

Please remember in your prayers

Pray for those who are not well at this time and pray for the souls of the recently departed, may they rest in peace.



The Church of England

Holy Cross Church

Serving the Community of Bilbrook
in the Parish of Tettenhall Regis

Team Vicar:

Revd. Simon Douglas (212405)

Church Wardens: Janet Pugh (844981)

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(10am-12noon Monday-Friday)



Annual Parish Church Meeting

The APCM will be held at St Michael's Church **TODAY** (Sunday 29th April) beginning at 6.30pm. Everyone on the Electoral Roll may attend.

Meeting for Welcomers

There will be a short, but important, meeting for everyone who acts as a welcomers (and anyone who wants to start to do so) **TODAY** (Sunday 29th April) after the 10.45am Eucharist.

The Well

Another **12.6kg** of food has been donated by Holy Cross to The Well Food Bank.

Thank you to everyone who has helped – please keep up the good work!

New Hall Chairs

We are grateful to 'One Stop' for buying us 20 new chairs for use in the Church Hall.

Sunday School

Sue and Jill are intending to take a break from leading Sunday Club at the end of this term.

If you interested in continuing this valuable work with our young people from September onwards, please let us know.

Simon, Janet, Mike

Sunday 29th April Fifth Sunday of Easter

10.30am Sunday Club

10.45am Sung Eucharist

(Celebrant: Revd Jim Perry)

Coffee/Tea will be served at the back of church after the 10.45am Eucharist.

Please stay and join us.

6.30pm Annual Parish Church Meeting (at St Michael's)

Hymns for Sung Eucharist

Introit: **25** Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven

Gradual: **6** Abide with me

Offertory: **560** Will You Come and Follow Me

Communion: **222** I Am the Bread of Life

61 Bless the Lord, My Soul

Recessional: **380** O Lord My God

This Week

Mon	30	2pm Bible Study Group
Tues	1	2pm Craft Group 7pm Eucharist
Wed	2	6.30pm Friendship Club
Thur	3	9.30am Eucharist 10am Coffee Pop-In 7.30pm Churches Together (St N)
Fri	4	12noon Eucharist
Sat	5	10am Place of Welcome
Sun	6	8am Eucharist 10.30am Sunday Club 10.45am Sung Eucharist

Sunday 29th April 10.45am

Welcomers: Jean M, Mary

Reader: Carole

Prayers: Jo

Offertory: Grace, Mary, Victor

Assist: Janet, Mark

Pebble Pool: Mike

Sunday 6th May 8am

Sides, Reader, Offertory, Assist: Janet

Sunday 6th May 10.45am

Welcomers: Ruth, Gill

Reader: Andrea

Prayers: Mark

Offertory: June, Rita, Rebecca

Assist: Rebecca, Mike

Pebble Pool: Mary

Fifth Sunday of Easter

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 forever.

FIRST READING Acts 8.26–40

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) 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 and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. 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. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.' The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. 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 baptised?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptised him. 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. 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.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

SECOND READING 1 John 4.7–21

A reading from the first letter of John.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that

we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, 'I love God,' and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL John 15.1–8

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

All: Glory to you, O Lord

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. 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. 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. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.'

Priest: This is the Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, O Christ

POST COMMUNION

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 forever.