

NEWS UPDATE—starting 3rd MAY

Dear Friends, dates for your diaries:

THURSDAY 14th MAY

19:00—Deanery Eucharist
at St Alkmund's Church, Whitchurch.

SUNDAY 17th MAY

10:00—Benefice Eucharist-Celebrant: The
Rt Rev Sarah Bullock, Bishop of Shrewsbury

SATURDAY 30th MAY

10:00-12:00—Coffee Morning
in the Church Hall.
Please bring a friend along for a coffee and
a Chat.

SATURDAY 20th JUNE

19:00—Piano Recital by Martin Roscoe.
Tickets £12 are available
from Kim 07970 357553
or Wendy 07828 282996
or you can book online using the link on the
Website June Diary Page
https://www.wemcofe.co.uk/b_jun.html

The online **MAY BENEFICE MAGAZINE**
will be published shortly. It may be a few
days late this month—apologies.

Please be patient! ☹️

If you would like to receive a copy and are
not on the e-mailing list please add you email
address to the form at back of church



Come and join us for coffee and biscuits in the hall
after the 9:45 service.

ALL WELCOME!



Services in the Benefice

Sunday 3rd May—EASTER 5

WEM	08:00	Holy Eucharist
WEM	09:45	Holy Eucharist
WESTON	09:30	Morning Prayer
LEE	11:15	Holy Eucharist

Wednesday 6th May—Funeral Service

EMSTREY CREM	14:45	Elizabeth May Williams RIP
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Thursday 7th May

WEM	09:30	Holy Eucharist
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Friday 8th May—Victory in Europe Day Service on the Church Lawn

WEM	11:00	VE Day Service
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Sunday 10th May—EASTER 6

WEM	08:00	Holy Eucharist
	09:45	Holy Eucharist
WESTON	09:30	Holy Eucharist
LEE	11:15	Holy Eucharist BCP

Thursday 14th May—ASCENSION DAY

WEM	No Service	NO SERVICE
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DEANERY ASCENSION DAY SERVICE

WHITCHURCH St Alkmund's	19:00	Deanery Eucharist All Welcome
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Sybil

Sybil Farmer, PCC Lay Chair
SS Peter & Paul's Church, Wem

To view our May Services please go to our
website: <https://wemcofe.co.uk>

St Peter & St Paul's, Wem
5th SUNDAY OF EASTER
Sunday 3rd May 2026

THE COLLECT

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.

1st READING: ACTS 7:55-end

⁵⁵Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into
heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus
standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶'Look,' he
said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of
Man standing at the right hand of God!' ⁵⁷But
they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all
rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then they dragged
him out of the city and began to stone him; and
the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a
young man named Saul. ⁵⁹While they were
stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive
my spirit.' ⁶⁰Then he knelt down and cried out in a
loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against
them.' When he had said this, he died.

2nd READING: 1 PETER 2:2-10

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual
milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—

³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in scripture:

'See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.'

⁷To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

'The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner', ⁸and *'A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.'*

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

THE GOSPEL: JOHN 14:1-14

Jesus said 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.' ⁵Thomas said to

him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' ⁶Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.'

⁸ Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' ⁹Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Eternal God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth,
and the life:
grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his
truth, and to share his risen life; who is alive
and reigns, now and for ever.

Prayer Diary For Sunday 3rd May 2026

5th SUNDAY OF EASTER

Jesus said, "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you." *John 17:20-21*

Today

Pray that we may learn to pass on the message of the Gospel just as it has been passed on to us.

Pray that Jesus prayer for unity among believers will be answered.

Monday—4th May

Pray for families where parents have to work on bank holidays or weekends that the children will have adequate care and good role models.

Tuesday—5th May

Pray for the Food Bank and the Food Hub that they may have all the resources that they need to supply those in food poverty.

Pray that those with plenty may give generously.

Wednesday—6th May

Pray for shops and businesses in Wem that they may be well supported and that new and useful shops may open on the High Street.

Thursday—7th May

Pray for the Lord's blessing on the ministry of the Church in St. Peter's School. Pray for our Rector, John, that he may have the inspiration of the Holy Spirit as he leads assemblies.

Friday—8th May

Pray for opportunities to share our faith in conversation with others. Pray that the Holy Spirit will give us the right words and enable us to speak clearly.

Saturday—9th May

Pray for the protection of children from evil influences and deception on the internet. Pray that there may be helpful and positive alternative activities for them.