

**PARISH CHURCH OF
ST. MARTIN
St. Wilfrid & St Alban
Lewes Road**

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Mrs Angela Way 07545 192102

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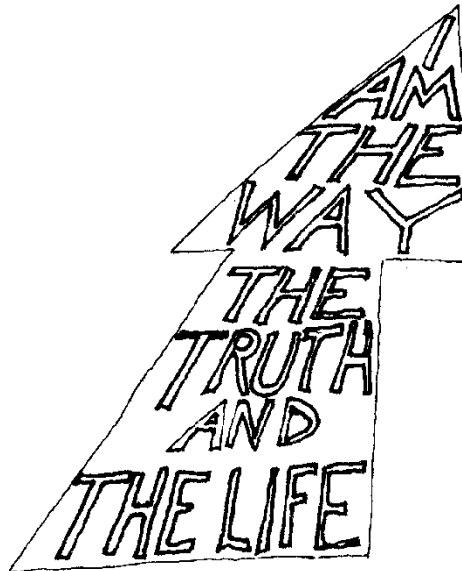
Safeguarding Officer:

Mrs Jan Hollingdale 07708 066875

5th Sunday of Easter

Year A

3rd May 2026



10.30 THE PARISH MASS

Light's abode, celestial Salem,
vision whence true peace doth spring,
brighter than the heart can fancy,
mansion of the highest King;
O how glorious are the praises
which of thee the prophets sing!

There for ever and for ever
alleluia is outpoured;
for unending, for unbroken,
is the feast-day of the Lord;
all is pure and all is holy
that within thy walls is stored.

There no cloud or passing vapour
dims the brightness of the air;
endless noon-day, glorious noon-day,
from the Sun of suns is there;
there no night brings rest from labour,
for unknown are toil and care.

O how glorious and resplendent,
fragile body, shalt thou be,
when endued with so much beauty,
full of health and strong and free,
full of vigour, full of pleasure
that shall last eternally.

Now with gladness, now with courage,
bear the burden on thee laid,
that hereafter these thy labours
may with endless gifts be paid;
and in everlasting glory
thou with brightness be arrayed.

Laud and honour to the Father,
laud and honour to the Son,
laud and honour to the Spirit,
ever Three and ever One,
consubstantial, co-eternal,
while unending ages run. Amen

V: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

R: **Amen.**

V: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

R: **And with your spirit.**

After the greeting, the Priest stands with a vessel containing the water to be blessed before him, he calls upon the people to pray in these words:

Dear brothers and sisters, let us humbly beseech the Lord our God to bless this water he has created, which will be sprinkled on us as a memorial of our Baptism. May he help us by his grace to remain faithful to the Spirit we have received.

After a brief pause for silence, he continues:

Lord our God, in your mercy be present to your people's prayers, and, for us who recall the wondrous work of our creation and the still greater work of our redemption, graciously ✠ bless this water. For you created water to make the fields fruitful and to refresh and cleanse our bodies. You also made water the instrument of your mercy: for through water you freed your people from slavery and quenched their thirst in the desert; through water the Prophets proclaimed the new covenant you were to enter upon with the human race; and last of all, through water, which Christ made holy in the Jordan, you have renewed our corrupted nature in the bath of regeneration. Therefore, may this water be for us a memorial of the Baptism we have received, and grant that we may share in the gladness of our brothers and sisters who at Easter have received their Baptism. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

The Principal Celebrant sprinkles himself and the ministers, then the clergy and people, moving through the church while this song is sung.

Baptised in water, sealed by the Spirit,
cleansed by the blood of Christ our King:
trusting his promise, heirs of salvation,
faithfully now God's praises we sing.

Baptised in water, sealed by the Spirit,
dead in the tomb with Christ our King:
one with his rising, freed and forgiven,
thankfully now God's praises we sing.

Baptised in water, sealed by the Spirit,
marked with the sign of Christ our King:
born of one Father, we are his children,
joyfully now God's praises we sing.

The Principal Celebrant concludes the rite:-
May almighty God cleanse us of our sins,
and through the celebration of this Eucharist
make us worthy to share at the table of his Kingdom.

R. Amen

The Gloria

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo. Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.

R. Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo. Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. **R.**

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer. **R**

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the most high, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen. **R.**

The Collect

Almighty ever-living God,
constantly accomplish the Paschal mystery within us,
that those you were pleased to make new in holy Baptism
may, under your protective care, bear much fruit
and come to the joys of life eternal.
Through our lord Jesus Christ, your son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the holy spirit,
God, for ever and ever

Amen

First Reading *(Reference: Acts 6:1-7)*

Theme: 'They chose seven men full of the Holy Spirit.'

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

In those days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. And the Twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, 'It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers and sisters, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.' And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the Apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them. And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

V. The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

R. May your merciful love be upon us, as we hope in you, O Lord.

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;
for praise is fitting from the upright.
Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp;
with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. **R**

The word of the Lord is upright,
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right,
and his merciful love fills the earth. **R**

Yes, the Lord's eyes are on those who fear him,
who hope in his merciful love,
to rescue their soul from death,
to keep them alive in famine. **R**

Second Reading (Reference: 1 Peter 2:4-9)

Theme: But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.

A reading from the first letter of Saint Peter

Beloved: Come to the Lord, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious. You yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture: 'Behold, I am laying in Sion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.' So the honour is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone', and 'A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence.' They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

V. The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel (Reference: John 14:1-12)

Theme: I am the Way, and the Truth and the Life.

V. The Lord be with you

R. And with your spirit.

V. A reading ✠ from the holy Gospel according to John

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.' Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.'

Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.' Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

'Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father.'

V. The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Please sit for the Address and then stand for the Creed and Prayer of the Faithful

The Creed

**I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
*and the life of the world to come. Amen.***

The Prayer of the Faithful

V. Lord, hear our prayer;
R. through Christ, your Son..

Those in Need:

Fr Keith, Charlie Banks, George Browne, Valerie Clarke,
Elle Deveson, Denise Edmunds, Emily Glass, Sue Korth,
Minna Lucas, Jen and Jez McAteer, Terry Roberts,
Chris Swetman, Julie Swetman, Dorothy Valder, Alex, Amy, Christine, John, Rachel, Ray, Rita, Timothy,

The Recent Departed

Year's Mind:

- (3) Dorothy Valder, Katherine Alexander
- (4) Amy Ball, Joyce Buxton
- (5) Louise Argyle
- (6) William Hollands, Adelaide Fulker
- (7) Eva Field, Barry Hiscox, Alex Wilson
- (8) Ethel Tyrell, Beccie Tugwell, Anthony Saunders, John Hollis
- (9) Wallis Day

Offertory Hymn

NEH 105

Christ the Lord is risen again!
Christ hath broken every chain!
Hark! angelic voices cry,
singing evermore on high, Alleluia!

He who gave for us his life,
who for us endured the strife,
is our Paschal Lamb today;
we too sing for joy, and say: Alleluia!

He who bore all pain and loss
comfortless upon the cross
lives in glory now on high,
pleads for us, and hears our cry; Alleluia!

He who slumbered in the grave
is exalted now to save;
through the universe it rings
that the Lamb is King of kings: Alleluia!

Now he bids us tell abroad
how the lost may be restored,
how the penitent forgiven,
how we too may enter heaven. Alleluia!

Thou, our Paschal Lamb indeed,
Christ, thy ransomed people feed;
take our sins and guilt away,
that we all may sing for aye Alleluia

V. Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

R May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

The Prayer over the Gifts

V The Lord be with you
R **And with your spirit.**
V Lift up your hearts
R **We lift them up to the Lord**
V Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
R **It is right and just.**

The Proper Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy, Holy. Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty
And we lift our hearts before you as a token of our love,
Holy, Holy, Holy, Holy

Gracious Father, gracious Father,
Blessèd is the one who comes to us in your name.
And we lift our hearts before you as we give you thanks and praise.
Hosanna in the highest.

The Eucharistic Prayer

V. The mystery of faith

Risen Jesus, Risen Jesus, by your dying you destroyed our death, O Jesus
And we lift our hearts before you as we wait for your return
Risen Jesus, Risen Jesus!

The Eucharistic Prayer

Amen. Amen, Alleluia! Amen, Amen, Alleluia!
And we lift our hearts before you as we give you thanks and praise.
Amen, Amen, Alleluia!

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
Thy kingdom come;
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

V Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant peace in our days,
that, by the help of your mercy,
we may be always free from sin
and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
R **For the kingdom, the power,**
and the glory are yours, now and forever.

V Lord Jesus Christ,
who said to your Apostles:
Peace I leave you, my peace I give you,
look not on our sins,
but on the faith of your Church,
and graciously grant her peace and unity
in accordance with your will.
Who live and reign for ever and ever.
R **Amen.**

V The peace of the Lord be with you always.
R **And with your spirit.**
V Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

The Agnus Dei

Jesus, risen lord, triumphant king:

Jesus, true redeemer of the world:

**R. HEAR OUR PRAYER HAVE MERCY;
HEAR OUR PRAYER HAVE MERCY;
GIVE US YOUR PEACE.**

Jesus, Morning Star which never sets;

Jesus, Paschal Lamb and sacrifice: **R.**

Jesus, bursting from the shattered tomb:

Jesus, mighty Victor over death: **R**

Jesus, Lord of life and Lord of light:

Jesus, here in form of bread and wine: **R**

V ✠Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**R Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

The Candidates will receive Holy Communion first.

Please be guided to Communion by the Stewards

Silence will be kept after Communion

The Post Communion Prayer

Post Communion Hymn NEH 119

The strife is o'er, the battle done;

Now is the Victor's triumph won;

Now be the song of praise begun. Alleluia!

Death's mightiest powers have done their worst,

And Jesus hath His foes dispersed;

Let shouts of praise and joy outburst. Alleluia!

On the third morn He rose again

Glorious in majesty to reign;

Oh, let us swell the joyful strain! Alleluia!

He closed the yawning gates of hell;

The bars from heaven's high portals fell.

Let songs of praise His triumph tell. Alleluia!

Lord, by the stripes which wounded Thee.

From death's dread sting Thy servants free

That we may live and sing to Thee. Alleluia!

V The Lord be with you

R And with your spirit.

V May almighty God bless you, the Father, the Son ✠ and the Holy Spirit,

R Amen

V Go forth, the Mass is ended.

R Thanks be to God.

The Regina Caeli

Joy to thee O Queen of Heaven, Alleluia.
He whom thou wast meet to bear, Alleluia.
As he promised hath arisen, Alleluia.
Pour for us to him thy prayer, Alleluia.

V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary. Alleluia.
R. For the Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia..

Let us pray.

O God, by the resurrection of your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, you have brought joy to the whole world:
grant that, by the help of his mother the Virgin Mary,
we may obtain the joys of everlasting life;
through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

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School Theme for the Week

'Achievement'

Mass this Week

| | | |
|-----|---------------------|--------|
| Mon | The English Martyrs | 11.00* |
| Tue | Easter Weekday | 12.30 |
| Wed | Easter Weekday | 17.30 |
| Thu | Easter Weekday | 17.30 |
| Fri | Easter Weekday | 11.00 |
| Sat | Easter Weekday | 11.00 |

CHANGE OF MASS TIMES

Please note Mass on Monday is at 11.00 and not 10.00

OPEN CHURCH DURING MAY AND JUNE

12 noon to 2pm

Teac/Coffee available

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In lieu of Jumble Sales it has been decided that we will open the Church on a Saturday from the beginning of May to the end of June with refreshments available. We will also set up a bric a brac table outside . Each week there will be a theme for the tables and below is the list of these:

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 9 th May | Garden and Craft |
| 16 th May | Toys |
| 23 rd May | Christmass |
| 30 th May | Games |
| 6 th June | Tools |
| 20 th June | Left overs from Summer Fayre |
| 27 th June | Music and Videos |

If you have anything you would like to bring in for these tables please make sure you bring them in on the Sunday before the relevant theme for your items..

MAY BANK HOLIDAY—4TH

We are opening church on the May Bank Holiday from 12 noon to 2 pm with tea, cake and a BBQ outside. If you are able to help with this, either by being in church to greet people and/or making a cake please let Ange know. There will be a Banner outside to advertise this.

THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD—WAGNER GROUP

There will be a Solemn Mass at St Michael and All Angels on Thursday, 14th May at 6 pm. Preacher: Father Trevor.
Please see poster on board outside main door for further information.
If you are unable to make this, there will be a Mass here at 12 noon