

Welcome

Week beginning Sunday 17th May

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| <p>1. Lords of the Nursery
 Wait in a row,
 Five on the high wall,
 And four on the low;
 Big Kings and Little Kings
 Brown Bears and Black,
 All of them waiting
 Till John comes back.</p> | <p>2. Some think that John boy
 Is lost in the wood,
 Some say he couldn't be ,
 Some say he could.
 Some think that John boy
 Hides on the hill;
 Some say he won't come back,
 Some say he will.</p> |
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So begins A. A. Milne's poem *Forgotten*. The toys in the nursery are concerned because they can't see John Boy. It is he who gives them life, enables them to fulfil their purpose of being toys. Without him they just sit used and purposeless on the wall.

Today we hear the reading from Acts chapter 1 telling the story of Jesus' Ascension. The disciples watch in bewilderment as Jesus is taken up into the clouds and disappears from their sight. They stand looking up to heaven not sure what to do. They are asked by 'two men in white', "why do you stand here looking into the sky?" If you go to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham in the Ascension chapel there are two plaster feet dangling down from the ceiling forcing you to look up!

In the Ascension Jesus didn't disappear, he didn't abandon them, and he has not abandoned us. To see Jesus we need not to look up, but to look out, look around. He is there in the small acts that Christians do, the kind word, the visit to the lonely or sick person, the gift given to the poor and needy. Well Paul, I hear you say non Christian people do those things too.

But as Christians we go the extra mile, we go to the difficult areas, we are the fools who rush in and enable the angels to tread there too. With the power of the Holy Spirit we are given the enabling power of Jesus to share the Love of God with all.

The other great thing about the Ascension is that our humanity returns to God. God knows what it's like to be you and me and everyone. In the Creation story in Genesis 1 chp 26 God says "let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness. In the likeness of the Father, son and Holy Spirit. We, as carriers of God, are called to serve those who also carry God. That is everyone!

What's become of John boy?
 Nothing at all,
 He played with his skipping rope,
 He played with his ball.
 He ran after butterflies
 Blue ones and red;
 He did a hundred happy things-
 And then went to bed.

John boy wasn't lost the toys were looking in the wrong place. Let us look in the right place, He isn't locked in the church, He is by the power of the Holy Spirit alive and in you and me and enabling us-like John Boy to be alive and active in the world.

Captain Paul McDonough C.A. LLM.

Readings

Acts 1. 6-14 John 17. 1-11

Collect

Risen, ascended Lord, as we rejoice at your triumph, fill your Church on earth with power and compassion, that all who are estranged by sin may find forgiveness and know your peace, to the glory of God the Father. Amen

Messy Church

3.30pm-5.30pm 17th May

St Andrew's Church Rooms, Preston. DT3 6BU

Theme - 'Giving'

Fun, Fellowship & food
Crafts, games & a hot meal.

Contact:01305 837147

weymouth.ridgeway.team.office@gmail.com

Westham Bridge Soup Run

The Soup Run that provides food for the homeless on the bridge in Weymouth each Saturday is



supported by 4 churches. One of the four churches have now said that they will not be able to continue and another church has said they are struggling too. If assistance cannot be found, this ministry may have to come to an end.

Are there any churches or church members that would be willing to support in this ministry? If you are willing and able to help, please could you email Tony Adams at tadams@weymouthfamilychurch.org.uk

St Laurence Church Charity Dog Show

Saturday 22nd August 2026

11am-6pm

Upwey House,

75 Church Street, Upwey
Games, Stalls, Food, Live Music

Fun For All The Family

Free Entry

(All dogs to be kept on leads)

An afternoon of acoustic music with Carrie Martin

St Andrew's Church Rooms, DT3 6BU

4pm Sunday 14th June

Tickets £15 to include

Tea/coffee and homemade cakes & scones
For information or tickets contact Shirley Mitchell (details below) or Alex Sissons on 07801 820722

Charity Quiz Night

**In aid of Macmillan Cancer Support & repairs to St Nicholas Church
Saturday 6th June**

St Nicholas Church, Broadway. DT3 5DN

7 for 7.30pm

Tickets £8 to include tea/coffee

Please bring your own refreshments/snacks.

07944 617553

susanamalik@yahoo.com

Are you a volunteer in a church or parish? Sign up for our Volunteer Day on the 5th June now! We would love for you.

Emmaus House, Wilton, SP2 0FG.

This day is for anyone who volunteers and serves regularly in their church. Book to grab your space: <https://buff.ly/luPO7Wy>
<https://mailchi.mp/salisbury/23april26?e=3c063b8e78>

Ladies Night

St Francis Church, Littlemoor

7pm on the 29th May

Do come and join us