

## What's On in May

### **Mondays**

**2-4pm Monday Together** (*except Bank Holidays*)

### **Thursday 9 May**

**2pm - 4pm DROP IN AT THE CHURCH HALL** - an open day with Hope Central. All are welcome.

### **7.30pm SUNG EUCHARIST for ASCENSION DAY**

*Members of KMC joining us*

### **Tuesday 14 May**

**7.30pm Lectio Divina**

### **Thursday 16 May**

**2pm Mothers' Union - CANCELLED**

### **Thursday 30 May**

**7pm SUNG EUCHARIST for CORPUS CHRISTI**

*Members of Rainow church joining us*

### **Wednesdays**

**1.30pm Alpha Course (run by Hope Central) Church Room**



## **St Cross Newsletter May 2024**



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### *The Vicar writes...*

The season of Eastertide leading up to Ascension and Pentecost is a time of year when our readings, particularly on Sundays, include readings from the 'Acts of the Apostles', which is often abbreviated to 'Acts'. The readings are so significant that in the lectionary that it states that the reading of Acts must be used at the principal service, if there is only one reading to accompany the gospel. Why is this? If the Old Testament reading is chosen it cannot supplant the reading from Acts and three readings must then be read.

The obvious logic to reading the early chapters of Acts in Eastertide is that the Church is living out its Easter hope and looks forward to the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. This makes perfect sense, though in the earlier weeks of Easter the strong narrative of the Acts passage can easily be lost alongside a resurrection appearance from the gospel. It can be a challenge for preachers to preach entirely on Acts, or even combine the two.

Acts needs space to be heard well, and last week at Morning Prayer on St. Mark's Day (April 25<sup>th</sup>) was a prime example of what Acts is so much about. The Holy Spirit is decisively guiding, shaping and empowering the outcomes as Paul and Barnabas, supported by Mark, were chosen to go out from Antioch to Cyprus on yet another missionary journey.

I feel that those early days of the Church must have been so exciting with its core priorities straightforward and obvious. Underpinning the work of the Holy Spirit was a strong desire to seek God through worship, prayer and teaching. It was not just Paul, Barnabas and Mark being selected but whole communities were being empowered by the Spirit and living their own journeys in a spiritual sense.

This is faith in action, trusting in God, obedient to the promptings of the Holy Spirit and being bold but not reckless in sharing the good news of Jesus. The challenge for us is to do the same. Do we have that same desire to continually seek God and grow in Christ through worship, prayer and learning?

Yours, in Christ

*Paul*



### Occasional Offices in March and April

#### Baptism

14 April Rory Jasper Way

#### Funerals

5 April Peter Francis Singleton

22 April Denise Hammond



### Readings for Eucharistic Services

	Morning Services	Evening Service
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>1 May</b> <b>Philip &amp; James</b>	Isaiah 30.15-21 Ephesians 1.3-10 John 14.1-14	
<b>Sunday</b> <b>5 May</b> <b>Easter 6</b>	Acts 10.44-end John 15.9-17	Psalm 45 Revelation 3.14-end Luke 22.24-30
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>8 May</b> <b>Julian of Norwich</b>	1 Kings 19.9-13a 1 Corinthians 13.8-end John 20.11-18	
<b>Thursday</b> <b>9 May</b> <b>Ascension Day</b>		Acts 1.1-11 Ephesians 1.15-end Luke 34.44-end
<b>Sunday</b> <b>12 May</b> <b>Easter 7</b>	Acts 1.15-17,21-end John 17.6-19	
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>15 May</b>	Psalm 68.27-28,32-end Acts 20.28-end John 17.11-19	
<b>Sunday</b> <b>19 May</b> <b>Pentecost</b>	Acts 2.1-21 Romans 8.22-27 John 15.26-27;16.4b-15	
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>22 May</b>	Psalm 49.1-2,5-10 James 4.13-end Mark 9.38-40	
<b>Sunday</b> <b>26 May</b> <b>Trinity Sunday</b>	Isaiah 6.1-8 Romans 8.12-17 John 3.1-17	
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>29 May</b>	Psalm 147.13-end 1 Peter 1.18-end Mark 10.32-45	
<b>Thursday</b> <b>30 May</b> <b>Corpus Christi</b>		Genesis 14.18-20 1 Corinthians 11.23-26 John 6.51-58