

Holy Saviour Church, Croydon
The Fifth Sunday of Easter
28th April 2024

Entrance Hymn: 80 – *Alleluia, Alleluia, Hearts to Heaven and Voices Raise*

Hymn Before the Gospel: 131 – *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

Offertory Hymn 263– *Lord Enthroned in Heavenly Splendour*

Communion Hymn(s): HHS 57– *I Am The Bread of Life*; **271**–*Bread of Heaven*

Final Hymn: 235–*O Jesus I Have Promised*

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

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. **Amen**

FIRST READING: Genesis 22:1-18 – Barbara

After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.”² He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you.”³ So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him.⁴ On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away.⁵ Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you.”⁶ Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. And the two of them walked on together.⁷ Isaac said to his father Abraham, “Father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?”⁸ Abraham said, “God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” And the two of them walked on together.⁹ When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar on top of the wood.¹⁰ Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son.¹¹ But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.”¹² He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.”¹³ And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son.¹⁴ So Abraham called that place “The Lord will provide,” as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.”¹⁵ The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven¹⁶ and said, “By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld

your son, your only son, ¹⁷ I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, ¹⁸ and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.”

PSALM 22: 25-32

²⁵ My praise is of thee in the great congregation : my vows will I perform in the sight of them that fear him. ²⁶ The poor shall eat and be satisfied : they that seek after the Lord shall praise him; your heart shall live for ever. ²⁷ All the ends of the world shall remember themselves, and be turned unto the Lord : and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before him. ²⁸ For the kingdom is the Lord's : and he is the Governor among the people. ²⁹ All such as be fat upon earth : have eaten and worshipped. ³⁰ All they that go down into the dust shall kneel before him : and no man hath quickened his own soul. ³¹ My seed shall serve him : they shall be counted unto the Lord for a generation. ³² They shall come, and the heavens shall declare his righteousness : unto a people that shall be born, whom the Lord hath made.

*We remain seated for the concluding doxology: **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***

SECOND READING: Acts of the Apostles 8: 26-40 - Mathilde

²⁶ Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷ So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, the queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸ and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹ Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” ³⁰ So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” ³¹ He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³² 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. ³³ In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.” ³⁴ The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” ³⁵ Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶ 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?” ³⁸ He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹ 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. ⁴⁰ 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.

GOSPEL – John 15: 1-8– Mitzi

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. ² He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³ You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ 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. ⁵ 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. ⁶ Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

INTERCESSIONS – Christine

We Pray for those Unwell in Body, Mind or Spirit:

Tracey and Ann Davis, David, Milton Findlay, Clifford, Finn, Tony, Julie and her father, Billy, Jacob, Ellie and her mother, Sally, Jennifer, Brandon, Billy’s Uncle Richard, Barbara G, Janine H, John J, Geraldine, Sandra, Kat’s sister Christine, Jean, Sarah’s mother Fedora, Vilma Morgan, Matt, Brenda, Stephanie, Cyril, Minnie, Alexander, Cousin Zen, Christopher, Denise M, Enid, Simon & Samantha, Girish, Pat, Adrian, Ron, Cleveland, Britt and Barry, Odion Ayotunde Edeki, Veronica Vernon, Paul Temiz, Brian Cresswell, The King and the Princess of Wales

We pray for those who mourn

We pray for the souls of: Gilbert, Austin Emmanuel Dawson, Jean Greetham, Estriana Shaw, Hilary, Eula Chester, Natalie Searley

May light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

And rise in glory.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

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.

Rev'd Tomos Reed, Holy Saviour Vicarage

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For Baptisms (Christenings) and Weddings, please speak to or contact the Vicar

Services this Week

- Today** **10am – The Parish Eucharist on The Fifth Sunday of Easter** : Fr Tomos presiding and Reader James Preaching.
After Church – refreshments, APCM – During Church – Sunday School
- Wed 1 May** **10.00am** –Midweek Eucharist
- Sat 4 May** **10:30am** – **Holy Dusters**
- Sun 5 May** **10am – The Parish Eucharist on The Sixth Sunday of Easter** : Fr Tomos presiding and Preaching.
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Other Notices

- Tuesdays** **Online Bible Study resumes at the end of April:** the theme for the coming “term” will be the story of Joseph and his Brothers
7.30-8.30pm
- Wed 8 May** **Modern Slavery Webinar:** Chris Elliott and Jennifer Hyde, the Southwark Diocesan Advisors on Modern Slavery, will be leading this webinar. It is being presented twice, as a lunchtime and evening event, so that as many as possible can attend. Modern slavery and exploitation thrive when people do not know what it looks like and where it can be found in their community. The session will help you to know what forms of modern slavery might be operating in your area. More details, including how to book a place can be found in the weekly email.
- Sat 11 May** **May Mix and Mingle:** This month we are delighted to be welcoming Carry who will lead us in a Chinese Calligraphy event
2-4pm
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