

## Reflection John1 3:31-35

### Our Mission of LOVE

Mission is a great privilege but it also carries a great responsibility. If we directed someone the wrong way to the Guildhall, say, they would only be lost for a short time and the consequences may not be very traumatic, but when we have the privilege to direct people to God, which to me that is what the readings for today are about, when we direct people to God, to His truth, we need to be sure ourselves because we are directing people to His lasting joy and peace. He has entrusted his light to us it is important that we treasure it. It is also important that we know we are but earthenware pots to contain that light so that we can spread the light of Christ into the world's darkness. And let's not lose sight of the time we needed that same guidance because that is something that will sustain us in our mission. In that way we will gain the strength needed to serve God and His people. It is God's truth that appeals to the conscience other things may compete for attention but God has unrivalled supremacy in the realm of conscience.

*Fr Terry*



**Codes for Zoom** No further Zoom services planned at the moment.

**Meeting ID:** :

**Passcode:**

**Telephone numbers:** 0203 481 5237,  
0203 481 5240, 0131 460 1196

### **NEXT SUNDAY 22.05.2022 Easter 6**

**SERVICES:** 10.30am in Church

**READINGS:** OT Acts 16: 9-15  
NT Revelation 21: 10, 22-22.5  
GOSPEL John 5: 1-9



### **CONTACT US**

**Fr David Nixon** 01392 667192. Day off: Mondays  
rev.dave@virgin.net

**Revd Sarah Cumming** Curate 07543604115  
rev.sarahcumming@gmail.com

**Revd Alison Whiting** Associate Priest  
rev.alisonwhiting@gmail.com

**Phil Baker**, Reader 07970 216740  
lionelbaker@outlook.com

**Revd Terry Litherland** 07594633195  
tlitherland36@gmail.com

**Ian Totterdell** Church Warden 01392 848674  
07961621001 ian.totterdell@cantab.net

**Email:** parishoffice@stthomaschurhexeter.co.uk

**Facebook:** www.facebook.com/sttexeter

**Website:** www.stthomaschurhexeter.co.uk

**Twitter:** @sttexeter

**Office Tel:** 01392 437486 Messages at any time.



# St Thomas, Exeter

**15th May 2022**

**Easter 5**

**10.30am in Church**

### **Today**

**10.30am** Sung Eucharist

### **Wednesday 18th May**

**10am** Walsingham Mass with Fr Dominic  
Cyrus

### **Thursday 19th May**

**9.30-11am** St Thomas Tots, Breast  
Feeding Support

**10.30am** Knit & Natter at 19 Maple Road

### **Friday 20th May**

**9.30am** Morning Prayer

**10am** Staff Meeting

### **Saturday 21st May**

**11.30am** Walsingham Festival Eucharist in  
the Cathedral. (free tickets  
available from the Cathedral)

**12.30pm** Ladies Lunch at the Royal Oak



## Collect

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

## Acts 11: 1-18

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, 'Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?' Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, 'I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat." But I replied, "By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth." But a second time the voice answered from heaven, "What God has made clean, you must not call profane." This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, "Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved." And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the

word of the Lord, how he had said, "John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?' When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, 'Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.'

## Revelation 21: 1-6

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.' And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.' Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.'

## John 13: 31-35

When he had gone out, Jesus said, 'Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, "Where I am going, you cannot come." I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

## Post 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**

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## NOTICES

For our services in Church, **mask wearing** is not now compulsory but we would still advise it while infection numbers remain high. If you are coming to coffee, we also recommend wearing a mask until you are seated in the Hall.

**Knit and Natter May 2022** We shall be meeting every Thursday from 10.30 to midday at 19 Maple Road. Details from Jenny on 01392 498725.

**Community Larder** is receiving donations on Tuesdays from 10am-12noon.

**St Andrew's, Exwick.** Please note that Fr David and Rev Sarah are covering some of the Sunday morning services at Exwick after the retirement of Jerry Bird.

**Friday 3rd June.** There will be a **Jubilee Tea Party** in the Church grounds from **12-3pm**. We have been asked to provide a cake/produce stall. If you would like to volunteer to bake a cake please tell Ian, Judith or one of the clergy.

