

This Week: Divine Office – Psalter Week 1.

Mon: SS Philp and James – Apostles Martyrs (Feast)
9.30 Mass. (1 Cor.15v.1-18. John 14v.6-14)
Int: Forward in Faith – the Society

Tues: English Martyrs (Feast)
9.30 Mass (Acts 7 v. 55-60, Matt. 10 v. 17-20)
Int: All who suffer for their faith

Wed: 9.30 Mass (Acts 15 v. 1-6, John 15 v. 1-8.)
Int: Christian Unity

Thurs: 9.30 Mass (Acts 15 v. 7-21, John 15 v. 9-11.)
Int: Peace of the world.

Fri: 9.30 Mass (Acts 15 v. 22-31, John 15 v. 12-17.)
Int: Renewal of our spiritual lives

Sat: 6.30pm Sacrament of Reconciliation. (Confessions.)
7.30pm 1st Mass of Sunday. Int: All elected to office tomorrow.
(Acts 10 v. 25-26; 34-38; 44-48; I John 4v. 7-10; John 15
v.9-17.)

Next Sunday - SIXTH OF EASTERTIDE B (ROGATION SUNDAY)
9.30 Parish Mass & Address. 10.20 (approx.) Annual Parochial
Church meeting.

NOTICES:

Please nominate for PCC/Sidesmen/Ministry of Welcome.

On 12th /13th May we will keep the Ascension of Our Lord on the eve at
7.30 and 9.30 on the day.

9th – 16th – May Christian Aid week. There will be no house to
housecollection but the need for donations is very great. Please give via
the churn in Church or www.justgiving/fundraising/mendlesham. A
suggestion from one member of our congregation is to donate the
equivalent cost of your covid vaccination (which we have received or will
receive free of charge) remembering those in other countries who are less
fortunate.

2nd May, 2021

PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, MENDLESHAM FIFTH OF EASTERTIDE (B) – MAY FIESTA

THEME: Think of a grape vine - or any other kind of tree. You cannot think of it
without thinking of the stem or trunk as being one with the branches. The life of the
branches or the leaves comes from the trunk. That is what Jesus says we are in relation
to Him. We depend on him – we die if we get cut off.

PENITENTIAL RITE:

Celebrant: Forgive us Lord, when our love has degenerated to just words or
mere talk. Lord have mercy.

People: LORD HAVE MERCY.

Celebrant: Forgive us Lord, when we say “no” to you. Christ have mercy.
People: CHRIST HAVE MERCY.

Celebrant: Forgive us Lord, when we do not uphold the Gospel of Christ
in our parish and place of work. Lord have mercy.

People: LORD HAVE MERCY.

Celebrant proclaims God’s mercy.

GLORIA.

OPENING PRAYER: *Let us pray that we may enjoy true freedom.* God our
Father, look upon us with love. You redeem us and make us your
children in Christ. Give us true freedom and bring us to the inheritance
you promised.

LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading - Acts 9 v. 26-31: Luke tells the story of Paul’s arrival in Jerusalem. The
new convert finds it difficult to be accepted and he has to leave the city when his life is
endangered.

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him:
they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him,
introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and
spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name
of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in
the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them,
they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to
Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace,
building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of
the Holy Spirit

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 21

® You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.

My vows I will pay before those who fear him.
The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.
They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him
May their hearts live for ever and ever! ®

All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord,
all families of the nations worship before him.
They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth,
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust. ®

And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him.
They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come,
Declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn: "These things the Lord has done." ®

Second Reading - I John 3 v. 18-24: For Christians mutual love must show its reality in actions. Whoever believes in Jesus and loves his neighbour is keeping the commandments of God, and God lives in him.

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

Alleluia, alleluia! Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.
Whoever remains in me bears fruit in plenty. Alleluia!

Gospel - John 15 v. 1-8: In Jesus' farewell discourse to his apostles he tells them that he is the true vine and that they are the branches. As long as they remain in him they will bear fruit in plenty.

I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more. You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you. Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me

is like a branch that has been thrown away – he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'

ADDRESS

CREED. (The Apostles Creed)

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Celebrant: We are branches of the true vine and Jesus invites us to be his disciples. Let us pray that we may bear rich fruit.

Reader: May all those who acknowledge Jesus as the Son of God be filled with his Spirit so that they may love one another as he commanded.

May the love of the Church for the world be real and active, so that its members may be true bearers of the fruit of the vine.

We pray for those who, like Barnabas, put fresh heart into the discouraged, who build up communities by their encouragement: that they may always know the support of the Lord.

Let us commend to the tenderness of the Lord all those who live in the absence of support and encouragement: that they will hear from us the voice of hope.

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We pray for the healing of the sick – for our house communicants – Hazel Lockwood, Cindie Lind, Margaret Maundrell and Trevor Thorpe. We pray too for Billy Carter and Doug Hales.

You are the first to rise from the dead - share your glory with those who have hoped in you, especially Frederick Charles (whose funeral took place recently) – pause for a candle to be lit. Stephen Crysell; Norman Giraud-Saunders; Dulcibel Brown; Herbert Pedlar; Ruth Hamilton; Olive Footer; Fred Green; Beryl Donze and Betsy Colchester; whose anniversaries are this week.

Let us ask Mary that we too may bring forth the love and truth that were in her. Hail Mary full of grace, the Lord is with thee, blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

S I L E N C E

All: Lord God our Father, you are the vinedresser. Prune us but do not cut us away, and we shall bear much fruit, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sanctus – Mystery of Faith - Agnus Dei –
Post-Communion Prayer and crowning of Our Lady Regina Caeli

For final words – see separate sheet.