**NOTICES**

**HARROW FOOD BANK** We collected 15.95 kg for this month. Let us start again for May’s collection. *David Alleyne*

**EMBRACE THE MIDDLE EAST GAZA APPEAL** Thank you for your generous donations, over £1300 was raised.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to **Isaac Costa Cordeiro de Azeredo** and **Hannah Ruth Dowsett** who were married here yesterday 27th April. We wish them a happy life together.

**CELEBRATE** the wedding of **Michael Joshua** and **Renee Peters-Findlay** which will take place on **Friday3rd May**. Our prayers are with them for this important and happy occasion.

**CELEBRATION Chris & Kulan Mills** are celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary today and would like to invite everyone for refreshments in the hall, after the 10 am service. *Chris Mills*

**CALDICOT WELSH MALE VOICE CHOIR** will be returning for an evening concert on **Saturday 18th May** at 7.30pm Tickets £10. Please see Lyndon or Joyce Hughes for tickets.

**FUN QUIZ** This will take place on **Saturday 15th June**. Tickets will be £10.00. Come and have an evening of fun.

 St Andrew's Church bank details for one-off payments and gifts –

1. **PCC of St Andrew's Roxbourne Parish**
2. **Sort code: 40-11-58  Acc No: 20404810**
3. *Please note this is not the account for regular Stewardship Giving - please see Wendy Godwin or Peter Sage for those details (Tel: 07889 249500*

***Please send any items for next week’s STARLINK to Susan McLeod by midday this Friday, preferably by email (******mcleod383@btinternet.com******), or otherwise by hard copy to 8 Drake Road.***

**PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK**

Everlasting God, give us the courage of Philip who took the time to share his faith with a curious stranger and remind us of Jesus command to us to “make disciples of all”.

**ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, ROXBOURNE**

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| **SUNDAY, 28thAPRIL 2024 EASTER 5** |
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| **8.00 am: Holy Communion** **10.00 am: Parish Communion****with Prayers for Healing***and* **Children’s Church***Please come to the Hall after the Service for Coffee, Tea & Fellowship* |
| **This Week’s Services** |  | **Next Sunday** 5th May |
| **Monday – Friday**9.00 am Morning Prayer [cw]**Wednesday**: 9.30am Holy Communion |  | **8.00 am:** Holy Communion**10.00 am: Parish Communion***Acts 10: 44-48; I John 5: 1-6; John 15: 9-17* |
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TODAY’S COLLECT

**Risen Christ, your wounds declare your love for the world and the wonder of your risen life: give us compassion and courage to risk ourselves for those we serve, to the glory of God the Father. Amen**

TODAY’S READINGS

***Acts 8: 26-40;***

Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means “queen of the Ethiopians”). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. The Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.”Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. “Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked.“How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading: “He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth.In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth.” The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?” Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.As they travelled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?”And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and travelled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

***I John 4: 7-21***

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Saviour of the world. If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.We love because he first loved us. Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen.And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

***John 15: 1-12***

‘‘I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower.He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and becomemy disciples. As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love.If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love.I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. ‘This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

**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**

**PRAYER DIARY**

 **This week we remember with thanksgiving the anniversaries of:** Eliza Haigh (28th); Peter Dowse (29th); Ethel Williams; Phillip Robinson (30th); Evelyn Roderick (2nd); Maria Wooder (3rd); Eileen Younger (4th).

 **Prayer request for healing and other needs**: Susan Brown; Robinson and Robina Ihesiene; Sue Nicholls; Pam Storey; Angela Zadurian.

 **Happy Birthday to:** Pauline Harrowell; Christopher Twentyman (1st); John Blanchard (4th).

 **The Parish:** Dunster Way; Eastcote Lane; Edinburgh Close; Exeter Road; Field End Road; Hamilton Crescent; Harlech Gardens; High Worple; Hudson Close.

 **Church Families:** Solomon and Vasanthy Gnanraj; Malcom George; Sheelagh Gillard; Wendy Godwin; Colin and Andrea Gordon; Hihs Grant; Marva Greyson; Dominique, Daniel, Danny Thompson; Geoffrey, Keira and Judy Grice; Ashish, Ariham, Audvik and Nidhi Gupta.