” <sup>32</sup>They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. <sup>33</sup>At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. <sup>34</sup>He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

### **THE GOSPEL:** John 17.20 - end

20 ‘I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, 21 that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us,\* so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22 The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, 23 I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. 24 Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. 25 ‘Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I

know you; and these know that you have sent me. 26I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.'

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Eternal God, giver of love and power,  
your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world  
to preach the gospel of his kingdom:  
confirm us in this mission,  
and help us to live the good news we proclaim;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **IMPORTANT PARISH CONTACTS**

Revd Tim Vickers, Vicar of St John's (usual day off Friday)  
[vicar@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk](mailto:vicar@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk) 01582 469343

Churchwardens, Jane Donati and Heather Nye  
[wardens@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk](mailto:wardens@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk)

Parish Office, - This is currently Vacant so please be patient.  
[parish.office@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk](mailto:parish.office@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk) 01582 712776

Safeguarding, Jane Donati [safeguarding@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk)

## **IN OUR PRAYERS**

**In our Parish for the sick:** Iain Macdonald, Chris Taylor, Rosalyn Gamero and all whose names are entered on our St Luke's Cell Prayer List.

**For the dearly departed:** Geraldine Mockler

**To be baptised in June:** Orla O'Neill

**In their year's mind:** Elsie Brown (31<sup>st</sup>), Laura Sheehan (2<sup>nd</sup>), Anthon Dell (3<sup>rd</sup>), Ernest Udell (5<sup>th</sup>)

For the homes and families in

Sunday	High Firs Crescent, Highfield Avenue
Monday	Kingcroft Road, Kings Court
Tuesday	All those living outside the Parish
Wednesday	Knowle Drive, Leycroft Way
Thursday	Lilac Way, Limbrick Road
Friday	Linwood Road, Loire Mews
Saturday	Long Buftlers, Longfield Road

Please let Tim know if we can pray for you.

## NOTICES\*

*\* deadline for news items midday on Wednesday via  
newsletter@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk*

**Thank you!** A big Thank you to Bishop Stephen for presiding and preaching for us this morning at our Parish Eucharist. It is good to welcome you back!

**Project Phoenix Sermon series.** We conclude our mini Sermon series on the Five Marks of Mission with the 5<sup>th</sup> Mark of Mission 'To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth'.

**St Alban's Sustainability Festival (Sustfest 2022).** St John's is again taking part in the Sustainability Festival. We have two events, both on TODAY: A litter pick at 11am-12noon. Litter pickers provided, please bring your own gloves. A Traidcraft stall, 10.45am-12.15pm.

**Services this week.** The Church will be open every day, but whilst Revd Tim is away the Midweek Eucharist on 1<sup>st</sup> June will not take place.

### **Changes to our worship from 5th June**

Following recent guidance from the Church of England, from Pentecost we will be resuming the following during our worship.

- Receiving communion in both kinds
- The sharing the peace with a handshake.
- An offertory procession
- A collection during the offertory.

Not everyone will be comfortable with these changes, and so please be mindful of the needs of others. There will also no doubt be a learning curve as we remember how to do this again, so please be patient.

If any of this might cause you some worry, then get in touch with the Vicar or Wardens so we can best support you.

**Jubilee Tea Party, 3pm on 5<sup>th</sup> June at the Vicarage.** Everyone is invited to join us for a special celebration of the Queens Platinum Jubilee in the Vicarage Gardens from 3pm. If you are able to provide cake / scones, or help with setting up, there is a [sign up sheet](#) at the back of church.

**Sound Sunday!** On 12<sup>th</sup> June at our 9.30am Parish Eucharist, we are inviting 'AboutSound' to undertake a demonstration of what our new Sound System might sound like. It is also Trinity Sunday and our Junior Church Sunday so what better reason to join us. There will be a chance to discuss your sound needs, and problems, after the service.

**Church treasurer** Do you have financial skills that might be useful at St Johns? We have an urgent need for someone to take responsibility for looking after our finances on a week to week basis and also for someone who would report to the PCC and help us with the annual budget and accounts. The roles are flexible and could be managed to suit the individual. Everything is digitally based. More details from the Vicar or David Nye.

**Help with new mini church.** We are looking to run a mini-church alongside our current Junior Church on the second Sunday of the month. If you could help out to oversee this, or want to know what it involves, please speak to Katie Barter or leave a message via the office.

**Prayer for those who have died.** Every week when we pray the Daily Office, and on Sunday's, we pray for those who have died, and any whose year minds falls at this time. The current Year Mind list current records all those who have died since 1973. Grief has no time frame and we are always happy to pray for anyone who has died, however long ago. We propose initially pray for those who have died in the last 20 years, and anyone else who wishes to be prayed for. Please speak to the Vicar if this poses a problem.

**Patronal Festival Exhibition, 26<sup>th</sup> June.** We are looking to put on a small art exhibition of photos and paintings of St John's. If you happen to have an old photograph or painting, do let the vicar know.

**Scam email alert.** There has been a report from the police that churches are sometimes used for scam emails asking for money. Please know that I, or any of the ministry team, would never send an email asking for money, but if in doubt speak to the Parish Office.

## P A R I S H D I A R Y

Tuesday	10.00am	No Litle Acorns in the Church Hall
Wednesday	10.30am	No Holy Eucharist
Saturday	11.00am	Burial of Ashes of Chris Chichester-Miles
	1.00pm	Confirmation Preparation at St John's

## NEXT SUNDAY

8am and 9.30am service for Pentecost Readings: *New Testament: Acts 2.1-21; Gospel: John 14.8-17*

### **Weekday Morning and Evening Prayer (in the Lady Chapel)**

Morning Prayer: 9.30 am, Monday to Wednesday

Evening Prayer: 5pm Monday to Wednesday

No Wednesday Eucharist

### **Sign up to our Newsletter:**

We also send out a weekly newsletter. If you would like to receive it, please get in touch:

<https://stjohnsharpenden.org.uk/about-us/newsletter/>

For arrangement of baptisms, weddings & funerals contact the Parish Office or talk to the vicar after the service.



St John's Church, 5 St John's Road, Harpenden, Herts AL5 1DJ