

PLEASE PRAY FOR

The sick: HM The King, HRH The Princess of Wales, Bishop Alan, Shelagh Almond, Pauline Baker, Harry Banks, Polly Barclay, Charlie Bartlett, Mary Bartlett, Emma Brindle, Karen Brown, Dennis Butcher Tuset, Harley Byrne, Diane, Frankie Cooper, Rhiannon Crick, Mandy Daly, Debbie, Win Dennis, Garry Downes, Eric Edwin, Sam Fathers, Ed Freeman, Ed Fuller, Emma Hayward, Laura Hearne, Heidi, Gill Hynes, Enid Ingle, Dot Jones, Julie, Margaret Keech, Paul Lanham, Baby Lily, Victoria Martin, Jackie O'Shea, Susan Pearson, Donna Prior, June Simmonds, Darren Smith, Rachel Snow, Robin Stokoe, Hazel Suffolk, Nick Timms, Carol Vanner, Gary Williamson, Hilary Wilson and Sarah Wilson.

The departed: Margaret Wilson.

We endeavour to keep this list up-to-date; if you have any questions, please speak to Dominic, Beverley, Liz or one of the readers.

Year's Mind

28 th	Arthur Cole, Edna Ferris, Lewis Stickler
29 th	Archibald Jacques, Philip Read
30 th	Anne Aynsley, Margaret Fuller, Hilda Grange, Yvonne Short
1 st	Fanny Barton, Joseph Farmer, Philip Harkin-Wynne
2 nd	Lucy Preston, Lily Slaughter, Gladys Smith
3 rd	Elizabeth Brooks, Richard French, Olive Spalding
4 th	John Holbrook

THE NOTICES

BIBLE STUDY meets each Wednesday on Zoom. No commitment. You can join as many or as few as you would like. Please contact David Young dryoung1@btinternet.com 01525 404947

FOODBANK Due to your amazing generosity we can only accept donations of food, cleaning products and toiletries for the time being. We cannot take clothes, bedding or other articles because we have no storage space. Thank you for your incredible kindness.

MARGARET WILSON RIP We are sad to report that Margaret died suddenly at home on 22nd March. We give thanks for her life, and for her contribution to St Andrew's and Ampthill over so many years. Margaret's funeral will take place at St Andrew's on Friday 3rd May at 2.00pm.

RUNNING RECTOR Thank you for your support! I managed to run the London Marathon in 4hr 6min. The atmosphere was incredible, and I am so pleased to have raised nearly £3k for charity. If you would like to sponsor me, please visit 2024tcsclondonmarathon.enthuse.com/pf/dominic-holroyd1 or pass me your donation in a clearly marked envelope! Thank you! Dominic

ASCENSION DAY This year we will be joining with our friends from St Peter and St Paul Church, Flitwick, to celebrate the Ascension with a special Eucharist at St Andrew's. Ascension Day this year is Thursday 9th May, and the service will be at 7.30pm. Bishop Christine Hardman, retired Bishop of Newcastle, will be the celebrant and preacher. Celebratory refreshments will follow!

Please ensure that notices are with Dominic by Thursday for inclusion in the next pew sheet.

ST ANDREW'S | AMPHILL

WITH ST MICHAEL'S, MILLBROOK, AND ST LAWRENCE'S, STEPPINGLEY

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

8.00am Said Eucharist
9.30am Parish Eucharist

Sunday 28th April

St Andrew's Ampthill
St Andrew's, Ampthill
Hymns: 644 – O God beyond all praising; 676 – Psalm 65;
638 – In heavenly love abiding; 700 – There's a wideness in God's mercy
Anthem: You are the centre – Rizza
Recessional: Passing Thought – Lloyd

11.15am Parish Eucharist St Lawrence's, Steppingley

DURING THE WEEK

Monday 29 th	7.30pm-9.30pm	Childbirth Trust in the Chapter House
Tuesday 30 th	9.15am-11.00am	Little Stars in the Chapter House
	7.00pm-9.00pm	Yoga in the Chapter House
Wednesday 1 st	10.15am-11.30am	Yoga in the Chapter House
	1.00pm-3.00pm	Tai Chi in the Chapter House
Thursday 2 nd	10.00am	Said Eucharist at St Andrew's
	10.30am-12.30pm	Coffee Morning at St Lawrence's
	7.30pm-8.30pm	Bell Ringing Practice at St Andrew's
Friday 3 rd	2.00pm	Funeral of Margaret Wilson at St Andrew's
	7.00pm	Choir Practice at St Andrew's
	7.30pm-9.00pm	Yoga in the Chapter House

Morning Prayer is said at 9.00am each weekday at St Andrew's.

NEXT SUNDAY

5th May

8.00am Said Eucharist
9.30am Parish Eucharist
11.15am Worship Together
11.15am Parish Eucharist
6.30pm Evensong

Sixth Sunday of Easter

St Andrew's, Ampthill
St Andrew's, Ampthill
St Lawrence's, Steppingley
St Michael's, Millbrook
St Andrew's, Ampthill

CONTACTS

Rector:	Fr Dominic Holroyd	01525 795417	rector@ampthillbenefice.co.uk
Churchwardens:	Beverley Hodges	01525 404625	a_bhodges@btinternet.com
	Elizabeth Neil	01234 740931	elizabeth_neil@hotmail.com
Lay Readers:	Stella Brooks	01525 860370	stardrift0@gmail.com
	Pippa Kilgour	01525 406696	pippa@kilgour.org
Treasurer:	Paul Watson	01525 406996	paul.watson33@outlook.com

Bank Details for internet payments:

AMPTHILL PCC Sort Code: 20-05-74 Account no.: 40063762

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 your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

READINGS

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

²⁶Then 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.)
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.

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?' 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.

Acts 8: 26-end

A reading from the First Letter of John

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.

1 John 4: 7-end

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: ¹'I 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.

John 15: 1-8

Praise to you, O Christ.

