



epping
team ministry

NEWS

SUNDAY, 10th MAY, EASTER 6

Genesis 8.20-9.17, Acts 17.22-31; John 14.15-21

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ SERVICES IN THE TEAM FOR THIS WEEK ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

SUNDAY

8:00 am BCP HOLY COMMUNION, St John's Epping

9:20 am UPFRONT, St John's Epping - Hymns: 700, 193, 585, 588

11:10 am HOLY COMMUNION, All Saints Epping Upland

11:10 am HOLY COMMUNION, St Alban's Coopersale

6:00 pm CHORAL EVENSONG, St John's Epping

Hymns: 765, 602, 22

MONDAY & TUESDAY

8:45 am MORNING PRAYER, St John's, Epping

5.00 pm EVENING PRAYER, St John's Epping

WEDNESDAY

8:45 am MORNING PRAYER, St John's, Epping

9:30 am HOLY COMMUNION, St John's Epping

5.00 pm EVENING PRAYER, St John's Epping

THURSDAY

10:00 am CHURCH MICE, St John's Epping

This is held during school term time. Contact Kate Collin on 07951 484805 or email kate.collin212@gmail.com

8.00 pm Sung Communion for Ascension Day, St John's Epping

Hymns: 228, 223 (omit * verses), 422, 232

St John's is usually open daily for private prayer
Except bank Holidays or other special occasions.

Please switch your mobile phone to silent mode or switch it off before a Sunday service begins and take time to pray that we may be fully present with each other and with Christ.

~~~~~ **FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM** ~~~~~

This Thursday (14<sup>th</sup> May) is Ascension Day, which we mark in these parishes with a service of Sung Communion at St John's at 8pm. Each year I often wonder what to make of the Ascension. . Much like the birth of Jesus, there is a holy mystery here, and thinking of the Ascension in purely physical terms, doesn't really get to the heart of what the Gospel writers are seeking to convey. The book Acts is the second volume of writing by St Luke which has made it into the texts of Bible, and the accounts of the Ascension provide a bridge between his account of the life of Jesus and the experiences of those first people who came to be called Christians. In the words of a commentator on these things, Acts begins at a place where *"Jesus is visible, angels speak clearly and the cloud between earth and heaven is momentarily thinned"* but as time passes it becomes increasingly difficult to discern the way forward – a challenge which continues to impact every Christian community today. And yet, one thing is clear, that those who were witnesses of all that had happened and had seen Jesus after the first Easter Day were told to go and share the Good News. For this reason, the 10 days after Ascension Day have been a season where we are asked to pray intentionally for the growth of the church. There are many ways we could do this, for example, committing to pray for 5 people every day, that they might come to know Jesus Christ for themselves. Our new Archbishop Sarah has written a resource to help us do this which can be found at

<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/resources/2026-novena>

And yet, the growth of the church is (fortunately) not something completely in the hand of the church of today. In common with those first witnesses, the work of mission is collaborative. After Jesus had left those who had gathered with on the mountain Luke tells us they were "continually in the Temple blessing God" and that they were to wait for the Spirit who would be given. There are days when I feel alone, that there is so much to do and so little time to do it in, but it is in those times that I need to hear again the example of Jesus' first followers to be worshippers first of all. It is for this reason that once again morning and evening prayer will be said more often publicly in St John's. All are welcome to come and share the work of prayer, as we seek to renew our commitment to following and being present with Christ doing that which today can also make the cloud between heaven and earth a little thinner. John

~~~~~ **READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY** ~~~~~

Genesis 8, 20 – 9, 17. God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth. The fear and dread of you shall rest on every animal of the earth, and on every bird of the air, on everything that creeps on the ground, and on all the fish of the sea; into your hand they are delivered. Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you; and just as I gave you the green plants, I give you everything. Only, you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood. For your own lifeblood I will surely require a reckoning: from every animal I will require it and from human beings, each one for the blood of another, I will require a reckoning for human life. Whoever sheds the blood of a human, by a human shall that person's blood be shed; for in his own image God made humankind. And you, be fruitful and multiply, abound on the earth and multiply in it.'

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, 'As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.' God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.' God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.'

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.'

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 for ever. 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.'

~~~~~ **FOR OUR PRAYERS DURING THE WEEK** ~~~~~

**Monday** For the congregation and parish of **All Saints, Epping Upland.**

**Tuesday** For all who care for our rural environment, farms, forest and green spaces.

**Wednesday** For all those recently elected to our local councils, that they may be fair in their actions.

**Thursday** For all pupils and staff at Epping Upland School.

**Friday** For the Ministry Team, especially for our new Team Vicar; for all who contribute to, or lead, our services: for those who lead our meetings, those who carry out 'behind the scenes' activities and those who help fundraising in the Team churches.

**Those who are sick and for whom prayers have been asked:**

Graham, June, Caroline, Harriet , David, Rebecca, Sam, Marion, Pam McLean, Lorraine Limburn, Jim Sands, Roger Payne, Lisa Trutwein, the Townsend family.

**Those who have died recently, their family and friends:**

**Those whose anniversary of death occurs during this week:**

10<sup>th</sup> May, Edith Whiteman, Ernest Deione, Muriel Barker; 11<sup>th</sup>, Arthur Morgan, Janice Willis, martin Darwood; 12<sup>th</sup>, George Reece, Norman Eiloart, Pauline Jensen, Sheila Taylor; 13<sup>th</sup>, Albert Warner, Joyce Freshwater, Daniel Barker; 14<sup>th</sup>, Jean Nicholls, Peter Greenall, John Wetherall, Olive, Coward; 15<sup>th</sup>, Richard Thompson, Alexander Gould; 16<sup>th</sup>, Dorcas Saltmarsh, Leslie Upson.

**COLLECT for this Sunday.**

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

~~~~~ **FOR YOUR INFORMATION** ~~~~~

CHORAL EVENSONG TONIGHT at 6:00 pm in St John's: Introit, Regina Caeli (Peter Aston); Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis, (Shera in C); Anthem, I give to you a new commandment (Peter Narbonne); Voluntary, Fantaisie in Eb (Saint-Saens)

ST JOHN'S PORCH DOORS We have received the amended Faculty from the diocese and it has been confirmed that the installation will be at approximately the end of June.

THE CRAFT GROUP is usually held in St John's on the last Wednesday of each month from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

COFFEE CONCERTS in St John's. Please see the notice boards for upcoming events.

JOYFUL PRAISE SERVICES AT 6:00 pm ON FOURTH SUNDAYS at St John's offer all age groups the opportunity to sing modern worship songs led by our contemporary worship band during summer hours. Join us we launch our new worship format.

ST JOHN'S SPRING FAYRE – HELP NEEDED. The Spring Fayre at St John's Church, Epping is on Saturday 23rd May, 10:00 am–2:00 pm, and we'd love your support. Volunteers are needed for set-up (from 8:00 am), helping on stalls, and clearing away—please sign up if you can help. The sheet is on the red notice board or contact: Natalie Kelberman

(07795246488/nkelberman@eppinganglicans.org.uk).

We also welcome donations of cakes (on the day), raffle prizes (including bottles of alcohol), food hamper items, and good-quality, new or nearly new gifts for the tombola. Also, we thought we'd try something different, so unwanted jewellery such as costume jewellery is also requested for a Jewellery Stall. Donations can be left in the vestry corridor or team office during the week.

Thank you!

FOR YOUR DIARIES. RIDE AND STRIDE in support of our historic church buildings will take place on Saturday 12th September 2026. Seek sponsorship from friends & family and see:

www.friendsofsexchurches.org.uk/ride-stride (Half of the money raised by those taking part goes back to their home parish)

SERVICES FOR NEXT SUNDAY, 17th May 2026, Easter 7

8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP), **St John's** Epping

9:20 am Sung Communion, **St John's** Epping

11:10 am Holy Communion, **St Alban's** Coopersale

11:00 am Holy Communion, then the APCM, **All Saints** Epping Upland

6:00 pm Sunday at Six, **St John's** Epping

READINGS: Ezekial 36.24-28; Acts 1.6-14; John 17.1-11

ASCENSION DAY – Thursday 14th May 2026. There will be a joint service of Sung Communion at 8:00 pm in St John's Epping. The service will include an opportunity to join in with the Global Wave of Prayer as we join the to pray 'Thy Kingdom Come' between Ascension Day and Pentecost and also conclude the season of 100 days of prayer in the Diocese of Chelmsford.

NEWS for Sunday 17th May 2026. Please note that any input for next week should be sent to me before 3:00 pm on Monday 11th May, otherwise please send it to the Lisa in the Team Office. Thanks, Geoff

PASTORAL CARE TEAM MEETING. All existing members of the Pastoral Care Team are invited to a special meeting to be held at Team Vicarage (9 Seymour Chase, Epping) on Monday **18th May** at 7.30pm. If you are interested in exploring what's involved in joining this team, please speak to a member of the clergy

~~~~~ **PLEGDED GIVING AND COLLECTIONS** ~~~~~

There are many ways to financially support the mission and ministry of the parishes. We are grateful for the many ways and forms of giving which express our shared worship of Christ.

**COLLECTIONS IN SUNDAY SERVICES:** A cash collection is taken at Sunday and midweek services. Please don't feel any embarrassment to let it pass you by.

**PARISH GIVING SCHEME (PGS):** Similar to direct debit payments but set up an account by calling PGS on 0333 002 1271 providing your bank details plus your church PGS code which is:

Epping Upland, All Saints-0806-08029  
Epping, St John the Baptist-0806-08028  
Coopersale, St Alban the Martyr-0806-08027

**BACS** You can give to church by bank transfer; the sort codes and account numbers are listed here:

**St Alban's** 20-29-86, Account: 50776459  
**St John's** 20-29-86, Account: 50357219  
**All Saints** 60-07-39, Account 50236520

**EPPING TEAM MINISTRY CONTACT DETAILS**

**Team Clergy**    **Revd John Fry:** Team Rector - 01992 934355  
Rest day, usually Saturday  
E-mail: [teamrector@eppinganglicans.org.uk](mailto:teamrector@eppinganglicans.org.uk)

**Revd Kate Moore:** Team Vicar – 01992 265590  
Usual working days Saturday – Wednesday  
Email: [teamvicar@eppinganglicans.org.uk](mailto:teamvicar@eppinganglicans.org.uk)

**Revd Jessica Bostock:** Associate Minister,  
3 Sundays a month and Mondays.  
E-mail: [associateminister@eppinganglicans.org.uk](mailto:associateminister@eppinganglicans.org.uk)

**Dr Liz Gloyn:** Curate  
E-Mail: [curate@eppinganglicans.org.uk](mailto:curate@eppinganglicans.org.uk)

**LLMs**            **Diana Lowry:** 01992 279696  
Email: [dianalowryepp@gmail.com](mailto:dianalowryepp@gmail.com)  
**Steve Snooks:** 01992 572185  
Email: [stevesnooks@hotmail.com](mailto:stevesnooks@hotmail.com)

**Children, Youth and Family Worker, Emily Townshend:** Is now on Maternity Leave

**Church Wardens** for **Epping Upland** and **Coopersale**, please contact the Team Office.  
For **St John's**, contact **Marian Winters** at 07790 532 570, email: [marianwinters@aol.com](mailto:marianwinters@aol.com) or  
**Sara McLean** at 07768 106 406, email: [sdmclean@eppinganglicans.org.uk](mailto:sdmclean@eppinganglicans.org.uk)

**Team Administrator: Lisa Bazzoni** - 01992 579935  
E-mail: [teamadmin@eppinganglicans.org.uk](mailto:teamadmin@eppinganglicans.org.uk)

**NEWS** items for next week; **Geoff Scanlan** - 01992 576550 - E-mail: [rosandgeoff@btinternet.com](mailto:rosandgeoff@btinternet.com)

**Please send us any prayer requests, or if you would like someone to pray for you.**

**St John's** has a 'T' loop: please ask for help if you need it.

**MOBILITY AIDS** are at the back of **St John's** for use in church.

You can follow **St John's**, **All Saints** and **St Alban's** on **Facebook**

**WE ARE A MEMBER OF VOLUNTARY ACTION EPPING FOREST**