

THE PARISH OF THE ASCENSION, LAVENDER HILL

Sunday 4 May 2025
The Third Sunday of Easter
11.00am Solemn Mass

*A very warm welcome to everyone especially if this is your first visit.
Please join us for refreshments following the service.*

Please take this order of service away with you

THIS WEEK

Observances	Monday:	<i>Easter Weekday</i>
	Tuesday:	<i>Easter Weekday</i> Low Mass: 10.00am
	Wednesday:	<i>Easter Weekday</i> Low Mass: 12 noon <i>[for the election of a new Pope]</i>
	Thursday:	<i>Easter Weekday</i> Low Mass: 10.00am
	Friday:	<i>Easter Weekday</i> Low Mass: 10.00am
	Saturday:	<i>St John of Avila</i> Holy Rosary: 9.30am Low Mass: 10.00am <i>[Area Dean's Inspection: 11.00am]</i>
	Sunday 11 th :	EASTER IV Solemn Mass & Holy Baptism: 11.00am

Website:

ascensionlavenderhill.org.uk

Email:

ascensionsw11@gmail.com

Phone:

020 7228 5340

A warm welcome to the Ascension, Lavender Hill. We are a Parish of the Diocese of Southwark and under the Episcopal care of the Bishop of Fulham. If you would like to know more about the Ascension, have queries about baptisms, weddings and funerals, or any questions about the Christian Faith, please speak to the Parish Priest, Fr Philip, who will be pleased to assist you:

Fr Philip Kennedy

tel: 020 7228 5340

email: ascensionsw11@gmail.com

We are a registered charity, and rely principally on donations to sustain our work. Please give as generously as you are able, either at the Offertory or by scanning the QR code below.

If you are a taxpayer and are able to gift-aid your donation please do so by either placing your cash donation into a blue envelope and filling in your details on the front, or ask one of the Churchwardens for a Gift Aid form.

Thank you for your support.



*Our **Churchwardens** are the Bishop's representatives in the Parish (elected by the parishioners) and work together with Fr Philip to ensure the smooth running of the Parish. They can be contacted as follows:*

MRS ANN WARWICK
annwarwick1@aol.com

MS CHERYL HARPER
cherylharper1964@hotmail.com

*We take the **safeguarding** of children and vulnerable adults very seriously. Here are the details of our **Parish Safeguarding Officers**, who should be the first point of contact for any concerns:*

MS RUTH CANSDALE
07737 116364

MR ALEX BANSON
020 7738 1916

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Please stand when the bell rings.

ENTRANCE HYMN

The strife is o'er, the battle done;
Now is the Victor's triumph won;
O let the song of praise be sung.
Alleluya!

Death's mightiest powers have done their worst,
And Jesus hath his foes dispersed;
Let shouts of praise and joy outburst.
Alleluya!

On the third morn he rose again
Glorious in majesty to reign;
O let us swell the joyful strain.
Alleluya!

He brake the age-bound chains of hell;
The bars from heaven's high portals fell;
Let hymns of praise his triumph tell.
Alleluya!

Lord, by the stripes which wounded thee
From death's dread sting thy servants free,
That we may live, and sing to thee.
Alleluia!

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

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

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

The priest introduces the confession. Silence is kept for recollection of 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.**

ABSOLUTION

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

KYRIE ELEISON

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

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

**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.**

**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.**

**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. Amen.**

COLLECT

Let us pray.

May your people exult for ever, O God,
in renewed youthfulness of spirit,
so that, rejoicing now in the restored glory of our adoption,
we may look forward in confident hope
to the rejoicing of the day of resurrection.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

All sit for the readings.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING: ACTS 5: 27-32, 40-41

In those days: The high priest questioned the Apostles, saying, 'We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us.' But Peter and the Apostles answered, 'We must obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.'

Having called in the Apostles, the council beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonour for the name.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: 30

Verses sung by the cantor. We sing the Response together.

Response: **I will extol you, Lord, for you have raised me up.**

SECOND READING: REVELATION 5: 11-14

I, John looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice, 'Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honour and glory and blessing!' And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, 'To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honour and glory and might for ever and ever!' And the four living creatures said, 'Amen!' and the elders fell down and worshipped.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

All stand to welcome the Gospel.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
*Christ is risen, who created all things
and has shown compassion on the human race.*
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING: JOHN 21: 1-14

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way. Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together. Simon Peter said to them, 'I am going fishing.' They said to him, 'We will go with you.' They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, 'Children, do you have any fish?' They answered him, 'No.' He said to them, 'Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some.' So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, 'It is the Lord!' When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea.

The other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred metres off. When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, 'Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.' So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, one hundred and fifty-three of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' Now none of the disciples dared ask him, 'Who are you?' They knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

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

All sit.

HOMILY: Fr Philip Kennedy, *Vicar*

THE NICENE CREED

All stand.

**I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God,
Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
All bow at the memorial of the Incarnation:
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became
man. *All rise*
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
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.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds
from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is
adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one
Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the
resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

The reader leads the people in intercession.

The response to each prayer:

**Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.**

At the end of the intercessions we pray together:

**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.**

At the conclusion of the intercessions:

Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

THE OFFERTORY

*All stand to sing the offertory hymn as the altar is prepared. A collection is
taken to help with the ministry and mission of the Church.*

**1 Crown him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon his throne;
Hark! how the heavenly anthem
drowns
All music but its own:
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless
King
Through all eternity.**

**2 Crown him the Virgin's Son,
The God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson
trophies won
Which now his brow adorn:
Fruit of the mystic Rose,
As of that Rose the Stem;
The Root whence mercy ever
flows,
The Babe of Bethlehem.**

**3 Crown him the Lord of love!
Behold his hands and side,
Rich wounds yet visible above
In beauty glorified:
No angel in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his burning
eye
At mysteries so bright.**

**4 Crown Him the Lord of peace,
Whose power a sceptre sways
From pole to pole, that wars may
cease,
Absorbed in prayer and praise:
His reign shall know no end,
And round his pierced feet
Fair flowers of Paradise extend
Their fragrance ever sweet.**

**5 Crown him the Lord of years,
The Potentate of time,
Creator of the rolling spheres,
Ineffably sublime.
Glassed in a sea of light,
Where everlasting waves
Reflect his throne--the Infinite!
Who lives--and loves--and saves.**

When the altar is prepared the Priest says:

Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours 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.

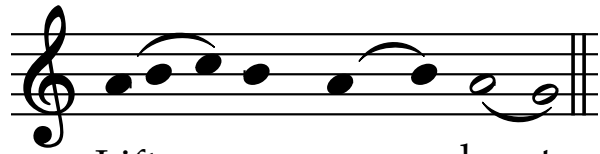
PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Receive, O Lord, we pray,
these offerings of your exultant Church,
and, as you have given her cause for such great gladness,
grant also that the gifts we bring
may bear fruit in perpetual happiness.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PREFACE



The Lord be with you.
And with your spi - rit.



Lift up your hearts



We lift them to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right and just.

The priest sings the Preface, after which we sing:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

**Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God of hosts,
heaven and earth, are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

All kneel or sit as the Eucharistic Prayer continues.

The mystery of faith:



We pro-claim your Death, O Lord, and pro-fess your Res-ur-rec-tion



un-til you come a-gain.

The prayer concludes "...for ever and ever" to which all reply:
Amen.

COMMUNION RITE

All stand as the priest invites the people to pray:

**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 always be 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 always with you.
And with your spirit.

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.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus
in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.

HOLY COMMUNION

If you are baptised in the name of the Trinity and normally receive Holy Communion in your own Church, you are welcome to receive the Sacrament here today. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please come to the altar rail and cross your arms or bring this order of service with you as a sign to the priest.

COMMUNION HYMN

**O praise our great and glorious Lord,
And call upon his name,
To strains of joy tune every chord,
His mighty acts proclaim:
Tell how he freed his chosen race
From Pharaoh's heavy hand,
And led them by his sovereign grace
To seek the promised land.**

**He gave the shadowing cloud by day,
The moving fire by night,
To guide his people on their way,
And make their darkness light:
To us, the light of Christ our Lord
Illumines all our ways;
He leads us by his gospel word,
And turns our sighs to praise.**

**We too have manna from on high,
The bread that came from heaven,
And he who brought salvation nigh
Has living water given:
A rock is ours, from whence the spring
In rich abundance flows,
And Christ that rock, our priest and king,
Both life and health bestows.**

Come, let us prize this heavenly food,
And trust our heavenly guide,
So shall we find death's fearful flood
Serene as Jordan's tide;
And safely reach th'eternal shore
No more by ills opprest;
Where saints their Lord and God adore,
And in his glory, rest.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

All stand.

Let us pray.
Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that our reception of this paschal Sacrament
may have a continuing effect
in our minds and hearts.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

BANNS OF MARRIAGE & NOTICES

All sit.

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

All stand.

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and +the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Go forth, the Mass is end-ed, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

Thanks be to God, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

REGINA CAELI

Joy to thee, O Queen of Heaven, alleluia.
He whom thou wast meet to bear, alleluia.
As he promised, hath arisen, alleluia.
Pour for us to him thy prayer, alleluia.

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

Let us pray.

O God, by the Resurrection of thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
thou has brought joy to the whole world;
grant that aided by the prayers of His Mother Mary,
we may obtain the joys of everlasting life.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FINAL HYMN

**Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty,
Hold me with thy powerful hand:
Bread of heaven,
Feed me till I want no more.**

**Open now the crystal fountain
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through:
Strong Deliverer,
Be thou still my strength and shield.**

**When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's Destruction
Land me safe on Canaan's side:
Songs of praises
I will ever give to thee.**

ORGAN VOLUNTARY: *Te Deum Laudamus*
 Aloys Claussmann (1850-1926)

Please remain standing until the procession has left the church.

CCLI REGISTRATION NO: 1405641

FOR OUR PRAYERS

Those in need

Elly Kostur, Jean Tester, Cath Papangelou, Maureen Papangelou, Shabnam Mehdi-Poor, Alvin Rhodon, Andrew Woods, Carol Farley, Luke Guthrie, Alan, Roy Norton, Robin Farquhar-Thomson, Victoria, Tina Guthrie, Vicki Guthrie, Becky Saint, Joanne Donaghy, Joan Aubee, Peggy Ossawy, Neal.

Recently departed

Pope Francis, Frank Carruth, Ezra Linke, Gordon Reid (pr), Fay Alveranga

Anniversaries of death

4: Horace Keast

5: Florence Smith

6: Amy Gillgrass

7: Mother Mary Caroline, James Shute, Annie Collins

8: Alfred Burley, Bernhard Cuthbert, Robert Chancellor (pr), Thomas Tuitt, Stan Young

10: Lewis Hockridge, Sarah Ampiah, David Joseph Lewis

NOTICES

ARCHDEACON: FAREWELL SERVICE

Fr John Kiddle's final service as Archdeacon of Wandsworth takes place this Wednesday evening at 7.00pm at St Barnabas, Clapham Common

AMP & APCM

The Annual Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place after the Parish Mass on Sunday 25 May. The accounts were adopted at this week's PCC meeting, and they will be available along with the usual reports next week.

The Electoral Roll (effectively our church membership list) is being totally revised at present. This is the final Sunday of the revision.

ASCENSION CELEBRATIONS 2025

Saturday 31 May at 5.00pm: Solemn First Vespers & Benediction, followed by drinks in the Clergy House;

Sunday 1 June at 5.00pm: Parish Mass, followed by a party in church
Visiting preacher: Fr Martin Hislop, Vicar of St Luke's, Kingston

SUMMER FAIR

Saturday 14 June between 10.00am and 2.00pm

Ascension Day: Solemn First Vespers on 31 May at 5.00pm

'Vespers' was an unfamiliar term to a member of the congregation who asked me about it, and I thought it might be helpful to provide a short explanation

Vespers (from the Latin, meaning 'evening') is the Church's Liturgy of Evening Prayer.

For particularly special holy days (such as the Ascension, coming up) our celebrations begin the day before, hence 'First Vespers', following the ancient Jewish custom of liturgical celebrations beginning at sunset.

At Morning and Evening Prayer, we follow a set order of psalms and canticles, which are selected specifically to be appropriate to the particular feast day. Normally at each service there are two psalms and a canticle.

After the psalms, canticle, and a short reading from Holy Scripture, the high point of the liturgy is the Gospel Canticle - in the Mornings the Benedictus, and in the evenings the Magnificat. After the Gospel Canticle, we pray some short intercessions together, concluding with the Our Father, and the seasonal Marian antiphon (in this season the *Regina Caeli*).

Normally I pray Morning and Evening Prayer on my own, either in church or in my study, therefore it's typically a quiet, said celebration. However, on particularly special feast days the service can be enriched with music and the singing of the psalms and canticles to simple plainsong tones.

It can be enriched further by use of the organ to support the singing, by the participation of additional ministers, and by the use of incense (which will be deployed during the Gospel Canticle as the altar is honoured with incense).

To mark the beginning of our Ascension celebrations, we will take part on Saturday 31st in Evening Prayer in its most solemn form, with singing, assistance from additional ministers, choral polyphony, and the service will conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. This might be a new form of worship for some of us but I hope you will be able to participate as fully as possible - please bring along your singing voices to assist with the singing of the psalms!

If you would like to explore praying these services on a more regular basis please have a word with me. They can be a helpful daily anchor in our busy lives. Praying Morning and Evening Prayer in this particular way also reminds us that we are never alone when we pray - for we join each day in the set prayer of the Church - the same liturgy being prayed by millions of people that same day around the world. So while we might pray these services on our own or in small groups, we do so united with Christian brothers and sisters across the globe.