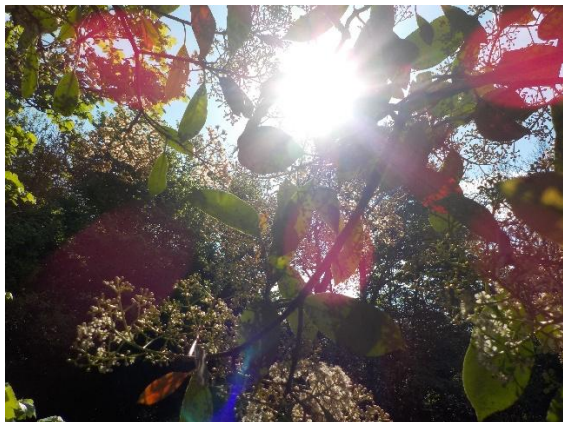


S⁺Mary's Church Wexham

18 May 2025, EASTER 5



Services today

8am – Holy Communion, (Revd Gordon Briggs)
10am – Holy Communion, (Revd Gordon Briggs)
10am Young Church in the hall.

Hymns for 10am today:- 46, 4. 298. 206.

Services next week, 25 May

8am – Holy Communion
10am – Holy Communion
10am Young Church
11.30am – Service of Wholeness and Healing

INTERCESSIONS - Our prayers have been asked for Freya, Lorna and Charles, Hazel B and Elle, Malcolm W, Jane A, Janine J, Julie M.

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.

READINGS

Acts 11: 1-18

Peter Reports to the Church

11 Now the apostles and the brothers who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God.
So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcision party criticized him, saying, "You went to uncircumcised men and ate with them."
But Peter began and explained it to them in order: "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision, something like a great sheet descending, being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to me.
Looking at it closely, I observed animals and beasts of prey and reptiles and birds of the air.
And I heard a voice saying to me, 'Rise, Peter; kill and eat.'
But I said, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing common or unclean has ever entered my mouth.'
But the voice answered a second time from heaven, 'What God has made clean, do not call common.'
This happened three times, and all was drawn up again into heaven.
And behold, at that very moment three men arrived at the house in which we were, sent to me from Caesarea.
And the Spirit told me to go with them, making no distinction.
These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house.

And he told us how he had seen the angel stand in his house and say, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon who is called Peter; he will declare to you a message by which you will be saved, you and all your household.' As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as on us at the beginning.

And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.'

If then God gave the same gift to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way?"

When they heard these things they fell silent.

And they glorified God, saying, "Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life."

John 13: 31-35

A New Commandment

³¹ When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him.

³² If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once.

³³ Little children, yet a little while I am with you.

You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, 'Where I am going you cannot come.'

³⁴ A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.

³⁵ By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

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.

* * * * *

YOUNG CHURCH - Love one another as Jesus loves you, Story time will include a guessing game. We will make heart shaped biscuits, a heart wreath while listening to "A new commandment I give unto you". If we have time we will play a Love run game.

NOTICES

Revd Andrew will be away on holiday for one week from 23rd May.

Monday 12th, **Bingo** - 7.30pm for 7.45pm start – everybody welcome.

BSHG is having a break as several of our members are on holiday.

Wednesdays, 10am – 11am – "Keep Fit" in the hall with Alice. Call Alice on 07834362675 for more information.

The next time we meet for **Churchyard Care** will be on **Saturday 7th June from 10.00 a.m.** You are most welcome to join us for two hours or for however long you can spare. Work will be varied; no gardening experience is necessary; there will be refreshments in the hall at 11.00 and plenty of time to chat as we look after our beautiful grounds.

