



18th May 2025 *Fifth Sunday of Easter*

Welcome to Saint Laurence.

Adventurers (groups for children and young people) meet during the 9.30 am Mass. Leaders will normally invite children to join in with these at the appropriate point in the service. Activity packs and children's service books are available from the back of church.

You are warmly invited to stay for refreshments in the Derham Hall after the 9.30am Mass today.

Today	Holy Communion	8.00 am
18 th May	Sung Parish Mass	9.30 am
5 th Sunday of Easter	Baptisms	12 noon
	Evensong on Zoom	6.30 pm
Monday	Footsteps	9.30 am
19 th May	Organ Teaching	11.00 am
	Organ Teaching	5.15 pm
Wednesday	Morning Prayer, Lady Chapel	8.45 am
21 st May	Staff Meeting, Parish Office	9.00 am
	Said Mass, Lady Chapel	11.00 am
	Funeral of Rosemary Watkins	2.00 pm
Thursday	Organ Teaching	8.30 am
22 nd May	Choir Practice	8.00 pm
Friday	Coffee Morning, Main Hall	10.30 am
23 rd May		
Next Sunday	Holy Communion	8.00 am
25 th May	Sung Parish Mass with Baptism Welcome	9.30 am
6 th Sunday of Easter	No Evensong today	
Evensong readings this Sunday: Daniel 6:6-23; Mark 15:46-16:8		
Mass readings next Sunday: Acts 16:9-15; Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5; John 14:23-29		
Coffee: 25 th May – Sally and Michelle		
<i>Please let Revd Susannah, Revd Neil or Deborah Masterson know of anyone who is ill or in need of a pastoral visit, or housebound and wanting to receive the sacrament at home – or if you would appreciate a conversation or visit for any reason.</i>		

NOTICES

Please note that today's refreshments are being served in the Derham Hall.

Rosemary Watkins died peacefully on 1st May. Her funeral is going to be in church (followed by the crematorium) at 2pm on Wednesday 21st May. All are invited to refreshments afterwards at Rosemary's house. It would be helpful if you could please let Susannah know if you are planning to attend. Please remember Rosemary and her family in your prayers.

Next Sunday: A priest from the Hornchurch Team will be the celebrant at the 8am Mass and Fr Chris Bishop will be the celebrant at the 9.30am Mass.

The Scouts and Guides are hoping to redevelop their storage sheds which are reaching the end of their useful life. They are looking for volunteers to help plan, execute and manage this project. If you have relevant skills and would be happy to volunteer, please email denproject@2ndupminsterscouts.org.uk before Friday 16th May.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, 1st - 8th June. The week will conclude with a Churches Together United Service at Upminster Baptist Church at 6pm on Pentecost (Whit Sunday) 8th June. All will be made welcome. Someone is needed to offer a word of greeting at the services on behalf of St Laurence. If you can help with this, please speak with Susannah. For information visit: cte.org.uk/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity

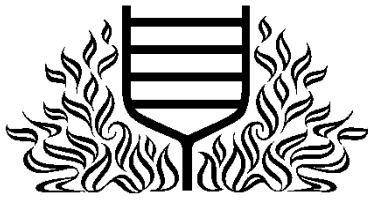
Churches Together are seeking a new secretary to take minutes at meetings. Meetings happen locally in the evenings three times a year. Please see Susannah if you can help.

Revd Neil will be moving on from St Laurence to another Parish at the end of June. Neil's last Sunday with us will be 15th June, where we will wish him well with special refreshments.

Church Barbecue, Saturday 21st June at 4.30pm in the Church grounds. This will be a social event and a fundraiser for the Building Improvements Project. Ticket prices and booking details will be coming soon.

Halls Lock Up: If you would consider joining the group who lock up our church halls please speak with Susannah or let Joanne in the Parish Office know. The duty week runs Sunday to Saturday and requires an evening trip to close up all the halls and car park barrier, putting out tables and chairs on Saturday evening in the Main Hall for Sunday coffee and in the Minor Hall ready for Sunday School. The late-night groups have their own key which means the two latest nights are Mondays at 9.30pm after Scouts and Wednesdays at 9pm after Guides.

Please consult notice boards under the tower and in the porch for other notices and further information



AT THE MASS

18th May 2025

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Introit

194 Alleluia, alleluia!

Setting

Mass of St Thomas – Thorne

Collect of the Day

Almighty God,
who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ
have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life:
grant that, as by your grace going before us
you put into our minds good desires,
so by your continual help
we may bring them to good effect;
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Acts 11:1-18

The apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, 'Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?' Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, 'I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat." But I replied, "By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth." But a second time the voice answered from heaven, "What God has made clean, you must not call profane." This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make

a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, "Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved." And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, "John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?' When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, 'Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.'

Responsorial Psalm 148

Colin Mawby



Praise the Lord from the hea - vens and praise him in the heights.

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Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps; Fire and hail, snow and mist, tempestuous wind, fulfilling his word;

Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars; Wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and birds on the wing;

Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;
Young men and women, old and young together; let them praise the name of the Lord.

Revelation 21:1-6

I, John saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.' And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.' Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and

the end.' To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.'

Alleluia

Celtic

John 13:31-35

During the supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, 'Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, "Where I am going, you cannot come." I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

Offertory hymn

748 O Jesus, I have promised

Anthem

The Easter Song of Praise (1988)
- Text & Music: Richard Shephard

Communion hymn *A new commandment*

*A new commandment I give unto you:
that you love one another as I have loved you.
that you love one another as I have loved you.*

By this shall all know that you are my disciples
if you have love one for another.
By this shall all know that you are my disciples
if you have love one for another.

You are my friends if you do what I command you.
Without my help you can do nothing.
You are my friends if you do what I command you.
Without my help you can do nothing.

I am the true vine, my Father is the gard'ner.
Abide in me: I will be with you.
I am the true vine, my Father is the gard'ner.
Abide in me: I will be with you.

Continued over..

True love is patient, not arrogant or boastful;
love bears all things, love is eternal.
True love is patient, not arrogant or boastful;
love bears all things, love is eternal.

Final hymn 494 I, the Lord of sea and sky

Organ Voluntary Allein Gott in der Höh' sei Ehr – Johann Pachelbel

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Prayer request forms are available at the back of church. Please use them if you wish us to pray for someone.

Sunday: Neil Parsons, Gillian Clayton, Pam Chapman, Keith Sharp, Darren James Meader, Denise Comer, Baby Charles, Bob Bossey, Doreen, Michael Folkes, Mary Greig, Fr Tom Keighley, Stanley Oliver, Alan Jones, Sandra Clarke, Michael McSweeney, Delyse Maggs, Terry Evens.

Wednesday: Mary Ann Madden, Rosalind Manley, Charles Osmond, Simon Pols, Brian Shaw, James Tape, Glynis Whiting, Sylvia Wilson, Camilla Jackson.

Additional Prayers: All those receiving Home Communion.

Recently departed: Sam Mangion, Rosemary Watkins.

Anniversaries of the departed: Emily Pasquale, Mem Gosland, David Harding, Hilda Matthews, Stanley Lawes, Maureen Gunary, Gwen Gallagher, Ida Rowland.

CHARITY OF THE MONTH MAY: USPG

Donation envelopes are available at the back of church.

USPG, 5 Trinity Street, London SE1 1DB.
Registered charity number 234518

USPG⁺ PARTNERS IN
GLOBAL MISSION

DONATIONS

A cash collection will be taken during Sunday morning services for church funds, which support our mission and ministry including the upkeep of this historic site. If you do not carry cash, we also have a card machine located by the main door which can be used before or after the service.

If you are a UK taxpayer, please consider Gift Aiding your donation - either via the machine or (for cash) using the envelope available in the pew. This means that your donation will be worth more to the church but at no extra cost to you.

If you would like information about joining our Planned Giving scheme, leaflets are available from the back of church.

Thank you - whatever you feel disposed to give will be thankfully received and faithfully applied.

EASYFUNDRAISING

The church is registered (as St Laurence Church, Upminster) on easyfundraising.org.uk - if you register an account, select the church as a cause and download the web browser extension then every time you spend money on many retail websites and have activated the extension, a percentage of your spend will be donated to St Laurence at no cost to you. The individual amounts are small but every little adds up - please help us via this route if you can.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SPONSORSHIP.....

If you would like to know about sponsorship, please pick up a leaflet from the back of church or speak to Jean and Cheryl (Churchwardens), Susannah (Rector) or Joanne (Parish Administrator).

WESTMINSTER ABBEY PARISH PASS

If you would like to use the Parish Pass to visit Westminster Abbey please contact Joanne in the Parish Office – parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk. The pass admits up to 4 people free of charge.

REPAIR CAFÉ

Saturday 21st June between 11am and 2p at Havering Asian Social and Welfare Association (HASWA) Hall, Greenfields, Kilmartin Way, Elm Park, RM12 5NB. Repair Cafés are free meeting places where expert volunteers, tools and materials are available to help you repair all manner of things.

CONTACTS

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Churchwardens Jean Keen and Cheryl Hale

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Parish Safeguarding Officer Akosua Boachie

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Director of Music Nigel Lockwood

07899 876247 metcautdesign@googlemail.com

Parish Office Joanne Chapman

01708 220696 / 07592 946992 parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk

Open: Tue. 3.30-6pm, Wed. 9-11am (Staff Meeting), Thur. 9-11.30am.

Hall Bookings Becky Perchard

07341 434798 halls.bookings@upminsterparish.co.uk

Planned Giving treasurer@upminsterparish.co.uk

Website www.upminsterparish.co.uk

Address St Laurence Church, Corbets Tey Road, Upminster, RM14 2BB

Welcome to the Parish Church of Upminster. If we have not met you before, do introduce yourself. If you wish, give these details to one of the officials.

Name

Telephone

**Revd Susannah sends a weekly email about services, news and events.
Please email her if you would like to receive her emails.**