



The Lion and The Dragon



A Monthly News Sheet for St. Mark's, Basford and St Margaret's, Wolstanton

www.stmarksbasford.co.uk and www.stmargaretswolstanton.org

May 2024

The Merry Month of May!

God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet. (Psalm 47:5)

Beloved,

ALLELUIA! Christ is Risen! We continue through the Great Fifty Days of Eastertide.

I do love the month of May and because of the way Easter has fallen this year, it is full of even more greater festivals.

May is traditionally Mary's month in particular as we finish on the last day with her visit to dear Elizabeth and the baby, John the Baptist leaps in the womb, as Mary falls into song, as old and new are brought together.

We begin the month of May with 'Pip and Jim'. The Apostles Philip and James the Less (so Son of Alphaeus, Not Son of Zebedee or Brother of John). They are perhaps minor of the 12, as we have little about their lives. But the Gospels hint that James' mother was a witness to the crucifixion and he went on to lead the early church. Philip is very prominent especially in John's Gospel – he is a great spokesman – he gets involved at the feeding miracle, he brings along

Nathanael, he asks questions of the Last Supper and about heaven - I think I rather like my middle name! Later on the 14th we celebrate Matthias – the one who was chosen, as well as a scattering on Minor Saints: Augustine, Bede, Dunstan, the Wesley's, Calvin and even Julian of Norwich – all shall be well and all shall be well and all manner of things shall be well.

On the 40th Day of Easter – Ascension Day, we shall have a Eucharist at 7pm in St Mark's Church, as we recall the Lord taking up his throne in heaven (9th).

Then we have 10 days to wait expectantly for the coming of the promised Holy Spirit when the Church will be set on fire upon the day of Pentecost (19th).

We also have Trinity Sunday on the 26th to ponder the great mysteries.

May you know the blessings of the Risen and Ascended Christ, this Eastertide, and may you be set on fire with the Holy Spirit as we celebrate the Church's Birthday and may the myriad of Saints pray for you all – Have a Merry May!

In Christ,

Your Shepherd, Fr Tommy

Clergy: Fr Tommy Merry ☎ 01782 624450 ✉ frtommymerry@gmail.com; Rev'd Pat Dunn ☎ 01782 846417.

St Mark's Parish Administrator and Reader: Julie Atkins ☎ 01782 632213 ✉ joulis1506@gmail.com

St Mark's Churchwardens: Diane Downward ☎ 01782 621424; Nick Atkins ☎ 01782 632213.

St Mark's Reader: Janet Pazio ☎ 07594135691; **Safeguarding Coordinator:** Jill Ayres ☎ 07792 549356.

St Margaret's Safeguarding Coordinator: Catherine Plumb 07944578077

Worship Services during May at St Mark's

1 st	Wednesday	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
5 th	6th of Easter	9.30am	Holy Communion
8 th	Wednesday	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
9 th	Ascension Day	7.00pm	Holy Communion
11 th	Saturday	12.00pm	Wedding
12 th	7th of Easter	9.30am	Holy Communion
15 th	Wednesday	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
18 th	Saturday	12.30pm	Wedding
19 th	Pentecost	9.30am	Family worship
22 nd	Wednesday	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
26 th	Trinity Sunday	9.30am	Holy Communion
29 th	Wednesday	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)

Diary Dates for May

1 st	Wednesday	7.15pm	House Group
8 th	Wednesday	7.15pm	House Group
15 th	Wednesday	7.15pm	House Group
21 st	Tuesday	7.00pm	PCC meeting
23 rd	Thursday	TBC	Deanery Synod
28 th	Tuesday	10.00am	Ministry team meeting

Early June Dates

2 nd	Sunday	2.30pm	Open house
8 th	Saturday	10.30am	Coffee Morning
29 th	Saturday	11.00am	Tabletop sale

House Group:

Janet and Heather continue to run a house group for 3 more sessions finishing on 15th May. Its topic is on restorative justice. For more information, please speak to Janet or Heather.

Coffee morning:

We will be holding a coffee morning in church on **Saturday 8th June** why not come and join us for coffee, cake and a chat from 10.30am.

Tabletop Sale:

The church queen will be holding another tabletop sale in the church hall on **29th June 11.00am – 2.00pm**. A few tables are still available at £8/table. To book a table or further information please speak to Sue Morley.



Open House:

Diane, on behalf of the church queen will be holding a 'Open house' afternoon on **2nd June from 2.30-4.30pm**. At no1 May Avenue, with games/ tombola/ raffle/ cake stall. All proceeds going towards the St Mark's church

queen Sarah's funds. In preparation for this if you have any donations for a tombola, can you please let Diane have them.

Worship Services during May at St Margaret's Church

5 th	6 th of Easter	11.15am	Mass
12 th	7 th of Easter	11.15am	Mass
19 th	Pentecost	11.15am	Mass
26 th	Trinity Sunday	11.15am	Mass