

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2026**  
**THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

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 serve,  
to the glory of God the Father.

**10.00 am Parish Eucharist (CW)**

President and Preacher: Reverend Nicholas Burton  
Minister: Tim Harrold

**10.00 am Family Service with Holy Communion at the Church Centre + Zoom**

Lead: Dahne Pilcher      Link: Karen Miller

Hymns:      The Wise Man Built his House upon the Rock  
                 Bind Us Together, Lord  
                 My Hope is Built on Nothing Less (Cornerstone)  
                 For I'm Building a People of Power

Readings: 1 Peter 2. 2 – 10 (NIV page 1222)

**6.30 pm Evensong (BCP)**

Minister and Preacher: Tim Harrold

Hymn:              NEH 102 A brighter dawn is breaking

Psalm:             18 verses 1 – 12

1<sup>st</sup> Reading:      Zechariah 4. 1 – 10 (NRSV p. 916) Mione Palmer

Magnificat:      B

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:      Revelations 21.1–14 (NRSV p. 280)      Bill Barter

Nunc Dimittis:   B

Anthem:           Beati quorum via – Standford

Hymn:             NEH 485 Thy hand, O God has guided

Amen:             18



The Altar flowers are given today  
in loving memory of my dear husband,  
John with love from Margaret Brown.

## THE WEEK AHEAD

**MONDAY 4<sup>th</sup> May** *English saints and martyrs of the Reformation Era*  
**BANK HOLIDAY - Office closed**

**TUESDAY 5<sup>th</sup>** Parish Office Closed

**WEDNESDAY 6<sup>th</sup>** *St John the Evangelist, ante Portam Latinam*

**9.00 am** **Morning prayer at the Church Centre – Tim Harrold**  
**9.00 am** Playtime at St Paul's  
**10.00 am** Church Centre open for private prayer

**THURSDAY 7<sup>th</sup>** *Pandita Mary Ramabal, translator of the Scriptures 1922*

**7 am – 10 pm** **Local Elections – St Paul's Church Centre Polling Station**  
**10.00 am** Church Centre open for private prayer  
**4.00 pm** Wedding at St Paul's Church  
**6.00 pm** The Church Youth Council at The Lodge

**FRIDAY 8<sup>th</sup>** *Julian of Norwich, spiritual writer, c. 1417*

**10.00 am** Church Centre open for private prayer  
**12.30 pm** Community Larder at the Church Centre  
**6.30 pm** Junior Choir practise  
**7.30 pm** Full Choir practise

**SATURDAY 9<sup>th</sup>**

**10.00 am – 4.00 pm** Choristers Café

**NEXT SUNDAY 10<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

**The Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**8.00 am** **Holy Communion (BCP)**  
President and Preacher: The Vicar

**10.00 am** **Parish Eucharist (CW) with Baptism**  
President and Preacher: The Vicar  
Minister: Tim Harrold

**10.00 am** **Family Service with at the Church Centre + Zoom**  
Lead: Liz Goddard                      Link: Viv Littlechild

**10.00 am – 4.00 pm** Choristers Café

**6.30 pm** **Evensong (BCP)**  
Minister: The Vicar

## NEWS AND NOTES

It is with great sadness to announce the death of Zillah Witt. For many years she was a huge presence within the Church community and TWODS. Our love, thoughts and prayers are with Zillah's daughters Elizabeth and Sharon and the rest of her family.

### **Local Elections Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2026 7 am to 10 pm**

The Church Centre is unable to operate as normal as it is a Polling Station. All clubs have made alternative arrangements.

### **First Aid**

We are currently looking to add a few more First Aiders to the St Paul's team. At the moment I am the only registered person and cannot be at all events/services. It would be great to be able to cover more. If you would like to do some training or already hold a First Aid at Work (or similar) certificate, please get in touch. It is a rewarding way to help people and I am very happy to answer any questions. This applies to both Churches. Many thanks. Ginette

### **APCM**

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) will take place at the Church Centre at 7.45 pm on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2026. Papers for this meeting will be circulated in due course. During the meeting we will be looking to elect Church Wardens, Deputy Wardens, members to the PCC and members of the Deanery Synod. If you are interested to serve in one of these roles please contact Ronnie, May or Chris Dobson. Nomination forms are available at the Parish Church and Church Centre.

### **YOUR PARISH NEEDS YOU!**

We are looking for someone to serve as Secretary of the Parochial Church Council (PCC). The role of the Secretary is to:

1. Take the Minutes at the PCC meetings and circulate them to the PCC.
  2. Prepare the agenda with the Vicar for the PCC meetings.
  3. Prepare and distribute documents for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) and take minutes for the meeting.
  4. Act as the 'official' liaison between the Parish and The Diocese of Rochester.
- The PCC meets for at most two hours on a 6/7 - week cycle. Please speak to Ronnie, May or Chris Dobson if you are interested to serve as the PCC Secretary.

### **BEE NEWS**

Spring has certainly arrived and our hives are exceedingly busy. Having thought we had lost one of our hives over the winter, it would appear that our healthy colony have other ideas and have produced what we think are two new queens. All things going well we look forward to a productive summer of honey with THREE busy hives. Exciting news indeed.

## **CHURCH YOUTH COUNCIL**

Our next meeting is next Thursday May 7th at 6 pm in The Lodge and is open to all children aged current Year 6 to Year 12. We are incredibly lucky to have Anne Krisman Goldstein coming to tell us the story of The Beacon, of the hope and refuge it gave to so many children fleeing from the horror of war and persecution. We look forward to welcoming her to our meeting

## **CAN YOU HELP?**

Following a recent strategy meeting the church is looking for the following:

1. A co-ordinator to mastermind the Annual Church Fayre
2. Someone to co-ordinate our marketing strategy
3. A St. Paul's Alumni co-ordinator to reach out to St. Paul's Alumni and friends, local, national and International.

If you are interested in any of these roles, please contact either:

Angela Culley. 07779098026 or [culley.angela@yahoo.com](mailto:culley.angela@yahoo.com)

Tim Harrold, Lay Minister, 07413805814 or [finance@stpaulsrusthall.org.uk](mailto:finance@stpaulsrusthall.org.uk)

## **EXCITING NEWS - "I am Mark" Production**

It is with great excitement and anticipation that we can announce that 2026 will see an inaugural Shirley Barter Memorial Production. On 18<sup>th</sup> July we will be presenting "I am Mark", a daring new staging of the Gospel of Mark. Re-enacted by one person, "I am Mark" takes us through all the stories and drama in Mark's Gospel and presents it in the same way that the very first Christians would have experienced it. Performed in front of sell out audiences at both Rochester Cathedral and Edinburgh Fringe Festival, this is an event not to be missed. Tickets are now on sale via our website. See posters in The Lodge, Church and Church Centre for details. We expect tickets to sell quickly so please make sure you book yours soon.

### **CONTACTS**

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