

2nd May 2021

WELCOME

Patronal Festival

to

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST



Collect

Merciful Lord, cast your bright beams of light upon the Church: that, being enlightened by the teaching of your blessed apostle and evangelist Saint John, we may so walk in the light of your truth that we may at last attain to the light of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, your incarnate Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

9.45 a.m. FAMILY EUCHARIST

We are delighted to welcome to this morning's service the Rt. Rev. Malcolm MacNaughton, Bishop of Repton to St. John's and also to the Diocese, coming as he does from his previous position working with the previous Archbishop of York, Dr. John Sentamu.

Hymns

- For all the saints who from their labours rest
- To you was given, O saint beloved
- For all your saints still active
- Thank you, O Lord, for the gift of this day

Readings

1 John 1 vv 1-4

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life – this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life what was with the Father and was revealed to us – we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

John 21 vv 19b-end

After this he said to him, 'Follow me'. Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them; he was the one who had reclined next to Jesus at the supper and had said, 'Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?' When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, 'Lord, what about him?' Jesus said to him, 'If it is my will that he will remain until I come, what is that to you? Follow me!' So the rumour spread

in the community that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but, 'If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?' This is the disciple who is testifying to these things and has written them, and we know that his testimony is true. But there are also many other things that Jesus did; if every one of them were written down, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

Although there is no evening service today please do read through the following

EVENING PRAYER

Psalm 97

Hymns

- Word supreme, before creation
- An exile for the faith

Readings

Isaiah 6 vv 1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: 'Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.' The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: 'Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!' Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: 'Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.' Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I; send me!'

1 John 5 vv 1-12

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth. There are three that testify: the Spirit and the water² and the blood and these three agree. If

we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

Reflection – Echoes from a Far Shore: John at Patmos

The deep green harbour and the light-flooded sky enter the blackness of the cave's surround.

Here, from my exile, rising I survey the far horizon, the sun, the endless sea and sky.

His love was boundless, his wisdom far beyond what I have written, or could seek to understand.

His voice, his piercing gaze – memories fade like footprints in the sand.

I walked with him in love.

But prayer is all I have now, no human consolation.

If God is love, then I am tested sore.

All I have are echoes from a far shore.

David Hodges

(Most biblical historians consider that St. John the Evangelist was exiled to the island of Patmos as a result of anti-Christian persecution under the Roman emperor Domitian.)

Thursday, 13th May 7.30 p.m. Sung Eucharist for Ascension Day

It is good that we are able to celebrate together the Ascension of our Lord this year (still socially distanced of course). If you are wishing to attend this service will you please inform Claire Warsop of this so that she can organise the seating. Thank you.

'Thy Kingdom Come'

Once again this year we shall join in the Prayer Initiative – 'Thy Kingdom Come'. It is a global prayer movement inviting Christians to pray during the nine days between Ascension Day (13th May) and Pentecost. Canon Elaine has 10 booklets available now either a donation or £2.00. Once they have gone she will order further copies. The booklet offers a complete prayer selection for Morning and Evening Prayer, day time and night time prayer for you to use as suits your daily life commitments – you may choose to use just one or all 4 throughout the day.

Easy Fundraising

Just a reminder that you can help raise funds for St. John's by purchasing goods and services through the Easy Fundraising website (www.easyfundraising.org.uk). It is simple to use. Start your online shopping first at easy fundraising, then within that website shop as normal using the app of the shop or services you wish to buy and nominating St. John's as the charity you wish to receive your donation.

We recently received a cheque from Easy Fundraising for £25.57 that amount being the result of people using the Easy Fundraising website from 1st October to 31st December 2020 and nominating St. John's as their chosen charity.

HMRC – Key Workers!

The claim for St. John's Gift Aid was submitted to HMRC on 14th April. Two days later it was processed and paid! This is the quickest claim St. John's has ever made for Gift Aid and the amount for the tax year 2020/21 was £4,377.79. It was less than last year due to a number of factors including the cancellation of Sunday services. It was, however, still a great result reflecting the generosity of St. John's members throughout the year. Blessed are the tax payers!

During this year those who wish to continue to Gift Aid their donations and giving (by Standing Order, Share Plan and cheques) to St. John's will be asked to sign a new Declaration Form (except for those that have already signed a new form since 6th April 2020.)

If you were a tax payer last year, but not this coming year, please let Nick Green know since you will no longer be able to Gift Aid your donations. Also a reminder that for those who make their donations to St. John's through the Stewardship Scheme, St. John's will not be able to claim Gift Aid on those payments.

Thank you again to everyone who has helped to keep St. John's financially viable this year.

200 Club Draw for 25th April 2021

The winners are : £15 Stephen Hanson; £10 Pam Storer; £5 Christina Yale.

Mission of St. John's Church

To be a caring community striving to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ;
sharing in the love of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
and to love our neighbour, having the Eucharist at the centre of our worship