

## Welcome to St. Mary's and St Martin's Email Leaflet

Church Contact Administrator: Penny Paton, Church Administrator

Website: [www.knebworthparishchurch.co.uk](http://www.knebworthparishchurch.co.uk)

Email: [knebworthparishchurch@gmail.com](mailto:knebworthparishchurch@gmail.com)

Facebook Group: [StMartinsKnebworth](#)

Twitter account: [@knebworthparish](#)

**St Mary's open 8am on 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays for a BCP Holy Communion service**  
Services taken by Bishop Michael, Archdeacon Janet, Rural Dean & other clergy

**St Martin's open 10am on 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays for Holy Communion service**  
Services taken by Bishop Michael, Archdeacon Janet, Rural Dean & other clergy

**Holy Communion Zoom service - 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays at 10am**  
Services taken by Canon Jane, Revd Karen, Revd Richard and other clergy

## 2 May 2021

### COLLECT

Risen Christ, your wounds declare your love for the world and the wonder of your risen life: give us compassion and courage to risk ourselves for those we serve, to the glory of God the Father. Amen

### SUNDAY'S READINGS

St. Mary's	2021	St. Martin's
Acts 8: 26-40 John 15: 1-8	2 May Easter 5	Acts 8: 26-40 1 John 4: 7-21 John 15: 1-8

- The 8am BCP service in St Mary's will be taken by Andy Thomas
- There will be a 10am service taken by Richard Syms in St Martins. The OOS is the same one as Richard used last week (headed Parish Communion) please bring a copy with you. Also the hymn that will be sent in your email, as we will sing that outside after the service.



Father, we pray that we will bear much fruit. Take away all in our life that is not good and fruitful and work in us that we may bear even more fruit, this we ask in Jesus name. Amen

## LET'S CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER!

It seems hard to see anything good that has come from the horrific virus that has devastated and still is devastating our world. But what I think, hope, may have increased, is our awareness of each other, and the communities we belong to. I've mentioned before the remarkable achievements of the Covid Response team in our village. They have done practical and vital work for us and for many of our neighbours, and I think set an example that has made us all think and care more about the people next door, or in our street or estate, who might need something. Actually, looking back over my 40 years of living here, Knebworth has always been rather good at looking at local needs, from the early days of Link Up, initiatives for children and young people, through to the recent efforts to save and reopen the Station pub!

This coming week are the local elections. They are very much a stage in making community here, and it would be brilliant if the whole village, young and old, made their mark (literally!) Please vote yourself and encourage others to do so. I know there are serious issues at the very top of politics right now about honesty and integrity, but I do believe that certainly local candidates, and indeed most MPs of all parties are there because they really want to make a difference, improve, care for the communities they represent.

I know clergy mustn't tell people how to vote (perish the thought!) but it might be good if, in the present climate, we don't just shove our cross where we always do, but looked objectively at the leaflets through the door, at what different candidates are proposing, and see what priorities and ideas really chime with your own.

And, of course, as Christians, the idea of community is at the very heart of what we are and do. Our central act of worship is called Communion, the first description of the early Christians establishing their way of life looks a bit (suspiciously?) like a simple form of communism. And so caring for, and helping to shape the village is very much part of what we are about. The great Archbishop William Temple wrote 'The church is the only institution that exists solely for the benefit of those who are not its members St Martin's and St Mary's are not here, so that we can all have a pleasant and helpful time together. We are here for the village, we are here for Knebworth, for all the people who never come to church. They are our priority. It is the village, not just the churches, that must affect all the decisions we take. It is, and always has been, the health and happiness of Knebworth that is our purpose, our raison d'etre.

**Revd Richard Syms**



## House-to-House Collection

Christian Aid Week is **10th to 16th May** this year and, under normal circumstances, following the delivery of envelopes to every household in the village, they would be calling to collect your donations a few days later. Unfortunately, it can't happen that way this year. Whilst they will still be delivering envelopes during the early part of this month, there will be a note on them asking you to return them - with your donation, of course - to the collection points in the Co-op or the Post Office. Alternatively, you can donate online at:

<https://envelope.christianaid.org.uk/envelope/tim-coulson?channel=copy>.

Whichever method you choose, please give generously.

## Christian Aid Service

At 5.30 pm on **Sunday, 9th May**, there will be a Service at Trinity Church to recognise the start of Christian Aid Week. Because of some continuing Covid restrictions, the attendance is limited, with social distancing and, unfortunately, no singing. If you would like to be present at the Service, please contact Kay Loveless on 01438 815414 or by email at [21kayloveless@gmail.com](mailto:21kayloveless@gmail.com). This Service will be live-streamed on the Trinity YouTube channel.

## Big Brekkie on Wheels!

Planning is well on the way for this innovative event - see the poster on the cover of the Parish News. It will be organised around St Martin's Parish Centre during the morning of **Saturday, 15th May**. People will be able to phone (07892 936841) their order in advance (by 14<sup>th</sup> May) for a bacon bap or a sausage bap, plus a cold drink, and either have it delivered or collect it themselves from St Martin's car park. All this for a suggested donation of £5.00 to Christian Aid, a very worthy cause!

## KFC Coffee Mornings



Although there is nothing definite at this stage, there is a germ of an idea that before too long it may be possible to restart the much-missed KFC Saturday Coffee Mornings. Under the current guidelines, social distancing is likely to still be in operation until 21st June and so, hopefully, the first Coffee Morning could be in July. With that in mind, St Martin's Parish Centre has been booked for the third Saturday – our usual day for the Coffee Morning – and that will be the 17th. Watch this space!

**Graham Fothergill, KFC Secretary**



## Supplying the homeless and families in need

**You can now drop items off at St Martin's into the bin provided, when the church is open.**

If you are delivering goods to Karen or Penny please can it be the last two Monday's of the month. We are aiming at taking goods once or twice a month. We are also getting some items in bulk from Costco, if you want us to get items to add from you please let us know and the amount you wish to spend.

**ANNUAL CHURCH MEETINGS:** This year's AMP and APCM will be held on Sunday 16 May at 6.30pm via Zoom. Details of login will be given later. There is a vacancy on the PCC if you would like to know more please contact Penny or Mark.

**FOODBANK:** Items for the Stevenage Foodbank are still much needed, please continue to support them by donating to the foodbank bin in the Co-op.

**ESTATES ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT** to work at Holywell Lodge, St Albans. A full time position in the busy property department which manages clergy housing and investment properties in support of parish ministry. The post is offered on the Senior Personal Secretary Scale (£24,916 £28,307 pa). Further details are available from <https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/diocese/other-vacancies/>.



**Please pray for:** All those known to us who are in need of healing at this time, especially Jane Gilbert; Orla & her family; Mick & Sue Willis; Linda (friend of Julia); Joyce Burrows; Jean Bradford; Val Goalen; Canon Jane Hatton; Kathy Smith.

**Please pray for:** the family and friends of Pearl Robertson and Joan Hunter.

**Also please pray for:**

- The Diocese of St Albans, Bishop Alan; The Bishop of Hertford, Rt. Rev'd Dr Michael Beasley; Archdeacon Janet; and their families.
- Peace in Syria, Iraq, Ukraine, Afghanistan, Mali, Central African Republic, Nigeria, Palestine/Israel, Turkey, Yemen, Myanmar, South Sudan and Mozambique.
- Christians who are persecuted; for Open Doors and the Barnabas Fund ministering to persecuted Christians and their neighbours.
- The Coronavirus.
- The PCC



Please email any contributions for this e-leaflet by 12pm on Thursday to:  
[knebworthnews@gmail.com](mailto:knebworthnews@gmail.com)