



The Parish of Thorpe St Andrew

Weekly Newsletter and Service Sheet The Sunday after Ascension 16 May 2021



Rising above!

Since Ascension Day comes 40 days after Easter it is always on a Thursday and as a result in this day and age takes place largely unnoticed. Jesus now takes his place on the right of God the Father and through the act of ascension breaks open the way to heaven for us all. In Christian art painters and sculptors have some times struggled to depict this moment in the life of the church. As Christ departs from this world he reminds us that he is still with us until the end of the age and his disciples look up as his feet disappear into the clouds. The Scriptures remind us that the disciples devote themselves

in an upper room to prayer for the coming of the Holy Spirit until the Day of Pentecost. In recent years churches across the world commit in this special time between Ascension Day and Pentecost to prayer for the coming of the kingdom and the Holy Spirit – *Thy Kingdom Come!* As I speak to people in the community it is clear that the cloud of coronavirus has weighed heavily on many of us, but that in the last few weeks there seems to be a welling up and building up of energy for fresh life and new possibilities. When things are hard – often the advice is to ‘rise above it’. As we this year watch with the disciples as Christ disappears from our earthly sight into the heavens and pray in that upper room – so may we rise above all things which weigh heavily upon us as Christ opens up the way to heaven so that God’s kingdom might be built here among us. God bless you all! Fr James

A Service of Eucharist for The Sunday after Ascension

Organ Voluntary

Hymn

The hymn is sung by the choir. The congregation may sit.

I Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own:
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of love! Behold his hands and side,
Rich wounds yet visible above in beauty glorified:
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the Lord of peace, whose power a sceptre sways
From pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise:
His reign shall know no end, and round his pierced feet
Fair flowers of Paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years, the Potentate of time,
Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime.
Glassed in a sea of light, where everlasting waves
Reflect his throne - the Infinite! Who lives - and loves - and saves.

The Greeting

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
Alleluia. Christ is risen. **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Welcome *Words of welcome to those in church and those online are given.*

Prayer of Preparation

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of Penitence What God has prepared for those who love him, he has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything. Therefore, let us in penitence open our hearts to the Lord, who has prepared good things for those who love him.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis (*Choir at the Parish Church*)

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

Collect

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Reading Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, "Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus - for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry. So one

of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us - one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading John 17:6-19

Alleluia, alleluia. Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people and kindle in them the fire of your love. **Alleluia.** Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus prayed for his disciples, "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth."

This the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

The Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again 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.

We 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 worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

The response to the bidding, Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

At the end Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Peace

God has made us one in Christ. He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come, has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts.

The peace of the Lord be always with you **and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a Covid-19 secure sign of peace.

The Preparation of the Altar

The altar is prepared. This hymn is sung by the choir.

Christ triumphant, ever reigning,
Saviour, Master, King!
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,
hear us as we sing:
*Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name.*

Word incarnate, truth revealing,
Son of Man on earth!
power and majesty concealing
by your humble birth:
Yours the glory...

Suffering servant, scorned, ill - treated,
victim crucified!
death is through the cross defeated,
sinners justified:
Yours the glory...

Priestly king, enthroned for ever
high in heaven above!
sin and death and hell shall never
stifle hymns of love:
Yours the glory...

So, our hearts and voices raising
through the ages long,
ceaselessly upon you gazing,
this shall be our song:
Yours the glory...

The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.

Lord of all and source of our joy, receive our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Keep us in the love of Christ and bring us to the vision of his glory; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

These opening responses are sung. Please sit or kneel.

The Lord be with you. **and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. For he is our great high priest who has entered once for all into the heavenly sanctuary, evermore to pour upon your Church the grace and comfort of your Holy Spirit. He is the one who has gone before us, who calls us to be united in prayer as were his disciples in the upper room while they awaited his promised gift, the life-giving Spirit of Pentecost. Therefore all creation yearns with eager longing as angels and archangels sing the endless hymn of praise:

(Choir at the Parish Church)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son. On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me. So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.



Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Andrew and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread *The minister breaks the consecrated bread.*

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. **Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.**

Agnus Dei *(Choir at the Parish Church)*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The communion is distributed. Baptised communicant members of any church are welcome to come and receive the bread alone. If you would like to receive a blessing please bring this service booklet with you, or keep your arms folded. A hymn is sung.

Hymn

Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,
First-begotten from the dead,
Thou alone, our strong defender,
Liftest up thy people's head.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Jesu, true and living Bread!

Here our humblest homage pay we;
Here in loving reverence bow;
Here for Faith's discernment pray we,
Lest we fail to know thee now.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Thou art here, we ask not how.

Though the lowliest form doth veil thee
As of old in Bethlehem,
Here as there thine angels hail thee,
Branch and Flower of Jesse's stem.
Alleluia, Alleluia, We in worship join with them.

Paschal Lamb, thine Offering, finished
Once for all when thou wast slain,
In its fullness undiminished
Shall for evermore remain,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Cleansing souls from every stain.

Life-imparting heavenly Manna,
Stricken Rock with streaming side,
Heaven and earth with loud hosanna
Worship thee, the Lamb who died,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Risen, ascended, glorified!

Prayer after Communion

Eternal God, giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom: confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

We thank you, Lord, that you have fed us in this sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet prepared for all peoples. Amen.

Notices *The banns are read and announcements are made.*

As we wait in silence, **make us ready for your coming Spirit.**
As we listen to your word, **make us ready for your coming Spirit.**
As we worship you in majesty, **make us ready for your coming Spirit.**
As we long for your refreshing, **make us ready for your coming Spirit.**
As we long for your renewing, **make us ready for your coming Spirit.**
As we long for your equipping, **make us ready for your coming Spirit.**
As we long for your empowering, **make us ready for your coming Spirit.**

The Blessing

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, through the power of the Holy Spirit; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

Organ Voluntary



Prayer Intentions

THE CHURCH *Our Ministry Team* James Stewart, Taylor Wilton-Morgan, Nicole King, Jim Green (on placement) **Norwich East Deanery** St Stephen, Norwich *Clergy:* Madeline Light *Lay Ministers:* Peter Carroll, Anne Murphy **Our Bishops** Graham, Alan and Bishop Designate Jane **Archdeacons** Steven Betts, Karen Hutchinson, Ian Bentley **Ecumenical** Roman Catholic Church: Diocese of East Anglia, Bishop Alan Hopes **Anglican Communion** The Anglican Church of Korea.

THE WORLD *All those affected by the Covid-19 pandemic* particularly Our local doctors' surgeries and healthcare provision, including all partners, staff and patients of: Thorpe Health Centre (St William's Way); Thorpewood Surgery (Woodside and Dussindale); Lionwood Surgery. **Vaccination** Giving thanks for those who have already received vaccines and the rolling out of the programme.

THE COMMUNITY

Streets of the Parish Owen Court, Parliament Court, Paston Way

Our community All our civic leaders on Town, District and County Councils and our local Beat Manager, PC Andy Mason

THOSE IN NEED OF OUR PRAYER including Paul Carter, Mark Little, Graham and Monique Rowland, Jennifer Jones, Janet Fancy, Colin Hicks, Grace Howes, Peter and Gaynor Garrood, Rita Ward, Joy and Andy McCall, Jean High, Brother Gabriel, Craig Fransham, Anthony Travis, Mark King, Chloe Smith MP, Alan Fleming

THE DEPARTED *The recently departed* Ivan Brown (20 May), Alan Harrison (26 May – PC, 1.30pm), Anthony Boast (27 May – PC, 12 noon), Harry Basford (28 May), Ann Brown (2 June)

Those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time including Joan Cornish (17 May), Richard Allington-Smith (Priest) (19 May), Michael Ireland (19 May)

Other notices and announcements

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS/ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING TODAY 16 May 2021 at 11.00am (PC) Please do come along to our annual meeting to hear the reports. We are grateful for all those who have produced reports, but, in particular, for Sally Entwistle for the accounts, David Debenham for independently examining them and for Christine Cutting who has put them together. Nomination forms available from the Rector for Churchwardens, Deanery Synod representatives and PCC members.

WELCOME TO JIM We are very pleased to welcome **Jim Green** who is Reader (Licensed Lay Minister) in training from St Francis, Heartsease, who is with us until the end of May.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY ELECTED NORFOLK COUNTY COUNCILLORS! We wish all those well who have been elected as County Councillor, but in particular – Ian Mackie (Thorpe St Andrew), John Fisher (Woodside) and John Ward (Sprowston). May God bless them as they represent our community.

POP UP PLANT SALE 2021 ANNOUNCED After the success of our 2020 sale the gardening team is pleased to announce the Pop Up Plant Sale 2021! This will be held on **Saturday 5th June (11am - 3pm)** in the gardens of the Parish Church. Anyone who can donate plants or unwanted plant pots please contact Margaret Hope at church or on email: mehope7@aol.com Please also contact Margaret if you have any offers of gardening/plant related raffle prizes.

HARRY BASFORD RIP We are saddened to announce the death of Harry this week, who for many years helped with the Parish Church garden and was well known in our community. Please keep his family in your prayers.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2021 Christian Aid Week concludes today. There will be a bucket collection **TODAY**. Further details on www.christianaid.org.uk

100 CLUB – APRIL RESULTS £25 Gale Carruthers; £15 Gillian George

THANK YOU TO ALL Thank you for all your donations to help try and keep us going in this very difficult time financially for us. All donations are gratefully received for the mission and ministry of our church.

Services in the coming weeks

Both our services and our social events are subject to Government restrictions operating at the time.

Sun 16 May EASTER 7 (THE SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION)

8.00am Eucharist – Good Shepherd

9.30am Parish Eucharist (in person and streamed LIVE) – Parish Church

11.00am Annual Meeting of Parishioners and
Annual Parochial Church Meeting – Parish Church

Sun 23 May PENTECOST

8.00am Eucharist – Good Shepherd

9.30am Eucharist - Parish Church (Streamed LIVE) – Parish Church

11.00am Café Church – St Andrew's Centre

Sun 30 May TRINITY SUNDAY

9.30am Parish Eucharist – Parish Church (Streamed LIVE)

Sun 6 June TRINITY I

8.00am Eucharist – Good Shepherd

9.30am Parish Eucharist (in person and streamed LIVE) – Parish Church

11.15am Eucharist – Good Shepherd

Forthcoming Social Events

27 June Summer Concert and Strawberry Tea – Parish Church

17 July Summer Fete – Parish Church

4, 11, 18, 25 August – Lunchtime Organ Recitals

18 September Quiz Night – St Andrew's Centre

16 October Film Night – St Andrew's Centre

30 October Autumn Fair – St Andrew's Centre

20 November Music Hall Evening

Further details as and when we hear more information!