



THE PARISH
OF
ALL SAINTS,
NORTH HILLINGTON
UB10 9BT
+
ASCENSION SUNDAY
(YEAR B)
13 MAY 2018

The Solemnity of the Lord's Ascension is not just a feast that happens to fall in

Eastertide: it is an integral part of the Easter mystery. Remember the Lord's words at the Last Supper: *I am going to prepare a place for you and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me.* The resurrection presumes the Lord's return to the Father. Ascension Sun/Day is, therefore, a feast of hope: our hope in the Lord's return, as he went. Our hope that he will take us with him, when our bodies are raised as his was. Our hope that we will take our place in heaven, where he sits on the Father's right.

As a non-stipendiary priest, Father Dioynisious has at least one Sunday each month completely free of church commitments. Hence his absence to-day.

COFFEE and so on after the 10 o'clock Parish Eucharist will be served in the Hall, as usual. All are warmly invited. Please come along, even if you cannot stay for very long.



HYMNS AT 10 O'CLOCK (NEH)

Procession	109
Offertory	443
Communion	388
Post-Communion	433 (<i>Omit *vv.</i>)
Recessional	440

Introit: Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? The Lord will return, just as you have seen him ascend, alleluia!

Collect: Let us pray (*that the risen Christ will lead us to eternal life*): God our Father, make us joyful in the ascension of your Son Jesus Christ. May we follow him into the new creation, for his ascension is our glory and our hope. We ask this though our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

TO-DAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (1:1-11): *He was lifted up while they looked on.*

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of

God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem, but throughout Judaea and Samaria and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky, when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

The response in the Psalm (46/47) is: *God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.*

A reading from the letter of S Paul to the Ephesians (4:1-13): *Fully mature with the fullness of Christ.*

I, the prisoner in the Lord, implore you to lead a life worthy of your vocation. Bear with one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness and patience. Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together. There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is Father of all, over all, through all and within all.

Each one of us, however, has been given his own share of grace, given as Christ allotted it. It was said that he would: *When he ascended to the height, he captured prisoners, he gave gifts to men.*

When it says, *he ascended*, what can it mean if not that he descended right down to the lower regions of the earth? The one who rose higher than all the heavens to fill all things is none other than the one who descended. And to some, his gift was that they should be apostles; to some, prophets; to some, evangelists; to some, pastors and teachers; so that the saints together make a unity in the work of service, building up the body of Christ. In this way we are all to come to unity in our faith and in our knowledge of the Son of God, until we become the perfect Man, fully mature with the fullness of Christ himself.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, Alleluia! Go, make disciples of all the nations; I am with you always; yes, to the end of time. Alleluia!*

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark (16:15-20): *He was taken up into heaven; there, at the right hand of God, he took his place.*

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven and said to them: 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised will be saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands and be unharmed, should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.'

And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

AT THE INTERCESSIONS

Intercessor: We lift up our hearts.

All: We lift them up to you, O Lord.

THIS WEEK'S INTENTIONS

We pray for our parish and for its needs; for those who work in the media and communications' industries; for local journalists; for tax-collectors; for the work of *Alcoholics Anonymous*; for the work of the Salvation Army in Hillingdon; for the Diocese of Canterbury.

We commend to God our Father:

the sick, the housebound & others in any kind of trouble or need: Lesley Carrington, Mary Coleman, David Shears & Caroline Waterhouse.

those whose anniversary falls at about this time: Eva Russell, Belle Topley & Marc Wilkinson.
May they rest in peace and rise in glory!

We commend all that we have just prayed for, our families, our friends & those we love to the intercession of Mary (the mother of Jesus), S Joseph (her spouse), S Matthias, S Dunstan and all the saints: **Hail Mary,...**

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

1. **TO-DAY AT 1500: Late Spring Tea Party for local Senior Citizens** (in the Hall). We would still welcome offers of help with lifts to and from the Hall, with preparation, serving the tea, the sandwiches and the cake and clearing up afterwards. Thank you in anticipation.



2. The Eucharist this week @ASH:

- a. Tuesday, 15 May; 1130 (at Ryefield Court) & 1915 (in church): *Feria* of Easter
- b. Wednesday, 16 May; 1000: *Feria* of Easter
- c. Thursday, 17 May; 1845: *Feria* of Easter

3. Tuesday, 15 May 2018: 1915: first Meeting of the (recently-elected) Parochial Church Council, beginning with the Eucharist (in the Lady Chapel).

4. Wednesday, 16 May: Memorial Service for David John Burr

5. Saturday, 19 May: as previously announced, there will be no Vestry Hour to-day. If this causes difficulties for you, please telephone the Vicarage to arrange an alternative appointment.

6. NEXT SUNDAY, 20 May 2018; Pentecost Sunday & our 'Third' Sunday

- a. 0800: Said Eucharist
 - b. 1000: Sung Parish Eucharist
- c. 1515: Choral Evensong at S Mary's, Hayes, sung by the Choristers of S Paul's Cathedral. **All are welcome.**



7. Saturday, 7 July: our **Annual Summer Fête**; please continue to think about how you might contribute to this important social (and financial) event. We shall ask you to sell raffle tickets, to donate prizes, to grow plants for sale and to make home-made cakes to sell (and to eat!) on the day, please.

FATHER DESMOND'S NOTES THIS WEEK

- a. The week just begun is *Christian Aid Week*. For various reasons (not all to do with us), we have not been able to organise the usual street collection this year. However, we shall endeavour to make an effort to raise some funds for this charity, starting with a retiring collection next Sunday morning, please.
- b. *Hymns in August*: you are invited to suggest hymns to be sung in August at ASH. Though we cannot guarantee to include everything (and suggestions must be contained in the two hymn-books we use), there are slips of paper at the back of the church for you to complete from this morning to record your suggestion.

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To book **Banns of Marriage, Weddings, Baptisms** and so on, please come along to Vestry Hour in church on Saturdays between 0930 & 1015. (No appointment is necessary.)



Parish Website:

www.allsaintsnorthhilligdon.co.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ASHillingdon

Twitter: @ASHillingdon