

LICENSING SERVICE FOR THE NEW TEAM VICAR FOR ST. DUNSTAN'S

The Licensing Service of the Reverend Peter Godden as Team Vicar for St. Dunstan's will take place at St. Dunstan's on Tuesday 13th July at 7.30pm. This is expected to be an in-person service.

ECCLESIASTICAL INSURANCE TRUST 130 DONATION OFFER

If you are renewing your home insurance, would you consider obtaining a quote from Ecclesiastical Insurance? For any policy taken out with them they will donate £130 to St John's Church and there is no limit on the donations they will make. The number to call is 0800 7830 130 and quote TrustP21.



The One Can donation box is outside the Church so that we can continue to make our gifts to this worthy cause. Caroline will continue to take what has been collected on our behalf and deliver it to the main collection centre. Thanks very much to everyone who continues to support this cause.

Please see the One Can Trust Web Site (www.onecantrust.org.uk) for further details on the scheme and current urgent needs.

Key Contacts:

Vicar:	Rev. Canon Tony Bundock	01844 347741
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www.stjohnschurchlaceygreen.co.uk

PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, LACEY GREEN



Coming to Faith, Growing in Faith

Week Commencing
SUNDAY 2ND MAY 2021
5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

WELCOME TO TODAY'S WORSHIP

You are warmly welcomed to St. John's Church, particularly if you are new to our congregation or are a visitor. St. John's is a member Church of the Risborough Team Ministry, serving the parish of Lacey Green, Loosely Row and Speen. Our Sunday services will be led by our Vicar, Canon Tony.

WORSHIP AT ST. JOHN'S – UPDATE

We have now resumed in-church worship on Sundays and Tuesdays using the same pattern of worship used before the third National Lockdown. We will be continuing to hold an on-line service on Zoom, but this has reverted to 11:00 am. So, the pattern of services going forward will be as follows:

- Sundays – 10:00 am – In-church Said Parish Communion Service.
- Sundays – 11:00 am – On-line Morning Worship with Hymns (Zoom).
- Tuesdays – 09:30 am – In-church Said Parish Communion Service.

For the in-church services, Holy Communion will be in one kind only and the 2-metre social distancing requirement will apply. Contact details of those attending will need to be recorded in a suitable notebook and details kept for 3 weeks. When attending worship in church you must continue to wear a face mask within the church building apart from the celebrant, those reading lessons / leading intercessions and during receipt of Holy Communion.

Weekly Services for This Week:

SUNDAY	
10:00 am	In-church Said Parish Communion Service
11:00 am	On-line Morning Worship with Hymns on Zoom
TUESDAY	
9:30 am	In-church Said Parish Communion Service

FOCUS ON... THE TRUE VINE

I learned recently that archaeological evidence from Georgia in Eastern Europe indicates that human beings have been making wine for at least 8000 years; and also that the word “symposium” originally referred to Greek philosophers meeting together for convivial debate and intellectual discussion, but also to drink wine! And, apparently, there are associations of the cult of Dionysus, the Greek god of wine making known to the Romans as Bacchus, with the idea of death and rebirth. This is symbolically echoed, we were told, in “viticulture”, the production of grapes, where vines must be pruned back sharply and then lie dormant in winter, before they again bear fruit. And so, it has been suggested that the statement in St. John’s Gospel Chapter 15 Verse 1 in which Jesus says “I am the true vine” may have been in part a response to the popularity of the cult of Dionysus or Bacchus. That is indeed an intriguing possibility, but it seems much more likely that it stems from the deep roots of Christianity in Judaism. There are well over 100 references in the Old Testament to vines and vineyards, and not least to Israel as itself the vine which God himself planted which we find in the words of the great prophets – Isaiah, Jeremiah, Hosea – and in Psalm 80 where Israel is described as the vine which God himself brought out of Egypt. So, St. John’s description of Jesus as the “true vine” certainly seems to reference Old Testament sources first and foremost. Of course, early Christianity did indeed need to make its way in the ancient Graeco-Roman world with its plurality of religious beliefs. So just maybe then St. John did also have that in mind too. In fact, what Jesus offers to his followers is a life founded on love, friendship, and loyalty. These are eternal values. They are human values, of course, but for those of us who make the choice to be grafted into he who St. John describes as the “true vine”, they are values which do have a divine quality.

Canon Tony Bundock

COLLECT FOR 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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*.



READINGS FOR EASTER 5

Genesis Ch. 22 VV. 1 – 18

Acts Ch. 8 VV. 26 – 40

John Ch. 15 VV. 1 – 8

PRAYER CHAIN PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK
(THIS SUNDAY THE INTERCESSIONS WILL BE LED BY PAT RUSHMERE)



Lord of life, truth and grace Bring all creation to delight in your peace. Spirit of truth, come to your Church. Fill us with love for the Father and the Son. And in line with Christian teachings of faith, hope and love Let us all be guided to help one another. Spirit of truth come to all who are weary and carrying heavy burdens. We pray for a world damaged by the Coronavirus pandemic. We pray for the safety and protection of all key workers, in the NHS and elsewhere, and for the children, the young people, the elderly and the vulnerable.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us evermore. Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER FOR EASTER 5

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.

ON-LINE MORNING WORSHIP FOR EASTER 5

This Sunday’s Online Morning Worship service on Zoom will be led by Canon Tony with assistance from Graham King. Details are as below and will be included in the covering email:

Topic: Morning Prayer with Hymn
Time: May 02, 2021 **11:00 AM** London



Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71875316020?pwd=WFhDQXlzaXJjZCtUMWw1RktDaEILdz09>
Meeting ID: 718 7531 6020 Passcode: 2TZ6D8

This Week you are Asked to Pray For:

- Those in the parish and further afield who are sick or in need that they receive peace and healing, including: Irene Foord, Mary Mines, Helena Oecken, Ian Wilson, Ron Goodearl, Ian Goodearl, Phillipa King, Jenny King, Beryl Palmer, Sally Zeybek, Laura, the daughter of June Brazier and Doug Tilbury.
- The recently departed, may their souls rest in peace. We pray for their families and friends at this difficult time.
- All parts of the world affected by the Coronavirus (Covid-19), those who are ill with the virus and those caring for them. Particularly praying for India where infection rates are very high and the hospitals are struggling to cope. We give thanks that in our own country infection rates and the number of people in hospital with Covid-19 are falling, due to the success of the vaccination programme.
- For the country of South Africa, for the people of Cape Town and Diocese of Kimberly and Kuruman including our linked parish of St. Mary’s Kuruman.