

NOTICES

Future developments at St John's: Thank you to all those of you who took the time to complete the "have your say" form. Your responses have been very helpful as we draw up the profile document: they demonstrate what a caring and outward looking congregation we have at SJ.

Pat Lawless sends her grateful thanks for all the cards and messages she has received. 'Thank you all for the love and care you have sent.' She is home from hospital now and feeling more cheerful. Janet

Julian Meeting - Tuesday 30 April: Please note that the meeting will now take place at 10am in the Ken Chapel.

Inspired to Read Book Group - Wednesday 1 May: 6.30 - 7.30pm in the Bennett Centre. We are going to be having a poetry evening, so please remember to bring a poem to share with the rest of the group.

Next Sunday! May Mini Market & Café - Sunday 5 May: The Rota is now in the hospitality area; please sign up with offers of help, thank you.

Christian Aid Week 2024: St John's will be fielding a team of collectors for Christian Aid in the Westway Precinct on Monday 13 May (times to be confirmed). Please be prepared to be asked to join the team! There will be envelopes available in church for personal donation.

APCM - this year's Annual Meeting will be on Sunday 19 May: It will take place in church after the service. There are some vacancies on the PCC. If anyone is interested, please talk to Angela Pater or Peter Connew in advance of the meeting.

The single candle on the altar at St John's: For two years we have burned yellow and blue candles as we silently pray for the people caught up in the conflict in Ukraine. Since then, images of other, dreadful conflicts have filled our screens. In recognition of so many suffering people, we now have one single white candle burning on our altar. Our prayer remains fervent for a resolution of all these conflicts.

DIARY DATES

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| Sun 5 May | 11am –2pm Café & Mini Market |
| Thurs 9 May | 2-4pm Craft & Cake (BC) |
| Sat 12 May | 10.30am to noon - Open Doors |
| Mon 13 May | Christian Aid collection in Westway Precinct |
| Sun 19 May | 11am APCM after the service |
| Thurs 23 May | 2-4pm Craft & Cake (BC) |
| Sat 25 May | Well Blessing |

THE PARISH OF FROME, ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, BA11 1PL

Following the retirement of Revd Colin Alsbury, the Parish is in Vacancy.
Please contact the Parish Office with all queries.

Parish Office: The Cottage 1 Church Steps, BA11 1PL 01373 462325
administrator@sjfrome.co.uk www.stjohnsfrome.com

SUNDAY 28 APRIL 2024

Fifth Sunday of Easter

8.45am Morning Service via Zoom

[https://us05web.zoom.us/j/87564696231?
pwd=rTvMty3a5Hg2XQK8NiWGyLBTNBMLa.1](https://us05web.zoom.us/j/87564696231?pwd=rTvMty3a5Hg2XQK8NiWGyLBTNBMLa.1)
Meeting ID: 875 6469 6231 Passcode: 4T83jZ

9.00am Service at St Mary's

9.45am Holy Communion – Celebrant: Rt Rev Rob Martin

Tuesday 30 April

10am Julian Meeting (Ken Chapel)

11am Funeral of Eric Poole

Wednesday 1 May

6.30pm-7.30pm Book Group poetry evening

BC

Friday 3 May

6.30pm Choir Practice

SUNDAY 5 MAY 2024

Sixth Sunday of Easter

8.00am Service at Christ Church

8.45am Morning Service via Zoom

9.45am Holy Communion – Celebrant: Rev Graham Witts

11am - 2pm Café & Mini Market

Fifth Sunday of Easter (Year B)

COLLECT

Risen Christ, your wounds declare your love for the world and the wonder of your risen life: give us compassion and courage to risk ourselves for those we serve, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**



FIRST READING: Acts 8.26-end

Then an 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.) So 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 and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now 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. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.'

The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As 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?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When 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. But 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**

SECOND READING: 1 John 4.7-end

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

us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So 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. Love 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. There 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. We love because he first loved us. Those 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. The 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**

GOSPEL READING: John 15.1-8

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

Glory to you, O Lord

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide 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. I 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. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My 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**