

## Holy Communion

*Collect for Easter Sunday*

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,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

Acts 7:55-60

*(page 157 in the NT of the Church Bibles)*

Read by Chris Cobbald

John 14:1-14

*(page 137 in the NT of the Church Bibles)*

Eucharist celebrated by Revd Vincent Gardner

### Gospel Sermon

*'Thomas & Phillip'*

Preaching by Richard Croft  
Worship led by Revd Vincent Gardner  
Prayers led by Rachel Thake

### Hymns for Today

Thou, whose Almighty word  
Holy Spirit, living breath of life  
Come, Holy Ghost our souls inspire

*Thuma Mina*

*Bread is blessed and broken*

O worship the King, all glorious above

*All are invited to come for communion and prayer.  
If you do not wish to take communion, please come for prayer.  
If you have any particular need, problem or prayer request  
please speak to a member of the clergy after the service.*



Helen Boddington, who used to come to St John & St Stephen's Church, sadly passed away last week.

The funeral is at the crematorium at **2.30pm on Thursday 18th May** for those who would like to attend.

### Christian Aid Week 14th - 20th May

This year the focus of the week is on refugees. Devotional material is available on the table in the foyer – at the back of the leaflet you will find a campaigning postcard. The sponsored walk takes place on Saturday 20th – please see Liz Bailey for further information. And on the evening of 20th, at 8 pm, there is a fund-raising quiz at St Barts - £1 per person, max. of 8 people in a team, cash bar.

**Mon 15th May, 7.30pm**

Café Théologique

### Can a person's calling include sex reassignment surgery?

Rev Dr Michael Peat, theologian and ethicist, and Free Church Chaplain at the University of Bristol.  
Artigiano's Bar, Broad Street, Reading, RG1 2AP

**Mon 5th June, 7.30pm**

Café Théologique

### Crossing and Dwelling: Jesus' healing miracles - political and interfaith perspectives

Rev Dr Martyn Percy, Dean of Christ Church, Oxford.  
Zero Degrees Bar, Bridge Street, Reading, RG1 2LR.



### Facing Global Challenges in a Changing World

A talk for Christian Aid Week by Tim Waites, Senior Livelihoods Policy Adviser, DfID, who will use his experience of working in Ethiopia and Sierra Leone to speak about how the government's disaster resilience policy protects the poor from natural disasters.

Wed 17 May 8 pm,  
St Luke's Church Erleigh Rd RG1 5LH.  
Free / donations

Dave Richards, coordinator of RISC's edible roof garden will demonstrate how community gardens can be used to raise awareness about challenging global issues and promote action for change.

Tour the new Erleigh Road Community Garden (behind the Church Hall) from 7.30 pm.

### CIRDIC Collection

Don't forget, there is still time to bring your CIRDIC donations. There is a box outside the Cafe entrance for you to put them in. The collection will continue throughout May.



Enabling churches to house the homeless

### Hope into Action

Hope in Action house now have three tenants. We had a fun-full -of-games-and-food welcome party with all of them on Saturday afternoon at church. Please pray for the team visiting them each week.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

**Liz Bailey & Steve Lewis (14th)**  
**Stephen Dilley (15th)**  
**Elaine Maynard (18th)**  
**Priya Herath (20th)**



- Prayers for Andrew Jenny and Doug, the husband and children of Helen Boddington who sadly passed away last week
- Prayers for Ken Medford after the sudden passing of his brother
- Prayers for Maureen Devine who had to spend a short time in hospital due to an infection. She is now home and doing well
- Prayers for Chris Gothard
- Prayers for Spence and the family
- Prayers for Don and Ruth Mason
- Jenny Sullivan, who used to worship at St John's, is currently receiving radiotherapy treatment, but is in good spirits and asks for our continued prayers

**Items for prayer and notices**

Please give any items for prayer or notices to Rev Vincent Gardner *before* 9 am on Wednesday by pigeon hole, e-mail or phone.



**Church Diary**

<b>Sun 14th</b>	10.30am	Holy Communion (sung)
	2-5pm	Contact Centre
<b>Mon 15th</b>	9am	Morning Prayer
	10-12pm	English Class
	1-3pm	Monday Monster
<b>Tues 16th</b>	12-2pm	Jacket Potato Club
<b>Weds 17th</b>	1.30-3.30	Oasis
	6-9pm	Cubs & Scouts
<b>Thurs 18th</b>	10.45 am	Holy Communion (Cafe)
	11.15 am	Coffee morning
	7.15pm	Clergy Pastoral Care Course
<b>Fri 19th</b>	9am	Morning Prayer
<b>Sun 21st</b>	10.30 am	Holy Communion (sung)

**Small Groups**

Oasis (Bridget Barwick).....	966 9735	Wed 1.30pm
Bill & Chris Gothard (Crofts).....	966 3511	Thurs 8 pm
Jeremy and Rachel Thake ..	987 1288	Thurs 8.30pm
Judith Lawrence.....	954 1332	Thurs 7.30 pm

*You are welcome to join with any group - please speak to contact/*

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**St. John & St. Stephen's**



**5th Sunday of Easter**  
**14th May 2017**



**Don't rush away! Please feel free to join us after the morning service for a cup of coffee or tea. We look forward to your company.**

14th May— Oasis Group  
21st May—Croft Homegroup

The link person from the Welcome Team today is

Maureen Stevens