



4 May 2025

The Third Sunday of Easter

Welcome to our services today

9am Parish Eucharist at St John's
10.30am All Age Eucharist & Baptisms at St Mary's

Music: Organist St. John's: Hilary Goodman, **Hymns: 507, 451, 667.**

Organist St. Mary's: Alan Cafaude, **Hymns: In order of service.**

Anthem: Jesu Joy of man's desiring. **Flowers:** Welcome flowers donated by Pam Whiting in memory of her husband George whose anniversary occurs at this time. Flower by the Nave Altar & Font donated by Sue & Bob Dennis to celebrate the baptism of their grandchildren Finely & Isabelle.

The Benefice Online Services; 'Meeting Point' and 'Celtic Midweek Liturgy' are for you if you missed our services in church, or for further reflection during the week. <https://www.stmaryhighamferrers.org/online-worship>

Tues 6 7.30pm Bell Ringing practice at St Mary's
Wed 7 10am Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel, St Mary's
Thurs 8 10am Midweek Eucharist with Coffee & chat to 12noon at St Mary's
9pm VE Day commemoration in the Market Square
Fri 9 10am VE Day Bell Peal from St Mary's

Sunday 11 May 2025 The Fourth Sunday of Easter

9am Parish Eucharist at St John's
10.30am Parish Eucharist at St Mary's, followed by APCM

Collect Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

Acts 9:1-6 Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do

you persecute me?’ He asked, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ The reply came, ‘I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.’

John 21:1-19 After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, ‘I am going fishing.’ They said to him, ‘We will go with you.’ They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, ‘Children, you have no fish, have you?’ They answered him, ‘No.’ He said to them, ‘Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.’ So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, ‘It is the Lord!’ When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the lake. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, ‘Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.’ So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred and fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, ‘Come and have breakfast.’ Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, ‘Who are you?’ because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?’ He said to him, ‘Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my lambs.’ A second time he said to him, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me?’ He said to him, ‘Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Tend my sheep.’ He said to him the third time, ‘Simon son of John, do you love me?’ Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, ‘Do you love me?’ And he said to him, ‘Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands,

and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.’ (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, ‘Follow me.’

Post Communion Prayer

Living God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in all his redeeming work; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

Children are welcome at all our Services in both churches, we have children’s areas with colouring and toys and are looking at ways to better include them in all we do. We understand that some of our services can seem long to little ones, and it is absolutely fine if they need to wriggle or play or move around.

For your Prayers.

Our prayers have been asked for: Karen Addis, Brian Bond, Linda Bond, Ian Challen, Mary Coleman, Marian Cox, Peter Etheridge, Freda Fernyhough, Christine Franklin, Gill Headland, Sandra Hill, Kathy Jackson, Margaret Janowski, Sarah Knight, Marion Knott, Sally Mayes, Freda Pack, Daphne Pullen, Val Robinson, Elizabeth Swindley, Sue Thompson, Stewart Wiles, Clare Yorke.
St John’s: Jo Barrie, Pauline Brown, Lesley Littlejohn, Brenda May, Lynn Redgate, Arthur & Anita Wright.

In memoriam: Nita Coppen

Year’s mind anniversaries: Cyril Smith, Florence Wilson, Harriett McDonald, Victoria Ward, Florrie Felce, Ada Briggs, Thomas Williamson, Florence Wilson, Alexander Annetts, John Brown, Jessie Clifton, Malvina Martin, Richard Chamberlain, Shirley Lovell, Mary Farrington, Nellie Osborne, Ian Cundy (Bishop), Kathleen Felce, Shirley Lovell, Michael Groom, Barry Sauntson, George Whiting, Frederick Church, Laura Alton, William Donald, George Mantle, Henry Munn.

NOTICES

BENEFICE

May and the warmer weather mean our church green spaces are bursting into life. Please help us to keep them tidy and welcoming for visitors by picking up rubbish and reporting any issues to the wardens/benefice office.

ST. MARY'S

Higham Hot Hundred, congratulations to April's winners, Ian Davis, Ruth Bond & Anna Smith, drawn at the Last farmers Market Coffee morning.

Cards – Lots of lovely photo cards in many designs for sale in church in collaboration with Pam. Now added, a further selection of unique handmade cards which has just been refilled.

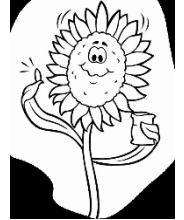
See the dresser on the right side of the church, all the cards cost just £1 each.

31 May Farmers Market, the Vicar's Version – advance warning of coffee & cakes with a twist!

It's the time of year for plants – **can you grow a few extra bedding or veg plants, could you split some of your border perennials?**

If house plants are your thing, I have lots of cache pots that we could put them in. Its not long now, please let me know if you are able to help on the morning in the Bede House, or are able to bring plants, cakes etc. Mthr Louise.

11 May: Annual Parish Church Meeting (APCM), after the 10.30am service.



ST JOHN'S

Knit and Natter, 1-3pm 27 May, 24 June, 22 July, 26 August

Tea and Cakes, 2-4pm 20 May, 17 June, 15 July, 19 August

25 May 2025 Service for American Memorial Day, for the 305th USAF

For all enquiries and requests for pastoral help:

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Website

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Churchwardens:

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St. Mary's; Sandy Coleman 07519 396654

The benefice office is usually open Tuesdays and Fridays, 9.30am to 2.30pm. It will be closed from 11.30am on 2 May, and all day on 9 May.

Please send enquiries by email if possible, and a reply will be sent as soon as our administrator Ria is next in the office.

Mthr Louise is off duty Sat 10 May.