



**St John the Divine Church,  
Selsdon  
Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2021  
PENTECOST**

**Welcome**

Welcome back to St John's, we hope that you enjoy today's service.

We welcome The Revd Stephen Wright to take our service today.

**PLEASE TAKE THIS LEAFLET HOME WITH YOU**

**Opening Prayer**

God, who as at this time taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them light of your Holy spirit: grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our saviour, who is alive and reigns in you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever  
**Amen.**

**Post Communion Prayer**

Faithful God, who fulfilled the promises of Easter by sending us your Holy Spirit and opening to every race and nation the way of life eternal: open our lips by your Spirit, that every tongue may tell of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

**Psalm :** Verses taken from Psalm 104.

**First Reading**

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem.

And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs – in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.' All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' But others sneered and said,

'They are filled with new wine.'

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

"In the last days it will be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams.

Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;  
and they shall prophesy.

And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,  
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

*Acts 2.1-21*

## Gospel reading

Jesus spoke to his disciples: 'When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning. I have said these things to you so that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you about them.

'I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, "Where are you going?" But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgement: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgement, because the ruler of this world has been condemned. I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.'

*John 15.26-27; 16.4b-15*

**For your prayers: Read by**

**We pray for God's love to surround:**

Jonathan Aitken, Tano Grima, Margaret Rapp, Robin Sullivan

**We pray for those who have died recently:**

Wendy Horner

**We pray for loved ones on the anniversary of their death:**

24th May	Robert Salter	(1998)
	Ivy Baker	(1999)
	Ken Frost	(2017)
	Mike Tyrrell	(2019)
25th May	Harry Lyles	(2002)
	Morfydd Petty	(2011)
26th May	William Knill	(1983)
	Sydney Dadd	(1985)
	Kathleen Mullett	(1988)
	Richard Inge	(2005)
27th May	Arthur Tarlton	(1969)
28th May	Dorothy Morris	(2019)
	Daphne Churly	(2015)

We also pray for the family of the late William Johnson whose ashes will be laid to rest in the Garden of Remembrance today at 11.30 am

***If you'd like prayer either for yourself or for another, please email [rectorstjohnschurch@gmail.com](mailto:rectorstjohnschurch@gmail.com) And if you would like to include the name of a loved one among the list of the departed on the anniversary of their death, please email Amanda on the above email.***

***Please give NOTICES for inclusion in the weekly service sheet to Amanda [bookingsstjohns@gmail.com](mailto:bookingsstjohns@gmail.com) preferably by e-mail, or in writing. It would be helpful to receive this before \* Tuesday \* each week***

**If you'd like to discuss arranging a baptism (christening), a wedding or a funeral, please call**

**Tel: 0208 6572343 or email [rectorstjohnschurch@gmail.com](mailto:rectorstjohnschurch@gmail.com)**

# **The Parish Office**

**Will be open Mon- Thur 9am -2pm**

**Tel: 0208 6579466**

**mobile number 07958 682103**

**email [bookingsstjohns@gmail.com](mailto:bookingsstjohns@gmail.com)**

**St John's Website address is:**

**[www.stjohnsselsdon.org.uk](http://www.stjohnsselsdon.org.uk)**

**To find our Facebook page simply search**

**St John the Divine Selsdon**

## **Sunday Services at 10 am**

**Could we remind everyone of the following:**

**Coronavirus is highly infectious. Older people and those with underlying health problems are at increased risk of severe illness and potentially death It is critical that we follow strict rules if we wish the church to remain open**

- 1 Everyone must wear a mask properly unless they have a compelling reason not to do so and must sanitise on entry to and departure from church**
- 2 Spacing is critical, please do not huddle together and please keep 2m apart unless you are in a bubble, sit on chairs which have a green square on them**
- 3 Leave church in a measured way, not in a scrum and do not stand at the back of the church talking to others**
- 4 Windows need to be open, as does the back door**

**THANK YOU FOR HELPING TO KEEP THE CHURCH OPEN AND  
PROTECTING OUR CONGREGATION**



## **Father Michael's Diary**

21 May 2021

### NOW IS THE MONTH OF MAYING

Many years ago, Anne and I were having an early boating holiday on the river Thames with some friends and we found ourselves tying up in Oxford on the evening of 30 April. The following morning, we got up at 5.00 a.m. and walked to Magdalene Bridge. There we heard (just about) the choir sing a Latin hymn from the top of the tower of Magdalene College followed by some carols one of which was indeed "Now is the month of maying" All the bells in the college and church towers rang out joyously and there was Morris Dancing in the street with girls with straw boaters with flowers round the brim. It was all in all a glorious, joyful, and never to be forgotten occasion. Sadly, some years later one of our friends died and in my sermon at his funeral I recalled that wonderful morning, it was I said, a foretaste of heaven.

And so, I believe it was, it was a time of spontaneous fun and unbounded joy, and heaven I think must be like that. May itself is of course a joyful month when after the dreariness of winter nature comes back to life and the flowers and blossom and fresh green leaves abound around us. And there is new life too, a vixen and her cubs play down the end of our garden, a delightful sight to watch.

May is a special month in another way too. It is a month specially devoted to Christ's mother Mary. Our May traditions, not only at Oxford but throughout the country, with May queens and maypole dancing are relics of traditional celebrations honouring the Mother of God. The Victorian poet Gerard Manley Hopkins wrote this about May and Mary:

May is Mary's month, and I  
Muse at that and wonder why  
Her feasts follow reason,  
Dated due to season -

Candlemas, Lady Day:  
But the Lady Month, May,  
Why fasten that upon her,  
With feasting in her honour?

Is it only its being brighter  
Than the most are must delight her?  
Is it opportunist  
and flowers finds soonest?

This ecstasy all through mothering earth  
Tells Mary her mirth till Christ's birth  
To remember and exultation  
In God who was her salvation.

## **READINGS AND PRAYERS**

23 May – PENTECOST – Acts 2.1-21 – the Holy Spirit falls on the first Christians – that we may receive the gifts of the Spirit.

24 May - John and Charles Wesley, Evangelists and Hymn Writers, 1791 and 1788 – Mark 6.30-34 – Jesus preaches to a great crowd – the Methodist Church.

25 May – The Venerable Bede, Monk at Jarrow, Scholar, Historian, 735 – Ecclesiasticus 39.1-10 – in praise of scholars – all theologians

26 May – Augustine, First Archbishop of Canterbury, 605 – Matthew 13.31-33 – parables of the Kingdom – Justin our Archbishop, Christopher our Bishop and Jonathan, Bishop of Croydon

27 May – Thursday – Mark 10.46 –end – Jesus heals a blind man - the healing ministry of the Church.

28 May – Friday – Mark 11.11-26 – the barren fig tree – that we may be fruitful in our discipleship.

29 May – Saturday – Ecclesiasticus 51.12b – 20a – Fr Younis our rector designate.

Love and prayers

Michael

# **Database Update**

I would like to get an up-to date contact list ready for when Younis our new Rector starts. If you have had any changes to your address, telephone number or email in the last two years please can you let me know so I can update my records. It may be, I already have the change but just to double check

You can either email me on [bookingsstjohns@gmail.com](mailto:bookingsstjohns@gmail.com) or Telephone 0208 6579466 and leave a message if I am not available.

Many Thanks in advance Amanda

## **ST JOHN'S CHURCH**



## **MESSY GARDEN**

If you collected a Flower Growing Kit at the 10am Service on Easter Sunday please note that the growing plants can be returned to St John's at the

**All Age Service on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2021 at the 10am service**

Planting will be in the Children's Garden immediately after the service

Please come along and plant your flowers!

Refreshments will be provided

If you need any further information or help please contact

Gill Salter on 0208 405 9971





## **Singing hymns and spiritual songs...**

In his sermon last week, Bishop David referred to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the disciples at Pentecost as being the birth of the church, which we celebrate this Sunday. Just in case you are confused by the terminology, the event is known as Pentecost but in Britain the day we remember and celebrate it has been known as Whitsun (a contraction of “White Sunday”) since Anglo-Saxon times. In the Medieval period, the week after Whitsun was a holiday for ordinary people, offering a break from the rigours of agricultural labours and a chance for an early summer celebration in the form of fetes, fairs, sports and consumption of ale. From 1871 the Monday after Whitsun officially became a Bank Holiday until 1972 when this was abolished in favour of the Spring Bank Holiday on the last Monday of May which we still “enjoy” today – traditionally of course one of the wettest days of the year!

“Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire” is a much-loved old hymn that frequently forms part of our Whitsun services. I have personal memories of it in the form of the anthem composed by Attwood, as a small, terrified boy being made to sing the initial verse as his first solo! The original Latin hymn is thought to have been written by Rabanus Maurus, a 9<sup>th</sup>-century German monk, teacher and Archbishop. Although there have been very many translations and paraphrases made of this text, the English version we are most familiar with was translated by Bishop John Cosin in 1625 for the coronation of Charles 1 and has been used at every coronation since.

We usually sing the hymn and its two-line doxology to a very ancient melody known as Veni Creator, utilising Mode viii. In music, we sometimes talk about modes and modal harmony, referring to the system of eight “scales” used to describe the tonal organisation of chants from the 8<sup>th</sup>-century onwards. The melodies of the chants themselves were attributed to Pope Gregory 1 (hence they are referred to as Gregorian Chant) and were used for the singing of Psalms and hymns: for example, the Psalm I am singing this morning is using a chant based on Mode iii. In essence, the Modes were developed and refined during the mediaeval period and now correspond to the major and minor scale structure used widely in western music today. For more information, please refer to any music degree course material on Tonality, truly great bedtime reading!

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire,  
And lighten with celestial fire;  
Thou the anointing Spirit art,  
Who dost Thy sevenfold gifts impart.

Teach us to know the Father, Son  
and thee, of Both, to be but One;  
that through the ages all along  
This, this may be our endless song.

Thy blessèd unction from above  
Is comfort, life, and fire of love;  
Enable with perpetual light  
The dullness of our blinded sight.

Praise to thy eternal merit,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Anoint and cheer our soilèd face  
With the abundance of thy grace;  
Keep far our foes; give peace at home;  
Where thou art guide, no ill can come.



## ***Meeting God in silence***

**Monday evenings at 6 pm in the Garden Room**



**\*\*TODAY AFTER THE SERVICE \*\***

We will be offering a range of plants, chutneys, marmalades, cakes and candles.

Please pop along to our outdoor sale all profits go towards St John's.



## **Diary Dates**

### **Thursday 27th May**

Thursday Morning Eucharist 10 am

### **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> May**

Trinity Sunday Eucharist Service 10 am

**Don't Forget !!**

**The church is open for private prayer  
Mondays- Thursdays 10am - 1pm**

***Coming Up .....***

***Dates to pop in your diary***

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> June 10.00 am-**

Planting in the children's Garden

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> July 7.30 pm**

Induction of Revd Cannon Younis Francis at St John's

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