



# The Parish of St James's Elmers End

26<sup>h</sup> April 2026 – 9.15am Parish Mass

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

### OPENING HYMN (NEH 112)

**JESUS** lives! thy terrors now  
Can, O Death, no more appal us;  
Jesus lives! by this we know  
Thou, O grave, canst not enthrall  
us.  
Alleluya!

Jesus lives! henceforth is death  
But the gate of life immortal;  
This shall calm our trembling  
breath,  
When we pass its gloomy portal.  
Alleluya!

Jesus lives! for us he died;  
Then, alone to Jesus living,  
Pure in heart may we abide,  
Glory to our Saviour giving.  
Alleluya!

Jesus lives! our hearts know well  
Nought from us his love shall sever;  
Life, nor death, nor powers of hell  
Tear us from his keeping ever.  
Alleluya!

Jesus lives! to him the throne  
Over all the world is given;  
May we go where he is gone,  
Rest and reign with him in heaven.  
Alleluya!

### THE GREETING

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the  
Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen

The Lord be with you  
and also with you.

### PRAYER OF PENITENCE

*The priest invites us to confess our sins*

I confess to almighty God  
and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have greatly sinned,  
in my thoughts and in my words,  
in what I have done  
and in what I have failed to do,  
through my fault, through my fault,  
through my most grievous fault;  
therefore I ask blessed Mary  
ever-Virgin,  
all the Angels and Saints,  
and you, my brothers and sisters,  
to pray for me  
to the Lord our God.

May almighty God have mercy on us,  
Forgive us our sins and bring us to  
everlasting life. **Amen.**

### THE KYRIE

Lord, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.

### THE GLORIA

Glory to God, Glory to God,  
Glory to God in the highest.  
Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you,  
we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.

**Glory to God, Glory to God,  
Glory to God in the highest.  
Lord Jesus Christ,  
only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of  
the Father: receive our prayer.**

**Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory  
to God in the highest.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus  
Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the  
glory of God the Father.  
Glory to God, Glory to God,  
Glory to God in the highest.**

### **THE COLLECT**

Almighty ever-living God,  
lead us to a share in the joys of heaven,  
so that the humble flock may reach  
where the brave Shepherd has gone  
before.

Who lives and reigns with you in the  
unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever  
**Amen.**

### **FIRST READING**

**Acts 2:14a, 36-41**

On the day of Pentecost Peter, standing  
with the Eleven, lifted up his voice and  
addressed the crowd: 'Let all the house  
of Israel therefore know for certain that  
God has made him both Lord and Christ,  
this Jesus whom you crucified.'

Now when they heard this they were cut  
to the heart, and said to Peter and the  
rest of the Apostles, 'Brothers, what  
shall we do?' And Peter said to them,  
'Repent and be baptised, every one of  
you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the  
forgiveness of your sins, and you will  
receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For  
the promise is for you

and for your children and for all who are  
far off, everyone whom the Lord our  
God calls to himself.' And with many  
other words he bore witness and  
continued to exhort them, saying, 'Save  
yourselves from this crooked  
generation.' So those who received his  
word were baptised, and there were  
added that day about three thousand  
souls.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**Ps 23(22):1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6. R1**

***R* The LORD is my shepherd; there is  
nothing I shall want.**

The LORD is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures  
where he gives me repose.  
Near restful waters he leads me;  
he revives my soul. **R**

He guides me along the right path,  
for the sake of his name.  
Though I should walk in the valley of the  
shadow of death,  
no evil would I fear, for you are with me.  
Your crook and your staff will give me  
comfort. **R**

You have prepared a table before me  
in the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil;  
my cup is overflowing. **R**

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow  
me  
all the days of my life.  
In the LORD's own house shall I dwell  
for length of days unending. **R**

## SECOND READING

*1 Peter 2:20b-25*

Beloved: If when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

The word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

## THE GOSPEL (STAND)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**  
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord.  
I know my sheep and my own know me.  
**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

A reading from the holy Gospel  
according to John (10:1-10)  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

At that time: Jesus said, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him,

for they do not know the voice of strangers.' This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So Jesus again said to them, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.'

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia**

## THE SERMON

We STAND to sing

## THE CREED

I believe in one God  
**the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
and of all things visible and invisible:**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of his Father  
before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the  
Father, by whom all things were  
made; who for us men and for our  
salvation came down from heaven,  
and was incarnate by the Holy  
Ghost of the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man,  
and was crucified also for us  
under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried,  
and the third day he rose again  
according to the Scriptures,  
and ascended into heaven,**

and sitteth on the right hand  
of the Father.

And he shall come again with glory  
to judge both the quick and the  
dead:

whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceedeth from the Father  
and the Son, who with the Father  
and the Son together is worshipped  
and glorified, who spake by the  
prophets.

And I believe one holy catholic  
and apostolic Church.

I acknowledge one baptism  
for the remission of sins.

And I look for the resurrection of  
the dead, and the life of the world  
to come. Amen.

#### THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

In the power of the Spirit and in union  
with the Son let us pray to the Father.

*After each bidding is said:*  
Lord, hear us.

**Lord graciously hear us.**

*at the end of the prayers*  
Merciful Father.

**accept these prayers for the sake of  
your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

#### OFFERTORY HYMN (NEH 124)

**YE** choirs of new Jerusalem,  
**Your** sweetest notes employ,  
**The** Paschal victory to hymn  
**In** strains of holy joy.

**How** Judah's Lion burst his chains,  
**And** crushed the serpent's head;  
**And** brought with him, from  
death's domains,  
**The** long-imprisoned dead.

**From** hell's devouring jaws the prey  
**Alone** our Leader bore;  
**His** ransomed hosts  
pursue their way  
**Where** he hath gone before.

**Triumphant** in his glory now  
**His** sceptre ruleth all,  
**Earth,** heaven,  
and hell before him bow,  
**And** at his footstool fall.

**While** joyful thus his praise we sing;  
**His** mercy we implore,  
**Into** his palace bright to bring  
**And** keep us evermore.

**All** glory to the Father be,  
**All** glory to the Son,  
**All** glory, Holy Ghost, to thee,  
**While** endless ages run. Alleluya!  
**Amen**

#### THE PRAYER OVER THE OFFERING

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that my  
sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to  
God the Almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept this sacrifice  
at your hands, for the praise and  
glory of his name, for our good, and  
the good of all his holy Church.**

Grant, we pray, O Lord, that we may  
always find delight in these paschal  
mysteries, so that the renewal constantly  
at work within us may be the cause of  
our unending joy. Through Christ our  
Lord.

**Amen.**

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

*The Eucharistic Prayer continues until:*

*... for ever praising you and saying:*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might:  
Heaven and earth are full of your  
glory, Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna  
in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Hosanna in the  
highest..**

*The Eucharistic Prayer continues until one of  
the following:*

The mystery of faith:

**Save us, Saviour of the world,  
for by your Cross and Resurrection  
you have set us free.**

*The Eucharistic Prayer continues until:*

*... for ever and ever. Amen.*

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every  
evil, graciously grant peace in our days,  
that, by the help of your mercy, we may  
be always free from sin and safe from all  
distress, as we await the blessed hope  
and the coming of our Saviour,  
Jesus Christ.

**For the kingdom,  
the power and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.**

### **THE PEACE**

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your  
Apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I  
give you, look not on our sins, but on  
the faith of your Church, and graciously  
grant her peace and unity in accordance  
with your will. Who live and reign for  
ever and ever. **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you  
always  
**and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

### **THE AGNUS DEI**

**Lamb of God, you take away the  
sins of the world, have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the  
sins of the world, have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God you take away the  
sins of the world, grant us peace.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him  
who takes away the sins of the world.  
Blessed are those called to the supper of  
the Lamb.

**Lord, I am not worthy that you  
should enter under my roof, but  
only say the word and my soul shall  
be healed.**

*The people receive communion. If you wish  
to receive a blessing, please bring this Order  
of Service with you.*

### **COMMUNION HYMN (NEH 115)**

**NOW the green blade riseth  
from the buried grain,  
Wheat that in dark earth  
many days has lain;  
Love lives again,  
that with the dead has been:  
Love is come again,  
Like wheat that springeth  
green.**

In the grave they laid him,  
Love whom men had slain,  
Thinking that never  
he would wake again,  
Laid in the earth like grain  
that sleeps unseen:

Forth he came at Easter,  
like the risen grain,  
He that for three days  
in the grave had lain,  
Quick from the dead,  
my risen Lord is seen:

When our hearts are wintry,  
grieving, or in pain,  
Thy touch can call us back  
to life again,  
Fields of our hearts, that dead  
and bare have been:

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Look upon your flock, kind Shepherd,  
and be pleased to settle in eternal  
pastures the sheep you have redeemed  
by the Precious Blood of your Son.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

### **THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL**

*The congregation* **STAND**

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

May almighty God Bless you  
the Father, and the Son, ✠  
and the Holy Spirit, **Amen.**

Go in the peace.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **FINAL HYMN (NEH 13)**

**LOVE'S** redeeming work is done;  
Fought the fight, the battle won:  
Lo, our Sun's eclipse is o'er!  
Lo, he sets in blood no more!

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal,  
Christ has burst the gates of hell;  
Death in vain forbids his rise;  
Christ has opened Paradise.

Lives again our glorious King;  
Where, O Death, is now thy sting?  
Dying once, he all doth save;  
Where thy victory, O grave?

Soar we now where Christ has led,  
Following our exalted Head;  
Made like him, like him we rise;  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!  
Praise to thee by both be given:  
Thee we greet triumphant now;  
Hail, the Resurrection thou!

### **THE REGINA CAELI**

Joy to thee, O Queen of Heaven!  
Alleluia.  
He whom thou wast meet to bear;  
Alleluia.  
As He promis'd, hath arisen;  
Alleluia.  
Pour for us to God thy prayer;  
Alleluia.

Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary,  
alleluia.  
**For the Lord is risen indeed,**  
alleluia.

Let us pray  
O God, who through the resurrection of  
Thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ  
didst vouchsafe to give joy to the world:  
grant, we beseech thee, that through the  
prayers of His Mother, the Virgin Mary,  
we may obtain the joys of everlasting life.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## PRAYERS

### *For those in need:*

Bill, Roger, Derek, Pippa, Jeanette, Joyce,  
Lucy, Vercilla, Chris, Pauline, Ross,  
Adrian, Jean, Nick, Barbara, Chris, Pam,  
Daniel, Eileen, Colleen, Rolf, Dorothy,  
Mavis

### *Anniversaries of death:*

(27) Reg Mansfield, Colin Thompson  
(29) Jessie Streeter  
(30) Elsie Govier, Stanley Kelley  
(2) Kathleen Brooks, Don Mew,  
Kitty Long, John Green, Thomas Sewell

## THIS WEEK IN THE BENEFICE

### **Monday**

Fr Russell's rest day

### **Tuesday**

7.00pm Mass (St James)

### **Wednesday**

10.00am Mass and Coffee (St Michael)  
6.30pm APCM (St Michael)

### **Thursday**

10.30am Mass and Coffee (St James)

### **Friday**

7.00pm Mass (St Michael)

### **Saturday**

9.30am Mass (St James)

## INTERNAL & SOCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

We shall be hosting a bumper English evening

Lancashire hotpot, treacle sponge  
pudding

Tea and coffee

Saturday 16 May

6.00 pm for 6.30 pm

St. James's Hall

Bring your own drinks

Tickets £10

Please book with Jan 07939 088820

## PLEASE MAKE A NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING DATES

27 June Lunchtime barbecue, St. James's  
Church garden (indoors if wet)

26 July St. James's Patronal Festival with  
Bishop Luke. 5.00 p.m  
Mass followed by refreshments

1 August Afternoon cream tea, St.  
James's Church garden (indoors if wet)

27 September 5.p.m  
St. Michael's Patronal Festival with  
Bishop Lindsay Urwin

## ST JOHN'S CHURCH HIGHAM

Will be celebrating their secondary Patronal Festival, St John at the Latin Gate, on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm it which we are invited to join them. The preacher will be Fr Jeremy Sheehy

### A.P.C.M.

#### **St. James's Church**

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held at St. James's Church at 12.30pm today. Please make sure you have collected the paperwork for the meeting.

#### **St Michael's Church**

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held at St. Michael's Church on Wednesday 29th April at 6.30 p.m.

At these meetings we need to elect a number of members to various posts including Churchwardens, PCC members and Deanery Synod members.

If you would be interested in supporting your Parish Church in any of these roles please have a word with Fr Russell who can give you more information.

Copyright material in this booklet is included from: Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England © 2000, The Archbishops' Council. Excerpts from the English translation of The Roman Missal © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Excerpts from The English Standard Version and from The Psalms: A New Translation © 1963 The Grail (England) published by Harper Co. Hymn printed with permission CCLI: 966105

### **BENEFICE CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Vicar and Parish Priest: Fr Russell Stagg ssc**

vicar@stjamesandstmichael.org.uk | 020 8402 2712 | 07526 621232

**Benefice Administrator: Mrs Jo Perry** (Mon – Thur 9am-1pm)

Benefice Office: 07838 146467 | office.stmichaelbeckenham@gmail.com

**www.stjamesandstmichael.org.uk**

St James's Church is a registered charity 1214766