

NEWSLETTER

Weeks beginning Sundays 21st and 28th April 2024

Fourth and Fifth Sundays of Easter

Welcome to this edition of the Newsletter



Sunday 21st April – Fourth Sunday of Easter

- Family Communion at **9.30am** at **St Chad's, Wishaw**
- Service of the Word at **11.15am** at **St Nicholas', Curdworth**
- Holy Communion at **11.15am** at **St John's, Middleton**

Sunday 28th April – Fifth Sunday of Easter

- Holy Communion at **9.30am** at **St Chad's, Wishaw**
- Family Communion at **11.15am** at **St Nicholas', Curdworth**

Sunday 5th May – Sixth Sunday of Easter

- All Age Worship at **9.30am** at **St Chad's, Wishaw**
- Holy Communion at **11.15am** at **St Nicholas', Curdworth**
- Service of the Word at **11.15am** at **St John's, Middleton**

Sunday 12th May – Seventh Sunday after Easter – Sunday after Ascension Day

- Holy Communion at **9.30am** at **St Chad's, Wishaw**
- Family Communion at **11.15am** at **St Nicholas', Curdworth**

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING 2024

Thank you to everyone who attended the APCM. We hope you will have had time to read all the reports in detail. There are a few copies in each church for anyone who was unable to attend on the day.

Congratulations to those elected to serve on the Parochial Church Council for the coming year. There are several members of the PCC who were re-elected, one who has another year to serve as a representative on the Deanery Synod, two returning and two serving on this PCC for the first time. The retired clergy, Rev Roy Allen and Rev Canon Frank Longbottom, plus the licensed Lay Readers, Andrew Farrow and Lisa Wilcox are co-opted and the Rector serves as Chair. The Churchwardens, Margaret Allen and Jo Hollis are automatically on the PCC. So is Alan Vaughton, who serves on the Deanery Synod, as does Andrew Farrow.

The list of lay members is as follows:

Steven Blaber Eric Dance David Hearne Susan Jefferson

Steven Kelsall Janet Leyland Ruth McFarland Anne Rimmer

It is the job of the PCC to work together with the Rector to ensure that our three churches run smoothly. The PCC members in turn rely on members of the congregation for their support and help and to advise them of any issues which they think should be raised at DCC or PCC meetings.

Two people who have worked tirelessly for our parish for many years, but in particular for more than a decade as churchwardens, are Alan Vaughton and Eric Dance. Alan and Eric both made it known at the 2023 APCM that they would be standing down as Wardens this year. I personally have learned such a lot from them over the last five years and am so grateful for that and the fact that we will still have the benefit of their wisdom and experience on the Parochial Church Council. Thank you both for everything you have done for us all as Wardens.

Finally, good news for them all! The first meeting of the new PCC is on 20th May; Wishaw DCC on 23rd April, Curdworth DCC on 9th May and Middleton DCC on 4th June. Oh, and PCC members should be on the appropriate DCC. Did we mention that?!



DIARY

| Date | Time | Event | Note |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Sunday 21st April 4th Sunday of Easter <i>White</i> | 9.30am | Family Communion | St Chad's, Wishaw |
| | 11.15am | Service of the Word | St Nicholas', Curdworth |
| | 11.15am | Holy Communion | St John's, Middleton |
| Tuesday 23 rd | 7.30pm | Wishaw DCC | The Cock Inn at Wishaw |
| Wednesday 24 th | 11.00am | Middleton Community Coffee Morning | Middleton Village Hall |
| | 6.00pm | Junior Choir | Curdworth Church Hall |
| | 7.30pm | Church Choir | |
| Sunday 28th 5th Sunday of Easter <i>White</i> | 9.30 am | Holy Communion | St Chad's, Wishaw |
| | 11.15am | Family Communion | St Nicholas', Curdworth |
| | 2.00pm- 4.00pm | Bluebell Teas | St Chad's, Wishaw |
| Wednesday 1 st May | 6.00pm | Junior Choir | Curdworth Church Hall |
| | 7.15pm | Church Choir | |
| Sunday 5th 6th Sunday of Easter <i>White</i> | 9.30am | All Age Worship | St Chad's, Wishaw |
| | 11.15am | Holy Communion | St Nicholas', Curdworth |
| | 11.15am | Service of the Word | St John's, Middleton |



St Chad's Church,

Wishaw B76 9QB

BLUEBELL TEAS

on Sunday 28th April 2024

from 2.00pm to 4.00pm



Join us for tea, coffee or soft drinks and cake or scones – all welcome - tickets £5 per person - in advance will help with catering, or you can turn up on the day. See Margaret at church or text 07778 458789.

ALSO: try our Quiz Sheet and climb the Tower to see and hear (and try?) our Bells.

EASTER LILIES

Donations were made towards Easter lilies in memory of:

| | |
|---|---|
| Iris | |
| Bill Green | Bob and Mary Potter |
| Anne & Ron Wigley | Geoff and Peggy Keeling |
| Terry Boyce | Kathleen Keeling |
| Rev'd Michael Jefferson and Lee Walker | Flo Stokes |
| Rose and Arthur Dance | Gary |
| Rachael Dance | Norman Giddings, Cyril and Florence Sankey |
| Cahal, Tony, Martina and Ann Marie Redmond | Joyce and Morris Brunt |
| Pamela and Paul Boylan | Winnie and John Birch |
| Kathleen and Charlie Redmond | Roy and Joan Williams |
| Freda and May, Christine and those we have lost. | John and Brenda Plunkett |
| Stan and Lucy Grimmer | Isabel and Harold Kay |
| Brian Taft | Tommy Brown |



We pray for all who we remember and who are always in our hearts.

Many thanks and a special shout out to everyone who helped in any way to make our three churches look so beautiful for Easter, whether by providing flower arrangements, polishing the brasses or tidying, dusting, polishing and vacuuming. Everyone's efforts were very much appreciated and enjoyed. Of course, these are tasks which are undertaken all the year round, but the results are especially impressive at festivals, such as Christmas and Easter. Thank you.



Curdworth Church Flowers

For many years we have been blessed with members of the Church who have unstintingly arranged the flowers on a regular basis, and who have now retired.

It's time to make changes and we would like to invite anyone who is interested in joining a team to continue their work to dress our lovely Church. If you would like to join a team please either contact Anne Rimmer on 07776 188395 or Sue Jefferson on 07903 036284.

We would be pleased to hear from you.

Wishaw Church Flowers

There are spaces on the Wishaw flower rota for people to offer to provide flowers, or donate money for flowers to be bought, or arrange flowers – or all three! Let Margaret know if you are able to help in any way.

Many thanks.

Whilst we are on the subject of **rotas**, thank you also to all those who are on the rotas for reading in our churches and leading prayers. We are lucky to have so many people who read so well and people who lead us in sensitive and thoughtful prayers. If you would like to be added to the list for either of these roles, please let us know.



WISHAW WI – Fundraising FASHION SHOW & SHOPPING EVENT

Please see the poster about this exciting event, organised by Wishaw WI and taking place at Curdworth Village Hall on Wednesday 8th May and support it if you can.

CURDWORTH CHOIR are hoping to join with singers from Hampton in Arden and Balsall Common Churches to present three fundraising concerts in the summer/autumn – one each at Curdworth, Hampton and Balsall Common Churches. If there are any would-be singers who would like to add their voices and join in this exciting venture, then please contact Anton Rawson on 07793 780599 to register your interest. The music will be varied and from different genres, including musicals, popular music and some old favourites. There is no pressure to commit yourself to anything other than this project (unless you want to.....), so just come along to a rehearsal and see how it goes!

MIDDLETON FETE AND HORTICULTURAL SHOW

The Fete and Horticultural Show will be held on Saturday 13th July from 2pm. Please see the separate attachment for details, including information about the Scarecrow Competition.

ADVANCE NOTICE.....

Wishaw Church will be holding a Harvest Supper in September and a Ceilidh in November. Dates, times and further details to follow.

PRAYER LIST – Please remember in your prayers all who are sick and those who mourn the loss of a loved one.

| Prayers for the sick | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Curdworth | Sharon Brown | Adrian Cionnagh | <i>Yvette Crawford</i> |
| | <i>Claire Eldridge</i> | <i>Jean Eldridge</i> | <i>Amanda Emerson</i> |
| | Cherie Evans | Jean Giddings | <i>John Henson</i> |
| | Caroline Lee | <i>Isabella Murphy</i> | <i>Helen Parry</i> |
| | Jenny Phillips | Tim Rawson | Ellie Reeves |
| | Lucinda Shelley | Sue Shelley | <i>Cathy Smith</i> |
| | Barbara Vaughan | <i>Elizabeth Walsh</i> | <i>Peter Wiggins</i> |

| | | | |
|--|---------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| | Barry Wiltshire | Gillian Wiltshire | Hollie Wiltshire |
| Middleton | <i>Jean Nixon</i> | | |
| Wishaw | <i>Isabel Brown</i> | Pat Harris | <i>Cae Hayes</i> |
| Prayers for those who have died | | | |
| Curdworth | Barry Sallis | | |



Finance – Here are the bank details for each church for your reference:

St Nicholas': 30-92-75 00610273 (PCC of St Nicholas Curdworth)

St John's: 05-09-42 57896460 (St John the Baptist PCC)

St Chad's: 30-98-37 00152981 (Parochial Church Council Wishaw)

The Newsletter – if you would like anything added to the Newsletter, here are the details you need: margaret_allen69@yahoo.co.uk 07778 458 789 or n.w.phillips@live.com 07498

Link for online services and meetings:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84233355603?pwd=bmxQMHpCT3RlM28ybFBHRzGdzO9>

Meeting ID: 842 3335 5603 Passcode: 746923 You can join us on the phone by dialling 0203 481 5237

Then Entering: 842 3335 5603## Then: 746923#

Readings for Sunday 21st April 2024

Fourth Sunday of Easter

The Collect

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:
raise us, who trust in him,
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,
that we may seek those things which are above,
where he reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

The First Reading

is from Acts of the Apostles chapter 4

⁵The Jewish rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹This Jesus is

“the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.”

¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.'

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading

is from the first letter of John chapter 3

¹⁶We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us – and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who

has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.

¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the Pharisees: ¹¹'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away – and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Post Communion Prayer

Merciful Father,

you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd,

and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again:
keep us always under his protection,
and give us grace to follow in his steps;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Readings for Sunday 28th April 2024

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Collect

Almighty God,
who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ
have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life:
grant that, as by your grace going before us
 you put into our minds good desires,
so by your continual help
we may bring them to good effect;
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord.

Amen.

The First Reading

is from Acts of the Apostles chapter 8

²⁶An angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' ³¹He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

 'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
 and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
 so he does not open his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.'

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus.

³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading

is from the first letter of John chapter 4

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Those who say, 'I love God,' and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹The

commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: ¹I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Post Communion

Eternal God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life:
grant us to walk in his way,
to rejoice in his truth,
and to share his risen life;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Amen.

