

SAINT JOHN'S MALONE



Remain in My Love from Art in the Christian Tradition
Building: Church of St Catherine of Siena, New York, United States

Sixth Sunday of Easter, Rogation Sunday

Welcome to Saint John's especially all who are visiting today.

An audio *loop system* is in operation for those with hearing aids. The order of service is available to download from the website and the 10.30am is livestreamed on St John's Malone YouTube channel. Those baptised in the name of the Holy Trinity and are communicant members of their own church are welcome to receive Holy Communion, according to conscience.

Today: Sunday 10th May 2026

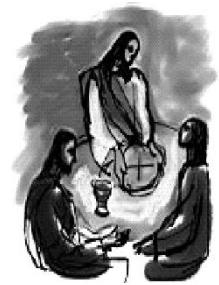
9.00 a.m. Eucharist in the Side Chapel said

10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist Coffee/tea follows this service

Thursday 14th May 7:30p.m. Ascension Day 7:30pm Choral Eucharist

The Eucharist ~See service booklet for 10:30am if available or below for page references in the BCP 2004

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Organ Voluntary	Fanfare - Lemmens
Office Setting	Wiltshire Service - Shephard



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 our Lord. **Amen**

First Reading Acts 17:22–31

²² Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵ nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we, too, are his offspring.’ ²⁹ “Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm

Second Reading 1 Peter 3:13–22

Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵ but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, ¹⁶ yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which also he went and made

a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. ²¹ And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn

Gospel Reading *Hear the Gospel of our Saviour Christ according to John chapter fourteen beginning at verse fifteen. **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ***

John 14:15–21

Jesus said to the disciples, “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸ “I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Post Communion Prayer

God our Father,
whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life:
May we also thirst for you,
the spring of life and source of goodness,
through him who is alive and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Services this week

Wednesday 13th May 7.30pm Zoom Compline. See eNewsletter for access code and link

Thursday 14th May - Ascension Day 10:30am Eucharist; 19.30 Sung Eucharist

Next Sunday: Sunday after Ascension Day | 17.05.26

9.00 a.m. Eucharist in the Side Chapel *said*

10.30 a.m. Family Eucharist *Coffee / Tea follows this service and all are welcome*



Prayer Diary: Week beginning 10/05/2026

Porvoo Communion Churches:

Church of England: Diocese of Gloucester, Bishop Rachel Treweek, Bishop Robert Springett

Church of Sweden: Diocese of Västerås, Bishop Mikael Mogren

Notices: | Sign up for the regular email update.

Samples of Bible Reading Fellowship BRF Notes are available in St John's. Please speak to or email to Rev. Brian Cadden if you are interested in having in having the quarterly BRF Notes.

Contactless Payments The Select Vestry has made a contactless payment devices available in the parish and may be used for any donations you'd like to make at social time after the service in the hall or in the vestibule.

Giving and Stewardship in St Johns' much of our income received is through the Free Will Offering Scheme using either envelopes or increasingly, by Standing Order. Standing order forms are available by asking the Churchwardens or contacting the Office or secstjohns@btconnect.com. Alternatively if you wish to make a donation then the account details for St John's are also available from the Wardens. Your donations help us maintain our buildings and support ministry and outreach here in St John's and more widely.

Organising your wedding in St John's

Weddings are special occasions in the life of any family and of the Church. We'd be delighted to talk to anyone contemplating their wedding in St John's. When considering getting married please check possible dates with the Rector before confirming any other arrangements. It is expected that couples will make a regular commitment to the life of the Church in preparation for marriage.

Hospital Visiting

The Rector would appreciate knowing if parishioners are going into or are in hospital or discharged and is pleased to offer pastoral support.

Safeguarding

The Rector, select vestry and parish leaders are committed to uphold the good practice to the parish's ministry with children, young people and vulnerable adults. Should you have any concern or suspicion regarding child welfare in the parish please contact a member of the **Parish panel**. Rev Canon Stephen Fielding 9066 6644 | Mrs Patricia Armstrong 07854005699 | Dr Anthony Stevens 07710647080



Urgently needed food items - in order of priority:

Tinned Meat, Oats, UHT Juice, UHT Milk, Tinned Vegetables, Honey and Peanut butter, Coffee, Tinned Potatoes, Detergent, Shampoo

Donations to the Foodbank can either be placed directly into the basket at Tesco Newtownbreda or donate directly to the Foodbank. Or ***please place items in the baskets in the entrance vestibule/porch.*** Open for donations every Wednesday 1-3pm and every Thursday 10am-12pm. Our warehouse is Unit 4, 23 Sunwich Street, Belfast, BT6 8HR

Any questions regarding donating please call us on 07743332489 or email us on info@southbelfast.foodbank.org.uk

Thank you for your generosity | We depend on your gifts of time treasure and talent to keep ministry in St John's running. To make an offering in support of the parish please give at the welcome table near the church door or by scanning this QR code. Please use Gift Aid if you can. To set up regular giving, which helps our ministry planning, please contact Joanne Macartney at treasurer.stjohns@hotmail.com
<https://givealittle.co/c/stjohnsdonate>



*Please take this
booklet home with you
for the readings,
notices and reference
during the week and*

READINGS:

Acts 17: 22-31: Paul preaches to the people of Athens, remarking on their many shrines, and using the shrine to the unknown god as a springboard, tells them about the God who is near to every person, and who has revealed God's self to humanity in Jesus.

Psalms 66:7-18 A psalm of praise to God for testing God's people, rescuing them, and forgiving them.

1 Peter 3:13-22: Peter encourages the believers to endure suffering for doing good as Christ did, and to remember that they are saved in Christ, who is now in a place of honour and authority with God.

John 14:15-21 Jesus invites his disciples to show their love for him by obeying him, and he promises that the Holy Spirit will come to them and be in them, leading them into all truth.

REFLECTIONS ON THEME:

Following from last week's word of assurance, the Lectionary continues in an attitude of comfort, emphasising God's nearness and God's strengthening of those who struggle. In Athens, Paul speaks to the people of the city about a God who can be known and "in whom we live, move, and have our being." He invites them to recognise that God is very near to all people, whether they are aware of God or not. The Psalmist reflects on God's presence even during times of 'testing' and gives thanks for God's rescue and forgiveness, and celebrates that God does indeed hear the prayers of God's people. In Peter's letter, the apostle continues to offer comfort to a persecuted church, assuring them that they are following in Christ's nail-scarred footsteps, and that in Christ they are saved. And, in John's Gospel, Jesus offers the promise of the Spirit, assuring his disciples that by the Spirit they will always know that God is with them and in them, and they will enjoy the love relationship that Jesus has given them. The wonderful, challenging, and comforting message of this week is that God is intimately available to us, and that God's presence and resources are accessible to us as we face the challenges and struggles of following Christ and living fully. The inevitable question this raises is whether we are willing to embrace God's presence, and rest in God's strength even as we wrestle with injustice and the big crises facing our world.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 10-16 MAY – PARISH EEnvelope below.
Paper contribution envelopes are also available today in the vestibule.
Visit my envelope page:
<https://caw.christianaid.org.uk/envelope-2026/st-johns-malone-christian-aid-week-eenvelope>



Push back against the inhumanity of poverty. **Scan this QR code to donate to your parish eEnvelope and make a difference today.**



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CCLI licence No. 1996325 Streaming License No. 524611 St John's Malone Charities Registration Number NIC101984 The Parish Office for administrative matters, or for information about organisations connected with St John's (90667861) e-mail: secstjohns@btconnect.com*

The Rector, Rev. Canon Stephen Fielding can be contacted on pastoral matters (90666644)
e-mail : malone@connor.anglican.org
