

## Reflection Sunday after Ascension

*Extract from a sermon of St Augustine on the Ascension:*

Today Jesus Christ our Lord went up to heaven: let our hearts go up with him.

Listen to the words of St Paul: 'if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on the things that are on earth.' Just as he ascended without leaving us, so too we are already with him in heaven, although his promises are not yet fulfilled in our bodies.

Christ is now raised above the heavens; but he still experiences on earth whatever sufferings we his members feel. He showed that this is true when he called out from heaven: 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' And: 'I was thirsty and you gave me drink.'

He did not leave heaven when he came down to us from heaven; and he did not leave us when he ascended to heaven again. His own words show that he was in heaven while he was here: 'No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man who is in heaven.'

*Fr David*



**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 05.06.2022 Pentecost

**SERVICES:** 10.30am in Church

**READINGS:** OT Acts 2: 1-21  
NT Romans 8: 14-17  
GOSPEL John 14: 8-17 (25-27)



### 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

29th May 2022

**Easter 7**

10.30am in Church

### Today

**10.30am** Sung Eucharist and Baptism of  
Ellis Patrick Gresham

### Wednesday 1st June

**10am** Holy Communion BCP

**1-2pm** Thy Kingdom Come Prayer Room.  
(Details under Notices)

### Thursday 2nd June

**9.30-11am** St Thomas Tots Treasure Hunt  
In the Churchyard

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

### Friday 3rd June

**9.30am** Morning Prayer

**10am** Staff Meeting

**12-3pm** Great British Jubilee Picnic in the  
Churchyard.

### Saturday 4th June

**10-3pm** Peal of church bells for the  
Platinum Jubilee of HMQ



## Collect

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

## Acts 16: 16-34

One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, 'These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation.' She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, 'I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.' And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market-place before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, 'These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe.' The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks. About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, 'Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.' The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, 'Sirs, what must I do to be saved?' They answered, 'Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.' They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who

were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

## Revelation 21: 12-14, 16, 17, 20, 21

'See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.' Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates. 'It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.' The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come.' And let everyone who hears say, 'Come.' And let everyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift. The one who testifies to these things says, 'Surely I am coming soon.' Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen

## John 17: 20-26

Jesus said, 'I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. 'Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.'

## Post Communion

Eternal God, giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gos-

pel of his kingdom: confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

---

## 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.

**1st June Thy Kingdom Come 1-2pm** via Zoom. Please see Revd Sarah for codes and Parish email for link.

## \*HMQ Platinum Jubilee Events\*

**Thursday 2nd June.** St Thomas Tots Jubilee Treasure Hunt.

**Friday 3rd June.** There will be a **Jubilee Picnic** 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.

**Saturday 4th June. Peal of Bells** here at 10-3pm. **Evensong in the Cathedral**, 4pm (free tickets)

**Sunday 5th June. Sung Eucharist** with prayers for HMQ followed by **Bring & Share lunch**. Please sign up this Sunday.

There will be a Tree planting later in the year.