

SAINT JOHN'S MALONE



**The Ascension, from Art in the Christian Tradition,
Date: 1973 Artist: JESUS MAFA Cameroon, Africa**

Seventh Sunday of Easter, Sunday after Ascension

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.

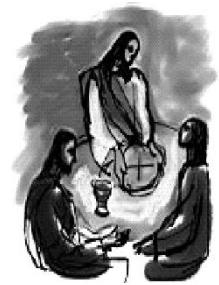
Today: Sunday 17th May 2026

9.00 a.m. Eucharist in the Side Chapel said

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

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

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Collect of the Day	
Liturgy of the Word	
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Sermon	
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The Lord's Prayer	
Communion	
Motet	King of all ages, Throned on High – Isom
Great Silence	
Going Out	<i>page 220 ff /145</i>
Post Communion Prayers	<i>page 220</i>
Blessing	
Post Communion Hymn	286
Organ Voluntary	Spirit (from Canticle of the Rose) – Ridout
Office Setting	Davison/Lloyd Webber



Collect

O God the King of Glory,
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:
Mercifully give us faith to know
that, as he promised,
he abides with us on earth to the end of time;
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

First Reading Acts 1:6–14

When the apostles had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷ He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” ¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. ¹³ When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴ All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Second Reading 1 Peter 4:12–14; 5:6–11

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ’s sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸ Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing

the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

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

John 17:1–11

¹⁷ After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴ I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶ “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, ⁸ for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹ I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Post Communion Prayer

Eternal Giver of love and power,
your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world
to preach the gospel of his kingdom.
Confirm us in this mission,
and help us to live the good news we proclaim;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Services this week

Wednesday 20th May 7.30pm Zoom Compline. See eNewsletter for access code and link

Thursday 21st May with prayer for those in need will take place in the Side Chapel. The prayer list is in the Side Chapel.

A cup of tea/coffee is now available after this service.

Next Sunday: Pentecost, Whitsunday | 24.05.26

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

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

18.30 / 6:30p.m. Choral Evensong



Prayer Diary: Week beginning 17/05/2026

Porvoo Communion Churches:

Church of England: Diocese of Guildford, Bishop Andrew Watson, Bishop Paul Davies

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark: Diocese of Viborg, Bishop Henrik Stubkjær

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. Updated May 1st 2026

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 1: 6-14: The disciples question Jesus about the timing of God's restoration of Israel, but Jesus promises the Holy Spirit and then ascends into heaven as they watch. Then two white-robed men tell them that Jesus will return in the same way they saw him leave.

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11: Peter encourages the persecuted believers, reminding them that they have witnessed Christ's suffering and share in it, and that they have the hope of seeing Christ's glory, and sharing in that as well.

John 11:1-11 Jesus prays for himself that God will take him back into the glory he shared with the Father. Then he prays for his disciples, who have received Christ's message and have believed and given him glory, that they may be protected by God's name and may be one as Christ and the Father are one.

REFLECTIONS ON THEME:

It may sound like a strange connection to make, but this week's readings bring together two ideas that appear disparate – glory and refugees. Jesus was, in a sense, the ultimate refugee – choosing to leave behind his home in glory in order to live without a home (See Matthew 8:20) and to proclaim God's reign as a home for all. In the light of this, his prayer to return to glory reveals a poignant longing for home. In a similar way, in Acts, Jesus, in a cryptic, round about way, invites his disciples to give up on their hope for an earthly kingdom as home, and to recognise that God is their home. The angelic message that they will see Jesus return in the same way he left is reminiscent of Jesus' words in John 14:2-3. For the Psalmist, God's victory brings a place of safety and belonging to the most vulnerable and to God's people. Peter encourages the believers to endure persecution because, as they share in Christ's suffering, so they also have the hope of sharing in Christ's glory – Christ's home. So, even as Jesus the Refugee longed for home, and opened the way for his followers to find a home in God's reign (God's glory) so we live as refugees, at home in God's glory, but, walking in this world, unable as yet to see and experience it completely. And as Christ the Refugee sought to provide a home for refugees – the marginalised, the poor, the excluded, and the suffering – so, as we are called to follow him, we are called to be one with Christ and the Father, not just in their glory, but also in their home-building mission.



Donations of plants and cakes are very welcome. Please let the Rector or a Churchwarden know and bring your items on Friday 29th between 7pm and 8pm for setting-up. The sale is from 10-12noon and refreshments are available. Thank you.



@malonestjohns



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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

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS TO CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 10-16 MAY. WE WILL STILL BE RECEIVING CA ENVELOPES TODAY IF YOU HAVENT HAD THE OPPORTUNITY YET TO DONATE.

malone.connor.anglican.org

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