



Great Malvern Priory

THIS WEEK

Sunday 28th April, 5th Sunday of Easter (4th after Easter)

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Priory on the Fifth Sunday of Easter ('fourth after' in the BCP). We warmly greet you for our worship today, and whether you have come from near or far, it will be great to worship God together. Do stay for coffee.

Today, John Butterworth, from Open Doors, is preaching and leading the children's talk. Over 365 million Christians face persecution and discrimination - that's one in seven believers worldwide. John will tell us more and invite us to pray.

The APCM was held on Wednesday evening, and we had a good night of celebration (and puddings!). The turnout was excellent. David and Neil will return as Churchwardens, and the new PCC will see some fresh faces join. Phillippa's wonderful picture show of the life of our church over a year was amazing. So much has been achieved, particularly with the Friends and the Church working together. Dylan's 'signature' cleaning focus this week has been the area outside the choir vestry, and what a transformation! Undaunted, Dylan is tackling the 'holy of holies' next week—the clergy/custos vestry. Watch this space! We are hoping to have a big church clean with volunteers we are calling 'Dylan's Cleaning Angels' on Saturday 18th May at 9:30am, straight after Morning Prayer. If you would like to be a cleaning angel, just come along. Refreshments via Just a Cuppa will be on hand.

Ascension Day is on Thursday, May 9th. We begin with a tower-top service (which is great fun!) at 9:00am - all are welcome. Then, there is a service of Holy Communion (BCP) at 11:30am, where Marje will be celebrating 30 years of her ordination as one of the first women deacons to become priests in the Worcester diocese. Please note that this replaces the Wednesday communion service for that week. In the evening, there is a Deanery Service for Ascension at 7:30pm at St Peter's Church Powick. Do join us.

Every blessing, Rod

TODAY

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)

President Revd Rod Corke, Preacher Sue Copsey

10:30am Morning Worship

Minister David Webster, Preacher John Butterworth (Open Doors)

6:30pm Choral Evensong *dedicated to the memory of Diana Hughes*
Minister Revd Adam Wharton & Preacher Richard Weatherill

COMING UP

Monday to Saturday 9:00am Morning Prayer, St Giles' Chapel

Tuesday No Praise Group
1:00pm Free Lunchtime Concert

Wednesday 10:00am Mothers' Union Prayers, St Giles' Chapel
11:30am Holy Communion (BCP), St Giles' Chapel

Thursday 6:00pm Table Tennis, Lyttelton Rooms
7:30pm Bell Ringers' practice

Friday 4:00pm Handbell rehearsal
6:00/7:00pm Junior/Adult choir practice

Saturday Welcome Day with Arts & Crafts market on the drive
11:00am Guided Tour
11:00am onwards Tower Tours

Next Sunday 5th May, 6th Sunday of Easter (5th after Easter)

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)
President & Preacher Revd David Gifford

10:30am Parish Communion with Baptism
President & Preacher Revd Rod Corke

6:30pm The Gathering
Leader, Revd Rod Corke

PRIORY INFORMATION, NEWS AND EVENTS

Welcome! If you are visiting or are new to the Priory, we are glad to have you with us. Please do say hello to one of the ministers, welcomers or sidespeople.

Home groups: Details of meeting times and days can be received from Tony Whalley.

Children's groups: Identity (11+) runs on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, FROGs (under 11s; under 4s with an adult please) runs on the 1st, 3rd and 4th Sundays of the month. All welcome to join in!

The current Priory Prayer Diary is available on our website. Click on the Worship tab, then regular worship, then private prayer, and follow the link.

Prayer Vine If you would like a prayer request put on the Priory Prayer Vine, email pv-request@greatmalvernpriory.org.uk, or contact Rod on 07977 444864.

Free lunchtime concert, 1pm Tuesday 30th April. Royal Birmingham Conservatoire Guitarists present John Playford's Country Dances with Elizabeth Pallett on lute and theorbo. Retiring collection for Great Malvern Priory.

Tower Tours, Saturday 4th May. Visits to the ringing chamber and top of the Priory tower (weather permitting) on the hour, every hour from 11am to 3pm. £5 for adults, £2.50 for 8 – 16s (sorry, not suitable for children under 8). See how the bells are rung (and try them yourself) and get the best view of Great Malvern.

The Gathering... returns for the first time this year next Sunday 4th May at 6.30pm. Rod and Rita have been regular attendees at our relaxed cafe-style service of contemporary worship and discussion, and he will be leading the discussion in this his final visit. We look forward to seeing you there!

APCM: At the recent APCM Neil Paulley and David Guy were elected as churchwardens for a further year and Rachel Aldis, Chris Boulton, Rebecca McLaverty-Head, Ann Oldfield, Ros Ponting, Helen Wall and Howard Wells were elected to serve on the PCC.

Ascension Day Midweek Communion, 11am Thursday 9th May. Marje will be celebrating 30 years of her ordination as one of the first women deacons to become priests in Worcester diocese. Please note that there will be no service on Wednesday 8th May.

Our Church prayer meeting for May- FWP - will be held on May 9th, 7.20pm in the upstairs L. Well hall. This is the last FWP meeting that Rod and Rita will be here for so they will choose a topic and lead our evening. Please come and share what I am sure will be a very special evening!

Organ Recital, Saturday, 11th May 12.00pm. Peter King, Organist Emeritus, Bath Abbey. Programme to include Suite from Holberg's Time by Grieg and Sonata No. 1 by Guilman. Free entry with retiring collection.

Malvern Festival Chorus: Spirituals and Psalms. Saturday, 18 May, 7.00pm. Malvern Festival Chorus and conductor Jonathan Brown, invite you to join them for a concert featuring John Rutter's "Feel the Spirit" and Leonard Bernstein's

"Chichester Psalms". For more information visit: www.malvernfestivalchorus.co.uk

Tickets: <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/DGDY>

The Friends' Shop is looking for more volunteers from the congregation to help out in the shop either on a regular or ad hoc basis. If you enjoy meeting people and chatting to visitors, please ask Anne Eglington for more information or email:

friends.malvernpriory@gmail.com.

Lifepath 24th-28th June 2024. We are nearly fully booked with children for the whole week but are still in need of lots of volunteers to be Pilgrim Guide/Assistants, Activity Group Assistants and a whole range of other jobs! For more information go to <https://www.greatmalvernpriory.org.uk/lifepath> where you can also sign up.

Do you have an Ironmonger's (brown) overall? Rod is looking for two for the Lifepath drama! If so, please contact Rod.

Welcome Day 4th May. Brenda needs helpers to serve tea and coffee on this date and would welcome offers of cake. Please contact her via the Parish Office.

If you would like further information, or to contact any of the named individuals, please contact our Parish Administrator (details below)

WIDER CHURCH AND COMMUNITY

Malvern Well-Dressing Festival - Friday May 3rd to Monday May 13th. Wells, springs and fountains will be decorated with the theme of TREES. Well-dressing blessings - Friday May 3rd 6.30pm St. James churchyard Saturday 4th May 4.00pm at Malvhina, Belle Vue island. Churches are invited to remember our dependence on water and to give thanks in their services during that time.

Foodbank: www.malvern hills.foodbank.org.uk.

Lyttelton Well: Café & Bookshop are open Monday to Saturday 10am-3:45pm; also the Bookshop can be contacted either by phone 01684 573702 or email bookshop@lytteltonwell.co.uk. Anyone seeking counselling should contact the service on 01684 563456, or via www.thewellcounselling.co.uk.

CONTACT DETAILS

Vicar: Revd. Rod Corke (day off Monday) email vicar@greatmalvern priory.org.uk
tel. 07977 444864

Church Manager: Anne Rich tel. 07860 873566
email church.manager@greatmalvern priory.org.uk

Parish Administrator: Catherine Ponting office@greatmalvern priory.org.uk
tel. 01684 561020

Website: www.greatmalvern priory.org.uk

The Parish Office is open on Thursday and Friday from 9am-1pm for drop-in visitors and telephone calls. On other days you can contact the office by email, which is monitored regularly, or by leaving a message on the answerphone. If your request is urgent, please contact Revd Rod Corke (pastoral) or Anne Rich (administrative).

Collection *Thank you* for your support. Please scan the QR code to make a £5 donation by card or ApplePay. There's a collection plate or basket and a card reader at the back of the church available before or after the service (please do Gift Aid your donation using envelopes provided).

