

SERVICES

This Week:

6.30pm Evening Worship

Hymns: 200, 807, 18

Weekdays:

Mon – Fri 8am Morning Prayer
Wed 10am Holy Communion
(followed by Open Church)

Next Sunday:

8.00am Easter 5
Holy Communion

10.00am Holy Communion

Readings Acts 11:1-18
Revelation 21:1-6
John 13:31-35

6.30pm Choral Evensong

Parish of Selly Oak St Mary



This Week Sheet

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sunday 12th May 2019

Welcome

Hymns: 203 794 **641** 464 650

(the collection for the work of the church will be taken in the third hymn)

If you are new to this morning's service:

If it is your custom to receive the bread and wine in your own church, then you are welcome to do so here. If you would rather not receive, you can keep your hands down for a blessing.

You may wish to remain in your seat, which is also fine.

Stay for refreshments after the 10am service if you can.

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If you wish to support the work of the church financially, you can be part of the 'envelope scheme' or set up a Standing Order. You can also fill out a Gift Aid Declaration to increase the value of the gift. See wardens for information. Here are our account details:

PCC St Mary's Church Selly Oak
HSBC Account number: 41565818
Sort code: 40-11-20

Parish ministry team

Clergy

Revd Jayne Adams 07894 167552

Revd David Parker 0121 445 1901/07532 338961

Licensed Reader

Mary Cutler 0121 472 3343

Church Wardens

George Harrison: 07831 573169 Martin Sorby 07982 850 444

Bookings for weddings and baptisms: Weds 6.15-7.15pm
Bellringing practice: Weds 7.30-9pm.

If you have any notices to add to this TWS, please email sarahjherbert@aol.com.

Collect:

Risen Christ,
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:
teach us to hear your voice
and to follow your command,
that all your people may be gathered into one flock,
to the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

Readings:

Acts 9:36-43
Revelation 7:9-17
John 10:22-30

For your prayers:

Those who are unwell: David Bowden, Ezra Simms, Brenda Skinner, Vicky Tod, Alan and Pat Westwood, Ben Williams.

Post Communion Prayer:

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.

Diary Dates

May

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|----------------------|-------------|---|
| Mon 13 th | 7:30pm | The Way Group |
| Tue 14 th | 10:30am | Bible study |
| Wed 15 th | 7:15pm | Junior Church leaders (note change of date) |
| Thu 16 th | 10:30am | Coffee morning |
| Sun 19 th | 11.30am | Servers meeting in Hall |
| Tue 21 st | 7:00pm | PCC |
| Fri 24 th | 9:30 & 2:30 | School services |
| Tue 28 th | 11am | Wedding |
| Thu 30 th | 7:30pm | Ascension Day service |
| Fri 31 st | 12 noon | Wedding |

New vicar

Our vacancy has now been advertised, with a closing date for applications of Friday 17th May, and interviews planned for 31st May.

The Way Group (Mon 13th May) 7.30pm, 3 Cutsdean Close, Northfield, B31 1HP. The subject is My Vocation, and Jayne and David have kindly agreed to join us and share their experience of vocation.

Helen Harrison

Bible Study (Tue 14th May) 10.30am, 37 Tillyard Croft. Wm. Barclay *The Gospel of Luke*, Ch. 12:1-59 pp. 189-204. The creed of courage and trust; The place of material possessions in life; Be prepared; The coming of the sword; Where there is still time.

Coffee morning (Thu 16th May) 10.30am. This month's coffee morning will be at 10 Dowles Close, the home of John and Carol Surtees. All welcome.

Dr Rosix Rincones Many of you may remember Rosix from Venezuela (and her children, Leon & Barbara) who worshipped with us while Rosix studied for her PhD in Hispanic Studies at Birmingham, 2007-2012. You may like to know that she left Venezuela in March this year and is now a refugee in Sweden.

Her contact details are

Rosix Rincones or Leon Jimenez, Snorresgrand 3, Plan 2, 2:4, Boden 961 32, Sweden.

Email: rer791@gmail.com Tel: +46 (0) 702969278.

Donald and Morfudd

Traidcraft The Issues Group considered it would be worthwhile for us to try and support the charity Traidcraft who pioneer for fair trade throughout many countries. There are brochures available showing their various products. If you are interested please take one. Thank you. *Pat Finney*

Tanzania teaching fellowship During the summer holidays, Ruth and Tom Jarvis are going to be spending 4 weeks training teachers in Morogoro, Tanzania, with a charity called LRTT (Limited Resource Teacher Training). They will be raising money towards the fellowship through their Go Fund Me page, and completing sponsored challenges before they go: walking to school and back every day for a week (about 1h 45m each way), and also teaching without any resources or technology for a week, both challenges that have to be faced every day by pupils and teachers in developing countries like Tanzania. For more information, or to donate, please see the details on this link:

<https://www.gofundme.com/tom-and-ruth-lrtt-tanzania-teacher-training>

The readings

Christianity is full of symbolism, but of course it shouldn't be taken too literally. In the gospel, Jesus speaks of himself as the good shepherd, and those who follow him as his flock (in the near east, shepherds lead their flocks rather than driving them). Does this make us like sheep?

On the other hand in the Revelation passage Jesus is described as the Lamb, sacrificed on behalf of humankind. The saints in heaven are described having "washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb" – perhaps a bit like biological washing powder? We then get a curious juxtaposition of these two metaphors, in the statement "the Lamb...will be their shepherd". Imagine trying to explain that to someone who knew nothing of Christianity – but it is actually rather beautiful.

Our first reading is about Peter. Last week we heard Jesus commission Peter: "feed my sheep". Now we see Peter in action, stepping up to the mark to go to the disciple Tabitha who has just died. Peter had seen Jesus raise Lazarus and others from death, so now he has the confidence to command Tabitha to get up. Peter has come a long way in a short time, from the bewildered man who denied Jesus three times outside Pilate's palace, to become truly the "rock" underpinning the new community of believers.

David