



The Parish of St. Martin & St. Paul Canterbury
Sunday 3rd May 2026
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Today

9am **Sung Eucharist at St Martin's**

Celebrant and Preacher: **Reverend Lorraine Lawrence**

Hymns: 628, 150 and 429

Organist: Christopher Gower

10.30am **Sung Eucharist with SZ I**

Celebrant and Preacher: **Reverend Alastair Mansfield**



This service is lived streamed on YouTube. Search MartinPaulChurches

Hymns: 291, 203, 608, 475

Organist: David Rees-Williams

Parish Prayers: *Sophie S, Erika and family, Alison, Ann G, Nicola, Brian, Norma, Gwyn, Doreen and all who are unwell. For all who have recently died, remembering especially their families and all who mourn. We remember the memorial anniversary of Megan Dixon and Betty Harvey*

Parish Giving: *Please consider donating to support our life and Christian mission.*

- *Giving regularly helps us cover our regular costs which are over £565 a day – join our parish giving scheme via the QR Code, our website or speak to a warden.*
- *Give today with cash or card at the back of church.*
- *Make a one-off donation via our website or QR Code.*

Thank you!



Parish Contacts:

The Rector: The Reverend Dr Mary Kells, rector@martinpaul.org Tel: Option 2

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Parish Office general enquiries: office@martinpaul.org Tel: Option 1- voicemail

Follow us on social media: Facebook, Instagram & YouTube- MartinPaulChurches

Join our weekly mailing list: Contact the Parish Office

St Martin's visits: Elena Field visits@martinpaul.org Tel: Option 5.

Pilgrim Post: Reverend Clive Barlow pilgrimpost@martinpaul.org

Safeguarding Concerns/Queries: safeguarding@martinpaul.org Tel: Option 6

Prayer requests: Gwyn Hartwell 451366 or Doreen Laven 760372

or on the website at www.martinpaul.org/prayers.

Want to get weekly updates about everything that is going on in our parish?

Email office@martinpaul.org to subscribe

Collect

Generous God, whose way is love, whose truth is searching, whose life is freely given in Jesus Christ our Lord: as you have opened for us your house of many rooms, so may we make a place for the rejected and unloved, and share the work of peace; through Jesus Christ, the image of God. Amen.

First Lesson: Acts 7.55-end

But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then 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. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then 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.

For the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 31 1-5

In thee, O Lord, have I put my trust : let me never be put to confusion, deliver me in thy righteousness.

Bow down thine ear to me : make haste to deliver me.

And be thou my strong rock, and house of defence : that thou mayest save me.

For thou art my strong rock, and my castle : be thou also my guide, and lead me for thy Name's sake.

Draw me out of the net that they have laid privily for me : for thou art my strength.

(We stand for the Doxology): Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Second Lesson: I Peter 2.2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like 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. For 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.' To 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', and '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.

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. 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.

For the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel: John 14.1-14

'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In 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? And 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. And you know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.' Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' Jesus 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"? Do 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. Believe 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. Very 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. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

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. Amen

Notices:

Inclusive Audit. In 2023, we carried out an inclusive audit to understand where we were doing well and where we could improve in terms of our inclusion. It's now time to revisit this work. We'd really value your feedback on what you think we do well, as well as any areas where we could do better—and how. You can share your thoughts by emailing office@martinpaul.org, speaking to a member of the ministry team, or talking to Lille and Sam, who will be in the hall after the 10:30 service this Sunday and next. Once we've gathered your feedback, the results will be shared and presented to the PCC.

Ascension Day: Join us for a Sung Eucharist on Thursday 14th May at 7.30pm at St. Paul's. Followed by drinks and nibbles at the back of church.

The King's Men, Cambridge, Canterbury Cathedral Concert 15th July

This is our next major fundraising campaign for St Martin's! A unique opportunity to hear this talented a Capella group sing a variety of music in our stunning Cathedral setting. The Cathedral has kindly allowed us to use their venue and waived the cost. Tickets will go on sale shortly, but much help is needed before and on the day. If you able to help, please speak to Ros.

Morning Prayer. A message from Jennifer. "With our Rector's encouragement, I am wondering if there are any in our Congregation who would like to join with me and others in saying Morning Prayer together on Mon, Tues and Friday (or maybe just Monday and Friday) in St Paul's Church at 9.15? (If every week is not possible then as often as you can would be wonderful!) Using Common Worship Daily Prayer. It would be a joy to gather together.....Let me know if this interests you" Jennifer Llewelin

Quiet Day. Friday 29th May at Minster Abbey speak to Mary Butcher for more information.

Diary

'Pray as you go' App join us 9am Monday, Tuesday and Friday wherever you are –
Speak to the Rector for more information.

Wednesday 6th

Thursday 7th

Friday 8th

Sunday 10th

10:30am Prayer Book Eucharist & Coffee at St. Paul's

Midday prayers at St. Martin's

8:40pm Online Compline Zoom <https://bit.ly/ThursdayCompline>

7:30pm Choir practice

6th Sunday of Easter

9am Said Eucharist – St Martin's

10:30 Sung Eucharist with Sunday Zone 1 – St Paul's

12:15pm APCM – St. Paul's

3:00pm St Paul's at Tea Time

Save the date

APCM Sunday 10th May

Ascension Day Eucharist Thursday 14th May, 7:30pm, at St. Paul's

St. Augustine's Day service Thursday 28th May, 5pm starting at St. Martin's

24 hours of Prayer starting Friday 26th June

The King's Men, Cambridge, at the Cathedral Wednesday 15th July at 7.30pm

– fundraising for St Martin's the Next Chapter