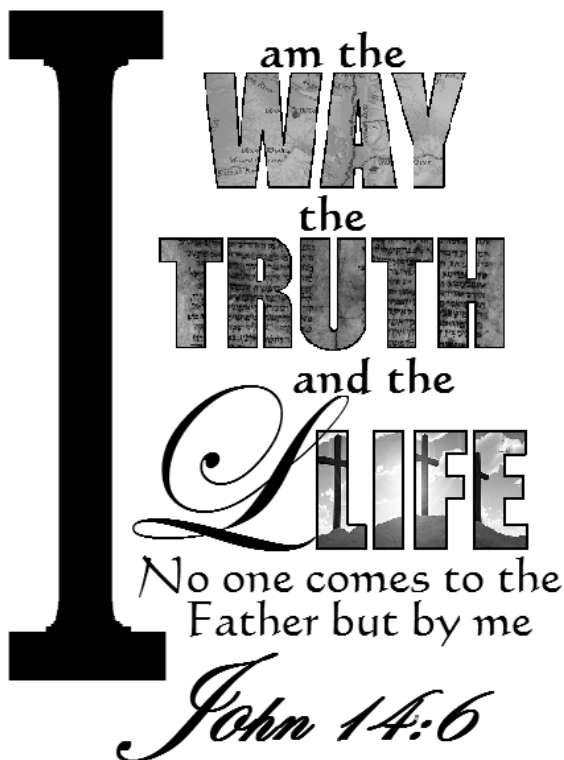


THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST MARY, PULBOROUGH



THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday 3rd May, 2026

10.30am 'All are Welcome' Celebration

*We are very grateful that the leaflets today have been
generously sponsored*

In loving memory of Baby Fern.

Welcome to our celebration on this Fifth Sunday of Easter

Celebrant: Fr Paul

Preacher: Tony Holloway

Organist: Tony Hancock

The First Reading: Linda Caldwell

The Second Reading: Charlotte Kenyon

Setting: Hebridean Gloria and Gathering Mass

Ministers of Communion: Ann Kaiser and James Raynard

To keep our church **lit and insured and to pay our parish contribution for the ministry we receive**, is a weekly financial challenge for us.

By joining the **Parish Giving Scheme**, our Treasurer is assured of a regular income, even when you are **unable to attend church**. Please consider using the PGS, details can be found at the back of the church. Cash is always welcome, please **ONLY** use a white gift aid envelope if you are tax payer and able to fill in your details on the front of the envelope.

We also have a **sum-up machine** at the back of the church for paying by card or you can use our **QR code to the right**.



Thank you so much for supporting our church's ministry and mission

In the event of a fire or emergency in the Church, the exits available are: the West Door, the North Door, the South Door in the Chancel and the door through the Vestry. Please leave the building by an exit nearest to you

Do join us for refreshments after the service

Introductory organ music: "Bethena" - Scott Joplin.

Please stand when the bell is rung

ENTRANCE HYMN: O&N 96
Brian Wren (born 1936)

- 1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.**
- 2 Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching ev'ry place and time.**
- 3 In ev'ry insult, rift and war,
where colour, scorn or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.**
- 4 Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.**
- 5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love and praise.**

✠ In the name of the Father, and
of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Greeting

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Alleluia, Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed, Alleluia.

*Fr. Paul introduces the day's celebration and invites people
to make an act of penitence*

The Prayers of Penitence

ALM:

Jesus Christ, risen master and triumphant Lord,
we come to you in sorrow for our sins,
and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.

We have lived by our own strength,
and not by the power of your resurrection.
In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived by the light of our own eyes,
as faithless and not believing.
In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived for this world alone,
and doubted our home in heaven.
In your mercy, forgive us.

Lord, hear us and help us.

Fr. Paul:

May the God of love and power
forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Hebridean Gloria

***Gloria, gloria, in excelsis, in excelsis.
Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!***

**Peace on earth to all your people,
Lord God, heavenly King.
We worship you, almighty Father,
Let our voices ring! Sing:**

Gloria ...

**Jesus, blessed Lamb of God,
To you our voice we raise.
You take away our sins, O Lord;
Receive our songs of praise! Sing:**

Gloria ...

**Holy Lord in highest heaven,
How our hearts rejoice
In God the Father, Son and Spirit,
So with loudest voice, sing:**

Gloria ...

The Collect

Risen Christ,
your wounds declare your love for the world
and the wonder of your risen life:
give us compassion and courage
to risk ourselves for those we serve,
to the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

Please sit

The First Reading: Acts 7. 55-60

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Standing before the high priest and the council, Stephen,
filled with the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God
and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 'Look,' he said, 'I see the

heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!’ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, ‘Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.’ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, ‘Lord, do not hold this sin against them.’ When he had said this, he died.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2. 2-10

A reading from the first letter of Peter

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight. Like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: ‘See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.’

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner’, and ‘A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.’

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Please stand

The Gradual Hymn: O&N 8
Donald Fishel

***Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord,
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to His name.***

- 1 **Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
He is the King of creation. *Refrain.***

- 2 **Spread the good news o'er all the earth.
Jesus has died and has risen. *Refrain.***

- 3 **We have been crucified with Christ.
Now we shall live forever. *Refrain.***

- 4 **God has proclaimed the just reward:
'Life for us all, alleluia! *Refrain.***

- 5 **Come, let us praise the living God,
Joyfully sing to our Saviour. *Refrain.***

The Gospel Reading: John 14. 1-14

The Alleluia is sung by the choir and then repeated by the congregation



The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples:

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.'

Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works.

Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit

The Talk

Please stand

The Affirmation of Faith

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Please kneel or sit.

The Intercessions – the prayers of our church

*Come, light of our hearts,
Come, light of our hearts,
Come, Holy Spirit, come*

At the end...

ALM: Merciful Father,

**accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus
Christ. Amen.**

Please stand.

The Peace

Fr Paul introduces the Peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said,
'Peace be with you.' Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.
Alleluia. *cf John 20.19*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And always with you.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.



The Offertory Hymn: O&N 354
Jesus lebt, mit ihm auch ich
Christian Fuerchtegott Gellert (1715-1769),
Frances Elizabeth Cox (1812-1897)

- 1 Jesus lives! thy terrors now
can, O death, no more appal us;
Jesus lives! by this we know
thou, O grave, canst not enthrall us. Alleluia.**

- 2 Jesus lives! henceforth is death
but the gate of life immortal:
this shall calm our trembling breath,
when we pass its gloomy portal. Alleluia.**

- 3 Jesus lives! for us he died;
then, alone to Jesus living,
pure in heart may we abide,
glory to our Saviour giving. Alleluia.**

**4 Jesus lives! our hearts know well,
nought from us his love shall sever;
life nor death nor pow'rs of hell
Tear us from his keeping ever. Alleluia.**

**5 Jesus lives! to him the throne
over all the world is given:
may we go where he is gone,
rest and reign with him in heaven. Alleluia.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts
We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
It is right to give thanks and praise

Fr Paul continues with the prayer

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and God of might:
heaven and earth, heaven and earth,
are full of your glory, your pow'r and might:
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heav'ns.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heav'ns.**

**Blessed, blessed is he who comes, blessed, blessed is he who
comes;
Blessed is he, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heav'ns.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heav'ns.**

Fr. Paul continues until the following is used:

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again

Fr. Paul continues and leads into the conclusion of the prayer:

Amen.

Please kneel or sit

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.**

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,

On the earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

And forgive us our trespasses,

**As we forgive those who trespass
against us.**

And lead us not into temptation,

But deliver us from evil.

**For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,
for ever, and for ever and ever. Amen**

The Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body,

because we all share in one Bread

Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.



Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.

Fr Paul issues the invitation to communion in these or very similar words:

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*Receiving consecrated wine directly from the chalice is offered for those who feel comfortable to do this. **Please do not dip the consecrated wafer into the chalice.***

Please wait to be directed to communion.

Choir song: Risen for me

Post-Communion Hymn: O&N 274

1 He is Lord, he is Lord.
He is risen from the dead, and he is Lord;
Ev'ry knee shall bow, ev'ry tongue confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord.

**2 He is King, he is King;
he is risen from the dead and he is King:
Ev'ry knee shall bow, ev'ry tongue confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord.**

**3 He is love, he is love;
he is risen from the dead and he is King:
Ev'ry knee shall bow, ev'ry tongue confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord..**

Post Communion Prayer

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. **Amen.**

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to
be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

Notices and Banns of Marriage are given out

Please stand

The Blessing

The Lord be with you.
and also with you.

The Dismissal

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia

Recessional Hymn: O&N 258
John Bakewell (1721-1819), Martin Madan (1726-1790)

- 1** Hail, thou once despised Jesus,
hail, thou Galilean King!
thou didst suffer to release us,
thou didst free salvation bring.
Hail, thou universal Saviour,
bearer of our sin and shame;
by thy merits we find favour;
life is given through thy name.
- 2** Paschal Lamb, by God appointed,
all our sins were on thee laid;
by almighty love anointed,
thou hast full atonement made:
all thy people are forgiven
through the virtue of thy blood:
opened is the gate of heaven;
we are reconciled to God.
- 3** Jesus, hail! enthroned in glory,
there for ever to abide;
all the heav'nly hosts adore thee,
seated at thy Father's side.
There for sinners thou art pleading;
there thou dost our place prepare,
ever for us interceding,
till in glory we appear.

4 **Worship, honour, pow'r, and blessing,
thou art worthy to receive;
loudest praises without ceasing
it is right for us to give.
Help, ye bright angelic spirits!
bring your sweetest, noblest lays;
help to sing our Saviour's merits,
help to chant Immanuel's praise.**

*Final Voluntary: Toccata in A -
Domenico Paradies.*

For your prayers this week

We pray for Pope Leo XIV and his ministry to the world-wide church.

*We pray for the Rt Revd and Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullally,
Archbishop of Canterbury. We also pray for Martin, our Bishop as he
prepares for his retirement.*

*In the **Anglican cycle of prayer** this Sunday we pray for:
The Church of North India (United)*

In our Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for:

The Bishop's Council setting policy and strategy for the Diocese.

*We pray for the work of SPLASH in their work with young people
across the Deanery.*

We pray for our nation and government:

*For King Charles and his family. We pray for our Government and all
members of Parliament especially Andrew Griffith our own MP*

*We pray for **peace and an end to the conflict in the Middle East**, praying especially for all world leaders and those who advise them.*

*We pray for the work of **Education West Africa**, the people of Sierra Leone and the work of the Church there remembering especially the Dioceses of Freetown and Bo.*

*We continue to pray for **the work of FSW** across the Diocese.
We pray for our **local Care Homes**: Hillside Lodge, The Anchorage, Petworth Cottage Nursing Home, Rotherlea and Barlavington Manor*

Those who are now in need of healing:

Patrick Carr, Toni Hayes, Sarah and James Ross, Carole Brooke, Jim Crowley, Charlie Goldsmith, Frances Usher-Smith, Matt, Don Hubert, Margaret Gregory, Kelvin Tatum, John Raynard, Maud and James and Helen Leeke

Those who are in need of on-going prayer:

Rachel Webbe, James McDonagh, Victoria and Tim

Anniversary of death: Derek Spain, Michael Monahan

Village Prayers: *Together with the other churches in the village we pray for all who live or work in The Spinney, Spinney North and Strawberry Field*

Thursday 14th May: ASCENSION DAY

7.30pm Sung Eucharist

One of the most important days in our Church calendar.



Church and Liturgical Diary

Monday 4th *English Saints and Martyrs of the Reformation*
(Spring Bank Holiday)

Tuesday 5th: *Feria of Easter*
9.30am Morning Prayer

Wednesday 6th: *Feria of Easter*
9.45am Morning Prayer

10.15 am The Holy Eucharist

12.30pm Deanery Clergy Chapter meeting

7pm 'Meeting Matthew', an informal, friendly group looking at St Matthew's gospel at 86 Glebelands, all are very welcome

Thursday 7th: *St. Julian of Norwich, spiritual writer c1417*
9.30am Morning Prayer

7.15pm RSPB Nightingale Walk with Christine Lindsay.

Friday 8th: *Feria of Easter*
12noon The Holy Eucharist

Saturday 9th: *Feria of Easter*

**11am Commissioning of Frances Hancock and Bren Starnes as
Authorised Lay Ministers in the Cathedral**

7pm 'FRIENDS' Barn Dance at Sullington Barn

Sunday 10th THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
(Start of CHRISTIAN AID WEEK)

8am The Holy Eucharist – Said in the chapel

10.30am THE PARISH EUCHARIST

Readings:

11.45am Annual Parochial Church Meetings

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY....

THE ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING (ACM's)

This coming Sunday 10th May at 11. 45am in church. At these meetings there will be the election of two Churchwardens and members to the Parochial Church Council and Deanery Synod.

Please do consider taking on one of these roles. Relevant application forms are available at the back of the church.

Today we have the paperwork available for this very important church meeting, do take copies as you leave.

Please add your name to the list at the back of the church if you are unable to attend the Meetings



CHRISTIAN AID WEEK – 10th to 17th May

This year we are hoping to have the church open **on Saturday 16th May from 11am to 4pm and serving cream teas and a cake sale in aid of Christian Aid.** With so much unrest in many parts of the world, the funds

raised by Christian Aid are so desperately needed. Please help us to make this fund-raising day a well-worth effort, by baking a cake, biscuits or savouries for sale. We will also need help on the day serving refreshments. More details to follow.

Please find an envelope for Christian Aid with your service leaflet today. If you are able to give a donation this would be so helpful to make our overall sum, **a very worthwhile donation this year.** Many thanks for your support,

LEAFLET SPONSORING FOR THE NEXT FEW MONTHS

Do you have a special occasion or date in memory of a loved one Do consider sponsoring one of the services.

We ask for a £25 donation, gift-aided, if possible, which helps us cover the cost of printing and paper

The dates we have for the next two months are:

Sundays in **June 7th or 14th** Sundays in **July 5th or 19th**

Do contact Ann Kaiser (ann.kaiser@live.co.uk) if you can help

**EVENT FOR THE FRIENDS OF PULBOROUGH PARISH CHURCH
BARN DANCE – This Saturday 9th May**

Tickets are selling well for the next 'Friends' event so do get yours soon. The evening is set in the beautiful Sullington Barn. Tickets are £20 to include a delicious ploughmans.

Please go to the 'Friends' website for more details and tickets.

www.friendsofpulboroughparishchurch.org



**DO YOU HAVE A LITTLE TO SPARE TO HELP PULBOROUGH
COMMUNITY TRANSPORT?**

This service is for people who live in the Pulborough area who are unable to use public transport and need to get to a **PRE-ARRANGED** medical appointment e.g. doctor, hospital, dentist, physiotherapist, or optician.

Volunteers use their own cars for which the user pays a charge to cover return petrol expenses.

For more information please contact: **Christine Lindsay (PCT coordinator) on 07591258409**

HELP NEEDED.....

We are currently needing more people to help with picking up and dropping off on Sunday mornings. Please contact **Susie 07909981888** if you would be able to help with this, and make sure that all of our church family can join us on a Sunday.

And finally.....

Sunday 24th May – PENTECOST SUNDAY
6pm Ecumenical 'Songs of Praise'