

## The Fifth Sunday of Lent

### Collect

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world:  
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,  
that we may know eternal peace  
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### Today's Readings

Isaiah 43: 16-21

Philippians 3: 4b-14

Psalms 126

John 12: 1-8

### Post Communion

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us  
that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you:  
give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all,  
and gave up your life and died for us,  
but are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **Baptism Preparation – Prayer for April**

***Loving father, bless this family with the ability to love unconditionally even  
in the hardest moments. Help them realise what Jesus gave up so that they  
can know love and life. Amen.***

### **Book: No Matter What**

### **Gluten Free Wafers**

Whenever the Eucharist is celebrated gluten free wafers are available.

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Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Newsletter

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## SERVICES AT CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION – APRIL

### Sunday 6 April

10am Morning Prayer

### Monday 7 April

1.15pm Church of the Ascension School Reception  
Experience Easter led by Year 5&6 worship leaders  
5pm Evening Prayer

### Tuesday 8 April

5pm Evening Prayer  
7.30pm Faith Foundation Group at Fr Mel's

### Wednesday 9 April

10am Midweek Eucharist with Hymns and Songs  
5pm Evening Prayer

### Thursday 10 April

10am Mainly Music

### Friday 11 April

9.30am Church of the Ascension School Service

### Sunday 13 April – Palm Sunday Procession from URC

10.30am Sung Eucharist

**All are welcome to Morning Prayer at St Mary's at 8.30am on  
Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday this week.**

**Pray for our sick** and those who care for them: Evelyn, Pat Hughes, Bob, Carol, Steph Randall, Pam, Fran and Peter, Tim Dalloway, Anne-Marie, Chris Hemsley, Angela, Winnifred Quirke, Winston Sharpe, Reagan, Carole, Carol, Lainey, Edna Barlow, Phil Mayhew, Mike, Henry, Samantha Hart, Brian Genner, Liz Cross, Sarah, Denise, Harold, Fr Adam.

MU Members, especially the house bound.

**Recently Departed:** Diane Smith, Jill Centillas, Thomas Smith, John Thompson, Roger Bakewell.

***Please pray for the people that live in Castlewellan Care Home in our parish  
and for the people who care for them.***

**Memory book** We are updating the memory book at Church of Ascension. If you would like a loved one put in there's a list at the back of church. Please put their name and date you would like them remembered and also your name and number. You can also contact Sara at [sara.horton@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:sara.horton@blueyonder.co.uk) or on 07813 350115.

**Fr. Mel's Prayer Meeting** will be back to the fortnightly meetings from Monday April 28<sup>th</sup> at the usual time of 7pm.

### **Annual Meetings**

The annual meeting for Church of the Ascension will be on **Tuesday 29 April at 7.30pm** in church. Please do your best to attend this important meeting.

- There will be nominations for 2 church wardens
- There will be elections for 1 PCC member.
- There will be elections for 3 DCC members.

Our annual parish meeting will then be on **Wednesday 28 May at 7.30pm** in church. Again, please do your best to attend this important meeting.

**Mothers' Union** we will be continuing to collect for their Lent Appeal for Dudley Women's Refuge. The items needed are: **All white please (Asda Basics)** Mugs, Large plates, Side plates, Cereal dishes. Tea towels, Oven gloves, Plastic chopping boards, Kitchen Utensils, Can openers.

### **PARISH RENEWAL AND DEVELOPMENT**

Full steam ahead on the new toilets at St Mary's, and at the CofA the new windows have already been installed, amazingly quickly! Well done Grace, our Parish Projects Manager, for getting the extra funding in!

We're seeing numerical growth in both our churches – the last Soul Food meetings saw 20 folks at St Mary's and 42 at the CofA – young and not so young. And Mainly Music had about 40 people at its last meeting. Congratulations to ALL involved, but especially to Sian, our Young People's Minister.

**Please email any notices and items for this weekly newsletter to Lindsey in the parish office by Thursday for printing on Fridays. Thank you.**

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