

Notices

Next Sunday is the Annual Parochial Church meeting: we will have one service only, 10.30am at St. James. It will be a family service and the APCM will follow at approx. 11.45 once people have had refreshments. It will be really lovely to have the whole church together on that day, so please could I encourage everyone to come along to St. James' for the service and for both congregations to stay for the APCM.

APCM documents: All of the APCM documents are now on the website, or in church. Please take a look ahead of the meeting.

The PCC: We will be looking for new people to join our PCC. We are currently holding the following vacancies:
6 x PCC members
1 x Deanery Synod member.

St. Peter's Prayer Breakfast: will be back soon now that the weather is improving. For those who already attend, could you indicate if there is a day and time that you would prefer. 8.00 is quite early so we are looking for a more convenient time to breakfast and pray together.

A note about volunteering: all volunteers are required to complete the basic stage of safeguarding training. This is a requirement of the Church of England. We do all we can to keep each other safe. If you want to book some training, please speak to Erica erica@interbrands.ltd 01789 842415

Donations to the church
can be made using this QR code.
These donations go towards the
Ministry and mission of the church



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Church website: www.alvestonchurches.org

Alveston Parish Newsletter Sunday 28th April 2024 5th Sunday of Easter

Hymns

170	God is love, let heaven adore him
355	Now the green blade riseth
536	We sing the praise of him who died
127	Father, who in Jesus found us
272	Jesus Lives!

This week's services & church events

Sunday	28th April
9.15am	Holy Communion at St. Peter's
10.30am	Holy Communion at St. James'
Monday	29th April
10.30am	Soft Play at St. Peter's
2.00pm	Tea & Chat at St. Peter's
5.15pm	Just 30 mins at St. James'
Wednesday	1st May
2.00-4.00	Woolly Wednesday at the YHA
Thursday	2nd May
10.30am	Midweek Communion at St. James'.
3.30pm	Just 30 Minutes at St. Peter's

The Sick: We pray for all who are sick, especially Rita Hobday, Sue Chan, Doug Evans, Elizabeth Miles, Nikki Favell, Joan Umpleby, Sandra Oram, Dilys Jones, Anna Williams, King Charles, and Kate, Princess of Wales.

To add someone to the prayer list contact Erica Johnston. erica@interbrands.ltd 01789 842415

R.I.P We pray for Betty Parkes and all who have died recently. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

Years Mind: Fordham Butler, Janet Dobell, Kenneth Dainton, Avis Longmore, Marjorie Wintel, Shirley Tuckey, Martin Denby, George Bennet (priest) and all who we remember at this time of year.

Prayer for the Day - The Collect.

Risen Christ,
your wounds declare your love for the world
and the wonder of your risen life:
give us compassion and courage
to risk ourselves for those we serve,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen

First Reading Acts 8:26-end

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means “queen of the Ethiopians”). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. The Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.”

Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. “Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked.

“How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading:

“He was led like a sheep to the slaughter,
and as a lamb before its shearer is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.
In his humiliation he was deprived of justice.
Who can speak of his descendants?
For his life was taken from the earth.”

The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?” Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

As they travelled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?” And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both 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 suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and travelled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

Gospel John 15: 1-8

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

Prayer after Communion

**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**