



St John the Baptist, Cattford & Downham Team Ministry



# 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter



28<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Sharing & serving in Christ's name

www.stjohnscatford.co.uk

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## Today's hymns:

- ♪ Processional- 242
- ♪ Gradual- 188
- ♪ Sermon - 173
- ♪ Offertory- 270
- ♪ Communion- Blessèd be the God & Father, S.S. Wesley
- ♪ Recessional- 62
- ♪ Voluntary- Sonata No. 1: Fantasie, Sir Percy Buck

## 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.**

## 1<sup>st</sup> reading: Baruch 3.9-14

A reading from the book of the prophet Baruch.

<sup>9</sup> Hear the commandments of life, O Israel; give ear, and learn wisdom!

<sup>10</sup> Why is it, O Israel, why is it that you are in the land of your enemies, that you are growing old in a foreign country, that you are defiled with the dead,

<sup>11</sup> that you are counted among those in Hades?

<sup>12</sup> You have forsaken the fountain of wisdom.

<sup>13</sup> If you had walked in the way of God,

you would be living in peace for ever.

<sup>14</sup> Learn where there is wisdom, where there is strength, where there is understanding, so that you may at the same time discern where there is length of days, and life, where there is light for the eyes, and peace.

## Psalm: 22.23-32

### Refrain:

My praise is of thee in the great congregation: **my vows will I perform in the sight of them that fear him.**

<sup>23</sup> O praise the Lord, ye that fear him: magnify him, all ye of the seed of Jacob, and fear him, all ye seed of Israel.

<sup>24</sup> For he hath not despised, nor abhorred, the low estate of the poor: he hath not hid his face from him, but when he called unto him he heard him. **R**

<sup>25</sup> My praise is of thee in the great congregation: my vows will I perform in the sight of them that fear him.

<sup>26</sup> The poor shall eat and be satisfied: they that seek after the Lord shall praise him; your heart shall live for ever. **R**

<sup>27</sup> All the ends of the world shall remember themselves, and be turned unto the Lord: and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before him.

<sup>28</sup> For the kingdom is the Lord's: and he is the Governor among the people. **R**

<sup>29</sup> All such as be fat upon earth: have eaten and worshipped.

<sup>30</sup> All they that go down into the dust shall kneel before him: and no man hath quickened his own soul. **R**

<sup>31</sup> My seed shall serve him: they shall be counted unto the Lord for a generation.

<sup>32</sup> They shall come, and the heavens shall declare his righteousness: unto a people that shall be born, whom the Lord hath made. **R**

## 2<sup>nd</sup> reading: Acts 8.26-39

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

<sup>26</sup> 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.)

<sup>27</sup> 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

<sup>28</sup> and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah.

<sup>29</sup> Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.'

<sup>30</sup> So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?'

<sup>31</sup> He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him.



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<sup>32</sup> 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.

<sup>33</sup> In his humiliation justice was denied him.  
Who can describe his generation?  
For his life is taken away from the earth.'

<sup>34</sup> The eunuch asked Philip,  
'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this,  
about himself or about someone else?'

<sup>35</sup> Then Philip began to speak,  
and starting with this scripture,  
he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus.

<sup>36</sup> 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?'

<sup>38</sup> He commanded the chariot to stop,  
and both of them, Philip and the eunuch,  
went down into the water,  
and Philip baptized him.

<sup>39</sup> 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.

**Gospel Reading:** John 15.1-8

Jesus said to his disciples:

<sup>1</sup> 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower.

<sup>2</sup> He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch

that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit.

<sup>3</sup> You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you.

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> 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.

<sup>6</sup> Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.

<sup>7</sup> If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

<sup>8</sup> My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.'

### Prayers

For healing and protection for:  
Peggy Harmon, Kim & Monica, Bilki & family, Ruth Slater, Drew Spikes, Aileen Harding, Evely & Dione Colville, Jake Simpson, James Stewart, Autherlin Silvera, Emma & Robert Skone-James, Annie Boyle-Renner, Ada Johnson, Pelu Thomas, the Erengwa family, Dean, Catherine Hall, Adenike Adekoa, Gloria Scott, Debbie Beadle, Kate, Glynn, David Murrell, Marcel, Rev'd Margaret, Julia Johnson, Joan Rochefort, Caitlin, Theresa, Sean, Glenn Stephen.

For those departed this life including John Garlinge, and those with an anniversary of a death.

### Notices

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>**, 7.30pm, service for Ascension Day, St Mildred's Lee.

**Children's Church** 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month.

**St John's WhatsApp prayer group**- speak to Anne-Marie or Shea to join.

### Church Diary

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter** (28<sup>th</sup>)

10.30am Sung Mass with prayer workshop.

12noon **St John's AGM**

Prayer chapel open 8-5.30pm,  
Sunday- Friday.

Mon-Wed, & Fri:

7.30am Morning Prayer

Mon-Wed: 5pm Evening Prayer.

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> Pandita Mary

*Ramabai, translator, 1922*

8.30am Said Mass

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May

**Philip & James, Apostles**

10am Said Mass followed by Bible study

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup>

Athanasius, teacher, 373

Church used for polling

(prayer chapel still open)

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup>

1pm 1<sup>st</sup> Friday club

**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter** (5<sup>th</sup>)

10.30am Sung Mass with

Children's Church led by Kerry.

### Any queries contact:

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