

Sun 28th	8am	Eucharist (St James)
	9am	Eucharist (St John's)
	10:30am	Worship 4 Everyone (St James & YouTube)
	10.30am	Eucharist (Christ the King)
Tues 30th	10am	Welcome Café (Church House)
Wed 1st	12pm	Ploughmans Lunch (Church House)
	2pm	Mothers Union (Church House)
Thurs 2nd	10:30am	Eucharist (St James)
Fri 3rd	10:00am	Jimmy Tots (Church House)
Sat 4th	9am	Parish Prayers (Zoom)
Sun 5th	10:30am	Parish Eucharist (St James & YouTube)

Parish Notices

Rich Brooker - I am pleased to announce that Revd Rich Brooker will be joining the ministry team here in Shirley. He was ordained Deacon in 2022 and Priest in 2023 and will be spending the remainder of his curacy with us to broaden his experience of ministry. Rich has lived in Shirley for more than 20 years, so knows the area well. We are still waiting for various legal formalities around his role to be completed, but he will be worshipping with us from now on and will begin his induction into the work and ministry of the Parish on 1st May. Hopefully he will begin his public ministry amongst us soon after that. I know you will all make him welcome!

Parish Office Please remember the office is **closed to visitors** on Mondays.

Red double knitting yarn is available from the Parish Office £2.50 for 100g ball – still more is required for the poppy knitters please!

Parish Boundary Walk - we will once again be walking and praying around the Parish boundary on Saturday May 4th. We will be leaving 18 Widney Lane at 9:45am, stopping for lunch at St Johns around 1pm & finishing around 5pm. Contact Paul if you want to join en route.

Annual Meeting - The Parish Annual meeting is on Sunday 12th May. Following our morning services we will have a bring your own lunch in Church House at 12, followed by the meeting at 1pm. Papers and details of elections to PCC etc will be available soon. All are encouraged to attend!

Parochial Church Council (PCC) and Churchwarden nomination forms are available at the back of church or from the Parish Office, if you wish to remain on the PCC please complete one of these and hand in to the Parish Office or directly to Paul or Belinda, prior to the meeting or at the meeting. Please note that to be on the PCC you need to be on the electoral roll. All newly elected members will need to undergo safeguarding training and DBS checks. You will be required to act a trustee for the PCC so you cannot stand if you are disqualified from being a trustee for any reason. If you have any questions please contact Paul Day, or Belinda in the Parish Office.

Local Elections 2nd May Please be aware Church House is being used as a polling station again this year.

ADAVU: after an emergency Caesarean, the lady has had her son and she is back home and doing well, whilst the baby remains in hospital having extra care..

Rev Paul Day - Vicar

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(Rest Day is Monday)

Rev Wendy Martin - Associate Priest

07543 829 571

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Rev Richard Haynes - Curate

0797 253 0161

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(Rest Day is Friday)

For Prayer Our Discipleship Groups

Those who have died

Years Mind Arthur Jones, Alice Hards, Lilian Smith, Frank Collier, Pam Davies, Nellie Toney and Graham Smith.

Coming up...

Mothers Union - 1st May Rowena Nicholls, our MU Diocesan Trustee, will be talking to us at this meeting. As usual, we will meet in Church House at 2.00 pm. Visitors to the meeting will be very welcome.

Pathways to Prayer – In St James Church on Sat 11th May and through the following week. See leaflet for more details

Coffee Morning – Monday 13th May, 10.30am to 12 noon at St John's Church. All welcome.

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.

Readings for Sunday 28th April

Acts 8.26 – end

Then 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.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now 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, In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.' The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As 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?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When 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. But 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.

1 John 4.7 – end

Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world. You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. They are from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them. We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is how we recognize the Spirit^[a] of truth and the spirit of falsehood. Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. We love because he first loved us. Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

John 15.1-8

I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide 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. I 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. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

Next Sunday's Readings

Acts 10.44 – end

1 John 5.1-6

John 15.9-17

If you wish to contribute to the notice sheet, please contact the Parish Office by 9am Wednesday (max of 3 sentences). Longer articles to shirlevparishmagazine@gmail.com by the 12th