



**The Anglican Parish of  
S.STEPHEN**

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**This Week**

*Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday*

*Mass at 7.30am;*

*Wednesday 5.30pm, Saturday 8.00am*

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup>**

The Lord takes delight in hid people.

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>**

*S.Pancras, Martyr*

O bless the Lord, my soul.

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>**

Listen to me, daughter,  
see and bend your ear.

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>**

*S.Matthias, Apostle*

The Lord will give him a seat  
with the leaders of his people.

**10am Mother's Union**

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup>**

God is king of all the earth.

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup>**

God is king of all the earth.



**Next Sunday: 17<sup>th</sup> May 2015AD**

**ASCENSION OF THE LORD**

9.00am Sung Mass

5.30 pm Mass

Entrance Hymn

**When morning gilds the skies  
my heart awaking cries:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!  
Alike at work and prayer,  
to Jesus I repair:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!  
To God, the Word, on high,  
the host of angels cry,  
May Jesus Christ be praised!  
Let mortals, too, upraise  
their voice in hymns of praise,  
May Jesus Christ be praised!  
Let all the earth around  
ring joyous with the sound:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!  
In Heaven's eternal bliss  
the loveliest strain is this:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!  
Sing, suns and stars of space,  
sing, ye that see His face,  
Sing, Jesus Christ be praised!  
God's whole creation o'er,  
for aye and evermore  
Shall Jesus Christ be praised!  
Be this, while life is mine,  
my canticle divine:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!  
Sing this eternal song  
through all the ages long:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!**

Entrance: Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

✚ 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.**

Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

The Blessing

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

May you be enfolded in the love of God.

May you feel the comfort of his presence.

May you never doubt his compassionate care in all that you do.

And may the blessing of almighty God

✚ the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit come down on you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life. Alleluia!

**In the name of Christ. Amen. Alleluia!**

The Easter Anthem

**Joy to you, O Queen of heaven,  
Alleluia!**

**He, whom you were meet to bear,  
Alleluia!**

**As he promised, has arisen,  
Alleluia!**

**Pour for us to God your prayer,  
Alleluia!**

Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, Alleluia!  
**For the Lord has risen indeed, Alleluia!**

O God, who by the resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ has given joy to the whole world: Grant, we pray, that through the help of his Mother, the Virgin Mary, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life.

Through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



**If You Love Me**

The theme of Jesus' departure continues into today's Gospel. The call to believe in Jesus and to follow him down his way is accompanied by a gift: the gift of another Advocate. It is important to see that Jesus speaks of *another* Advocate. The followers of Jesus have already had their first Advocate in Jesus himself. Now that he is about to leave them, he sends another, to stand with us during the interim time, which falls between his two comings. Jesus was the first one who counselled and guided us. In this he showed that 'God so loved the world that he sent his only Son'. The gift of the Spirit is a further sign of that love. He will not leave us orphans, and he will eventually come back. In the meantime we are asked to respond in kind. There is a way of living our human story, that corresponds to the way in which Jesus lived his. The commandments of Jesus call us to this quality of life. Too often the Christian ideal of love is watered down to some sort of nice feeling when in good company. An even worse idea is found among those who dream of the untroubled deep and meaningful exchanges of 'how we really feel' which some dream are at the heart of Christian community. Today's Gospel teaches us that the Christian life of love is a love, which is seen in the keeping of the commandments of Jesus - an active involvement in the world, which God loved so much that he sent his Son to save it. This is a remarkable mystery into which Christian life has been plunged. Jesus has shown us the Father's love in his gift of himself for us. We are now called to repeat that love for one another, possible because we are not alone; the gift of Jesus' Spirit is with us to guide and instruct.

**Mother's Union**

meets this Thursday at 10am.

### Lord's Prayer

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching we dare to say:

**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, s we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

### Breaking of Bread

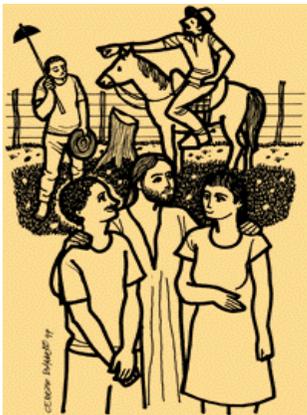
We who are many are one body in Christ  
**For we all share in the one bread.**

**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 your Peace.**

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

## **HOLY COMMUNION**



**Communion:** If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

**Prayer:** Almighty ever-living God, who restore us to eternal life in the Resurrection of Christ, increase in us, we pray, the fruits of this paschal Sacrament and pour into our hearts the strength of this saving food. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Father, we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

### Final Hymn

**Love divine, all loves excelling,  
Joy of heaven to earth come down;  
Fix in us thy humble dwelling;  
All thy faithful mercies crown!  
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,  
Pure unbounded love Thou art;  
Visit us with Thy salvation;  
Enter every trembling heart.  
Come, Almighty to deliver,  
Let us all Thy life receive;  
Suddenly return and never,  
Never more Thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,  
Pray & praise Thee without ceasing,  
Glory in Thy perfect love.  
Finish, then, Thy new creation;  
Pure and spotless let us be.  
Let us see Thy great salvation  
Perfectly restored in Thee;  
Changed from glory into glory,  
Till in heaven we take our place,  
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,  
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.**

### Penitential Rite

*We ask God to forgive our weaknesses, to renew our faith and to restore our hope.*

Lord God of power and might,  
You are our Saviour.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, risen from the dead,  
You bring us life and peace.

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Holy Spirit, witness of the truth,  
You are our strength and our song.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

### Gloria in Excelsis

**Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to people of good will.**

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

**Glory to God ...**

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

**Glory to God ...**

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 ... Amen.**

### Opening Prayer

Grant, almighty God, that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion these days of joy, which we keep in honour of the risen Lord, and that what we relive in remembrance we may always hold to in what we do. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### Today's Readings

**First Reading Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48**

Peter visits the house of Cornelius and the Holy Spirit comes down upon them.

**Second Reading 1 John 4:7-10**

John describes God as love, a love revealed when the Father sent his Son for us.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

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

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

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

### The Holy Gospel

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to *S. John 15:9-17*

**+ Glory to you + Lord Jesus Christ +**

Jesus instructs his disciples in his commandment to love.

The Gospel of the Lord:

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Love, or charity, has often been described as the primary Christian virtue. If there were any doubt as to why it should be so today's Gospel would dispel it. The Father's relationship with Jesus is seen in terms of love. So too is Jesus' relationship with his disciples. And it is love which Jesus commands his disciples to have for one another. S. John puts this command of Jesus in the context of his Last Supper conversation with his disciples, thus giving it added emphasis. Jesus' laying down his life for his friends is presented as the highest expression of love that any human person can have for another.*

### Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, True God from True God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit He became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his Kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### Prayer of the Faithful

*Let us open our hearts and minds to God, our Father, in prayer.*

For Greg our Bishop and all the Church: that we may learn more and more how to love as Jesus has loved us and so bear the fruits of the Spirit in our lives. We pray in faith: **Lord, hear us in your love** For an end to war and terrorism: that all people may live in harmony and peace. For all Mothers and those who have shown us a mother's love: that they may be blessed with health, happiness, and peace of heart. For those in need, the sick in body, mind and spirit, the addicted and the dying: that God will renew their strength and refresh their spirits; especially the people of Nepal, **Paul Warren, Lyn Lewis, Joyce Marlan, Jocelyn Caddies, Fran Wills, Ruth Jones, Abbey Dowdell, Tina Chen, Jim Turrell, Marj & Jim Timmins, Alison Chesworth, Ian & Sonia Barton, Dianne Taylor, Barry Stewart, John McLeod, Byron Cock, Michael Warren, Dianne Johnson, Stephen Dafo, Stephen Beegs, Sr Pamela Ellem, Fr Stephen Pullin, Fr David Simpson,**

For the faithful departed, for: **June Jenkins,** and on their years mind: **Ronald Trubody, Audrey Cornish, Edna Deal, Rita Flett, Lester Veness, Timothy Haynes,** Now let us offer in silence our own needs and thanksgivings as we commend ourselves and all people to the prayers of the Blessed Virgin Mary, S.Stephen and all the Saints.

*Loving God, your Son made for us the ultimate sacrifice by his death on the cross. Teach us how to love you and one another more deeply and with sincerity. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

### Greeting of Peace

We are the Body of Christ.

**His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

### Offertory Hymn

**Love is his word, love is his way, feasting with men, fasting alone, living and dying, rising again, love, only love, is his way.**

*Richer than gold is the love of my Lord: better than splendour and wealth.*

**Love is his way, live is his mark, sharing his last Passover feast, Christ at his table, host to the twelve, Love, only love, is his mark**

**Love is his mark, love is his sign, bread for our strength, wine for our joy 'This is my body, this is my blood', Love, only love, is his sign.**

**Love is his sign, love is his news, 'Do this,' he said, 'lest you forget all my deep sorrow, all my dear blood.' Love, only love, is his news.**

**Love is his news, love is his name, we are his own, chosen and called; family, brethren, cousins and kin. Love, only love, is his name.**

**Love is his name, love is his law. Hear his command, all who are his: 'Love one another, I have loved you.' Love, only love, is his law.**

**Love is his law, love is his word: Love of the Lord, Father and Word, love of the Spirit, God ever one. Love, only love, is his word.**

### Prayer over the Gifts

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

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

May our prayers rise up to you, O Lord, together with the sacrificial offerings, so that, purified by your graciousness, we may be conformed to the mysteries of your mighty love. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### Liturgy of the Eucharist

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*The Preface is sung, after which all sing*  
**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the Highest. Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the Highest.**

*The Eucharistic prayer continues*

The mystery of faith:

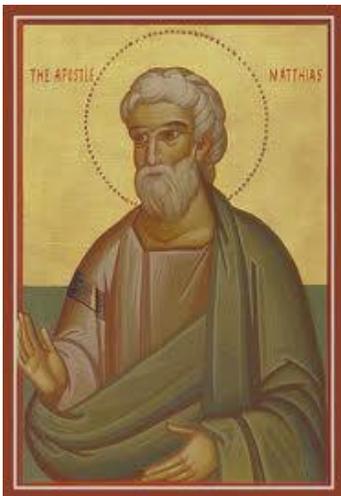
**Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free**

*The Prayer concludes:*

for ever and ever. **Amen.**



May 14  
S. Matthias



According to Acts 1:15-26, during the days after the Ascension, Peter stood up in the midst of the brothers (about 120 of Jesus' followers). Now that Judas had betrayed his ministry, it was necessary, Peter said, to fulfill the scriptural recommendation that another should take his office. "Therefore, it is necessary that one of the men who accompanied us the whole time the Lord Jesus came and went among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day on which he was taken up from us, become with us a witness to his resurrection" (Acts 1:21-22). They nominated two men: Joseph Barsabbas and Matthias. They prayed and drew lots. The choice fell upon Matthias, who was added to the Eleven. Matthias is not mentioned by name anywhere else in the New Testament.

What was the holiness of Matthias? Obviously he was suited for apostleship by the experience of being with Jesus from his baptism to his ascension. He must also have been suited personally, or he would not have been nominated for so great a responsibility. Must we not remind ourselves that the fundamental holiness of Matthias was his receiving gladly the relationship with the Father offered him by Jesus and completed by the Holy Spirit? If the apostles are the foundations of our faith by their witness, they must also be reminders, if only implicitly, that holiness is entirely a matter of God's giving, and it is offered to all, in the everyday circumstances of life. We receive, and even for this God supplies the power of freedom.

Jesus speaks of the apostles' function of being judges, that is, rulers. He said, "Amen, I say to you that you who have followed me, in the new age, when the Son of Man is seated on his throne of glory, will yourselves sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel" (Matthew 19:28).

*It is not by accident that the theme of love should emerge at the same time as the theme of the Spirit in our liturgical celebration. The call to love one another is both a challenge and an ideal. We fail in this regard regularly. But it is the Spirit who helps us in our weakness. The Spirit, who is the Father's gift to us, has been poured into our hearts at our baptism. The Spirit is a silent but powerful presence sustaining us in our inadequacies and encouraging and empowering us on our journey.*

This Weeks Holy Days  
May 12  
S. Pancras d. 304



S. Pancras Railway Station in London got its name from an early Christian martyr about whom we have very little information. He is said to have been martyred at 14 during the persecution of Diocletian. He was buried in a cemetery which later was named after him. Pope Gregory the Great built a monastery for Benedictines and, when Augustine of Canterbury (a Benedictine) came to England, he named the first church he erected after Pancras. Hence the name of the railway station. Pancras (Pancratius) appears in fictionalized form in Cardinal Wiseman's novel *Fabiola*. German farmers had a saying that three saints whose names are similar – Pancras, Servatz and Bonifatz – were the "ice men" because it was often unseasonably chilly on their feast days, May 12, 13, 14.

Again we have a saint about whom almost nothing is known, but whose life and death are cherished in the Church's memory. Details fall away or are mixed with legend. But a single, powerful fact remains: He died for Christ and his heroism sent a wave of inspiration through the Church of his day. It is good for us to share that feeling.

### Reflection

*If only the heart was right  
we could give so much more.  
But, alas,  
the heart is often empty.  
It is often cold and unwelcoming.  
It is often hard and unyielding.  
It is often weighed down  
with worry.  
It is often sad and lonely.  
It is often in darkness.  
It is often wounded.  
And it is sometimes broken.  
We have to heal  
the wounds of the heart  
in order to be able to love.  
Lord, touch our hearts  
and heal them,  
so that we may be able  
to bear the fruits of love.  
Amen.*