NOTICES FOR THE COMING WEEK

Today	12 noon – Confirmation session 4 - Upper den
Tues 3 May	5pm – 6:30pm Confirmation Session 5 - Upper Den
Wed 4 May	10am Holy Communion peaceful & prayerful
Thurs 5 May	8pm Ascension Day Service in church
Fri 6 May	8pm Choir Practice – all are welcome
Sat 7 May	10am-11am Parish Office open for Baptisms/Christenings; Weddings and Hall bookings
Sat 7 May	10:30am-12 Confirmation Session 6 – Upper Den
Sun 8 May	10am Seventh Sunday of Easter
Sun 8 May	11:45am – 1:15 pm Communion Assistants Training
Sun 8 May	6pm Deanery Confirmation – Holy Innocents

THOUGHTS ON THE SABBATH

"Oliver Cromwell banned kissing on Sundays---even for married couples--on pain of a prison sentence."

- Mitchell Symons, That Book: ... of Perfectly Useless Information

"When practiced, Sabbath-keeping is an active protest against a culture that is always on, always available and always looking for something else to do."

- Stephen W. Smith, Inside Job: Doing the Work Within the Work

"Every time we turn to Christ in faith it is like a moment of Sabbath, a little foretaste of eternal rest and glory. The gift of that moment lies not in what we do but what we receive. It is the holy time set aside to receive the greatest gift of God ever has to give, which is himself, in his own beloved Son."

Phillip Cary, Good News for Anxious Christians: Ten Practical Things You Don't Have to Do

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HYMN 1-198 – Ye Holy Angels bright

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

God our redeemer,

you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:

grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; 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**

OLD TESTAMENT READING – Sheri Ezekiel 37 : 1-14

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones.² He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³ He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." ⁴Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. ⁵ Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord." ⁷ So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone.

⁸I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰ I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. ¹¹ Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' ¹² Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³ And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴ I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord."

Psalm 67 vv 1-7 Deus misereatur



God be merciful unto us, and bless us : and shew us the light of his countenance, and be merciful unto us: 2 That thy way may be known upon earth : thy saving health among all nations.

3 Let the people praise thee, O God :
yea, let all the people praise thee.
4 O let the nations rejoice and be glad :
for thou shalt judge the folk righteously,
and govern the nations upon earth.
5 Let the people praise thee, O God : let
all the people praise thee.
6 Then shall the earth bring forth her
increase : and God, even our own God,
shall give us his blessing.
7 God shall bless us : and all the ends of
the world shall fear him.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;

as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

NEW TESTAMENT READING - Michael Acts 16 : 9-15

⁹ During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us."

¹⁰ When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. ¹¹ We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³ On the Sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴ A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵ When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

Hymn 2 – 312- Jesus calls us o'er the tumult

GOSPEL READING - John 5 : 1-9

After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ² Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Bethzatha, which has five porticoes. ³ In these lay many invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed. ⁵ One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. ⁶ When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" ⁷ The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me." ⁸ Jesus said to him, "Stand up, take your mat and walk." ⁹ At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk.

Now that day was a Sabbath.

Prayers of Intercession – Percival

We Pray Especially This Week For:

The continuing Israel/Palestine conflict and is ramifications in our country For those affected by the untimely deaths of Prince and Victoria Wood Those travelling over the Bank Holiday weekend

We Pray for those Unwell in Body, Mind or Spirit

Baby Grace in Intensive Care, Janet (Sue's friend), Florence (Alison's step-mother), Vida (Alexander's wife), Rod, Marie W, Christine C, Nicole, Sandra Schloss, Tessa Carter, Ina, Cheryl, Tony, Patrick (Rose's son), Jenny Prentice, Stella Herbert, Ethel Miller, Enid Robinson, Julie Baxter, Jasmine, Beryl Mendez and all the Mendez family, Errol, Ron Thurgood, John Jeves, John Smith, Avril Ward, Beauty, Noel Scarlett, Clifton and Irene Myton, Walter, Eric, Geraldine Attwood, Agatha Evans, Jane Matthews, Marshall, Vivaldo, and all those known to us

We Give Thanks and Praise For:

The acts of kindness one year on in postearthquake Nepal The good APCM meeting and new PCC at HS Barbara and her work as Treasurer at HS Our confirmation candidates

Offertory Hymn – 343 - Be Thou my vision

Eucharistic Prayer will be Prayer C on page 25 in your red book

Holy Anointing

Communion Hymns

131 – Love divine, all loves excelling HHS 10 – Peace, perfect peace

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God our Father, whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life: may we thirst for you,

the spring of life and source of goodness, through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Amen

The Prayer of St Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,

Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy; O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Final Hymn – 115 – Dear Lord and Father of mankind