

WHAT'S ON AT ST. JOHN'S		
DATE	TIME	EVENT
Mon 4 May	08.00	MONDAY MARKET 'OPEN CHURCH'
Mon 4 May	19.00	Monday Night House Group
Wed. 6 May	19.30	Sing for Joy Choir
Thur. 7 May	09.30	Holy Communion/prayers
Fri. 8 May	10.00	Church Shop @ St Matthew's

Suggestions for your prayers/praise:

May God bless King Charles III with wisdom, strength, and good health. May his continued work be marked by compassion, service, and a steady commitment to the good of all people. Grant him grace in his duties and peace in his heart. May he follow the example of Jesus—the ultimate King of Kings. Be near to all who feel anxious, overwhelmed, or emotionally weary. Calm troubled minds, ease heavy hearts, and bring peace where there is stress. Give strength for each moment, comfort in times of distress, and hope in place of fear. Remind them they are not alone, and surround them with care, understanding, and healing. We pray for our forthcoming APCM, that you would inspire and encourage those you are calling to come forward and serve as wardens, PCC members, and in other roles, giving them courage, wisdom, and a heart to serve you through Jesus Christ. We thank You for our Monday market—for its place in the heart of our community, for the hands that serve and the hearts that give. Bless all who volunteer, those who prepare and serve at the food bar, and everyone who helps keep the market moving forward. Let our service reflect Your love.



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WELCOME TO ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH.

SHIPHAY

'A caring fellowship seeking to share the life and love of God'

Sunday 3 May 2026

Greetings.

We warmly welcome you to our worship this morning.

We gather today with grateful hearts.

Fill us with your peace, renew our faith, and guide us to live as witnesses of your love. We're glad you have chosen to come along to this service especially if this is your first visit to St John's.

We really hope you will stay and join us for Fairtrade coffee and refreshments after the service this morning.

Music

Will you come and follow me **752**

All my days

Jesus, be the centre

How lovely is Thy dwelling place

Cornerstone

Offertory

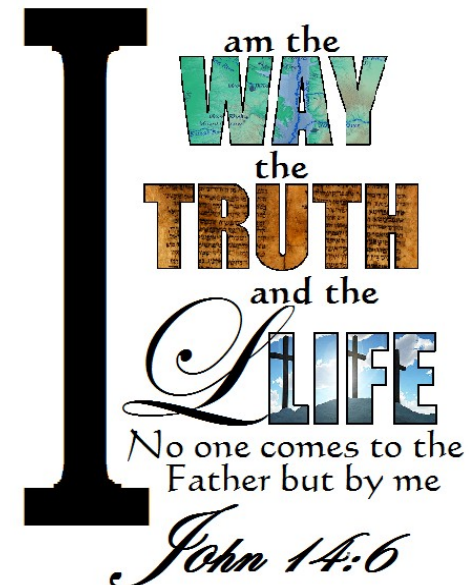
Communion

I am trusting thee, Lord Jesus **300**

How I love You

O Lord, hear my prayer **938**

We want to see Jesus lifted high



The First Reading

Acts 7. 55-end

⁵⁵ But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ 'Look,' he said, 'I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.'

⁵⁷ At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, ⁵⁸ dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' ⁶⁰ Then he fell on his knees and cried out, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he fell asleep.

NEW CHURCH ROTA

Please collect your new church Rota (May - August) from the back of church. Please arrange swaps amongst yourselves.

Thanks.

APCM

Our APCM this year is on **Sunday 17 May** following on from a shortened morning worship.

APCM Reports

Please would Wardens and people leading in all areas of church life such as House groups, flower team etc. who usually give a report please let Sonia have a typed copy (if possible) by **11 May**.

If you are considering standing for Warden/PCC member please put your name on the form/s in the porch with Proposer and Secunder. Thank you.

Please note if you wish to attend the APCM you must be on the Electoral Roll.

Gospel Reading John 14:1-14

Jesus comforts his disciples

14 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God^[a]; believe also in me. ²My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴You know the way to the place where I am going.'

Jesus the way to the Father

⁵ Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?'

⁶ Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you really know me, you will know^[b] my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.'

⁸ Philip said, 'Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.'

⁹ Jesus answered: 'Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? ¹⁰ Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. ¹¹ Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.'

Heavenly Shepherd,

when I walk through difficult paths,

help me to remember that You are my guide.

Lead me beside still waters and restore my soul, allowing me to rest in Your care.

Strengthen me with Your eternal promises, and let my heart be steadfast in faith, even in challenging times.

In Your arms, I find refuge and hope.

Fear knocked at the door. Faith answered. No one was there.