



Welcome to the Parish Church of St Stephen

Sunday 2nd May 2021

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Services Today

9:30am Family Service

Hymns: 120 : S.5

11:00am Sung Mass with Sermon

Hymns: 112 : 296 (1st Tune) : S.5 : 113

12.30pm Baptism Oliver Anderson Young

687 Easter 5 / The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Introit O sing unto the Lord a new song, alleluia; for the Lord hath done marvellous things, alleluia. In the sight of the nations hath he shewed his righteous judgements, alleluia, alleluia.

Psalm With his own right hand, and with his holy arm: hath he gotten himself the victory. Glory be...

Alleluia Alleluia. Alleluia. √. The right hand of the Lord hath pre-eminence: the right hand of the Lord bringeth mighty things to pass. Alleluia. √. Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him. Alleluia.

Offertory O be joyful in God all ye lands; sing praises unto the honour of his Name; O come hither and hearken all ye that fear God, and I will tell you what things he hath done for my soul, alleluia.

Communion I am the true vine, ye are the branches; He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit, alleluia, alleluia.

Stay in touch with St Stephen's: visit our website at
<http://st-stephens-guernsey.org>

Collect

Almighty God,
who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ
have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life:
grant that, as by your grace going before us
 you put into our minds good desires,
so by your continual help
we may bring them to good effect;
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

First Reading - Acts Ch8 v26-40

²⁶Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.)
²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' ³¹He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.'

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus.
³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Second Reading - 1 John Ch4 v7-21

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not

that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Gospel - John Ch15 v1-8

Jesus said to his disciples, ¹I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

Post Communion

Eternal God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life:
grant us to walk in his way,
to rejoice in his truth,
and to share his risen life;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Please remember in your prayers

Hazel and John Greany, Alisha De Guerin, Val Moullin,
a woman suffering from depression,
Melvyn Boxall, Janice Firth, a woman battling with alcoholism,
Maria, Jeanette, Alan Warner, James, Gillian Harvey.

Services for this week

Monday 3rd May 10.00am 'Little Treasures' Toddlers Group
Tuesday 14th May 11.00am Said Mass - BCP

Sunday 9th May
The Sixth Sunday of Easter
Rogation Sunday

9.30am Said Mass with Family Ministry
11.00am Sung Mass with Sermon & Procession



Friendship Lunch

12.00pm Tuesday 11th May - £7

Menu: Roast pork & veg
Bakewell tart and custard

Please see Jean to reserve your place as soon as possible so as not to be disappointed.

Interregnum

As mentioned at the AGM we are starting the process of compiling the Church Profile in order to advertise for a new Vicar. Shortly there will be a questionnaire for everyone should you wish to fill it in. Your responses will help us understand what is important to you all. Please take your copy and return it to us as soon as possible. Many thanks.
Tony & Elis



GU10 22nd May

Don't forget to buy your tickets for the evening with GU10
See posters and magazine for details



Guernsey Welfare

There is still a great need for the services of Guernsey Welfare on the Island. If you could remember when you shop to buy that little extra and drop it off at church.
Thank you.

Please join us for refreshments:

- *in the Vestry after the 11.00am Mass*

After Mass please put the kneelers back on the shelf. Thank you!

Deadline for notices for next bulletin – **6.00pm Thursday**
To Tony or email akaines@cwgsy.net