



ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

Greenlands Avenue, Redditch B98 7PZ

Parish of Ipsley

stjohnschurchredditch@gmail.com

Sunday, 6 May 2018

The ascension of Jesus Christ is one of the most significant events recorded in the New Testament. Ascension Day marks the 40th day of Easter, and commemorates Jesus Christ's ascension into heaven following his death and resurrection, as recorded in the passages found in Luke 24:50-51 and Acts 1:8-11.

Jesus appears to the disciples in His glorified state after rising from the dead. Jesus then encourages His disciples that they will "receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you." He tells them that they must serve as His "witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Immediately after these words are spoken, the ascension takes place: "He was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. They were looking intently up into the sky as He was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. 'Men of Galilee,' they said, 'why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.'"

Christ's ascension into Heaven marked the crowning event of His exaltation, and served as a necessary event to His continuing work through the Spirit and the church.

Having paid the ultimate price for the sin of humanity—death on the cross—Jesus Christ is now risen and exalted and applies the salvation He has won by granting the gifts of repentance and forgiveness of sins. Thus, Ascension Day is significant because it provides believers with the hope of Christ's return and proclaims the hope and glory held out to all who are in Christ.

Have you received the great salvation that Jesus offers? This Ascension Day we can thank God for the finished work of His son, the Holy Spirit's presence in our lives, and the promise of Christ's return.

Please collect your fairer share form, fill it in and return it as soon as possible. Thanks

Plant and Traidcraft sale A warm welcome awaits you at Tardebigge's annual Plant Sale being held at St Bartholomew's Church and opening at 11 am prompt on Saturday 12th May 2018.

This popular annual event sells plants grown by people in and around the parish and is open to everyone - serious gardeners or potterers alike!

For plenty of choice, it's best to arrive in Church Lane, Tardebigge (B60 3AH) in time for opening at 11 am. Stock sells out quickly - but then there's time for a fresh cup of tea and a piece of home-made cake. Preserves, home-made cakes, raffle tickets and Traidcraft products will also be on sale in the Church Hall, right next to the plant tables on the grass outside.

All profits (except for the Traidcraft stall, whose profits go to other charities) will support our two local churches of St Bartholomew's, Tardebigge and St Mary's, Bentley, which are funded entirely by donation.

Churches Together in Redditch Pentecost in the Park on the afternoon of 20th May 2018 - Barbecue from 2:30, Pentecost Praise 3:30 -5pm

COME AND JOIN IN! Bring yourself, bring a friend, bring & share BBQ and please bring garden chair/s. If anyone can loan a gazebo that would be great. Lots of other help needed. Enquires: Heather Berry 01527 60638

Christian Aid Week - Guided Sponsored Walk Saturday 19th May

Join us for this Redditch circular walk to raise money for Christian Aid. Choose the length of walk that would suit you. The shorter walks are stages in the long walk.

The options are:

- 20 miles starting from St Stephen's Church, Church Green at 8am
- 7.5 miles from St Matthias Church, Astwood Bank
- 5 miles from Morton Stanley Park
- 2 miles from St Philip's Church, Webheath

Walkers will finish together at St Stephen's Church, where it is hoped to have fish and chips at around 5pm. Please put this date in your diary, further information about the walk options and sponsorship forms are available from John (below).

Contact John at johnlegge@jplcomputer.co.uk for more information.

Services

Easter 6

- 10:30am Worship for Everyone Service
 Joel 2:28-32 'Who is the Holy Spirit?'
- 6:30pm Holy Communion with Revd. Richard Harding
 Mark 10:35-45 'Jesus Authentic Leader'

Next Sunday - Easter 7

- 10:30am Café Church with Revd. Garth Nathaniel
 Romans 8:28-39 'The Holy Spirit - New Love '
- 6:30pm Evening Worship with Mike Palfreyman

Diary dates

Tues 8th May 7:30pm DCC Meeting - St. John's

Thurs 9:30am Holy Communion - St. John's, followed by coffee morning.

Thurs 10th May 7:30pm Joint Ascension Day Service - St. Peter's

Sat 12th May 11am Plant & Traidcraft sale - St. Bartholomew's Tardebigge

Sat 19th May 8am Christian Aid Sponsored Walk

Sun 20th May 2:30 - 5pm Churches Together Pentecost in the Park

Sun 27th May 6:30pm Celebration of Lay Ministry Service - St. John's

Lectionary Readings - Easter 6

Mon Acts 16.11-15; Ps 149.1-5; Jn 15.26-16.4

Tues Acts 16.22-34; Ps 138; Jn 16.5-11

Wed Acts 17.15, 22-18.1; Ps 148.1-2, 11-end; Jn 16.12-15

Thurs Ascension Day

Fri Acts 18.9-18; Ps 47.1-6; Jn 16.20-23

Sat Acts 18.22-end; Ps 47.1-2, 7-end; Jn 16.23-28

Ascension Day There will be a joint Parish service this Thursday 7.30pm at St Peter's Ipsley to celebrate Ascension Day, if you would like to go and need a lift please speak with Sharon.

Collect for the week

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 forever. Amen.

Call Ann Donovan (for prayer chain) in the first instance on 01527 527789.

Please pray for:

- ❖ Garth and Jenny, Richard and Wendy, Ian and Judy.
- ❖ Licensed Lay Ministers – Maureen, Rosie and Vicki.
- ❖ Church Warden – Barry Humphrey.
- ❖ Parish Warden - Andrea Mortimer.
- ❖ The members of St. John's who make up the new DCC.
- ❖ Those looking for work or starting new jobs
- ❖ The Kigezi Water and Sanitation project we are supporting.
- ❖ Alex Hospital: Staff, patients & chaplaincy team serving the community.
- ❖ Graeme and Jackie Russell - Community Missioner in Christ Church.
- ❖ Archdeacon's annual visitation on May 17th to meet with Wardens.
- ❖ Chaplains of the Kingfisher Centre visiting and supporting shop workers.
- ❖ For our local elections this week in Redditch.
- ❖ Jenny Mosley recovering from a major operation
- ❖ Parish Prayers: Morsefield Lane Matchborough, Green Lane Wirehill, Rushock Close Woodrow, Badger Close Winyates.

Contacts

Ipsley Rector: Canon Garth Nathaniel:

Email: g.nathaniel@btinternet.com

☎ 01527 522847

Church Warden:

Barry H: bassonman77@gmail.com

☎ 01527 526153

Revd. Richard Harding

Email: ccmatchborough@blueyonder.co.uk

☎ 01527 460400 (Office)

☎ 01527 523768 (Home)