



8th May 2022: Fourth Sunday of Easter

Season: Easter. **Liturgical Colour:** White **Why?** White used during Easter to symbolise the resurrection of Jesus Christ. White expresses joy, celebration, purity and victory. Easter is not a one day festival but last for 50 days until Pentecost. The Easter (or Paschal Candle) is lit during every service during Easter.

8.00am Holy Communion (spoken) in the Lady Chapel,

9.30am Parish Eucharist, with Junior Church

President: Revd Tim Vickers

Deacon and preacher: Anne Edwards

Gospel: John 10.22-30

Reading: Acts 9. 36- end

Reader: Margaret Charlston

Intercessions: Carol Cooke

Music Setting: Mass of St Thomas (Thorne)

Hymns: 650, 604, 794i, 217, 221, 769

10.30am Parish Coffee in the Church Hall

11.30am Holy Baptism

Maxwell Taylor and Oliver and Harry Noblet

5.00pm BCP Sung Evensong

CHILDREN AT ST JOHN'S

All children are very welcome at St John's, and this might help:

- Please don't be afraid to sit at the front – children can see what is going on better.
- There are books and bags at the back of church as well as colouring in packs (updated each week).
- Please make use of the church as you need to, and don't worry about making noise.
- Join us in the hall for refreshments after the service.
- We are starting up a Junior Church, monthly starting TODAY. Please email junior.church@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk for details.

GIVING AT ST JOHN'S

At St John's we rely on the enormous generosity of our congregation to support our ministry, so that we might live God's love to our Parish. If you are in a position to support us, there are a number of ways you can give, either as a one-off or on a regular basis:

- Collection plate – both cash and contactless either before or after the service
- Set up a direct debit
- Join our Parish Giving Scheme

Envelopes to donate for the collection where gift aid can be claimed are available. For more information contact Andrew Poppleton on andrew.poppleton@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk.

SUNDAY READINGS AND PRAYERS

THE COLLECT

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:
raise us, who trust in him,
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,
that we may seek those things which are above,
where he reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT READING Acts 9.36 – end

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas.* She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, 'Please come to us without delay.' So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, 'Tabitha, get up.' Then she

opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

THE GOSPEL: John 10.22-30

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray

Merciful Father,
you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd,
and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again:
keep us always under his protection,
and give us grace to follow in his steps;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

IMPORTANT PARISH CONTACTS

Revd Tim Vickers, Vicar of St John's (usual day off Friday)

vicar@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk 01582 469343

Churchwardens, Jane Donati and Heather Nye

wardens@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk

Parish Office, - This is currently Vacant so please be patient.

parish.office@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk 01582 712776

Safeguarding, Jane Donati safeguarding@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk

IN OUR PRAYERS

In our Parish for the sick: Iain Macdonald, Chris Taylor and all whose names are entered on our St Luke's Cell Prayer List.

For the dearly departed: Geraldine Mockler

To be baptised in May: Maxwell Taylor, Oliver and Harry Noblet, Finlay Chambers, Isabel Pitman

In their year's mind: Hilda Parcell, Dennis Marsh (9th), Florence Ballard, Donald Ward, Anthony Gwyther, Margery Lock, Peter Coggan, Alan Gardener (11th) Sheila Berry, Susan East (12th) Basil Marris, Arthur Slater, Sheila Tilbrook, Eleanor Marsh (13th) Sarah Wellstead, James Pestell, Don Jarman (14th)

For the homes and families in

Sunday	Broadstone Road, Burnsall Place
Monday	Burywick, Camberley Place
Tuesday	Chaucer Close, The Chowns
Wednesday	Churchfield, Coleswood Road
Thursday	Collens Road, Cosne Mews
Friday	Crabtree Lane, Cranbourne Drive
Saturday	Cravells Road, Croftwell

Please let Tim know if we can pray for you.

NOTICES*

* *deadline for news items midday on Wednesday via newsletter@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk*

Junior Church Returns TODAY!! We are very pleased to announce that from May we are starting **Junior Church** on the Second Sunday of the Month beginning today. Suitable for Primary School aged children. It is a first step on how we can provide effectively for all ages on a Sunday morning. Do please register your interest at junior.church@stjohnsharpenden.org.uk.

Project Phoenix Sermon series. During May we will be exploring the rationale for the new Parish Centre by focusing on the Five Marks of Mission. This series is designed to provoke conversation and the reflect more deeply on why this new project matters.

The Five Marks of Mission:

1. To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
2. To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
3. To respond to human need by loving service
4. To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation
5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth

Are you musical? Are you interested in joining an informal music group on the First Sunday of the Month (All Age services)? If so either speak to Madeleine Venner or Anna Chambers All ages and abilities welcome.

Church treasurer Do you have financial skills that might be useful at St Johns? We have an urgent need for someone to take responsibility for looking after our finances on a week to week basis and also for someone who would report to the PCC and help us with the annual budget and accounts. The roles are flexible and could be managed to suit the individual. Everything is digitally based. More details from the Vicar or David Nye.

Christian Aid Week 15-21 May Join us this Christian Aid Week, and help turn hunger into hope. Hope lives in you and we have the opportunity to bring hope to those facing hunger around the world. You can do this in a number of ways:

- If you live in the Parish, look out for a delivery only envelope through your door so you can make a donation.

- Join us at 4pm on Sunday 15th May at St John's for a special service suitable for all the family.
- Come to a special Christian Aid Coffee morning at the Vicarage on Thursday 19th May 10am - midday.

Beating the Bounds, 2pm 22nd May 2022. The Parish Boundaries are traditionally walked on Rogation Sunday, where we ask God to bless all the crops (and people) in our Parish. Known also as 'Beating the Bounds'. We meet at 2pm outside St John's for a 2-3 hour walk finishing with a pint! All welcome. Speak to the Vicar for more details (please note after a typo last week – this starts at 2pm!)

Prayer for those who have died. Every week when we pray the Daily Office, and on Sunday's, we pray for those who have died, and any whose year minds falls at this time. The current Year Mind list current records all those who have died since 1973. Grief has no time frame and we are always happy to pray for anyone who has died, however long ago. We propose initially pray for those who have died in the last 20 years, and anyone else who wishes to be prayed for. Please speak to the Vicar if this poses a problem.

Lost property! There is a box in the porch full of lost property. If you might have lost something – please come and have a look.

The Children's Society's plant stall will be open on Saturday 14 May 9am till noon on the Concourse (opposite Boots). Perennials, annuals and indoor plants available to buy.

P A R I S H D I A R Y

Tuesday	10.00am	Litle Acorns in the Church Hall
Wednesday	10.30am 8.00pm	Holy Eucharist in the Lady Chapel Standing Committee Meeting
Saturday	2.15pm	East Surrey Organ Association Visit

NEXT SUNDAY

8am and 9.30am services for Fifth Sunday of Easter Readings: *To teach, baptise and nurture new believers* NT: Acts 11.1-18 Gospel: John 13.31-35.

4pm Christian Aid service.

Weekday Morning and Evening Prayer (in the Lady Chapel)

Morning Prayer: 9.30 am, Monday to Thursday

Evening Prayer: 5pm Monday to Thursday

Wednesday Eucharist, 10.30am in the Lady Chapel

Sign up to our Newsletter:

We also send out a weekly newsletter. If you would like to receive it, please get in touch:

<https://stjohnsharpenden.org.uk/about-us/newsletter/>

For arrangement of baptisms, weddings & funerals contact the Parish Office or talk to the vicar after the service.



St John's Church, 5 St John's Road, Harpenden, Herts AL5 1DJ