



St Botolph's Church,

Colchester

2nd May 2021

5th Sunday of Easter

Dear Friends,

Many of us have been looking forward to the month of May. The 17th is when we hope our movements will be less restricted and we shall be able to visit friends and family more freely. We all need some warm weather and the warmth of good company as we ease forward from lockdown. Pentecost also falls in May and that is when Castle Methodists hope to open their church for worship again.

May is also the month of elections at St Botolph's and Sunday 30th, after morning worship, will be your chance to vote for Churchwardens and PCC members to carry us through the next year. Please do get involved. If you are a confirmed member of the church and on the electoral roll, you are entitled to stand for the vacancies and cast your vote during the elections. The nominations board will be on display from this Sunday.

'**Thy Kingdom Come**' is the title for a world initiative for us all to pray together for our world, and our diocese is being led by the Chelmsford Cathedral. During the ten days between Ascension Day 13th May, and Pentecost, 23rd May, structured prayers are arranged so that we may be in unity with our fellow Christians in caring for the world around us. If you are able, please look at the diocesan website for their leadership.

In your private prayers, please include Beryl and Denis, who are each very poorly following a period in hospital.

The first reading appointed for this Sunday is part of Acts. Chapter 8, where Philip meets the Ethiopian Eunuch, guiding him through to baptism. In brief, it is a shining example to all Christians to welcome and encourage all who wish to know the Lord, especially the stranger, that they may feel welcome within our midst.

This Sunday, Sarah Humphreys a licenced Lay Minister will lead us in our Morning Worship. We hope you can join us at 10.30 am.

If you would like to meet for worship in the evening on Ascension Day, please let the Churchwardens know.

Castle Methodist Church online worship is at <https://www.youtube.com/Colchestermethodists>

Do remember that we can log into the on-line worship at Christ Church. A range of options are available please have a look at Colchester Christ Church Facebook page.

Collect for 5th Sunday of Easter

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:
raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,
that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever..