

The Benefice Bulletin

3rd May 2026 – Fourth Sunday after Easter

The Vicarage, Church Lane, Barton under Needwood DE13 8HU



Please take this bulletin home with you

Here for the first time? Relax. Please make yourself at home and please sit where you feel comfortable. Those who greeted you, our wardens, or the clergy will answer any practical questions that you may have. Posture notes on the service sheet and verbal instructions are intended for those who can comfortably follow them. We hope you enjoy worshipping with us.

Services this week

Saturday 2nd May

13:00 Baptism of Toby
St Michael's, Tatenhill

Sunday 3rd May

09:00 Holy Communion
St Mary's, Dunstall
10:30 Holy Communion
St James', Barton
10:30 Holy Communion
St Michael's, Tatenhill

Wednesday 6th May

09:15 WoW Wednesday
including informal worship at 10:00
St James', Barton

Thursday 7th May

09:15 WoW Thursday
including informal worship at 10:00
Tatenhill Village Hall

Readings and Prayers for the Fourth Sunday after Easter

Readings

Psalm	31
Old Testament	Genesis 8.1-19
New Testament	Acts 7.55-End
Gospel	John 14.1-14

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

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

Clergy	Revd Andy Simpson ☎01283 712359	✉ vicar.bundtbenefice@outlook.com
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Coordinator	Beth Flashman ☎07464 835189	✉ coordinator.bundtbenefice@outlook.com
Churchwardens:		
St James'	Ray Holder ☎01283 327814	✉ rayholder2006@gmail.com
St Mary's	Angela Moffat ☎01283 713735	✉ rangelamoffat@icloud.com
St Michael's	Phil & Emma Coleman ☎01283 538983	✉ stmtatenhill@gmail.com

Acts 7.55-End

⁵⁵But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶'Look', he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!'. ⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witness laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' ⁶⁰Then 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.

John 14.1-14

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In 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? ³And 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. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going. ⁵Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' ⁶Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.' ⁸Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' ⁹Jesus 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"? ¹⁰Do 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. ¹¹Believe 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. ¹²Very 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. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

For your prayers

The World: We pray for His Majesty King Charles and Queen Camilla, and the wider Royal Family. We pray for all areas of the world where there are conflicts, poverty, drought, disaster, terrorism, and humanitarian crisis.

The Anglican Communion: The Church of North India (United)

Our Diocese: We pray for Bishops Michael and Matthew and Archdeacon Megan

Our Deanery: Along with our deanery, we pray for the parish of St Saviours, Branston and all those who live, work, and minister there.

Our Benefice: We pray for those who live and work on Causer Road, Sutton Crescent, Salt Drive and Keeling Drive in Barton, Dunstall Cross in Dunstall and Larches Avenue and Flint Avenue in Tatenhill. May God be with all those who live and work in these places as they go about their daily lives this week.

Those who are not well: Heather S, Lesley S-D, Shirley, Phillipa, Tim S, John G, Brian, Rosemarie, Jess, Cliff, Viv, Rev Liz, Simon, Georgia

Those who have died: Dorothy Jenkins, Claire Johnson-Phillips. We pray for all those whose anniversaries fall at this time.

In Benefice News...

- The May **Barton Prom "Spring Sounds"** will be held on Tuesday 19th May, starting at 7:00pm and will feature local artists and soloists. Refreshments and a raffle on the evening, along with donations for entry will be split between the Midlands Air Ambulance and St James' Church. Full prom dates are included with this bulletin.
- Please note that there will be no **Home Group** in April. Home Group will return on Monday, 11th May.
- **Christian Aid Week** runs from 10th - 16th May this year, and we will once again be marking this week with the **Big Brekkie** on Sunday 10th May. Who doesn't love a bacon or sausage sarnie followed by a joint service with the Methodist Church! Join us from 10am as we raise funds for the work of Christian Aid.
- If you want to find out why Rev Andy "don't like Monday's", head to **Pub Church** on Monday 18th May, 7pm at The Shoulder. A relaxed and informal service over a drink!
- **The Chime** team are currently looking for new volunteers to help deliver the magazine. If you could spare a couple of hours ten times a year, please speak to Jill Rogers for more information.

If you would like a home visit from the Ministry or Pastoral Visiting Team, please contact the Benefice Office on 01283 712359 to arrange a time.

Diary Dates for the Week Ahead

Monday 4th May

Bank Holiday Monday
Benefice Office Closed

Tuesday 5th May

Wednesday 6th May

09:15 WOW Wednesday
including informal worship at 10:00
St James', Barton

Thursday 7th May

09:15 WOW Thursday
including informal worship at 10:00
Tatenhill Village Hall

Friday 8th May

13:30 Wedding of Kerry and Mark
St James', Barton

Saturday 9th May

10:00 Churchyard Working Party
St James', Barton
13:00 Wedding of Keifer and Michelle
St James', Barton

Sunday 10th May

09:00 Holy Communion
St Michael's, Tatenhill
10:00 Big Brekkie
10:30 Second Sunday Service
11:45 Barton APCM
17:00 Confirmation Course
St James', Barton
18:00 Evening Prayer
St Mary's, Dunstall

Future Dates

Monday 11th May

19:00 Home Group
The Vicarage, Barton

Tuesday 12th May

11:30 Funeral of Claire Johnson-Phillips
Bretby Crematorium
18:00 Confirmation Service Rehearsal
St James', Barton

Wednesday 13th May

13:00 Funeral of Dorothy Jenkins
St James', Barton

Saturday 16th May

13:30 Wedding of Sam and Toni
St James', Barton

Sunday 17th May

18:00 Confirmation Service
officiated by Bishop Matthew of Stafford
St James', Barton

Tuesday 19th May

19:00 Barton Spring Sounds Prom
St James', Barton



Hello All,

Alleluia He is Risen!

Sunday's Gospel reading makes regular appearances at funerals because it talks of how Jesus goes to prepare a place for us and that He is the way to that place. Jesus goes on to talk about how "no one comes to the Father except through Him". Many have used this verse to condemn those of other, and of no faith. I see what they mean but, I'm not so sure that is what Jesus is saying here to be honest. Jesus' saving work might just be as effective for those who don't believe He is the Son of God as it is for those who do! After all Jesus will "reconcile ALL things unto Himself" according to St Paul! And anyway, surely Jesus is talking about the right way of living: practice and behaviour, rather than the right way of believing, when He refers to Himself as the 'Way'? What do you think?

He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Yours in Christ, Rev Andy +