

THE PARISH OF ABBOTS LANGLEY

St Lawrence the Martyr, Abbots Langley
with the Church of the Ascension, Bedmond

26th May 2019

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



TODAY

8.00 am Holy Communion in St Lawrence
President & Preacher: The Revd Brian Hibberd
Reader: David Staines

**9.30 am Parish Communion with Seekers
and Creche** in St Lawrence
President & Preacher; The Revd Angela Milton
Hymns: 388 - 24 - 304 - 452 - 391 - 259
Intercessor: Brenda Southorn

11.15 am Holy Communion
in the Tin Church
President & Preacher: The Revd Brian Hibberd
Hymns: 388 - 24 - -304 - 259
Reader: Martin Tanner

12.45 pm Christening for Finn Hamilton
in St Lawrence

6.30 pm Evening Prayer in St Lawrence
Leader: Sally Sanderson

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Holy Communion said in St Lawrence

12.00 noon Wednesday

Morning Prayer said in St Lawrence

9.30 am Tuesday to Friday

Evening Prayer said in St Lawrence

5.15 pm Tuesday to Friday

Quiet Reflection in St Lawrence

11.15 am Wednesday

Early Prayer in St Lawrence

8.15 am Thursday

WELCOME

Welcome to everyone at our worship today especially to visitors, newcomers and those who have come to hear their Banns of Marriage read - please introduce yourself if you are new or a visitor.

If you usually receive **Communion** in your own church, please do so here. If not, you are welcome to come to the altar rail for a **Blessing**, and if you carry a book with you the priest will know not to offer you the bread and wine.



Please tell a sidesperson before the service if you would like a **gluten-free wafer**.

A **T-loop** is provided for hearing-aid users.



For our younger members in St Lawrence:
Seekers (aged 3-10) start in church;
Creche in the Breakspear Room;
Quiet Corner in church

Please join us for **coffee, tea or juice and biscuits** in the church hall after the 9.30 am service.



A **collection** is taken at each main service. If you are a UK tax payer, please complete a gift aid envelope.

This money is fundamental to the life of the church: its ministry, mission and charitable giving.

As we receive no income from the Government or any other external body, we are reliant on the generosity of the community and our fundraising endeavours to ensure that the important work of the parish continues.

Many regular members of the congregation give by direct debit and so put nothing in the bag as it passes by.

*If you would like to set up a regular direct debit, please ask for a **Parish Giving Scheme** pack.*

THE PRAYERS AND BIBLE READINGS

Bibles are available in the book rack by the door where you entered.

COLLECT: 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.**

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 37.1-14

Bible page 820

The familiar story of Ezekiel's vision of a valley of dry bones. The focus is not on heavenly realities but on Israel's despair and God's response. 'Can these bones live?' Of course not. But God tells Ezekiel to prophecy to them, assuring them that God will cause them to live. It is an ironic prophecy. For years Ezekiel had prophesied to living Israelites who proved as unable to respond as any dry bones. Now he must prophecy to the bones themselves.

To this devastated people God promises that he will act beyond their despair. He will give them life and restore their land.

SECOND READING

Acts 16.9-15

Bible page 132

Contrary to Paul's own plans of continuing to preach in Asia Minor, a vision leads him to cross over into Macedonia on a journey that brings the Gospel, as it were, into Europe. There is apparently no synagogue in Philippi, but people gather outside the city walls on the Sabbath for prayer and Lydia is converted.

GOSPEL

John 5.1-9

Bible page 92

Chapters 5 - 10 of St John's Gospel describe Jesus' confrontation with the Jews both in Jerusalem and Galilee. He works deliberately within the framework of Jewish festivals which he replaces, as it were, with his own person.

Here a man is healed at a pool called Bethzatha, which is probably the same as Bethesda, just inside the old city and next to a recent and fine church dedicated to St Anne.

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.**

ANTHEM at 9.30 am 'If ye love me' - *words & music by Thomas Tallis*

If ye love me
Keep my commandments
And I will pray the Father
And he shall give you another comforter
That he may 'bide with you forever
E'en the spirit of truth

FOR OUR PRAYERS

GIVE THANKS FOR

- » the risen Christ and for the Holy Spirit who leads us beyond Christ's own teaching
- » the beauty of the earth
- » a vision of heaven to sustain us as we journey on

PRAY FOR

- » a sense of glory and wonder of God
- » our own journey of faith and discovery as baptised Christians
- » all who are searching for truth
- » those who offer hospitality in their homes
- » Finn Hamilton to be christened today
- » those who live in Hawthorn Close, Heather Close, Helston Place
- » all who worship at St Saviour's and for Frs Richard and Christopher SDS

THOSE WHO ARE ILL OR IN NEED

- » Alan : Stan Johnson : Ben : Paul Maxted

RIP

- » Martin Bird

NEXT SUNDAY

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 2nd June 2019

8.00 am Holy Communion in St Lawrence
President & Preacher: The Revd Peter Waddell

**9.30 am Parish Communion with Seekers
and Creche** in St Lawrence
President & Preacher: The Revd Peter Waddell

11.15 am Holy Communion in
the Tin Church followed by
Congregational meeting
President & Preacher: The Revd Peter Waddell

12.30 pm Sunday Lunch Club in the hall

6.30 pm Evening Prayer in St Lawrence
Leader: Sally Sanderson

6.30 pm Youth Group meets in the
Breakspears Room

THE COMING WEEK

Monday 27th

Bank Holiday

Tuesday 28th

10.15 am Tuesday Coffee in the B'spear Rm

Wednesday 29th

10.30 am Carers Network meets
in the Methodist hall

11.15 am Quiet Reflection in the
Corpus Christi Chapel

12.00 noon Holy Communion in St Lawrence
followed by light lunch in the
Breakspears Room

7.45 pm Choir practice in St Lawrence

Thursday 30th Ascension Day

12.15 pm Funeral of Martin Bird
in St Lawrence

8.00 pm Parish Communion
in the Tin Church

Friday 31st

10.00 am Craft Morning in the Tin Church

10.00 am AHAL Coffee in the Henderson
Hub, Abbots Langley High St

2.00 pm Wedding of Ross Husband and
Katie O'Shea in the Tin Church

2.00 pm Craft & Conversation in the
Breakspears Room

Saturday 1st June

9.30 am Churchyard Working Party at
St Lawrence

1.15 pm Burial of Ashes of Patrick Mulligan

AVAILABILITY

Peter away to 29th May

READINGS NEXT SUNDAY

Acts 16.16-34; Ezekiel 36.24-28;
John 17.20-end

NOTICES

► **ASCENSION DAY** is this week - **Thursday 30th May** - with Communion in the Tin Church for their Patronal Festival at 8.00 pm followed by refreshments. Please ask in the office if you would like a lift.

► **SPRING CONCERT SERIES 2019** raised over £1500 for the 'Stonework Project' - many thanks to Brenda Southorn for organizing all the performers, to the performers themselves, to the cake bakers and to those who came along to listen.

► **CHRISTIAN AID** - if you took an envelope and haven't yet returned it, please do so, to the Church Office.

► A new **PILGRIM COURSE** on **The Creed** is starting on Sunday 9th June at 7.30 pm led by Peter, and on Tuesday 18th June at 1.00 pm led by Sally - both in the Breakspare Room. For those coming on Tuesdays there will be a light lunch from 12.30 pm.

► Friends of St Lawrence **OPEN GARDEN** on Saturday 15th June in The Abbot's House Garden from 12.00 noon to 5.00 pm. Live music, cream teas, raffle, etc. Entry is £5 adults; £2 children under 12; under 3 are free. Come and wander round or sit in this garden in the heart of the village - and support the Friends.

► Ecumenical Choir, *Joyful Noise*, conducted by Sarah Moreton (Youth Choir leader), presents Roger Jones' musical **SNAKES AND LADDERS** on Saturday 15th June in Hemel Hempstead Methodist Church at 4.00 pm. Tickets £10 (£5 under 16) from 07929 645179; all proceeds to Diabetes UK.

► **22nd June** - the date of the **ST LAWRENCE CHURCH FETE** - please make a note in your diary. This year's charities are Watford Town Centre Chaplaincy, New Hope and AL Carers Network.

MESSY CHURCH

Next one: **Wednesday 12th June**; theme: **Dazzling Disciples!** in the Methodist church and hall from 3.30 to 6.00 pm for all primary and younger aged children with their parents/carers: stories, activities and fun, finishing with supper. They always welcome help on the day - please contact Wendy Meldrum on 267383.

► Does anyone have a **TABLE TOP FREEZER** that they could lend us for the day of the fete on 22nd June? We can accommodate the contents in another freezer if that helps. Please let Carol know 07791901750.

► Come and enjoy a **PRACTICAL ART WORKSHOP**: 'The Art of the Sky' in the Tin Church on Thursday 20th June from 10.00 am to 12.00 noon. This is part of a series of themed practical half-day workshops held in a variety of small and unusual venues. Suitable for all abilities. Materials and refreshments provided. Please contact Susan Cooke on 07962 868028 or mscooke044@btinternet.com to book or for further details.

► **THEATRE TRIP** - the Social Committee has booked tickets to see 'The Girl on the Train' at Wycombe Swan on Thursday 19th September leaving the lych gate at 5.45 pm. The cost is £42 per ticket to include the coach fare and driver gratuity. If you would like to go please speak to Pam in the Office.

► **GOOD NEIGHBOURS** are desperate for more **DRIVERS** to take villagers to local appointments - if you want to find out what sort of commitment is required, please speak to Linda North or Marcus Coultrup.

► **OUTLOOK** (church magazine) is on sale

CONTACT NUMBERS

Vicar:	The Revd Dr Peter Waddell 01923 263013
Email:	vicar@abbotslangle.org.uk
Assistant Priest:	The Revd Angela Milton 01923 519453
Assistant Priest:	The Revd Guy Buckler via the Church Office
Assistant Priest:	The Revd Brian Hibberd via the Church Office
Reader:	Mrs Sally Sanderson 01923 265963
Church Office:	01923 261795
Open:	9.30 am to 1.00 pm daily
Email:	adminstlawrence@abbotslangle.org.uk

If anyone needs the ministry of a priest at any time, day or night, please contact Peter directly.

