

# S. BOTOLPH'S CHURCH, CAMBRIDGE

## NEWSLETTER FOR MAY 2017

### **From the Priest in Charge**

Dear Friends

Forty days after Easter falls the great feast of the Ascension, when the Church commemorates the ascension of the risen Christ into heaven, which marks the last of His resurrection appearances.

The Ascension ought to be a festival we keep with the same acclaim and rejoicing as Christmas or Easter, but somehow it doesn't seem to have the same status or appeal as these other major festivals.

For S. Luke, in his Gospel and in the Acts of the Apostles, it is the Ascension that is the culmination and fulfilment of all that Our Lord came to do.

By His Ascension, the human Jesus takes our humanity with Him in His human body as He ascends to heaven, showing us the way. What God began at the Incarnation, proclaimed during the public ministry of Our Lord, accomplished by the Crucifixion and transformed by the Resurrection, has been brought to completion at the Ascension.

All that Jesus, as the perfect human being, came to do and accomplished is wrapped up in Himself and it is this humanity, in which He shares fully with us, that He takes back into heaven at His Ascension. So, it is us and what we are that Our Lord takes into heaven.

The humanity though that Jesus takes back is not a perfect one. It is our humanity, our wounded humanity that he carries in his own scarred, but unbroken body. Our selfishness and self centredness, our wilfulness and disregard for others, our brokenness and our hurt, our faults and our

failings – all this, and much more, he carries with Him in His great act of reconciliation and healing.

The hymn *Eternal Monarch King most high* speaks of *our changed humanity, what flesh has stained being purged by flesh*. God in Jesus becoming human to heal, restore and reconcile our scarred humanity by taking it to and with Himself.

So, Our Lord takes our humanity with Him as He ascends - and He goes not simply into the clouds, or beyond our sight, but to the throne of heaven, where He is glorified at the right hand of the Father. And it is in His elevation that we too are elevated in Him and it is in His glorification that we too can find our glory.

It is right and fitting that the image of the Ascension sits above the High Altar at S. Botolph's to remind us of this truth - and our ultimate destiny.

**Ascension Day falls on Thursday 25th May. We shall have a Sung Eucharist (BCP) at 6:30pm.** Please make a note of the time and date in your diary now and make every effort to attend this major festival to celebrate Our Lord Jesus Christ - *risen, ascended, glorified*.

Yours in Christ,

Stephen.

**From the Registers** *Baptism* 22nd April Guy David Francis Pattenden

**At the Annual Church Meetings** on Sunday 23rd April the following elections took place:

Churchwardens for the coming year: Mrs. K. Horbury and Mrs. V. Baker;  
Members of the Parochial Church Council: Mrs. J. Blakemore, Mrs. E. Durham, Mr D. Eastwood, Mr A. Hodson, Dr E.C.D. Hunter, Mrs. A. Irvine, Dr A. Lindsay, Miss J. Ringrose. Mrs. Horbury and Mrs. Baker continue to serve as Deanery Synod representatives.

Grateful thanks were expressed at the meeting to all who had helped, in diverse ways, to maintain everything over the past year: from the church building, its cleaning and upkeep, to the garden, which is looking particularly beautiful just now, and finally, at the heart of parish life, to the services, with the contributions of the many clergy who had so willingly and cheerfully given help during the vacancy.

**Catherine (Pri)scilla Hall** We will miss so much the company of Catherine Hall who died last week aged 93. She had been a regular on Wednesday mornings at 10.30 ever since that was started in 1990 — and Wednesday morning also saw the book tables tidied and sorted by her, including the last Wednesday of her life. Her professional knowledge of mediaeval Cambridge and ecclesiastical history was invaluable, as was her help at book sales and in the choir on special occasions. We send sympathy to her daughter and grandchildren. Her funeral will be at Little St Mary's on Wednesday 17th May at 2.30 p.m.

**May Day** saw a cheerful collection of helpers, an excellent selection of edibles, and pews full of books, welcoming visitors from all parts. The Restoration Fund was £712 better off as a result.

### **Future Dates**

**Saturday 13th May Excursion** to St Albans and Hampton Court, leaving St Mark's Church in Barton Road at 8.30 a.m. prompt. There are a few seats available.

**Visitors' Days** (refreshments and book sale): 17th & 18th June (St Botolph's week-end), 15th July and 9th September.

**Concert** 2nd July, 7.30 p.m., given by the Temple Ensemble. K.H.

### **CALENDAR**

**THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EASTER** 7th May 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion  
11.00 a.m. Sung Eucharist (Prayer-book)  
Epistle, Mrs Barker; Refreshments, Durham  
Preacher: The Reverend Stephen Anderson, Priest-in-charge  
4.15 p.m. Evensong

Wednesday 10th May 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion

Saturday 13th Excursion Coach leaves 8.30 a.m. Barton Road

**EASTER IV** Sunday 14th                      8.00 a.m. Holy Communion  
11.00 a.m. Mattins  
1. Exodus 34.1-10, Dr Lindsay; 2. I Peter 3.8-end, Mrs. Durham  
Preacher: Dr Jonathan Holmes, Fellow of Queens'  
12 noon Holy Communion  
4.15 p.m. Evensong

Wednesday 17th    Holy Communion    10.30 a.m.

**ROGATION SUNDAY** *Easter V* 21st May 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion  
11.00 a.m. Sung Eucharist (Order 1)  
Epistle, Dr Hunter; Intercession, Mrs. Baker  
Preacher: The Priest-in-charge  
4.15 p.m. Evensong

Wednesday 24th            Holy Communion            10.30 a.m.

**ASCENSION DAY**    Thursday 25th    6.30 p.m.    Sung Eucharist (BCP)

**SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION** 28th May 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion  
11.00 a.m. Mattins  
1. Isaiah 65.17-end, Mrs. Irvine; 2. Luke 24.36-end, Mr Hodson  
Preacher: Dr Jonathan Holmes, Fellow of Queens'  
12 noon    Holy Communion  
4.15 p.m. Evensong

Wednesday 31st May 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion

**WHITSUNDAY** *The Feast of Pentecost*    Sunday 4th June  
8.00 a.m. Holy Communion  
11.00 a.m. Sung Eucharist  
Epistle, Mr. Barker; Refreshments, Eastwood  
Preacher: The Reverend Vivienne Lake  
6.30 p.m. Service of Prayer, Great St Mary's (Kingdom Come Prayer Week)

*S. Botolph's, Cambridge*

Priest-in-charge

The Reverend Stephen Anderson, 01223 843859, Mob: 07889 003588

Churchwardens

Mrs. K. M. Horbury 01223 363529, Mrs. V. Baker 01223 426911