

4th Sunday of Easter

**8am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.30am Parish Communion
Blaze Session for 6-10 year olds**

COLLECT for 4th Sunday of Easter

Risen Christ,
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:
teach us to hear your voice
and to follow your command,
that all your people may be gathered into one flock,
to the glory of God the Father.

HYMNS: 77 Christ Triumphant, 649 The King of Love my Shepherd is, 115 Do not be afraid for I have redeemed you (Offertory Hymn), 501 O Jesus I have promised.

READINGS: Acts 2: 42 to end (p. 116) John 10: 1-10 (p.100)

THIS WEEK

9.15am **Morning Prayers** - Zoom Tues–Wed (link from the office), in church **Tues- Fri** 9.15am, **Sat** 10am
10am-12pm Church Open for **Quiet Space** every weekday
28th April **Tues Prayer Group 10am – 11am** in Meeting Room
29th April **Wed 12.30-3pm Meetings Room & church open as a Welcome Space** (takes place weekly)

Next Sunday: 3rd May – 5th Sunday of Easter

10:00am Parish Communion
11am APCM Meeting
Sunbeams Session for 3-6 year olds

They devoted themselves to the Apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. (Acts 2: 42)



Gracious Lord, who called Your people to devote themselves to the apostles' teaching, to fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer, renew in us that same spirit.

Strengthen our learning, deepen our unity, and draw us closer to Christ in Word and Sacrament. Make our life together a sign of

Your kingdom, for the glory of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We pray for all those who are sick and especially those known to us: Lord, lift them up and their families and friends. Comfort and fill them with hope and strength, knowing that You are present in all things. Especially we pray for:

ALAN WOOLSTON - ELEANOR BROOKS - HILARY ABRAHAMS - DIANA HEATHER - ANN BARTLETT - BARBARA JARVIS - SARAH WILLIS - MARK MARKCOONS - JO WATKINS - MARTYN DILLEY - SUZANNE MILLER - SUE & EMMA KINKEAD. Amen.

We pray for the family of **Sally Naish** who has died. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

May Christ, who feeds us in the holy Eucharist, embrace the family of St Mary's and our whole community in His peace. May our fellowship be strengthened by His grace, our prayers be woven together in His love, and our lives bear witness to His hope. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always.
Amen.



Please **support the work of St Mary's** via the contactless payment device at the back of church or donate via the 'give a little' website or QR code here. Any donation gratefully received.

Psalm 23

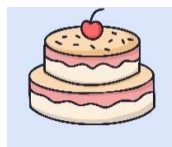
1 The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
2 He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;
3 he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.
4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff—
they comfort me.
5 You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long.

Annual Parish Church Meeting (APCM)



The APCM will take place on **Sunday 3rd May at 11am**. Nominations for PCC and other church roles are now open. If you are not on the electoral roll please sign up using the forms available at the back of the Church. The APCM will be held immediately after a joint 10am Service (there will be no 8am Holy Communion on this day).

Christian Aid - Cake Sale



There will be a fundraising cake sale after the Parish Communion service on **Sunday 10th May** in support of Christian Aid. All are welcome. You can also show your support by bringing a cake along on the day.

Youth Worker - Following our **Community Survey** and discussions at church we are hoping to appoint a **Youth Worker**. To **be part of the team** discerning this role, speak to Rev Amanda.

Safeguarding - Thank you to all those who have completed the recent **questionnaire on safeguarding**. We will now review the responses and consider next steps to ensure St Mary's remains a safe, respectful and protected environment for everyone.

Blaze Team - If you would like to **join the Blaze Team**, on the **2nd Sunday of the month**, leading our 6-10 year old group – please let Rev Amanda or Rev Tim know.



Prayer Festival - St Benedict's Centre is hosting a Prayer Festival on **Saturday, 30th May** from 10am to 4pm at West Malling. Scan the QR code to book or [click here](#) for a link.

Course on Mission - as members of Churches Together, we are warmly invited to join a short course focused on Mission at Coney Hill Baptist Church, all on Tuesday evenings. Rev Ian Hamlin writes: "we are going to be reflecting on what it is to be a witness. You'd be very welcome to join us, 7:30pm-9pm at the church, on Tuesday 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th May, for a series of video based discussions".



St. Christopher's Fun Walk in Keston - Rev Tim will be doing the St. Christopher's Fun Walk in Keston on **Sunday 10th May**, starting at 2pm. The Fun Walk route travels through parts of Hayes Parish, including the start/finish on Keston village green. If you'd like to join a St. Mary's team walking, or sponsor Rev Tim, follow the QR code or search for "St Christophers Fun Walk 2026".



Messy Cathedral - Rochester Cathedral will be holding a 'Messy Cathedral' afternoon of activities on **Saturday 16th May from 1pm onwards**. All ages are welcome and it is free event with no advance booking required. You can email sarah.cabella@rochester.anglican.org for more information.