



Parish of St Peter & St Paul, Abington
- the Church in the Park -
Welcome to our May Newsletter 2022



Ribbons of Prayer, Photo by Donald Loe
(These ribbons will be released on Sun 15 May at 11.15 am)

Rector's Pastoral Letter

My pastoral letter to you for this month is not so much pastoral but more personal as I would like to share with you about my plan to visit South Korea. I will be spending time there for about 3 weeks in South Korea from mid May until early June. This will be my first visit to Korea in the last 5 years.

This means I won't be able to be with you on Pentecost and Platinum Jubilee but I am very grateful to Revd. Rachel, our Associate Priest, who will lead the church in my absence together with our lay ministers, Churchwardens and the

lay chair of the PCC. There are other priests who have kindly agreed to lead the services. My thanks to Fr. Nicholas Gandy and Revd. Jenny Parkin. They are very much looking forward to meeting you. Thursday Communion service will continue but will be led sometimes by our lay ministers (in which case, the service will be Morning Prayer) and sometimes by the clergy from the Diocese. Liz Kelly, our Lay Pastoral Minister and Anna Chaplain, is now fully trained and licensed to conduct funerals, so all enquires regarding funerals can be directed to her (except for between 16th and 21st of May when she will be away).

My parents are thrilled by this as they have yet to meet their grandson Elijah in person since he was born nearly 2 years ago. The last time they saw Emmanuel, their eldest grandson, Emmanuel was only 17 months old. And he will start school in September!

I am looking forward to also trying some of the food that I have been missing. Although I very much enjoy and appreciate British food (perhaps I enjoy those biscuits and cakes too much!) there are times when I just miss some comforting Korean food. A friend of mine, who is English but is living in Seoul, South Korea for the last 4 years, told me one day that there are days that she just really misses cheese!

Although this is my holiday and my main focus will be spending time with my family, I will be also visiting local churches in Seoul and will have meetings with them. Especially I am hoping to meet with the people of Namyangju Church which is a parish church of Seoul Diocese of the Anglican Church of Korea. This is the church that wishes to make a parish link with Abington Church. So I will be laying foundations for our future parish link during my visit.

It takes about 13-15 hours to get to Korea since we will change the plane in Germany. Even if you use a direct flight, it still takes 9-10 hours. It is far and expensive although it is not as far and expensive as flying to Australia. As I prepare my trip to Korea, I just wonder how many times I will be able to visit this country and see my parents. This makes me feel more thankful for this opportunity and makes me pray that we may make many precious memories and share love with each other as a family. But when I am coming back to England, I will take comfort from the fact that I will be coming back to my family of God in Abington.

With love in Christ
Jun

APCM

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held on Sunday 1 May after the Family Eucharist in the morning. The reports have been sent out electronically and hard copies are available from the church.

Restructuring of Subcommittees of the PCC

The PCC has been reviewing its subcommittees to make sure that they meet the needs of our church and so has made some changes.

In particular, it has widened the remit of the Fundraising Committee to take on links with the parish and the area of social responsibility and renamed it the Community and Fundraising Committee. Search the Scripture (previously known as Footsteps in Faith) is revised as Discipleship and Learning Committee which will look across the range of house groups, Bible study groups and Lent Groups as well as encouraging lay ministries.

PCC Subcommittees are open to all members of the Church. If you have an area of interest or would like to know more about the church committees, please speak to either the Committee chairs, the Churchwardens, or the Rector. As the committees have a fresh start this is a very good time to become involved. There will be a sign-up sheet available at church at the APCM.

A brief description of the functions of the PCC sub-committees can be found below. A full presentation will be given by Bob our Lay Chair of the PCC during the APCM.

Committee	Key Responsibilities and Activities
Standing Committee Chair: Rector	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Early sight of / identification of issues and priorities• Planning agenda for PCC – discern which issues and matters are priorities to bring to PCC

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decisions between PCCs (particularly urgent decisions) • Safeguarding • Staffing / HR, Rectors issues • Co-ordinating church diary • Drafting medium and long term vision for review and discussion at PCC
Ministry Team Convenor: Rector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worship planning (main priority) • Sermon planning (via Preacher sub-group of Ministry team) • Support and learning for lay and ordained ministers • Support for Lay Pastoral Minister and Children's and Young People's Worker • Pastoral ministry • Safeguarding (adults)
Finance and Stewardship Chair: Damian Pickard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of budget and support for the Treasurer • Asset management and forward planning (input from buildings committee membership) • Stewardship • Legacy planning
Buildings Chair: Andrew Munns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management and maintenance of church, churchyard and parish rooms • Leases and lettings for parish rooms and Lime Avenue • Church opening
Community and Fundraising Chair: Melissa Tallack	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organising engagement with community and strengthening existing community links • Organising and running fundraising events • Organising and running social events • Social responsibility
Discipleship and Learning Chair: Prester Coleman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organising and running a range of House Groups • Organising and running Lent courses • Nurturing the next generation of Lay and Ordained ministers
Children and Young People Co-ordinator: Cathy Tinsley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding (children)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organising and running Junior church • Organising and running Tots group • AHoF • Links with schools • Uniformed organisations • Holiday Events • Events for children and families
Communications This topic area has not yet been established as a sub-committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parish communications • Website • Social media • Newsletter • IT • On-line worship

Electoral Roll

Please check that you are entered on the Parish Electoral Roll, there is a copy at the back of the church. If you changed your address in the last year, please speak to our Electoral Roll officer Douglas Rutherford. If you are not on the Electoral Roll and would like to be, please speak to Douglas about acquiring the necessary form. Thank you

This month's prayers

This month, we particularly pray for those who will be confirmed and those who will receive the communion for the first time. Please remember in your prayers: Tom Bryan, William Bryan, Ollie Tallack, Archie Tallack, Victoria Agudosy, Simon McKay, Lloyd Canfield and Paul who will be confirmed. Please also remember: Alicia, Olivia and Rachel who will receive their first communion.

Prayer for those who will be confirmed

Lord, You send out Your Spirit to touch the hearts of all people,
so that they may believe in You
and know you through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

Look kindly on all candidates for Confirmation.
Open their hearts to Your Spirit and bring to fulfilment
the good work that You have begun in them,
that they may know you more clearly,
love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly day by day.
Through Christ we pray, Amen.

Prayer for the children who will receive their communion first time

Lord Jesus Christ,
bless the children who will receive Holy Communion for the first time.
May that day be the step toward a life-long relationship with you.
When they receive the sacrament,
remind them of your loving, unchanging presence
so that they turn to you for comfort, guidance, and wisdom
as they grow into full discipleship.
In your name we pray, Amen.

This month's Preachers

1st May, Easter 3: Prester Coleman
8th May, Easter 4: The Revd. Rachel Hetherington
15th May, Easter 5: Bishop Donald
22nd May, Easter 6: Alison Barnes (Presiding: Fr. Nicholas Gandy)
29th May, Sunday after Ascension: Liz Kelly (Presiding: Rev. Jenny Parkin)

Readings Readers and Intercessors for this month

1st May, Easter 3: **Readers:** Hilary Hodge & Ken Hunter
Intercessor: Matthew George
8th May, Easter 4: **Readers:** Donald Loe & Olivia May
Intercessor: Peter Gompertz
15th May, Easter 5: **Readers:** Simon & Susannah McKay
Intercessor: Hilary Hodge
22nd May, Easter 6: **Readers:** Alicia Menzies & Jenny Mercer
Intercessor: Liz Kelly
29th May, Ascension: **Readers:** Andrew Munns & Pam Norman
Intercessor: Donald Loe

Children and Youth Missioner's Update

Over the last few months it has been great to welcome new children to the church.

On Easter Saturday we invited children to join us for an Easter Egg Hunt in the churchyard followed by craft activities in the church, based on the events of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. We had lots of fun and were pleased that this event attracted new families to the church. Thank you to **Ali and Paul Canfield and Grace Bremmler** for helping with this afternoon.

On Easter Day twelve children joined us in **Junior Church** for storytelling and activities, followed by another Easter Egg Hunt! We were also very pleased to use the cross to process out to Junior Church, the first time we have done this in a long time!

It was also lovely that **Alicia Menzies and Olivia and Eric May** took part in the dramatized readings in church over Easter. Well done to all of you!

Thank you to **Susie McKay** for creating another very special Churchyard Trail which explains the story of Easter. This has been popular with families visiting the church during the Easter holidays.

The numbers at '**Little Fishes'** are also growing slowly. We are looking forward to meeting again after the Easter break to learn some more songs and enjoy our activities together. The group, which is for babies and preschool children, meets at the Church Rooms on Monday mornings from 10 am to 11.15 am. Please let families with young children know about this group. They will be made very welcome!



On 21st April we welcomed about fifty children aged 5 and 6 from **Barry Primary School** to the church for a visit. They attended with their teachers and we were most impressed with their excellent behaviour and enthusiasm to learn about the church and what Christians believe. The visit was very interactive, exploring both inside and outside the church and we even 'baptised' a doll! Thank you to

Gill Hood and Alan Sutton for helping me with this visit. Hopefully we will be able to welcome other school groups in the future.

Finally discussions have been taking place in recent months about the future of the AHOF building in the park. We have decided to rename it '**The Hut in the Park**' and are keen to hear from any groups supporting children and young people who might like to use it, either on an occasional or regular basis. I have taken over the bookings for the Hut so do contact me if you would like more information about this really wonderful facility. **Perhaps you would like to have a look inside?** Again do have a chat with me if you, or someone you know, might be interested. I am pleased that our **Brownies and Guides** plan to use the Hut for some of their meetings in the summer months.

Cathy Tinsley

07516979223 or children@abingtonchurch.org.uk

Zoom Compline

This is a weekly service at 7.00pm on Tuesdays. In case you don't know, Compline is a quiet, reflective service at the end of the day and includes an open prayer time, so we shall be able to continue to support one another as we have become used to over the last two years. The joining details are:
Meeting I.D. 815 8020 8528. Passcode 409450

Please talk to Liz Kelly if you want to know more about this and to receive a weekly invitation by email, which enables one-click joining. Her contact details are: lizmk@outlook.com or telephone on 07745 604591.

News from the Pastoral Team

If you, or anyone you know, would like someone from the pastoral team to get in touch, please contact Liz Kelly, Lay Pastoral Minister and Anna Chaplain. Her contact details are lizmk@outlook.com and telephone 01604 636947 or 07745 604591. We offer a listening ear, someone to pray with, bereavement support, or a friendly visit.

We went to Abington Park View Care Home on 20th April to celebrate an Easter Songs of Praise. The residents joined enthusiastically in singing the hymns and we thought about things that we associate with Easter, including eggs, daffodils, lambs, Spring, and Easter bonnets. We agreed that these helped us

to see that Jesus brought new life to the world by his resurrection. This is an immensely valuable ministry and if you feel called to share in it, please do get in touch with Liz.

Together with several other members of the congregation, she continues to support the weekly Friday Eucharist service in St Ragener's Chapel for those who live independently at St Christopher's, and she visits residents in the Home when possible.

Thank you all for your prayers for the Pastoral Team and for the staff and residents of Abington Park View and St Christopher's Care Home.

News from Abington Park View Care Home

Lisa helped the residents make some beautiful Easter Bonnets, which were displayed at the Songs of Praise Service on 20th April. Here are some photographs of the prize-winners. In fact, everyone was a winner receiving a chocolate egg as a prize.

Here is Betty and Gillian modelling their bonnets.
(on the right top and bottom)



and Phyllis with her bonnet (down left) and Mary with hers (down middle).



Abington Guides

Calling girls aged 10 - 14! Abington Guides NEEDS YOU!

We provide a unique girl-only space - we all need it sometimes! Guiding gives girls the chance to try out new activities in a safe space where they grow in self-confidence and have fun.

It's girl centric – the girls lead the way in guiding, so the activities are what they want to do!

All girls are welcome – guiding is for girls of all backgrounds, abilities and nationalities

Girl Talk – girls like to talk and in guiding we encourage them to tell other people about the things that matter to them.

Abington Guides is an active unit and runs an action-packed programme. Over the next few weeks we will be cooking on wood fires, trying bell-boating, enjoying a trip along the canal on a narrow boat, giving Footgolf a go, working up an appetite on a chip butty walk, learning basic car maintenance and exploring clever chemicals!

We go to camp most years and provide opportunities for the girls to participate in international events. Our Guides have been to Holland, Norway, Austria and Switzerland. Camps include Unit camps, County Camps and large scale International Camps.

We meet in Abington Church rooms on Monday evenings during term time, 7.30 - 9.00pm.

For more information, contact us via e-mail - abingtonguides@icloud.com or call Alison Comery on 07542 298828.

Celebration of Confirmation, First communion and Ribbons of Prayers: Sunday 15 May at 10 am

We will celebrate confirmation and the first communion of our friends on Sunday 15 May at 10 am. The Lord Bishop of Peterborough, The Right Revd. Donald Allister will come and lead us in worship on that day. After the service we will go out to the churchyard and bless the ribbons of prayers and release them from the railings as much as we can.

Please pencil this date in your diary. It would be really lovely to see you all on that special day.

We are thinking of having a bring-and-share style lunch after the service at the church rooms. There is a sign-up sheet for you to indicate whether you wish to join for lunch. Please do use the sign-up sheet so that we would know how many we should expect.

If you are a candidate to be confirmed or receive the first communion, then please let the Rector know how many guests will come with you and whether they will join for lunch. A separate email will go out to the candidates to check this.

We are also looking for people who can help with the catering. Please let Melissa or Lizzie Loe know if you could help!

Church Fete

Saturday 18 May, please speak to Damian dpickard@virginmedia.com or Melissa m.tallack@btinternet.com for more information.

Church Opening during Summer

We have restarted the church opening scheme that was running before the pandemic. A very small team is opening and "manning" the church on Wednesdays, from 10 am until 4 pm.

Visitors are welcome to come in and look around the church, and say a prayer if they want to.

If anyone would like to help with this out-reach, perhaps enabling us to extend it to other days, please contact Andrew Munns (a.g.munns@btinternet.com). We expect the scheme to run until September.

Music @ Abington

Our celebration of musical performances continues with the second instalment of our recital season which take place in our church (see posters in church or March's newsletter for details of our entire programme). **Philip Bricher and John Wilson** will be performing a recital of organ and piano music at **3.00pm** on **Sunday 22nd May**. The duo have performed here before and always bring a delightful range of music for organ, piano and both. If you are a pianist or organist expect to go away wanting to add at least one of their pieces to your own repertoire.

On 5th June we are planning a Songs of Praise service for the Jubilee. I would love to know people's favourite hymn or song. Please either tell me in church or email me the title of your favourite to tim.dolan@abingtonchurch.org.uk

If you don't tell me your favourites, you'll be stuck singing mine!!

Songs of Praise for Jubilee: Sunday 5 June at 3.30, Venue TBC

There will be a very relaxed songs of praise service at 3.30 on Sunday 5 June to celebrate the Jubilee. We originally planned to have this service in the churchyard but this seems unlikely now as there will be a fair in the park which can be very noisy. We will confirm the venue for this service closer to the date. We will be joined by friends from St. Peter's Weston Favell, Christ Church, and St. Alban's. We are going to sing our favourite hymns chosen by the congregations of those parishes and the Directors of Music. Each parish will choose two of their favourite hymns. To avoid duplication, the Directors of Music will decide which hymns will be sung. As Tim said above, please let him know your favourite hymns!

We are also looking for people who can help with light refreshments as we will be welcoming our friends to our parish. If you can help, then please speak to Donald or Lizzie Loe.

Standing Committee and PCC

Standing Committee: 4 May at 7.30 pm at Melissa's
5 Sep, 31 Oct at 7.30 pm

PCC: 25 May at 8 pm at the church rooms
14 Sep, 16 Nov at 8 pm

Draft Minutes from the last PCC Meeting

Please click the title above to access the link.

How to get your contribution or event into the next Abington Newsletter

Please send content to Matthew George abingtonbulletin@outlook.com by the 21st of the month for inclusion in the next edition. If you wish to have a

printed version delivered to you, please contact Bob Purser 785836. There will also be a small number of copies in church for visitors.

Ministry Team

Rector: The Revd. Byung-Jun Kim, rector@abingtonchurch.org.uk

Associate Priest: The Revd. Rachel Hetherington

Readers: Alison Barnes, Prester Coleman

Lay Pastoral Minister & Anna Chaplain: Liz Kelly

Children and Youth Missioner: Cathy Tinsley

Director of Music: Tim Dolan

Churchwardens: Donald Loe and Jim Mercer

Lay Chair of the PCC: Bob Purser

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bob.purser@abingtonchurch.org.uk