



The Parish Churches of St Mary the Virgin, Gillingham,
St Simon & St Jude, Milton on Stour and St Nicholas, Silton



Open to God, Open to all

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Sunday 24 May DAY OF PENTECOST (Whit Sunday)

CW Lectionary Acts 2. 1 – 21; John 20. 19 – 23

10:00am Holy Communion St Mary's Church, Gillingham

Hymns: 242, 238, 235, 261 & 389 (choir), 264

Prayers for healing are usually available after the 10am service in the side chapel at St Mary's

10:30am BCP Matins St Nicholas Church, Silton

10:30am Holy Communion St Simon & St Jude, Milton on Stour

Hymns: Shine, Jesus, Shine (printed sheet), 147, 93, 156

3:00pm Messy Church Vicarage School Room

After meeting in the VSR, we'll go over to St Mary's for interactive story telling. Followed by crafts, activities & tea!

Collect

God, who as at this time taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion

Faithful God, who fulfilled the promises of Easter by sending us your Holy Spirit and opening to every race and nation the way of life eternal: open our lips by your Spirit that every tongue may tell of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For your thoughts and prayers

Norma Morris, Adam Cooke, Steve & Mary Rae, Roberta Wyatt, Rita Burns, Allen & Pauline Bryant, Carol Hebden, Diane Whitford, Anne Clarke, Shirley Lynch, Sandra Haward and David Clegg & family.

We commend to God's care all those who have died, and we pray for those who mourn the loss of loved ones.

READING Acts 2. 1 – 21

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs – in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.' All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.' But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: "In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

GOSPEL John 20. 19 – 23

It was evening on the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

Wednesday 27 May

10.30am Holy Communion at St Mary's Church, Gillingham

10:30am – 12noon The Gillingham Men's Group at Rawson Court

2:00pm – 4:30pm Eden Café and TerraCycle recycling in the Vicarage School Room

Thursday 28 May

10:00am – 12noon Eden Café and TerraCycle recycling in the Vicarage School Room

2:30pm – 4:00pm Dementia Friendly Gillingham 'Music For You' at St Martin's House, Queen Street

Friday 29 May

9.30am – 10:00am Informal Prayer Group at St Mary's Church, Gillingham

Saturday 30 May

10:00am – 1:00pm Annual Charity Plant Sale on Gillingham Town Meadow.

*Perennials, annuals and young vegetable plants all sell well and house plants, succulents and ferns are popular too. This year we will also be selling pottery pots and their saucers and plastic pots of various sizes. Plants and pots can be left near the South Door of St. Mary's Church on Friday, 29 May or bring them to the Meadow before 9:45am on the day of the sale. It does help the sorting process if plants are labelled. If you don't know the name, please indicate the plants' preference for sun or shade. **Please note – no cars are allowed on the Meadow between the hours of 9:45am and 1:00pm.** Parking is available in the Red Lion Car Park behind the Meadow. Hope the weather is kind, look forward to seeing you there, Meriol.*



10:00am – 12noon Meditation in the Vicarage School Room

12:30pm Wedding of Simon Gates and Sophie Hoskins at St Mary's Church, Gillingham

Sunday 31 May TRINITY SUNDAY

CW Lectionary 2 Cor. 13. 11 – end; Matt 28. 16 – end

10:00am **Benefice Holy Communion** St Mary's Church, Gillingham

This is the only service in the benefice this Sunday morning and everyone from the three parishes is encouraged to attend to demonstrate our unity, fellowship and love for one another in Christ as a single benefice.



Finance Bite Size 22 – St Mary's Stewardship Appeal

The results of the Stewardship Appeal so far show that of the 49 Planned Giving streams (having gained 2 and lost 2), 14 have been increased amounting to an 8.9 % increase. It is difficult to gauge if regular Sunday collections via the plate and card reader have changed because of variance of attendance and the number is Sundays in the month.

Thursday 4 June – Corpus Christi

7:00pm at St Mary's Church: a service of thanksgiving for the institution of Holy Communion, where we focus on and celebrate Christ's presence in the bread and wine. The choir will be singing some special music. Please come along! Please note, a small amount of incense will be used.

Friday 5 June – Afternoon Tea for Christian Aid

2:00pm – 4:00pm, in the Vicarage School Room. Suggested donation £5 on the door.



Gillingham Community Cinema – Upcoming films

Thursday 18 June – H is for Hawk, **Thursday 16 July** – The Roses

7:00pm in the Vicarage School Room. Tickets £6. Reserve from 07817 379006. Payment by cash or card on the evening.

