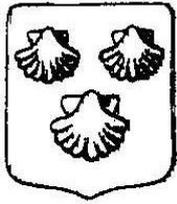
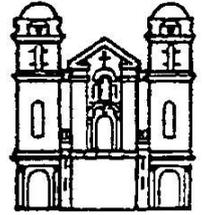


18/21



This week at the Church of
St James the Greater
Leicester

www.stjamesthegreater.org.uk
office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk



2 MAY 2021
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Prayer for the Week

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.

Our Prayers are asked for:

All prevented from worshipping with us, remembering

Conceição Fernandes : Gwen Leather :
Marilyn Dorum : Margaret Norman
and all those currently unable to attend services.

Those who are unwell and who are recovering

John Finn : Mark Sadler : Mollie Drake :
Nigel Makepeace : Ann Blanchard : Anthony Green :
Owen Shepherd : Josephine Chizema : The Very Reverend Derek Hole

Rest In Peace

Michael Quigley : Tony Hurst (Scout Leader)

Welcome to St James the Greater

Sunday 2nd May 2021

10:30am

A Service of Sung Eucharist For The Fifth Sunday Of Easter

Celebrant and Preacher:

Reverend Andrew Quigley

If you're joining us in church for this morning's service, you'll find your copy of the service book laid out on the seats in church. Please place your book in the boxes that you'll find as you leave church at the end the service.

You'll also be able to join us online via Zoom. To be able to do us, please ensure you have downloaded Zoom to your computer, mobile phone or tablet and click on the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81897708742?pwd=OXV5UIBkZ2ZlYWtjMjYveVU5RjEzQT09>

Meeting ID: 818 9770 8742

Passcode: 364834

The Readings for the Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 8. 26 – 40

Read by William Woolley

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.) 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 baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized 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.

The Gospel

John 15. 1 – 8

'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.

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.

The Vicar Writes ...

We hear repeatedly about the importance of "abiding" in this week's Gospel. It's not a word we use much in daily life, except perhaps in the negative - "I can't abide that." But the importance of simply remaining, staying rooted, persisting is a value that lockdown has emphasized.

We have seen the public-health importance of abiding at home, and the difficulty of abiding in community under various restrictions.



Abiding does not sound like the most dynamic and exciting aspect of Christian life, but we must remain rooted in Christ and in our community unless we are to wither.

The Week Ahead

Wednesday 5th May 2021

9:00pm

A Service of Compline

Welcome to our weekly online service of Compline for Holy Week, which this week is led by David Brunning. To be able to join us please ensure you have downloaded Zoom to your computer, mobile phone or tablet and click on the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83214887196?pwd=NWltWWpkVmpjVEs2MlRlSjVhUGI3QT09>
Meeting ID: 832 1488 7196 **Passcode:** F4f0bc

A copy of the Order of Service can be downloaded from the church's website by visiting: <http://www.stjamesthegreater.org.uk/resources/Order%20of%20Service%20-%20Online%20Compline.pdf>

You can join in the responses, but just make sure you've muted your microphone. There will also be some parts sung by a small group from the choir and the words of the service will also be shown on screen.

ONLINE HOUSE GROUPS The next two sessions take place on Tuesday 4th May at 7:30pm, led by Alastair Jackson. As well as Monday 10th May at 2:30pm, led by Val Bailey. The next hymn to be discussed by the groups is 'Hail The Day That Sees Him Rise'. For more details on how to join, please contact Angela Jagger at: A.F.Jagger@dunelm.org.uk.

TEA AT THE VICARAGE Is being held again this Thursday morning, 6th May, starting at 11:00am. You can drop in anytime between 11 and 12 for a chat and catch-up with everyone online. To join, you just need to have Zoom installed on a computer, tablet or mobile phone and use the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/yy7qmm3j>.

BIBLE STUDY Bible Study continues this coming Friday, 7th May, at 7:00pm. This week, we'll be looking at John's Gospel – Chapter 15, verses 9 – 17. To join us, you just need to click on the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/yxz8dv3r>.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING One of the highlights of the church's year is when we join together for our Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), which now have to be held by the end of May.

As with last year, we will be holding this year's meeting online via Zoom on **Thursday 27th May at 7:30pm**. If you'd like to join the meeting please email your details to the office at: **office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk** and we'll send you out a link, together with the all the papers you'll need to allow you to take part.

If you don't have access to the internet, you can join the meeting by telephone. We'll let you have details of the number you'll need to call in the Weekly Bulletin the Sunday before the APCM is held.

SARAH CLARK WRITES 'Covid 19 has grown up round my ears. I can't see it, but I feel it – a wilderness all around.'

I wrote this around Christmas; I wondered if Rowan Williams had written anything pertinent. He has. 'Candles in the Dark – faith, hope and love in a time of pandemic.' With his congregation in the small church of St Clement in Cambridge, this is a series of little reflections written during 2020. They include such titles as 'Online Communion,' 'Behind the Mask', 'Herd Mentality', 'Staying Put'.

In 'Staying Put', Williams writes, 'We betray love ultimately not by feelings of impatience or even hostility, but by the desire to be somewhere else... by saying to God, in effect, "Can we have a nicer and more manageable world, please, with people that it's easier to love?"'

In 'Behind the Mask', he writes, 'We talk a lot about "the face we present to the world", about "saving face", or "losing face", about "putting a brave face on things" – and so much of this kind of language suggests that our "face" is something we can work on and polish until it shows only what we want to show.'

Each reflection is short and to the point, using everyday images, such as a biker jumping off his bike to photograph exquisite blossom on his mobile phone, or the extraordinary symmetry of a flock of flying geese.

NEW DIRECTOR OF MUSIC We've started the process to appoint our new Director of Music, when Matt leaves us later in the summer. The job is now being advertised in the Church Times and is also featured on their website. You can also find full details on our website and Facebook page.

If you know of someone who may be interested in applying, please encourage them to have a look at the advert, job description and person spec that they can find on the website. More information can also be obtained by calling the Vicar on 0116 254 4113. The closing date for applications is **Friday 14th May**.

CONTACTING THE TEAM Andrew can be contacted by email at: revdaquigley@gmail.com or 0116 254 4113. The Church Office can be contacted by email at: office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk or by telephoning 0116 254 2111 and leaving a message. Please don't hesitate to get in touch, further details are on our website www.stjamesthegreater.org.uk

YOUR GIVING TO ST JAMES Did you know that in a normal year over 35% of the church's income is made up of regular Direct Debits and Standing Orders from members of the congregation?

If you already give by Direct Debit or Standing Order, thank you! Of course, if you are able to increase the amount you give, that would be very welcome. We do not hold Gift Aid declarations for some people and if this applies to you, we will be in touch to ask if you can fill one in for us.

If you are not already a regular giver, please consider starting a Direct Debit through the Church of England's Parish Giving Scheme. They offer a very friendly service and will help you set everything up over the phone. They make sure that Gift Aid tax relief is claimed (this adds 25p to every £1 that you give), and they pass every penny of your donation straight through to St James the Greater.

You can contact the Parish Giving Scheme on 0333 002 1271 (local call rates apply).

Resources for Home Worship

Broadcast Media

Daily Service	Monday – Friday at 9.45am	Radio 4 LW
Choral Evensong	Wednesday at 3.30pm and Sunday at 3pm	Radio 3
Sunday Worship	Sunday at 8.10am	Radio 4
Sunday Morning Stories	Led by the Rev Kate Botley 10:30am	BBC I
Songs of Praise	Sunday – check schedule for time	BBC I

There is also a service on Radio Leicester at 8:00am on a Sunday morning

Online

www.churchofengland.org

www.leicestercathedral.org

DAILY HOPE TELEPHONE SERVICE offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line. The line – which is available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044 – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind. This is a Freephone number.

Options available include materials also available digitally by the Church of England's Communications team such as Prayer during the Day and Night Prayer updated daily, from Common Worship, and a recording of the Church of England weekly national online service. A section called Hymn Line offers callers a selection of hymns, updated daily. An option entitled 'Hymns We Love', provides an increasing range of hymns and reflections on them. More options have been added.

The options are detailed below:

1. Hymns we love – one each day with a spoken reflection based on it.
2. Hymn line – favourite hymns on a repeating loop.
3. Chair exercises – a different set of exercise for each day of the week.
4. Daily Reflection for these times – read by Pam Rhodes.
5. Access to more options (6 – 9).
6. Weekly service from C of E.
7. Morning and Evening Prayer from Common Worship.
8. Latest Government advice on Coronavirus.
9. Mother's Union Midday Service.

Pressing 0 returns you to the top menu (1 – 5) and * gives access to the full text of the Archbishop of Canterbury's introduction. It is helpful to have the telephone on speakerphone to avoid having to hold the handset for a long time.

Vicky Roe

Pastoral Assistant

The Church of St James the Greater
Leicester



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