



Newsletter

3 & 10 May 2026



English saints and martyrs of the Reformation 4 May

Ascension Day 14 May

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Services for Sunday 3 May 2026 Easter 5

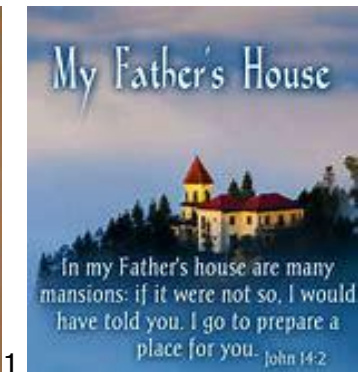
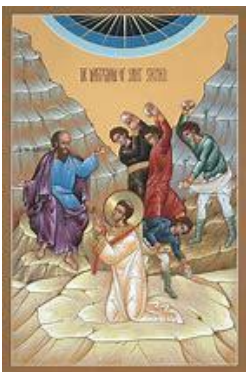
St Paul's 10am **All-Age Worship** lead and preach Rev Andy Smith
 St Andrew's 11am **Holy Communion** preside and preach Rev Avis Gordon

Services for Sunday 10 May 2026 Easter 6

St Paul's 10am **Holy Communion** preach and preside Rev Dr Rachel Mann,
 Archdeacon of Salford and Bolton

St Andrew's 11am **Holy Communion** preside and preach Rev Hilary Shedlock

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Readings for Sun 3 May

Acts 7: 55-end (1) *Martyrdom of Stephen*

John 14: 1-14 (2) *In my Father's house*

Readings for Sun 10 May

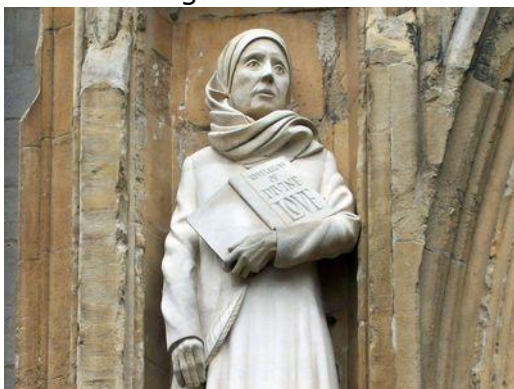
Acts 17: 22-31 (3) *Paul preaches 'To an unknown God'*

John 14: 15-21 (4) *If you love me, keep my commandments*

Wed 6 May: Ps 122: 1-5; John 15: 1-8 Wed 13 May: Ps 148: 1-2, 11-end; Luke 24: 44-end

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Our next Englishwoman remembered by the Church of England is **Julian of Norwich**, a



Christian mystic and hermit whose *Revelations of Divine Love* is considered one of the most remarkable documents of medieval religious experience. She spent the latter part of her life as a recluse (the religious name is anchoress) in a cell at St. Julian's Church (for which she is named) in Norwich. She was born 1342, probably in Norwich and died after 1416. Nothing is known of her pre-anchoress life, including her real name. However, she lived during a time of religious and political turmoil in England, including the Peasants' Revolt of 1381, and she witnessed the ravages of the Black Death, which killed half the population of

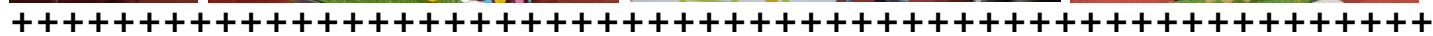
Norwich. Though none of these events are mentioned in her writings, the consolations that she expresses seem to have been brought about how they affected ordinary people's everyday lives. On May 13, 1373, Julian was healed of a serious illness after experiencing a series of visions (or "showings," as she called them) of Christ's suffering and of the Blessed Virgin Mary, about which she wrote two accounts; the second, longer version was composed 20 or 30 years after the first. Unparalleled in English religious literature, *Revelations* spans the most profound mysteries of the Christian faith, such as the problems of predestination, the foreknowledge of God, and the existence of evil. The clarity and depth of her perception, the precision and accuracy of her theological presentation, and the sincerity and beauty of her expression reveal a mind and personality of exceptional strength and charm. Among the most famous quotes

from *Revelations* is a response that Julian said she received from Jesus to her question about the necessity of sin: "All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well." She was never made a saint, but the Church of England honours her on May 8. A modern chapel in the Church of St. Julian has been dedicated to her memory.



Our Prayers. We continue to pray for Tracy Kehoe, Maureen Roberts (now home), for Annie Thomas and Barbara Plumb recovering and Mike awaiting surgery. We pray for the peace of our world, and for all those affected by the war in the Middle East. We pray for the local elections and all who will come to vote on 7 May in our two churches, which are both polling stations.

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 A good time was had by all who took part in **Time Out's Duck Race** on 28 April. The 'design-a-duck' competition was won by Pauline Parr; 'name that duck' by Rev Mike Dyson (Sir Francis Drake), and the race itself by Val Cope who was presented with the winner's trophy by Pam Smeeton who together with husband Paul designed and ran the competition. Thanks to them and to Eileen and Chris for all their hard work in making the afternoon such a success.



Future Events:

Christian Aid Week: 10-16 May. Collection in church Sun 10, Wed 13 and Sun 17 May, or give on line. See Alan Pendry for more details.

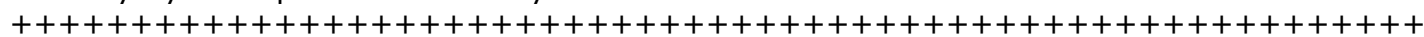
Mission Community Ascension Day service Thursday 14 May 7pm at St George's Simister.

Fundraising event for May: in order to raise funds for church, there will be a special **£1 bag sale** on Wednesday 20 May and Sunday 24 May. A hundred bags available- let's make £100!

Annual Parish Weekend Away 9-12 October 2026 at Thornleigh, Grange-over-Sands. £316.00 all-inclusive. Book your place now- highly recommended. See Alan Pendry for details.

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St Paul's School has a pupils' council which comes up with ideas for events and fundraising involving the pupils. They are having their annual breakfast on 8 May. Please pray for all our Y6 pupils during SATS week 11-15 May that each will achieve the best they can.

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 The **Annual Parish Meeting (APCM)** will take place on Sunday 17 May, starting with a joint service of Morning Praise at 10am followed by drinks break and then the two meetings- the Vestry meeting to elect Churchwardens and the APCM proper. Copies of the Annual Report for 2025 plus the agenda will be emailed out on 12 May (some paper copies in church 13 May). One Deanery Synod rep and one new lay member needed: nomination forms in both churches.



Details of Services and Events for the next 2 weeks

Tuesday 5 May: Homegroup 7pm at 5 Moorside Road led by Eileen Booth

Wed 6 May: Morning Praise 10am led by David and Heather Martin

Thursday 7 May: Local elections both churches polling stations all day

Monday 11 May: PCC meeting 7pm

Tuesday 12 May: Time Out St Paul's 1.30pm Salford 100 anniversary- all things Salford

Wed 13 May: 10am St Paul's **Holy Communion** led by Rev Mike Dyson

CONTACT INFORMATION

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For more information visit our websites:
 St Paul's: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/15877
 St Andrew's: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/15878