

Churchwarden Jane:-	680522
Churchwarden Barry	680734

9.30am Eucharist 28th April, 2024

11am Holy Communion on 1st May, 2024

Hymn:- 558 Praise to the Lord

Collect:- 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.

First Reading:- A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

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.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. 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. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.' The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. 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?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. 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. 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.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Response to Psalm 22:- All the ends of the earth shall turn to you, O Lord.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: 'May your heart live for ever!'

R

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall bow before him. For kingship belongs to the Lord; he rules over the nations.

R

To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust fall before him. My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; they shall be known as the Lord's for ever. They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn the saving deeds that he has done.

R

Second Reading:- A reading from the first letter of John.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, 'I love God,' and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

This is the word of the Lord

Gradual Hymn:- 397 Jesu Thee we obey

Gospel:- Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in

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

Offertory Hymn:- 331 **We pray Thee Heavenly Father**

Hymn:- 284 Bread of Heaven

Anthems:- Jesu Joy of Man's desiring

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

Recessional:- 311 **Lord enthroned in Heavenly Splendour**

Please remember in your prayers this week the sick of the Parish:- Sarina, Janice Pinnock, Jean Rochester, Cynthia Foster, Christopher Munns, Barry Ireland, Amy Su Armitage, Velma Munns, Dave Cheney, Nina Beetson, Peter Fisher, Martin Fisher and John Worthington.

Those who have recently died:- Noel Pearson

Christian Aid Day 11th May

Asking for donations of cakes to take to the Chapel who are holding a joint Chapel/Church Coffee morning to raise money for Christian Aid. We really need some support here please on Saturday 11th May, 10am to midday.

Floodlight Sponsorship

Joyce, Mark, Emily and Sarina

Treasured memories of Bryan on his Heavenly Birthday, 30th April.

Much loved and greatly missed.

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What is coming up

Today Church AGM Sunday 28th April at 10.45 am

Sponsored Bible Read Saturday May 11th in Church

The Sponsored Bible Read will take place on Saturday 11th May in church between 10:00am and 3:00pm. When we did this two years ago, volunteers read through the Gospels of St Matthew, St Mark and St Luke. This time we plan to start reading St John and then move onto Acts. We are asking for volunteers to read for 15-minute slots. We are also asking for volunteers to be stewards/timers for one-hour slots; if preferred this can be done in pairs. As well as reading through the Gospel, the idea is to collect sponsors with monies going to church. In 2022 we raised £1,600, which included Gift Aid for those who pay tax. Any questions to Pete Grindrod. There is a list on the Notice board.

13th May:- Fund Raising Meeting 7. 30 pm, Jean's Manor.

Crowning of the May Queen and Afternoon tea 19th May 2pm to 4pm tickets £5.00 available from Julie if you would like afternoon tea, Children are free.

6th June the 80th Celebration of D Day 7.30 pm in Church followed by refreshments for all.

Sunday 23rd June Rushden Town Band Concert Pimms, Punch and Pop Music tickets £10.00 accompanied children free. Julie or Jane have tickets.

Saturday 29th June Church Fete 12 to 4pm : If you would like to run a stall we are looking for people to organise a Jigsaw stall, and a paper book stall or help in anyway speak to Churchwarden Jane please.

Plants for the Fete please bring to Church on Wednesday 26th June or Saturday 29th June before midday. Joyce and Lynn will be running the stall.

Joanne Needle is asking for **tombola** prizes for her stall please. Ring 682098 if you can supply anything.

Still waiting for offers for a Jigsaw stall and book stall.

Latest number Quiz is ready in Church by the south door £1.00 a sheet.