

Services and events for May

3rd - Parish Eucharist 10.30am followed by **APCM**

Evensong at Longstone 6pm

10th - Parish Eucharist with Rowsley 10.30am

17th - Morning Praise 10.30am

Evensong 6pm

24th - Pentecost Eucharist 10.30am

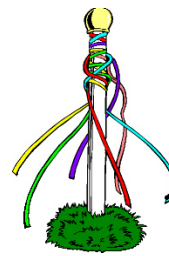
31st - Benefice Eucharist at Ashford in the Water **9.30am**

Fridays - Informal prayer in church 9-9.30am



Copy for June by 20th May please.

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All Saints with St. Anne's

Parish Pump

MAY 2026



There is to be an exhibition of paintings by Steve Taylor in the Newark. It will run from 5th-26th June, and will be open between 10am and 4pm every day except Sunday, when it will be from 12noon until 4pm

The exhibition will open on 5th June at 7pm in the Newark, where drinks and nibbles will be on offer and, obviously, a chance to view Steve's work.

I have struggled to find the 'right' paintings—as we all know, beauty is in the eye of the beholder but I hope I've managed to present a varied selection of Steve's output.

The art club at church was dearly beloved by Steve; he enjoyed the love and companionship between his fellow artists and when I popped in to church to see what they were all up to, I could always sense the close-knit nature of the group

Any money raised from the selling of Steve's paintings is to go directly to the church.

I hope to see as many of you as can make it during the three weeks in June when it is open

Judith Taylor

Word from St Anne's

On Sunday the 10th of May it will be Rogation Day, now one of the lesser Festivals of the Church Calendar, but once very popular and well supported, especially in rural areas where most people were dependent, to some extent, on the land for a living and where the local production of food was important for survival. It was celebrated with prayers, songs, ceremonials and processions asking for good weather, favourable farming conditions and the prospect of a rich harvest. We must remember that before modern times, certainly before the Industrial Revolution, the average household spent a much higher proportion of their income on food, - often over half and sometimes as much as threequarters, - and even then most people gathered some of their needs from woodlands, commons and hedgerows.

It was a very different world, and nowadays only a tiny percentage of the population, even in rural areas, depend on the land for their living, and the average household spends a hugely reduced proportion of their income on food, which now comes from all over the world and is purchased largely from supermarkets. So is "Rogation Sunday" an irrelevant and outdated notion?

I am inclined to think that it is not. Whilst we need to adjust to the radically different reality of the twenty-first century it still has an important role in theological thinking and Church celebrations. Let me try to explain, briefly:

Farming is now very highly mechanised (with electronic and diesel power) and uses lavish quantities of chemicals, both to enhance

100 club

The March draw took place on 5 April and the results were as follows:

1st – 60 - £40

2nd -11 - £20

3rd – 12 - £10

3rd - 4 - £10

The results are also to be found on the church notice board in the Newark.

Now that the organ fund is complete, the proceeds of the 100 club will go into the fabric fund, until another major project for which fundraising is required is identified.

If anyone is interested in joining the 100 club please contact Joyce on 07808 539464 or by e mail at j.glencross@btinternet.com

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Appropriate music was played on the organ by Mr G.E. satin with pearl trimming. Her train was that on earth do dwell and "Father now Thy grace extending".

The bride was becomingly attired in white Good. The hymns sung were "All people of silver lace, and she wore a tulle veil, which had been used at her mother's wedding.

Taken verbatim from a local paper

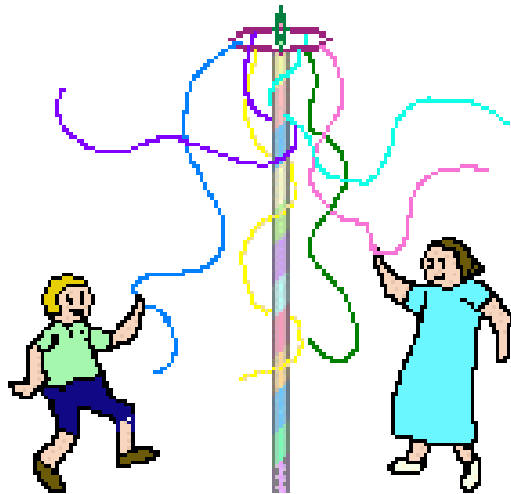
St Paul writes, "If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation" (2 Corinthians 5:17). In May, with the world bursting with new life around us, that can feel less like an abstract doctrine and more like something we can glimpse for ourselves.

As the old proverb says: "While there's life, there's hope.", May we give thanks for signs of new life. And share that hope with others.

With blessings,

David Hardman, Holy Trinity, Ashford in the Water

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soil productivity and destroy competition from unwanted plants and insects. As a result great volumes of crops can be grown and huge numbers of livestock reared with a tiny workforce. There are unseen costs of doing this, however, born not by farmers, supermarkets or consumers, but by the natural world, as soil is degraded, water courses polluted and habitats destroyed, resulting in the rapid decline in wildlife numbers, including insects and flowering plants, which most of us have only recently begun to be aware of. There is a very real danger, in fact, that modern farming is helping to destroy the complex and delicate interaction of our ecosystem which maintains a balance between all living things (including humans!), the soil and water on which we depend, and even the climate itself.

Many farmers are well aware of this, and would like to farm in a more "organic" and nature-friendly manner, but are often limited by what we call "market forces." Nevertheless, it is increasingly obvious that we will have to manage the land in a more sustainable way, or face dire consequences for our (and nature's) well-being, and even for humanity's survival.

From a religious point of view, the natural world which is being so badly despoiled is, in fact, *God's Creation*, which we have a solemn duty to protect and cherish...

Perhaps this should our twenty-first century interpretation of the meaning of Rogation Sunday?

Roger Truscott

May, New Life, and Signs of Hope

The landscape of our United Benefice has undergone a remarkable transformation. The hush of winter has given way to the vibrant, unruly symphony of a Derbyshire spring. Trees have softened into green, blossom brightens old walls and garden paths, and fields and lanes begin to look full of promise again. Even the air feels different. After the searching season of Lent and Holy Week, May brings with it a sense of release. The world seems to breathe again, that makes it a lovely month in the Church's year.

We can easily think of Easter as one great Sunday and then move on too quickly. But the Church does not do that. Easter is not over in a day. We continue to live in the Easter season, and May falls right in the middle of it. This is a month not of "business as usual" but of learning to live in the light of new life.

That matters because Easter is not simply about something that happened long ago. It tells us something about the character of God and the shape of Christian hope. It tells us that death and despair do not have the last word. It tells us that God is always able to bring life out of what looks tired, worn or beyond hope.

Most of us know the need for that hope. Life is not always straightforward. We carry worries, disappointments, grief, questions and weariness. Faith is not always bright and strong. Sometimes it is simply the quiet decision to keep going, to keep praying, and to trust that God has not finished with us yet.

That is why the resurrection stories are so encouraging. The risen Jesus does not appear only in moments of triumph. He comes in a garden. He walks alongside puzzled travellers. He stands among frightened disciples behind closed doors. He meets people where they are. And he still does.

As St John records Jesus saying, "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10). Not a shallow or easy life, but a fuller one: deeper, steadier, richer in hope.

Across the Bakewell Benefice, we are blessed at this time of year with many signs of that kind of life. In villages, fields and gardens, in ancient church buildings and gathered congregations, in quiet faithfulness and neighbourly kindness, there are reminders that God is still at work among us. Soon, in our villages, well dressings will speak of beauty, gratitude, tradition and shared effort. Whatever their long history, they remain signs of people offering something lovely together.

For Christianity is never only about ideas in our heads. It is about thanksgiving, shared life and learning to notice grace in ordinary places. A church open for prayer, blossom against old stone, a kind word from a neighbour, the steady dedication of volunteers — all these can remind us that God is still quietly present.

Later in May, from Rogation Sunday, the Church turns toward Ascension and Pentecost: Christ reigning in glory, and the Holy Spirit given to ordinary people. These festivals remind us that we are not left to manage life and faith by ourselves. We are accompanied, strengthened and called forward.