

**St Mary the Virgin and All Saints
Potters Bar**

17th May 2026

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

*A warm welcome to St Mary's,
especially if this is your first time here.*

*Coffee, tea and biscuits are served at the back of the church
after the Sung Eucharist.*

TODAY'S SERVICES

8.00am **SAID EUCHARIST**

10.00am **SUNG EUCHARIST**

First Reading: Acts 1 vv 6-14 *Jesus ascends to heaven,
after promising his disciples the gift of the Holy Spirit.*

Second Reading: 1 Peter 4 vv 12-14; 5 vv 6-11 *We are to
accept suffering for Christ as a privilege. We are also called to
be humble and firm in our faith.*

Gospel: John 17 vv 1-11 *Jesus intercedes for His disciples
and for all who believe in Him.*

Hymns: 332, 349, 271, 134, 296

Anthem: Above all praise and all majesty –
Mendelssohn

11.30am **ANNUAL CHURCH MEETINGS**

*Our flowers this week have been arranged by Millicent Burks
and donated by Judy Keefe in memory of her mother,
Margaret Hamilton*

The Week Ahead

Tuesday	St Dunstan, archbishop
9.30am	Morning Prayer
10.30am – 12 noon	Church open for visitors
5.00pm	Evening Prayer
Wednesday	St Alcuin, deacon & abbot
9.30am	Said Eucharist
10.30am – 12 noon	Church open for visitors
5.00pm	Evening Prayer
Thursday	9.30am Said Eucharist (BCP)
10.30am – 12 noon	Church open for visitors
5.00pm	Evening Prayer
7.45pm	Barnet Deanery Synod meets at 96 Shenley Road, Borehamwood
Friday	9.30am Morning Prayer
5.00pm	Evening Prayer (BCP)

Next Sunday is the **FEAST OF PENTECOST**
(Whit Sunday)

8.00am Said Eucharist

10.00am **FESTIVAL EUCHARIST**

5.00pm Evensong (BCP)

Eucharist readings next Sunday will be: Acts 2 vv 1-21;
1 Corinthians 12 vv 3b-13 and John 20 vv 19-23.

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Parish Notices

Many thanks to everyone who helped to make last Sunday's Confirmation service and Bring & Share Lunch such a successful and joyful occasion.

Our **Annual Church Meetings** take place in church after the Sung Eucharist. Please do join us if you can.

Thank you to those who contributed to our collection for **Christian Aid Week** last Sunday. If you weren't able to donate then, you can make a bank transfer or put your donation in the wooden donations box at the back of church. If using a yellow Gift Aid envelope, please mark it for 'Christian Aid'.

'**Thy Kingdom Come**' The worldwide Church is keeping the ten days between Ascension Day and Pentecost as a time of prayer for more people to come to know Jesus. Prayer resources at www.thykingdomcome.global/

Some members of the congregation are running a 5K obstacle course today to raise money for **Cancer Research UK**, representing St Mary's. To sponsor them, there is a QR code on the noticeboard or visit: <https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/team/st-marys-church-potters-bar>

Elizabeth Liney has started her pilgrimage from St Paul's Cathedral to St Albans Cathedral, walking in five stages of about 7 miles each, to give thanks for the care, treatment and prayerful support she has received over the past 17 months. She is raising money for the **Isabel Hospice**. You can find out more details and how you can support her at: <https://tinyurl.com/3dev4fse> She is very grateful to those who have already sponsored her.

The Knit & Natter Group will meet on **Tuesday 26th May** at 12 noon in the choir vestry.

Church cleaning will take place on **Wednesday 27th May** from 10.15am. The small team will be most grateful for some additional help.

Watchers & Welcomers Please let Heather Hawkes know of any holiday dates in July and August.

For your prayers

The sick Anna Downes, Carole Waller, Elizabeth Liney, Elizabeth Wiseman, Nathan Reid, Valerie Taylor, Francoise Groves-de-Milleret, Joan Golden, Robert Peters, Lisa Collins, Maureen Alderman, Alison Stevens, Kirsty Edmunds, Marilyn Gibbs

We also pray for Margaret Terry, Keith Downes, Jayne Hutton, Janet Daniels, Susan North, Julia, Tessa, Linda, Nicola Stiff, Ron Golden, Ricky Mella, Sasha Burt, David Evans, Richard Barnes, Dave Gough, Pauline Phillips, Keith Probert, Prussia Blake, Steven Seal

The recently departed

Anniversaries of death this week Douglas McMullen, Ivy Jones, Muriel Follett, Christopher Schools, Sylvia Knight

Our parish We remember those who live in Bearwood Close, Beechwood Avenue and Bentley Heath Lane

**THIS SHEET IS FOR YOU TO KEEP
PLEASE TAKE IT HOME WITH YOU**

Sunday 17 May 2026 Seventh Sunday of Easter

COLLECT

O God the King of glory,
you have exalted your only Son Jesus
Christ
with great triumph to your kingdom in
heaven:
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us
and exalt us to the place where our Saviour
Christ is gone before,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING

The reading from Acts must be used as either the first or second reading.

Either Acts 1:6-14

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When the apostles had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Or Ezekiel 36:24-28

PSALM

Psalm 68:1-10. 32-end (or 68:1-10)

R Sing to God, sing praises to his name.

Let God arise and let his enemies be
scattered;
let those that hate him flee before him.
As the smoke vanishes, so may they vanish
away;

as wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked
perish at the presence of God. R

But let the righteous be glad and rejoice
before God;
let them make merry with gladness.
Sing to God, sing praises to his name;
exalt him who rides on the clouds.
The Lord is his name; rejoice before him. R

Father of the fatherless, defender of
widows,
God in his holy habitation!
God gives the solitary a home
and brings forth prisoners to songs of
welcome,
but the rebellious inhabit a burning desert. R

O God, when you went forth before your
people,
when you marched through the wilderness,
The earth shook and the heavens dropped
down rain, at the presence of God, the
Lord of Sinai,
at the presence of God, the God of
Israel. R

You sent down a gracious rain, O God;
you refreshed your inheritance when it was
weary.
Your people came to dwell there;
in your goodness, O God, you provide for
the poor. R

Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth;
make music in praise of the Lord;
He rides on the ancient heaven of heavens
and sends forth his voice, a mighty voice. R

Ascribe power to God, whose splendour is
over Israel,
whose power is above the clouds.
How terrible is God in his holy sanctuary,
the God of Israel, who gives power and
strength to his people!
Blessed be God. R

SECOND READING

Either 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery
ordeal that is taking place among you to
test you, as though something strange
were happening to you. But rejoice in so
far as you are sharing Christ's sufferings,
so that you may also be glad and shout
for joy when his glory is revealed. If you
are reviled for the name of Christ, you are
blessed, because the spirit of glory, which
is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.
Humble yourselves therefore under the
mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt
you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on
him, because he cares for you. Discipline
yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion
your adversary the devil prowls around,

looking for someone to devour. Resist him,
steadfast in your faith, for you know that
your brothers and sisters throughout the
world are undergoing the same kinds of
suffering. And after you have suffered for
a little while, the God of all grace, who has
called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will
himself restore, support, strengthen, and
establish you. To him be the power for ever
and ever. Amen.

Or Acts 1:6-14

GOSPEL John 17:1-11

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John.

Jesus looked up to heaven and said,
"Father, the hour has come; glorify your
Son so that the Son may glorify you, since
you have given him authority over all
people, to give eternal life to all whom
you have given him. And this is eternal
life, that they may know you, the only true
God, and Jesus Christ whom you have
sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing
the work that you gave me to do. So now,
Father, glorify me in your own presence
with the glory that I had in your presence
before the world existed. I have made your
name known to those whom you gave me
from the world. They were yours, and you
gave them to me, and they have kept your
word. Now they know that everything you
have given me is from you; for the words
that you gave to me I have given to them,
and they have received them and know in
truth that I came from you; and they have
believed that you sent me. I am asking on
their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of
the world, but on behalf of those whom
you gave me, because they are yours. All
mine are yours, and yours are mine; and
I have been glorified in them. And now I
am no longer in the world, but they are in
the world, and I am coming to you. Holy
Father, protect them in your name that you
have given me, so that they may be one, as
we are one."

POST COMMUNION

Eternal God, giver of love and power,
your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all
the world
to preach the gospel of his kingdom:
confirm us in this mission,
and help us to live the good news we
proclaim;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Sing - to God, sing prai-ses to his name.