



The Parish Church of

St John the Baptist

Serving the communities of Bodicote,
Cherwell Heights and Longford Park

Our Parish Prayer Ever living God, give us the courage to be your church in the community and for the community, and teach us new ways to share your love with all those around us. Amen.

Sunday 10 May 6th Sunday of Easter

Collect

God our redeemer,
you have delivered us from the
power of darkness and brought us
into the kingdom of your Son:
grant, that as by his death he
has recalled us to life, so by his
continual presence in us he may
raise us to eternal joy;
through Jesus Christ your son our
Lord, who is alive and reigns with
you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

First Reading: Acts 17: 22-31

Then Paul stood in front of the
Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I
see how extremely religious you are
in every way.

For as I went through the city and
looked carefully at the objects of your

worship, I found among them an altar
with the inscription, "To an unknown
god.' What therefore you worship as
unknown, this I proclaim to you.

The God who made the world and
everything in it, he who is Lord of
heaven and earth, does not live in
shrines made by human hands, nor
is he served by human hands, as
though he needed anything, since he
himself gives to all mortals life and
breath and all things.

From one ancestor he made all
nations to inhabit the whole earth,
and he allotted the times of their
existence and the boundaries of the
places where they would live, so
that they would search for God and
perhaps grope for him and find him—
though indeed he is not far from each
one of us.

For “In him we live and move and have our being”; as even some of your own poets have said, “For we too are his offspring.’

Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals.

While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3: 13-end

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed.

Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame.

For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous,

in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water.

And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Gospel Reading: John 14: 15-21

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you.

They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love

me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

Post-communion Prayer

God our Father,
whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life:
may we thirst for you, the spring of life and source of goodness,
through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen.

Final Hymn

Christ is the one who calls,
the one who loved and came,
to whom by right it falls
to bear the highest Name:
and still today
our hearts are stirred
to hear his word
and walk his way.

Christ is the one who seeks,
to whom our souls are known.
The word of love he speaks
can wake a heart of stone;
for at that sound
the blind can see,

the slave is free,
the lost are found.

Christ is the one who died,
forsaken and betrayed;
who, mocked and crucified,
the price of pardon paid.

Our dying Lord,
what grief and loss,
what bitter cross,
our souls restored!

Christ is the one who rose
in glory from the grave,
to share his life with those
whom once he died to save.

He drew death's sting
and broke its chains,
who lives and reigns,
our risen King.

Christ is the one who sends,
his story to declare;
who calls his servants friends
and gives them news to share.

His truth proclaim
in all the earth,
his matchless worth
and saving Name.

Timothy Dudley-Smith (b.1926)

Notices

Thy Kingdom Come - once again we shall mark the period between Ascension Day and Pentecost when we unite with over one million Christians across the world in prayer. At its heart is the Prayer for Five when we pray on behalf of five of our friends, family, neighbours or colleagues who do not yet follow Christ, that they may come to know

Him. The theme this year is God With Us and Novenas and Prayer Journals are available in church for you to take away and use.

Your final chance to donate some bottle for our tombola at the **Community Fete next Saturday, 16th May 1-4pm!** They do not need to be alcohol - soft drinks, toiletries etc

are also much appreciated.

We will have: the **Bell Tower open** from 1-2pm, or longer if there is the demand; the **Bodicote Archive Group** will be displaying some of their photos in the back of Church house; members of the **Floral Art Group** arranging displays in the church; the local **guiding groups** organising a cake stall and “guess the weight of the cake”; the local **scouting groups** running a BBQ; our own **Mother’s Union** celebrating their 150 years and serving refreshments; **Philip Davies** with his exciting books; our local **Homestart charity** running some games; the **Friends of Bishop Loveday School**, also with games; and **church** will be running the raffle (still time to get your tickets!), tombola and the children’s treasure hunt.

Apologies if I’ve missed anyone!

It proves to be an enjoyable afternoon, so please do come along and bring your friends.

This week we pray for all who live or work in Paddock Farm Lane, and Malthouse Lane.

Diary for this week

All in church unless otherwise stated

Sunday 10 May

8am Holy Communion (BCP)
9.45am Parish Communion
11.30am Baptisms of Charlotte Emms and Sharon Boland

Monday 11 May

8.30am Morning Prayer (Zoom*)

Wednesday 13 May

7.30pm Mothers’ Union meet in Church House

Thursday 14 May

7.00pm Service for Ascension Day

Friday 15 May

Vicar’s day off

Saturday 16 May

1-4pm Community Fete and treasure hunt

Sunday 17 May

8am Holy Communion (BCP)
9.45am Parish Communion

*Please ask wardens for the link.

Readings for 17 May

Acts 1: 15–end; 1 Peter 4: 12–14, 5: 6–11;
John 17: 1–11

Contact us

Vicar: Revd Emily Hockliffe Essex revd.emily@gmail.com 07979 931889

Associate Minister: Revd Alice Jolley mthr.alicejolley@outlook.com

Churchwardens: churchwardens.bodicotechurch@gmail.com

Treasurer: treasurer.bodicotechurch@gmail.com

Administrator: office.bodicotechurch@gmail.com

Website: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/5406/

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/BodicoteParishChurch>