

The Church of Saint Laurence, Upminster

PORCHTALK



28th April 2024 *Fifth Sunday of Easter*

Welcome to Saint Laurence. Adventurers (groups for children and young people) meet during the 9.30 am Mass. Leaders will normally invite children to join in with these at the appropriate point in the service. Activity packs and children's service books are available from the back of church.

You are warmly invited to stay for refreshments in the Main Hall after the 9.30 Mass.

Today	Holy Communion	8.00 am
28 th April	Sung Parish Mass	9.30 am
5 th Sunday of Easter	First Communion Preparation, Parish Office	3.00 pm
	Evensong on Zoom	6.30 pm
Monday	Footsteps	9.30 am
29 th April	Organ Teaching	11.00 am
	Organ Teaching	5.15 pm
	CM&FG Meeting, Parish Office	8.00 pm
Tuesday	Morning Prayer, Lady Chapel	9.10 am
30 th April		
Wednesday	Morning Prayer, Lady Chapel	8.45 am
1 st May	Staff Meeting, Parish Office	9.00 am
<i>Philip and James,</i>	Said Mass, Lady Chapel	11.00 am
<i>Apostles</i>	No Evening Prayer today	
Thursday	No Morning Prayer today	
2 nd May	Organ Teaching	2.00 pm
	Choir Practice	8.00 pm
Friday	Coffee Morning, Main Hall	10.30 am
3 rd May		
Saturday	Organ Teaching	9.30 am
4 th May		
Next Sunday	Holy Communion	8.00 am
5 th May	Sung Parish Mass	9.30 am
6 th Sunday of Easter	Baptisms	12 noon
	Evensong on Zoom	6.30 pm

Evensong readings this Sunday: Isaiah 60:1-14; Revelation 3:1-13

Mass readings next Sunday: Acts 10:44-end; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17

Evensong readings next Sunday: Song of Solomon 4:16-5:2,8:6-7; Revelation 3:14-end

Saturday Pathsweepers: 4th May – Mowat. **Coffee:** 5th May – Joan, Christine and Julie

Please let Revd Susannah, Revd Catherine or Deborah Masterson know of anyone who is ill or in need of a pastoral visit, or housebound and wanting to receive the sacrament at home – or if you would appreciate a conversation or visit for any reason.

NOTICES

Building Improvements Group Update: St George's Day Meal. Thank you to all who came and supported our meal at Top Meadow earlier in the week. It was a very enjoyable evening. A few may have waited a bit longer than they would have liked for their main course but we must appreciate that all meals are freshly cooked and with over 50 of us to serve, we think Top Meadow did a pretty good job! The final amount raised for our Building Improvement Project was £337.50.

We now turn our efforts towards our **Quiz evening on Saturday 11th May.** We still have a few tables/spaces available so do sign yourself up (and any friends!) or get a table together if you can!

Saturday 11th May is Quiz Night! 7.15 for 7.30pm in Main Hall. £8 per person, tables of 8, bring your own food and drink. Fund raising in aid of the St Laurence Church Building Improvements Project. Please contact 01708 220696 or parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk by Wednesday 8th May.

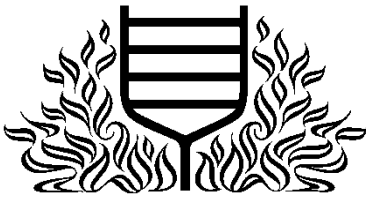
The Watoto Children's Choir at Upminster Baptist Church on Friday 3rd May at 7pm. Come and experience the inspiring ministry of the Watoto Children's Choir telling their story and showcasing that 'Better Days' are ahead. Further information and tickets are available to at www.eventbrite.co.uk or www.upminsterbaptists.co.uk. Or scan the QR code on the poster at the back of church.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Sunday 12th to Sunday 19th May. The week will conclude with a Churches Together United Service here at 6.30pm on Sunday 19th May. All will be made welcome.

St Andrew's, Hornchurch are organising a bell ringing trip to five villages in West Sussex on Saturday 18th May. Cost is £50 per person and includes a seat on the coach, a pub lunch and a dinner in the evening. Leaving from St Andrew's Church at 8am and arriving back by 9pm. Anyone is welcome, adults and children. For more information pick up a leaflet from the back of church.

Friends of the Old Chapel hold a talk, once a month, to provide funds for the maintenance of the Old Chapel. We have been asked if someone from St Laurence would like to lead one of the talks about the history of St Laurence Church on 9th October beginning at 10.30am. We have plenty of background material available to help you to prepare. If you would be interested, please see Susannah.

Please consult notice boards under the tower and in the porch for other notices and further information



AT THE MASS

28th April 2024

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Introit 194 Alleluia, alleluia!

Setting Mass of St Thomas – Thorne

Collect of the Day

Almighty God,
who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ
have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life:
grant that, as by your grace going before us
you put into our minds good desires,
so by your continual help
we may bring them to good effect;
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Acts 8:26-end

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:
'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.
In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.'

The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Responsorial Psalm 22

Andrew Moore



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From you comes my praise in the great congregation; I will perform my vows in the presence of those that fear you. The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek the Lord shall praise him; their hearts shall live for ever.

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall bow before him. For the kingdom is the Lord's and he rules over the nations.

1 John 4:7-end

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also

Alleluia

Celtic

John 15:1-8

Jesus said to his disciples 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.'

Offertory hymn

748 O Jesus, I have promised

Anthem

The Strife is O'er

Text: 17c translated by Francis Pott (1861). Music: Melchior Vulpius (1609) arr. Sir Henry George Ley (1925)

Communion hymn	212 Now the green blade riseth
Final hymn	494 I, the Lord of sea and sky
Organ Voluntary	Allein Gott in der Höh' sei Ehr – Johann Pachelbel

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Prayer request forms are available at the back of church. Please use them if you wish us to pray for someone.

Sunday: Aloma Moore, Anthony Paternosta, Joan Ellis, Linly Lo-Yee.

Wednesday: Rosemary Watkins, Mary Greig, Denise Comer, James Tape, Rosalind Manley, Brian Shaw, Bob Bossey, Baby Charles, Glynis Whiting, Michael Folkes, Fr Tom Keighley, Sylvia Wilson, Simon Pols, Mary-Anne Madden, Florence Collins, Doreen, Victoria Wright, William Holden, Shirley Gunary, Jan Black, Michael McSweeney, Ann O'Riordan, Alan Butcher, Charles Osmond.

Additional Prayers: Adam, Sophie, Sebastian, Alexandrina, Eddie and Ezra preparing for First Communion. People revising for exams. All those receiving Home Communion.

Recently departed: Diane Bonny.

Anniversaries of the departed: Alice Greenfield, Joyce Butcher, Joyce Charters, David Lawes, Reginald Martineau, Pauline Wheeler, Kerry Langler, Barbara Hill, Lucy Ellis, John Roome, Alf Ellis, Cecily Ashwin, Ron Wood.

CHARITY OF THE MONTH MACULAR SOCIETY

Donation envelopes are available at the back of church.

Macular Disease Society, Crown Chambers,
South Street, Andover, SP10 2BN.
Registered charity number 1001198.

Macular Society
Beating Macular Disease

JUST ONE SWAP...



Simple Swap No.2 - Kitchen Roll: Why not swap kitchen roll for repurposed cloths made from worn out garments, towels or flannels? We could all mop up spills and mess without costing the environment or ourselves! Repurposed cloths can simply be washed with our normal laundry and used - well, almost forever!

CARD PAYMENT DONATIONS

We are always pleased to welcome both visitors and regular attendees to share our worship in this beautiful Grade 1 listed building. Please feel free to use our safe and secure card payment machine for confidential donations, located by the main door exit. Contributions help us maintain the substantial upkeep of this building for the benefit of the local community and our broader work as a church in general. Donations help to ensure that the church can continue to benefit future generations and the building can remain open to all as a haven of God's peace. Whatever you feel disposed to give will be thankfully received and faithfully applied.

EASYFUNDRAISING

The church is registered (as St Laurence Church, Upminster) on easyfundraising.org.uk - if you register an account, select the church as a cause and download the web browser extension then every time you spend money on many retail websites and have activated the extension, a percentage of your spend will be donated to St Laurence at no cost to you. The individual amounts are small but every little adds up - please help us via this route if you can.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SPONSORSHIP.....

If you would like to know about sponsorship, please pick up a leaflet from the back of church or speak to Jean and Cheryl (Churchwardens), Susannah (Rector) or Joanne (Parish Administrator).

CONTACTS

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Churchwardens Jean Keen and Cheryl Hale

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Parish Safeguarding Officer Akosua Boachie

07760 791032 safeguarding@upminsterparish.co.uk

Acting Director of Music Nigel Lockwood

parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk

Parish Office Joanne Chapman

01708 220696 / 07592 946992 parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk

Open: Tue. 3.30-6pm, Wed. 9-11am (Staff Meeting), Thur. 9-11.30am.

Hall Bookings Becky Perchard

07341 434798 halls.bookings@upminsterparish.co.uk

Planned Giving treasurer@upminsterparish.co.uk

Website www.upminsterparish.co.uk

Address St Laurence Church, Corbets Tey Road, Upminster, RM14 2BB

Welcome to the Parish Church of Upminster. If we have not met you before, do introduce yourself. If you wish, give these details to one of the officials.

Name

Telephone